



# St. John the Evangelist Catholic School

## Jet Gazette Newsletter

October 9, 2020

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

### News and Views from Mr. Schmit

Greetings!

This morning I walked into school after attending mass with our middle school and first grade students. Instantly I could smell the wonderful aroma of popcorn being prepared in our cafeteria. It was like I was back in February. I walked into the office, washed my hands at the sink, scurried over to the counter where there were several brown bags of popcorn waiting. I mumbled something like “get into my belly” as I tore open one of the brown sacks, covered in specs of grease, grabbing a handful of deliciousness. I attempted to pop the rich, salty, buttery goodness into my mouth only to have the popcorn be denied by the blue, level one surgical mask covering my face. Immediately I crashed back into the realities of October 2020. Haha.

Walking around the building today was a delightful experience (aside from the aroma of SJS Popcorn Day!). I walked into Ms. Wharff’s kindergarten classroom, where the students were busy at their tables on a numbers activity. I walked past Mrs. Boyle’s preschool classroom (Mrs. Boyle is back full time after her surgery. Praise God!) where the students were singing a prayer together. Ms. Feazel’s science classes were identifying bias and Mrs. Dawes’ eighth grade reading classes were constructing their own quizzes to show understanding of the novel they are currently reading. Mr. Garbutt’s 6th grade class was working with algebraic expressions as he taught virtually to the class (Mr. Garbutt is currently quarantining in preparation of the birth of their third child). Mrs. Salzano’s second grade class was learning how to write complete sentences with support. Mrs. Cislo’s third grade was identifying problems and coming up with solutions. Mrs. Whitney’s fourth grade science class was demonstrating their knowledge of closed circuits by creating their own circuits with batteries, light bulbs, and copper wire. Mrs. Forsleff’s eight grade music class was strumming a tune on their ukuleles and Mr. Willard’s STEAM classes were learning about bridge structures. When I enter these classrooms, I see students who are engaged with their lessons and bright and smiling eyes.

Even though we are masked and keeping our social distance, together we are making this as normal as we can and we will continue doing so, 32 days and counting! We will have to keep adjusting the normal things, like the upcoming classroom parties in particular. However, we are making the adjustments to keep everyone safe and healthy so we can take advantage of each day we thankfully get for in-person instruction.

Enjoy your weekend! I look forward to our three day week. Please keep the staff in your prayers as we will have a staff retreat on Thursday and PD day on Friday.

God bless,  
Andrew Schmit

# PARENT CALENDAR



## October

Mon	12	<b>National School Lunch Week Begins</b>
Tues	13	Homeroom Parent Zoom Meeting Option 1 @ 7 PM
Wed	14	Spiritwear Day including Halloween Spiritwear
Wed	14	Homeroom Parent Zoom Meeting Option 2 @ 1 PM
Wed	14	Volleyball Clinic Begins 5 PM to 7 PM
Thurs	15	<b>Staff PD—No School for Students</b>
Fri	16	<b>Staff PD—No School for Students</b>
Wed	21	<b>Happy Birthday Mrs. Whitney!</b>
Sat	24	<b>Happy Birthday Mr. Willard!</b>
Sun	25	<b>Happy Birthday Mrs. Salerno!</b>

## HOMEROOM PARENT MEETING

Next week, the PSA will be hosting a Zoom Meeting for our Homeroom Parents to discuss responsibilities and auction projects. There will be two time slots available for convenience. The meetings will be held on Tuesday, October 13th, at 7 PM and Wednesday, October 14th, at 1 PM. Thank you again to our Homeroom Parent volunteers!



## PARENT PACKETS

Please remember to return the following forms from the parent packets:

- Updated Code of Conduct form
- Concussion Awareness form (New Families only)
- Background Check form (New Families only)
- E-tithing registration form (This form is completely optional and is for families who are interested in signing up for e-tithing at the parish).

## HALLOWEEN CELEBRATIONS



Due to our Phase 4 protocols, we will not be having our traditional Halloween festivities. We will still be celebrating, it will just look a little different this year.

On Friday, October 30th, each classroom (preschool to 8th grade) will be having a scaled down version of a Halloween party. We will not have parent volunteers in the classrooms, but teachers will reach out to homeroom parents to help coordinate items the class might need.

