



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# St. John the Evangelist Catholic School

## Jet Gazette Newsletter

### January 27, 2023

#### News and Views from Mr. Schmit

Greetings,

It sure looks like Winter has finally arrived and is here to stay. Snow is in the 10 day forecast with temperatures dropping next week. However, spring is right around the corner and there are only 8 more Fridays until Spring Break '23! I have a lot to say again this week so let's jump to it.

The last Friday of January rundown:

- **Attendance:** I have not stressed attendance enough this year as we have shifted from Covid protocols to a more normal-ish routine. The SJS policy begins with **“All students enrolled in St. John the Evangelist Catholic School are expected to be punctual and regular in attendance.”** Students attend school every scheduled school day for the entire day and are expected to be in assigned areas at assigned times unless officially excused. As I continue reminding us all regarding attendance, we need to understand the difference between excused and unexcused. Absence from school will be excused if: absence was caused by illness, it is a case of emergency, or satisfactory arrangements have been made with administration). Now, not every sickness requires a parent to take a child to the Doctor. I will USUALLY take a parent at their word when a reason is supplied for absence (using the excused absence if satisfactory arrangements have been made with administration clause) but please contact the office with a reason for your child's absence, each and every time (unless you have properly notified Mrs. Haiss in advance.) Although our attendance policy in the handbook calls for alerts and notifications in the case of excessive unexcused absences, it is going to be necessary to send out notices when a student reaches 8 absences, regardless if the absence is officially counted as excused or unexcused. Consistent attendance is extremely important to the student's success in the classroom but it is also an important courtesy to the teacher because of the time and effort it takes to not only prepare regular lessons but also keep track of lessons and work for the students who are absent.
- **Some thoughts on attendance (not SJS policy):** **Good Attendance**--9 or fewer absences: students with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more. **Warning of Chronic Absenteeism**-10-17 absences: students who are absent an average of 15 days a year miss a year's worth of school BEFORE their senior year of high school. Missing a day of school puts a student behind classmates. **Chronic Absenteeism**-18 or more absences: Excused and Unexcused absences represent lost time in the classroom and lost opportunities to learn. Missing just one day every two weeks can add up to 18 days in a year.
- **Morning Tardies:** The school day officially begins at 8:05 with teachers beginning instruction. Your child is tardy if he/she is not in their classroom at 8:05. I have been extremely lenient with our tardy/attendance policy over the last couple of years. However, the excessive tardies are causing delays in the beginning and quite frankly is a disruption as students enter classrooms after the school day has started. 3 Morning Tardies (tardies will only be excused with a doctor's note) equal 1 unexcused absence. PLEASE plan on dropping your child off by 7:55. This goal will allow for students to be walking in the school by 8:00AM instead of at 8:05.
- **Open House:** The new family Open House is Thursday, February 2 from 5pm to 7pm. If you know of anyone looking for a change or who wants to know more about St. John School, please share this information with them or bring them with you to the school next Thursday!

- Catholic School Week: Catholic Schools Weeks kicks off with weekend Masses (Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 8:30, 10:00 and 11:30). Students who wear their uniforms to Mass this weekend can see one of the SJS staff members in the entry way for an out of uniform coupon. Staff members will be distributing cookies after mass to say “thank you” to parishioners for their continued support of our school. More information regarding the week can be found on page 3 of this Jet Gazette and in the attached flyer.
- Middle School Music: This week Marshall Music dropped off a number of instruments as Mr. Tucker is introducing “concert band” to our general music middle school classes. (Clarinet, Flute, Trumpet, Trombone, Violin, Cello, along with percussion). We are partnering with Marshall Music to rent instruments (at no cost to families) for the remainder of the year and will assess and plan for the future.
- Enrollment Update: Our overall enrollment goal for next year is 310 students (currently we have 302). So far during the re-enrollment period we have had 86% of our current students re-enrolled for the 2023-24 school year with a retention goal of 90%. If you haven’t re-enrolled, please do so today.

