



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. John the Evangelist Catholic School

Jet Gazette Newsletter

January 29, 2021

News and Views from Mr. Schmit

Greetings,

We are rocking and rolling through 2021, about to turn the calendar to February. I know I've said it numerous times before but our staff and students continue to do amazing things. Teachers and students are taking advantage of each and every day we have in-person instruction. It is a beautiful thing! The education machine keeps on churning but we will take time next week to celebrate Catholic Education during our annual Catholic Schools Week. As we prepare for Catholic Schools Week, here is my 92nd day of in-person instruction rundown:

- **SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED:** We experienced a crazy week at SJS. You know it's crazy when the principal is subbing for 6th grade religion one day and 2nd grade the next afternoon because there was no time to waste. Thankfully we have added two people to our substitute teacher list in the past couple of weeks. If you are interested or know anyone interested in subbing, please have them contact me. Teaching experience/certification is preferred but not required. The only requirement for substitute teaching here at SJS is that the person applying has AT LEAST 90 credit hours completed in a post secondary institution.
- Our students keep impressing on the NWEA MAP. ALL 5th GRADERS who took the 5th grade Math NWEA MAP test in the fall reached their projected growth goal for the Winter test. Awesome job 5th Grade!
- Unfortunately we cannot have our usual pancake breakfast for the students during Catholic Schools Week. I am hoping that we can get the Knights of Columbus to cook pancakes in May. However, we still want to provide a meal for the kids so we will have a pizza lunch with salad free of cost to parents on Friday. Please refer to the attached schedule for CSW for more information.
- I thank all parents and staff for following our COVID 2020-21 protocols. We are staying healthy. It is amazing to compare our attendance percentages from this year to last. Our daily attendance percentage is better to date this year than last. That's fantastic, really! Now that we are officially in the 2nd half of the school year, I do want to reiterate that we have to continue to stick to our guidelines and regulations, especially when it comes to possible exposure and our close contact tracing. If someone in your household begins to exhibit Covid-like symptoms and if that person goes in for a COVID19 test, everyone in the household needs to quarantine until the test results are known. This is per the guidance of the Genesee County Health Department. Again, thank you for all you have done to help get us to this point of the school year!
- Our students were able to decorate Crust coffee cup sleeves throughout the week. Thank you to the Brennan family for allowing our students to do this and to Lisa Palmer for picking up and dropping off the box of sleeves for our students to decorate!
- Like always I have plenty more to write about but I am exhausted. So I'm going to blah blah blah blah this last point. HA!
- As we begin our recognition of Catholic Schools week, I want to thank all of you for supporting Catholic education here at St. John. The daily interactions we have with your students are beyond priceless. The other day I stopped and chatted with one of our preschoolers. She smiled at me, looked me in the eyes and greeted me with a, "Hello Mr. Schmit. How are you?" I was amazed that I could carry on a short but intelligent conversation with this child. It made my day. This is just one example from what seems like countless positive interactions I have with your children. Thank you for choosing Catholic education at St. John School.

Please continue to pray for the mission of this school because God is doing great things!

God bless,
Andrew Schmit

PARENT CALENDAR



January

Sun 31 Catholic Schools Week Begins



February

Mon 1 Pajama Day

Tues 2 Mass with Bishop Boyea

Wed 3 Tie-Dye Day

Wed 3 Spiritwear Sale 3 PM to 6 PM-Details Below

Thurs 4 Future Occupation Day

Thurs 4 Spiritwear Sale 8 AM to 11 AM-Details Below

Fri 5 Souper Bowl Day

Fri 12 **Half-Day for students-- Teacher PD**
11:30 AM Dismissal

Sun 14 **Happy Valentine's Day**

Mon 15 **Presidents' Day-No School**

The deadline to submit your FACTS application for Tuition Assistance for the 2021-2022 school year is March 1, 2021. Application fee is \$35.

Please use this link: [https://
online.factsmgt.com/aid](https://online.factsmgt.com/aid)

REMINDER: The office will be **CLOSED DAILY** from 3:10-3:30 PM to allow office staff to assist with dismissal procedures. Phones will still be open (you may have to leave a message), but the office will be closed to **ALL** visitors (unless you have scheduled an appointment). Any students needing early dismissal will need to be picked up prior to 3:10. After 3:10 PM, all students will be sent to the loop or Jets Club. Students may not wait by the office.