Since this is a half-day of school, students may arrive to school in costume. Face coverings will still be required along with their costume. Costumes should be life-affirming and non-violent. The following items should not be sent to school: toy weapons, face paint, or cans of spray hair dye.

Due to our Safe Food Policy, please do not send in any homemade baked goods or other foods prepared at home such as chocolate covered fruits, pretzels, etc. Teachers and /or homeroom parents will communicate what items are needed and approved for classrooms.



**Help us celebrate National School Lunch Week next week! All students who purchase a hot lunch next week will be entered into a drawing to win a gift card or other special prizes. Students will receive one entry each day a lunch is purchased.**

## SCRIP PROGRAM



Are you taking advantage of the SCRIP program to earn tuition credits? If not, you definitely should be. With the holidays quickly approaching, now is a perfect time to start.

The SCRIP program allows families to earn rebates by purchasing gift cards to shop at a variety of businesses that we frequent on a daily basis (gas, grocery, restaurants, and retail). Families purchase gift cards at face value and the PSA Scrip Coordinator tracks purchases and rebates. Tuition credits accumulate (you can track this in your scrip account) and the office will apply them to your tuition account twice per year.

To get started, you need to create an account at [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com). Our school code is LE548F286872. You can explore the different retailers and gift cards available on the website. Please note that every retailer offers different rebates, different denominations, and some also offer e-gift cards in addition to the physical gift cards. E-gift cards are a GREAT option because you can purchase them right in the store and they will be delivered to your phone. (Or purchase them at home while you are online shopping).

Here at St. John School, our Scrip parent volunteers process weekly family orders. If you want to purchase physical gift cards, you must process your order this way. You log into your account to place your order. You must place this order and turn in a copy of your order to the office by 9 AM Monday morning. The gift cards will be delivered to the school and sent home on Friday afternoons. You can pay for these orders by sending a check to the school office with your order.

For instant access to e-gift cards, you can sign up for Presto-Pay by connecting your bank information to your Scrip account. Please note that it can take a couple of days to confirm your Presto-Pay information. There is a 15¢ fee per order to use Presto-Pay. You can also use Presto-Pay to pay for weekly orders so you do not have to send in a check.

Finally, once you have created an account, you can download the app "**RaiseRight**" for easier ordering from your phone. The app will also store all of your E-gift cards in one place. If you have questions about this program, please contact our Scrip Coordinator Candice Kelso at 810-691-8358 or contact the office.

Some examples of retailers are listed below:

Meijer	3% rebate
Bath and Body Works	12% rebate
The Laundry/Crust	10% rebate
Home Depot	4% rebate
Amazon	2.25% rebate
Walmart	2.5% rebate
Speedway/Marathon	up to 4% rebate
Starbucks	7% rebate
Lands' End	15% rebate

## Report All Student Absences

When a student is absent, the parent or guardian **MUST** call the school office no later than 8:45 AM or email Mrs. Haiss at: [ahaiss@sjseducation.com](mailto:ahaiss@sjseducation.com). **This year, we need to follow up on all absences. To cut down on the number of follow up phone calls, we kindly ask that you report all absences.** If the student absence is due to illness, please report the nature of the illness to the school office when you call. Please refer to Page 23 of our Phase 4 plan regarding our general sick policy. If your child is feeling ill for any reason, please be sure to keep him or her at home. If you are feeling unsure about whether or not to keep your child at home, please refer to the COVID decision tree or call your doctor's office.

**Please note: If you are emailing your child's absence, please include the following information:**

- **When symptoms first started**
- **Whether or not your child has a fever, and the exact temperature if a fever is present**
- **Whether or not your child has been exposed to any individual who has tested positive for Covid**

## Masks for Sale

Face masks with the St. John School logo are for sale in the school office. The cost is \$8 per mask. We have adult and child sizes. If you would like to purchase one, please send cash or check in an envelope and specify which size you would like. We will send them home with your student. You can also let us know by email if you would like to order one.



## K of C Fundraiser

Next weekend, the Knights of Columbus is pairing up with Panera for a fundraiser. A portion of all proceeds will be given back to our local Knights of Columbus council. Purchases made on October 16-18 between 4 PM and 8 PM each day will be counted. See attached flyer for details.



# ON A PERSONAL NOTE



## Thank you:

- To Mrs. Arndt and Ms. Foss for making our first popcorn day a success!