This Sunday we begin our annual observance of National Catholic Schools Week, otherwise known as “wait for the next Winter Storm to close schools for two or more days.” Amie and I are blessed to not only be a part of this parish but to have our daughters enrolled in this school. Seven years ago we knew we made the right choice for Addison’s education, enrolling her at St. John Catholic School when she would come home talking first and foremost about her faith and all the things she was learning from Ms. Verlin (now Mrs. Boyle). As she progressed in her learning we knew we made the right decision for Addison when Ms. Hagler (now Mrs. Salzano) worked with her after school, giving extra reading lessons. The choice was solidified as she grew in her love for learning and her faith in Mrs. Cislo’s second grade class and for the first time reached grade level in both reading and math. The tears she cried at the end of 3rd grade because of how much she was going to miss Mrs. Roche spoke volumes as to how our teachers have a unique and holy way of connecting with our children. During 4th grade with Mrs. Whitney and Ms. Adams, she grew in her love for social studies and learned so many skills on how to work with others. In 5th grade with Mrs. Farella and Ms. Adams, Addison continued to develop strong study skills and deepened her understanding of her faith. This year she has adjusted to having different teachers for different subjects (Mr. Garbutt, Mrs. Dawes, and Mrs. Whitney) and she continues to excel. All the while she has had opportunities to participate in youth choir, drama club, and volleyball, all of which have helped her to grow in confidence and her ability to work with others. Addison has learned how to manage her time and her grades at SJS from her year to year growth and interaction with the teaching staff. Additionally, our Aidan has grown in her spirituality, her love for others, and her love for learning by having Mrs. Roberts and Mrs. Boyle in preschool and now Mrs. Konett for Kindergarten. We are truly blessed with an amazing, dedicated, caring faculty and staff that helps sending the children to St. John School become a blessing and not a burden.

God is good! Have a blessed weekend,

Andrew Schmit  
Principal

# Dates to Remember

## JANUARY

Sun	29	Catholic Schools Week begins
Mon	30	Annual Day of Service for Catholic Charities- students may wear SJ spiritwear
Tues	31	Pajama Day

## FEBRUARY

Wed	1	Red, White, and Blue Day
Wed	1	Buy Dinner/Dessert at La Marsa and Crumbl
Thurs	2	White Out Day-We are the Light of Christ
Thurs	2	Catholic Schools Week New Family Open House- 5 PM to 7 PM
Fri	3	Western Day
Sat	4	PSA Boots and Buckles Auction-Buy your tickets now!
Mon	13	<b>NO SCHOOL-Applefest Raffle Incentive Reward</b>
Tues	14	<b>Happy Valentine's Day-Valentine Spiritwear Allowed</b>
Fri	17	<b>No School-Presidents Weekend</b>
Mon	20	<b>No School-Presidents Weekend</b>
Wed	22	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>

### 2023-2024 Tuition Assistance

The window to apply for tuition assistance for the 2023-2024 school year is now open. **Applications are due by March 1, 2023** if you would like to be considered for grants from the Diocese of Lansing.

Both the St. John Scholarship Fund and the Diocese of Lansing Scholarship Program are need-based assistance programs. Need is determined by an independent, third party service, FACTS Management, which makes its assessment based on income and tax information. The application is only available online and requires a \$35 application fee. Families applying only need to fill out one application for consideration for both St. John and Diocese of Lansing assistance. You do not need to fill out an application for each child. **You must fill out this application to be considered for any form of tuition assistance from the St. John School Scholarship Fund or from the Diocese of Lansing Scholarship Program.** A link to the application is provided at the end of this email.