COLD WEATHER REMINDER

Colder weather is upon us!! Please be sure students come to school everyday prepared to go outside. Our policy is to have outside recess everyday as long as temperatures are 10 degrees or above (factoring in the wind chill). Please be sure your children bring warm coats, hats, and gloves.



PLEASE BE SURE TO LABEL ALL ITEMS!

FROM THE PSA...

GCCS SKI CLUB

Are you looking for a fun outdoor activity to do with your family??? Join the Genesee County Catholic Schools Ski and Snowboard Club!!! On Friday evenings, Ski Club meets at Mt. Holly to enjoy a night of fun and fellowship. Even if you have never skied/snowboarded, give it a try. You get two free lessons with your membership. Lift tickets and rentals come at a very reasonable cost!! Look for details in the attachment to the Jet Gazette!!! Hope to see more St. John School Families there!!



SAVE THE DATE

We will be having an SJS Spiritwear Sale during Catholic Schools Week. The sale will take place in the Founders Hall over in the Father Harvey Activity Center.

Wednesday, February 3rd from 3 PM to 6 PM

Thursday, February 4th from 8 AM to 11 AM

If you are interested in volunteering to help sell spiritwear and/or assist with the online spiritwear shop, please call/text Michelle



Welcome to
SJS, Mr. Tripp!

ATHLETICS UPDATE

- Boys Basketball is offered for boys in grades 5-8. Basketball clinics will be held on Mondays and Wednesday from 4:00 PM -5:20 PM.
- Cheer will take place on Tuesdays after school until 5 PM and on Saturday mornings from 8-10 AM.
- **NEW INFO:** We are now offering a basketball clinic for girls in Grades 3 and 4. The purpose of the clinic will be for the girls to start to learn the game of basketball, get some exercise, and have some fun. Chris Wise will be teaching the clinic. The clinic will take place in the gym on Thursday evenings from 6 PM to 7 PM. No prior experience is needed. There is no cost to attend, but you must email Chris Wise (chris@randywiseteam.com) or Scott McPeake (ad@sjseducation.com) to let them know your child is interested so they have an idea of who will be attending.

Just a reminder that all students are required to wear a mask and should bring their own water bottle. Parents should wait outside for their students to be dismissed. Parents are not allowed in the gym at this time.

We also putting together an Athletics Boosters club and looking for interested parents that would like to participate on the Boosters board. If you are interested, please send your contact information to :Athleticdirector@sjseducation.com



DRIVE-IN MASS

Available during all weekend mass times

How it works:

- + Park in the designated parking area in the north parking lot during any of our weekend Masses
- + Tune your car's radio to 88.3 FM
- + Watch the Mass on our outdoor screen as it is happening live in the Church
- + During communion, Extraordinary Ministers will come to your vehicle to distribute Holy Communion.



HELP WANTED

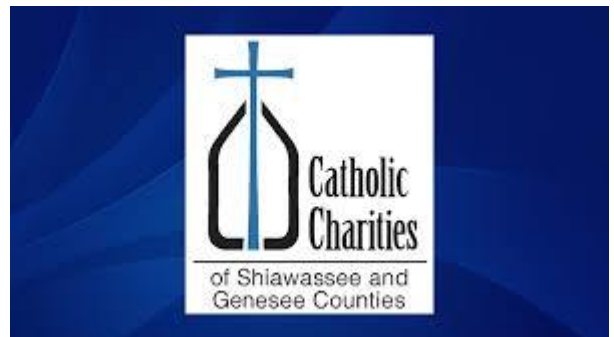
We are looking for a few more parent volunteers to assist with Popcorn Fridays. If you are interested in helping, please contact our popcorn chairperson, Jillian Arndt at jillian.ski@gmail.com. All volunteer requirements must be met in order to volunteer.



Please see attached schedule for Catholic Schools Week information. Donation items for our Service Project are due on Tuesday!!



Help us fill up our bins for Catholic Charities!



IMPORTANT AUCTION ANNOUNCEMENT

Greetings St. John Families!!!

By now you've all **MARKED YOUR CALENDARS with this year's SPRING AUCTION DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 22, 2021!!!** We know you're looking forward to this AWESOME event and you may be wondering: **How can I HELP** to make this year's auction successful for our students, teachers and staff? Here are just a few ways you can contribute your time, talent and treasure to our school's biggest fund raiser of the year!!!

