



# St. John the Evangelist Catholic School

## Jet Gazette Newsletter

October 23, 2020

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

### **News and Views from Mr. Schmit**

Thank you for being flexible with our dismissal during the storm this afternoon. It was a little crazy but we were able to accomplish our mission.

I've said it time and time again this school year but I am thankful for each and every day we can have in-person instruction here at St. John School. Our students and staff have done a superb job following our protocols including mask wearing, social distancing, hand washing, and sanitizing. Also, our lunch volunteers continue to daily scrub down our classroom desks, common touch surfaces and lunchroom tables; and the SJS custodial crew diligently cleans each and every day. These measures and protocols are keeping us safe and are allowing us to continue face-to-face instruction. Today marked the 40th day of in-person instruction and a week from today is the conclusion of the First Marking Period. The combined effort of our families and school staff has allowed this school year to progress this far. As we conclude the month of October and move to November, let's continue to remain vigilant in our protocols. Keep taking temps in the morning prior to walking out the door. Wash hands regularly. Sanitize. Maintain social distance.

Our students are hard at work as face to face learning continues. It has been an awesome experience to go from classroom to classroom to observe the educational process in full swing. Although our students are socially distanced in the classrooms, it is encouraging to see how they have adapted to the realities of this particular school year and are still able to form little communities of educational and emotional support. I popped into one particular classroom this week where I observed students at their desks, engaged with their teacher, and engaged in sharing and working through ideas as a whole group. In another classroom, I observed students working through a math activity and one student was helping lead another student to greater understanding of a particular concept. These quick glimpses offer me a greater appreciation of why this community is doing everything to keep the school moving forward. Our school community is living out this week's Gospel passage from St. Matthew: You shall love the Lord your God and you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Additionally, I need to give a shoutout to our First, Second, Fourth and Fifth grade teaching teams. Mrs. Ratke (1st Grade), Mrs. Salzano (2nd Grade), Mrs. Whitney (4th Grade) and Mrs. Farella (5th Grade) have done an exceptional job instructing their homerooms while utilizing two rooms to maintain social distancing. They continue to amaze me daily as to how they prepare their instruction and assessments while working with their aides and balancing the daily schedules. Mrs. Minnick (1st Grade), Mr. Moore (2nd Grade), Ms. Adams (4th Grade), and Ms. Jacoby (5th Grade) all work with our students daily and support our homeroom teachers. We are blessed to have such dedicated professionals working with our students.

I hope and pray that you all have a wonderful weekend and are able to relax and rest. Next week is a Spirit Week brought to us by our awesome Cheer Team! I'm looking forward to see who claims the new Spirit Stick. Information on the daily themes and fundraisers can be found on page 2 in this week's Jet. We will continue to make this school year work as we adjust to whatever comes our way. You are all in my prayers.

God bless,

Andrew Schmit

# PARENT CALENDAR



## October

Sat	24	Happy Birthday Mr. Willard!
Sun	25	Happy Birthday Mrs. Salerno!
Fri	30	Half-Day for Students-11:30 AM Dismissal—upper loop only
Fri	30	Last Day for Uniform Shorts

## November

Sun	1	Daylight Savings Time Ends-Turn your clocks back
Tues	3	No School-Records Day
Thurs	12	Parent-Teacher Conferences (via Zoom) Half-Day for Students-11:30 AM Dismissal
Fri	13	No School for Staff or Students



## HALLOWEEN CELEBRATIONS

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.



### IMPORTANT DISMISSAL INFORMATION FOR OCTOBER 30

All students will be dismissed in the Upper Loop on October 30th (half-day 11:30 dismissal). We will be wishing our students HAPPY HALLOWEEN and passing out goodies as families exit the loop. If you would like to donate candy for the goodie bags, please send your donation into the office no later than next Friday, October 23rd.

# Spirit Week

October 26-October 30

Sponsored by our Spirit Squad

## MONDAY

### PINK OUT DAY



Pay \$1 to wear pink in support of breast cancer awareness. Jeans are allowed with donation, as well. No hair dye or face paint.



## TUESDAY

### THROWBACK DECADES DAY

Go back in time and dress as your favorite decade from the 1920s to the 1990s.