The link for the application is : <https://online.factsmtg.com/aid>

## Catholic Schools Week

January 29th-February 4th

On January 30th, our students and staff will be participating in our annual Day of Service for Catholic Charities in Flint. To make this event successful, we are in need of donations. Please consider donating the following items:

- Toiletries-especially lip balm, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, and travel-size hand lotion
- New or gently used, clean socks (even those with no match)
- New or gently used, clean gloves (even those with no match)
- Fleece (2 pieces of 1 1/2 yards needed per blanket)
- Bags of individually wrapped candy (fun-size candy)
- Liquid Dish Soap or Laundry Detergent
- Diapers in sizes 5 and 6



See attached flyer for more CSW details.



### WE ALL FIT INTO GOD'S PLAN

Please turn your puzzle pieces in by Monday!! The oldest SJ student from each family was given a puzzle piece to take home. Please decorate your puzzle piece together to represent your family. Be sure to include your family name on the piece! We will put them together to display for Catholic Schools Week.



ST. JOHN SCHOOL PRESENTS

# BOOTS & BUCKLES

SCAN FOR AUCTION INFO!



- **DONATE** - WHAT AND HOW
- **SPONSORSHIPS** - HIGHLIGHT YOUR BUSINESS OR FAMILY SUPPORT
- **TICKETS** - RESERVE YOUR TICKETS OR PURCHASE A TABLE FOR YOU AND FRIENDS
- **EVENT DETAILS** - BASKETS AND LIVE AUCTION ITEMS POSTED WEEKLY



Printed By:  THE UPS STORE Fenton



# Boots and Buckles Auction

## Welcome 2023 St. John School Auction

**5:00PM** SILENT AUCTION BEGINS &  
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

**7:00PM** DINNER & PRAYER  
W/ FR. ROBERT

**8:00PM** SILENT AUCTION CLOSES

**8:30PM** LIVE AUCTION BEGINS &  
BAND TO FOLLOW!



**FATHER HARVEY WAY - ST. JOHN SCHOOL**

A huge Thank You to our next sponsor who dazzles us with diamonds!!!! A beautifully created diamond tennis bracelet with 5ctw of high quality diamonds set in 14k white gold. Raise those paddles because this gorgeous piece will be in our live auction!!!! Can't wait!!! Thank you Medawar Jewelers!!! <https://www.medawars.com/>

**MEDAWAR  
JEWELERS**

*Mark Your Moment*



Thank you to the Nolde Family and Get Ready to win a Powersports Outdoor Gear Package!!!



# ATHLETICS



## SPRING SPORTS

We are trying to determine what we will be able to offer this Spring for our middle school teams. Can you please fill out this survey so we know how many kids would be signing up. And they would be able to be on both track and baseball/softball if they wanted. Thank you so much for your help on this as we continue to grow our sports programs. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MSSports23>

### BASKETBALL

#### 7/8 Grade

Mon. Jan. 30 vs. Holy Family/Miller 7:00 PM @ St. John

#### 5/6 Grade Green

Mon. Jan. 30 vs. Holy Family 2 5:00 PM @ St. John

Thurs. Feb. 2 vs. Holy Family 3 7:00 PM @ St. Robert

#### 5/6 Grade Gold

Mon. Jan. 30 vs. Holy Family 3 6:00 PM @ St. John

Thurs. Feb. 2 vs. St. Robert White 6:00 PM @ St. Robert

### ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

- Adult Open Gym - starting Sunday January 29th, Co-Ed (30+), 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM. Cost is \$3.00 cash or check or card (through QR code on site)
- 3rd /4th grade open gym starting Sunday January 29th, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM. Sign up day of on site .

EDUCATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE FOR ALL SKILL LEVELS  
BOYS AND GIRLS GRADES K-4  
SATURDAY GAMES WITH 30-MINUTE PRACTICE PRIOR TO GAME  
GAMES WILL TAKE PLACE AT ST. JOHN SCHOOL GYM on Saturdays  
PLAYER EVALUATIONS SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5TH 12:30 - 2:00  
GAMES START FEBRUARY 11 TIME TBD  
ALL SCHOOLS WELCOME

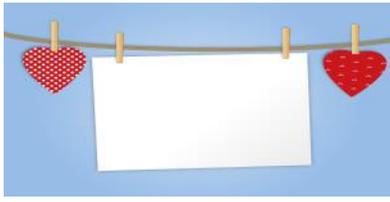
Register by 2/13/2023

GRADES K-4  
SIX GAME SEASON  
INCLUDES JERSEY  
\$75

HTTPS://ST.JOHN.THE.EVANGELIST.CATHOLIC.SCHOOL.SPORTS/REGISTRATION/FORM/481844871  
QUESTIONS? CONTACT CHRISTINA GAINER CMGAINER20@GMAIL.COM



**We will be restocking our Spiritwear next week.  
Stay tuned for details!**



# ON A PERSONAL NOTE...

## Prayers:

- For Genevieve Sutphen's grandmother, Mary Ann Sutphen, who has been hospitalized because she is ill.
- For the family of Vera and Aida Sabatine, whose great-grandfather, Wayne Knecht, has passed away.

## Thank You:

- The SJS 8th grade would like to thank all the Daddy Daughter Dance sponsors, as well as the fathers and daughters who participated in the event. Your support helped raise funds for the 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C., which will give every 8th grader the opportunity to visit our nation's capital.



## Congratulations:

- To Lilly Rogers for winning the Holy Family Catholic School Free Throw Contest in her age division.

If you have any prayer requests you would like in the Jet Gazette, please email Mrs. Haiss.

**bustedhalo**  
#DAILYJOLT  
JANUARY 26, 2023

Success is its own reward, but failure is a great teacher too, and not to be feared.

-- SONIA SOTOMAYOR,  
SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

**TODAY'S #MICROCHALLENGE**  
REFLECT ON A TIME THAT THINGS DID NOT GO YOUR WAY. WHAT DID THIS LESSON TEACH YOU? WHAT GOOD CAME OUT OF IT?

## Staff Spotlight



What is something fun you did on our snow days?

**Mrs. Kromberg:** I went skiing at Mt. Brighton with my sons!

**Mrs. Wright:** I was finally able to spend some time on my new jigsaw puzzle. It's a picture of different types of houseplants and is very hard. I love a good challenge!

**Mrs. Bragg:** I took my 3 year-old son, Grayson, sledding for the first time! He LOVED it!

**Mr. Marion:** Luke and I shoveled our entire block's sidewalk, went sledding in our backyard and read lots of books.

**Mrs. Whitney:** I hung out with my sons, napped, and spent a lot of time outside with my dogs.

**Mrs. Farella:** I hiked on a beautiful winter wonderland trail with snow day friends.

**Ms. Adams:** I took my dog, Juno, on a hike in the trails behind Linden MS in the winter wonderland. She loves going off leash and exploring!

**Mr. Tucker:** Crocheted most of a Baby Yoda, and slept.

**Mrs. Salzano:** We worked on the nursery and cuddled with our dog Hank.

**Mrs. Holbrook:** I had lunch with my husband and played with our new kitten.

**Mr. Garbutt:** I got to play Yahtzee with my boys and tried to catch up on laundry. Key word: tried.

**Mrs. Roche:** We leave the house for absolute necessities only on Snow Days. We enjoyed watching Disney movies, cooking dinner, cuddling our dog and reading. It was heaven!

**Mrs. Trollman:** I read my book and drank hot chocolate and marshmallows in my pajamas!

**Ms. Wharff:** On our TWO snow days, I loved taking my dog, Beau, for walks in the snow! He loves to sniff under the snow, then lifts his head up quickly so that the snow flies up and he tries to catch it. Of course, then we enjoyed snuggling on the couch while I read, and he snoozed.

**Mrs. Haiss:** I baked cookies and stayed in my pjs all day on Wednesday!