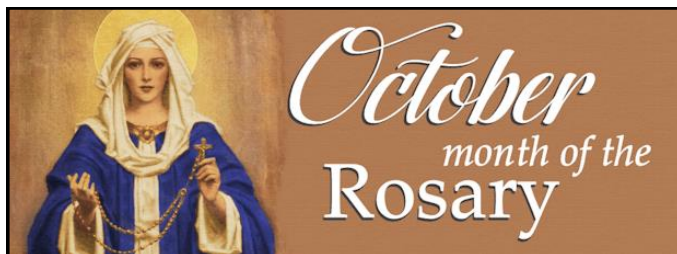
## Prayers:

- For Father Jon Perrotta, pastor of St. Robert in Flushing, who is hospitalized.

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## Building Foundations of Faith

As Catholic parents, we are called to provide moral education and spiritual growth for our children. What better example than to learn and grow in faith yourself? Visit this Jet Gazette feature weekly for thoughts, articles, and tips to strengthen and deepen your understanding of our Catholic faith.



October is the month of the Rosary. Watch this quick video, [The Rosary in 2 minutes](#), from Busted Halo for a quick lesson on the how and why to pray this simple prayer.

## Today's #microchallenge from bustedhalo.com



To stay up to date with parish events, here is a link to the weekly parish bulletin: <https://stjohnfenton.org/bulletins>



# Staff Spotlight

National School Lunch Week is next week. Our staff shared some of their favorite school lunches.



**Mrs Roche:** Pizza...the rectangle kind with the tiny square pepperonis!

**Mrs. Whitney:** Pizza, salad, and chocolate milk

**Mr. Schmit:** Turkey over a biscuit with a side of mashed potatoes, washed down with a chocolate milk.

**Mrs. Adams:** My favorite packed lunch was a bologna sandwich on white Wonder bread with mustard only and Lays potato chips, and sometimes I put the potato chips on the sandwich as I ate it.

**Mrs. Farella:** My favorite lunch as a kid was peanut butter and jelly.

**Mrs. Ratke:** When I was in first or second grade, I remember taking mayonnaise only sandwiches a lot which I now think is pretty gross!!

**Ms. Adams:** My absolute favorite lunch while attending St. John as a student was spaghetti and garlic bread day! I remember the lunch line was so long you had to hustle to the lunch room on those days.

**Mrs. Anderson:** My favorite hot lunch item when I was in school was rectangle cheese pizza. I love corner pieces so it was a win win for me!!

**Mrs. Salzano:** Chicken and star tots is the BEST school lunch at St. John! At Powers, my favorite lunch was popcorn shrimp and fries. I LOVE FRIES!!

**Mr. Forsleff:** My middle school had amazing mashed potatoes and gravy!

**Mr. Willard:** My high school cafeteria had taco pizza and fries that were unhealthy but amazing. I also loved the simple little hamburgers and grilled cheese sandwiches in elementary school.

**Mrs. Boyle:** In all my years of schooling, I NEVER bought hot lunch! My dad would pack the best lunches for me!

**Ms. Jennings:** My favorite school lunch was Mac and Cheese.

**Mrs. Haiss:** One of my favorite lunches was the Fiestada (taco) pizza and fries. Also, our high school had the BEST homemade dinner rolls and my 3rd hour teacher would let us go to the backdoor of the kitchen to buy them early when they were hot from the oven!

**Mr. Garbutt:** My middle school lunch of a plain bagel, chocolate milk, and a Twix bar was hands down my favorite lunch ever. Ate it for almost two straight years, probably wasn't the best of lunch choices, but it was good.

**Mrs. Dawes:** Every Monday, I would pack my favorite sandwich made from leftover roast beef (my mom made the roast beef). I made it with a slice of sweet onion and mustard. It still makes me hungry thinking about it!

**Mrs. Cisto:** My favorite packed lunch was a bologna, lettuce, and mayonnaise sandwich on Hillbilly bread. If I had Frito Lays chips, I would put them on the sandwich for extra crunch. Every so often, on special occasions, I'd have a Hostess Ding Dong cupcake. Ohhh, good memories.

**Mrs. Werschky:** Grilled cheese sandwich

**Ms. Wharff:** My favorite packed lunch as a kid was when my mom packed a bologna sandwich on white bread with crispy lettuce and a bit of mayo. Fritos on the side! Makes me feel like a kid again whenever I eat that!