- **Be an Auction Sponsor:** Business Owners, Families and Friends of St. John are all welcome to become a sponsor of this year's event to help offset the costs and allow 100% of the funds raised to go directly to technology upgrades, curriculum and other beneficial items. Please reach out to Michelle Pagnani about sponsorship opportunities @ michellepagnani@yahoo.com.
- **Donate an item, service or gift card:** Think of a gift YOU would like to receive personally and then consider donating this treasure to the 2021 Auction. Our silent portion of the auction consists of many different types of trips and trinkets, jewelry, gift baskets, gift certificates local experiences and opportunities. The sky really is the limit. There is something for everyone. Men, women and kids, athletic enthusiasts, book lovers, foodies, pet owners, music and movie fans, car nuts. Pamper yourself. Love to shop. Want to take the night off from cooking?Our silent auction accommodates all of these interests and you can help us offer that variety of options with your generous donations.
- **Volunteer your time:** It takes many volunteers and much time to coordinate an event of this magnitude. Help is needed with pre-planning, the night of the event and also long after the last guest has gone home. If you can share an hour or two, please let us know. If you have always enjoyed 'party planning', we need you and your creativity! Remember, this is an easy way to fulfill your annual volunteer requirements.
- **ATTEND THIS YEAR'S AUCTION!!!!:** Mark your calendar. Arrange for a babysitter. Get your tickets early. This is the perfect opportunity to enjoy a night out, mingle with other St. John families, and help your school flourish. Stay tuned to the Jet Gazette for ticket sales and additional information about this year's event.

Please contact Kelly Ahn (PSA Auction Chair) at 313.300.8841 or kahn@stout.com to take advantage of any of these exciting opportunities to make Auction 2021 the BEST yet!

Thank you for your dedication to SJS!!!
-Kelly Ahn & SJS PSA -

Dear friends and families,

The PSA would like to offer our sincere thanks for your support of the 2019/2020 St. John School AUCTION. Your attendance, purchases and contributions helped us to raise much needed funds to support the students of St. John School. The funds raised at last years auction went directly towards programs, experiences and materials necessary to assure a full, quality education for each one of our students.

Now planning is underway for the 2020/2021 school AUCTION. We know times are tough and challenging right now. We are so very thankful that our children are in school! Our kids are growing, thriving and learning in person. While many schools are closed and only offering remote learning our SJS staff is working hard to make an impact and they are succeeding. They are going above and beyond. The SJS staff is dedicated to providing a quality academic and spiritual education for your students. We are so blessed to have this advantage!

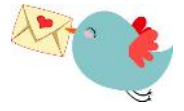
One of the elements of our school that we are most proud of is our partnership with our families and community. This active and dynamic relationship is an essential piece to our continued success. On behalf of the students, staff and families of St. John School, thank you for your ongoing support. We couldn't do it without you!

How can we give back? How can we show the staff at SJS how grateful we are? One way it to support the AUCTION [on May 22nd, 2021](#). You can donate to, volunteer for and/or sponsor this years auction!!

Thank you to our 2020 sponsors listed below! We are truly thankful for your overwhelming support. If you would like to sponsor the upcoming 2021 auction or if you have ideas/suggestions for sponsorships please let me know.

Michelle Pagnani: [810-845-8414](tel:810-845-8414) or michellepagnani@yahoo.com

ON A PERSONAL NOTE



Thank You:

- To the Doherty family for donating games and art supplies to Jets Club.

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Prayers:

- For Mrs. Forsleff who has health complications.
- Of sympathy for the family of Annie Laurie Gallagher. Mrs. Gallagher recently passed away. She spent 17 years teaching 4th grade at SJS in the late 70s and 80s.

A GIFT FROM THE PARISH

Probably the most valuable education resource that our parish provides is available to everyone, and geared toward everyone - people of all ages. It's not a "kid's program" or "youth group" or a Bible Study. It is FORMED. The parish has purchased a parish subscription to FORMED, because we believe it is an extraordinarily valuable, trustworthy and accessible way for everyone in the parish to come closer to Jesus and His Church - and to become holier. FORMED offers much of the best Catholic content in one place. FORMED is a mission of the Augustine Institute, and as such we can trust the content to be true to authentic Catholic teaching. It is also quality content with first-rate speakers and production value. There are entertaining movies, enlightening programs, inspiring talks, educational courses, resources for Sunday Mass, fun and educational children's videos, and a great selection of popular ebooks—all you have to do is have a computer or a smart phone. Or - even ROKU or Apple TV. If you are not accessing FORMED you are really missing out. There is truly something for everyone. I have been enjoying the series on the Gospel of Mark - it is just what we need to get the most out of the Sunday readings. Signing up used to be more difficult - but now nothing could be easier! There are 3 easy steps for you to sign up on FORMED:

- Visit <http://signup.formed.org/>
- Enter our parish zip code 48430
- Enter your name and email

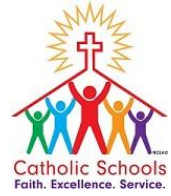
Today's #microchallenge from bustedhalo.com



To stay up to date with parish events, click [here](#) for a link to the weekly parish bulletin .

Staff Spotlight

How has working at a Catholic school enriched your life?



Ms. Jennings: Working at St. John for over 12 years now has enriched my life with compassion, love and respect for our school community.

Ms. Wharff: Being a part of St. John Catholic School is such a blessing-in so many ways! The biggest blessing is working, learning, and worshipping as part of our close knit community. It is a special joy for me to watch our little people as they grow and learn during their years here at SJS.

Mrs. Salzano: I love being part of such a generous and loving community. I've worked in many schools around Genesee County, and St. John is by far the best of them all. I love our Catholic school!!

Mrs. Farella: Teaching at St. John School has enriched my life. It is a blessing to incorporate God, prayer, and faith throughout all our teachings. It is evident that God's Grace and his Holy Spirit are alive in our school through our service to those in need, our work towards spreading kindness, and our focus towards building our relationship with Jesus.

Mrs. Whitney: It keeps me conscious of my faith every day.

Mrs. Ratke: Being able to teach and share about Jesus' life with others.

Mrs. Minnick: I learn something new every week!

Mr. Garbutt: Working in a Catholic School has definitely enriched my spiritual life in so many ways. From attending Mass to having faith filled discussions to praying as a class. These all have contributed to me having a better faith life outside of school.

Mrs. Roberts: Love being able to share my faith with little minds! Watching them learn and grow!!

Mrs. Boyle: The moment I stepped foot into SJS, I felt at home. Working in a Catholic school feels so special. Sharing my faith with families, students and coworkers is something I don't take for granted. The people around me make me a better teacher and person. It is awesome to watch my students grow over the years, too. Thank, you, SJS for being my home away from home.

Mrs. Wright: Working in a Catholic school has enriched my life through the opportunities to be involved in an environment where service, caring, compassion, justice, and human dignity are at the core of our school community.

Mrs. Roche: I am SO grateful to teach in a Catholic School. Seeing my students grow in faith has only deepened my own faith. I learn so much from them.

Mr. Stark: Working in a Catholic School has enriched my life by allowing me to see Jesus' work through our students every single day.

Mrs. Haiss: Watching families grow over the years and seeing children learn to love Jesus and serve others brings me tremendous joy. St. John School just feels like a place I'm supposed to be. I love it here.

Ms. Adams: Having the presence of Jesus in the classrooms, hallways, lunchroom and everywhere in our school brightens the day. I see it in the way the students act toward one another. The love of Jesus is instilled in each and every one of them, and being able to witness that is inspiring.

Mr. Willard: Knowing that I'm helping foster the Catholic faith within my students through my words and deeds is intensely gratifying. It gives me the greatest sense of purpose in my life, next to parenthood.

Ms. Werschky: Working in the Catholic School environment has allowed me to teach students in a way that connects the message that God has sent to us through his son Jesus. These teachings help to support the classroom through example, and discussion, as to why our faith is important in everyday life. We have the ability in the Catholic Schools to not only look at the academics, but the faith aspect of our lives.

Mrs. Adams: It is my life! I love teaching in a Catholic school and it is the only type of school I ever visualized myself working in. I love teaching Religion every day and discussing our Catholic faith with our students. I love being able to bring our Catholic faith into other daily activities in the classroom and into Social Studies Class, as well. I love working in our Catholic school with the other faith-filled teachers and staff.