## WEDNESDAY

### SUNDAY BEST



Dress to impress. Come to school in your Sunday best.



## THURSDAY

### SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY



In honor of the UM vs MSU football game next weekend, wear your favorite team colors.

## FRIDAY

### HALLOWEEN CELEBRATIONS

Wear your costumes to school.



## HELP YOUR HOMEROOM WIN THE SPIRIT STICK!!!

Participation in the dress up days, as well as other games throughout the week, will help each homeroom earn points towards winning the Spirit Stick. Additionally, there will be a coin collection challenge by homeroom. Homerooms will earn 1 point for every cent donated. All donations will go to Catholic Charities in Flint.

## Athletics Update

**Volleyball:** Clinic Times are Mon., Oct.26th, and Wed., Oct. 28th, from 5 PM to 6:30 PM (7th/8th grade stay til 7PM)

Practice for our official 7th/8th grade volleyball season will start November 2nd. Please be sure to register your child as soon as possible so that Coach Gordley has accurate numbers for the team.

Please use this link to register: <https://forms.gle/NzSUQ9HUnCWZ6K6RA>

**Spirit Squad:** Please use this link to register for Spirit Squad: <https://forms.gle/uBfgS1nHtZx7bjaP9>

All student athletes must have a sports physical on file. You may submit a new physical completed on or after April 15, 2020 OR your child may be eligible to use the sports physical from the 2019-2020 school year. If you wish to use the sports physical from last year, you must out the [MHSAA Sports Health Questionnaire](#) and turn it into the office for review. Athletic fees must be paid in order to participate. The fee to participate is \$60. Fees can be sent in to the school office.



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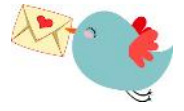


**Kindergarten created Solar System hats this week with Mr. Willard in STEAM.**

**Mrs. Robert's preschool celebrates the color "Orange."**



# ON A PERSONAL NOTE



## Thank you:

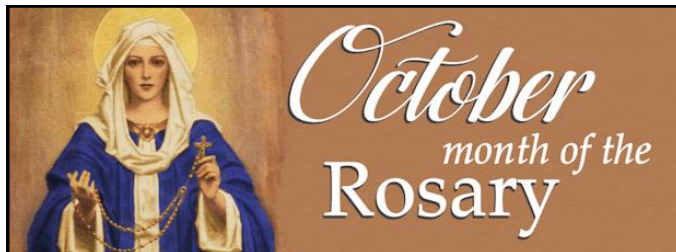
- To the Landaal families and Landaal Packaging for donating a pallet of water personalized with the St. John School logo.
- The St. John Educational Foundation for their contribution towards two more water filling stations that are up and running this week.



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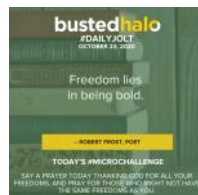
## Building Foundations of Faith

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

Share one of your favorite Halloween memories.



**Mrs. Ratke:** When I was in high school, my friends and I dressed up as a dozen eggs and we all had names like good egg, bad egg, over easy, etc...

**Mrs. Roche:** One of my favorite memories was taking my kids back to my parents' neighborhood to trick or treat. It brought back a ton of memories of my family growing up. We ended our trick or treating my going to my favorite pizza place in Flushing.

**Mrs. Whitney:** Taking my sons to Zoo Boo and Greenfield Village Halloween and just watching them really enjoy what was happening.

**Mrs. Salzano:** When I dressed up like a banana in kindergarten, I loved it so much and wanted to wear it everywhere!

**Mrs. Farella:** My favorite memories are when my kids were little and we went trick or treating together and then went to Grandma and Grandpa's house for spooky treats.

**Mrs. Dawes:** My favorite memory was when I won first place for the most creative pumpkin at a Halloween party. The pumpkin was a cat's head and it had spaghetti for the whiskers and Styrofoam balls for the eyes and mouth. It was a lot cuter than it sounds.

**Mrs. Haiss:** One of my favorite things about Halloween growing up was the pre-game before trick or treating. My mom would drive us around to our grandparents and aunts and uncles for candy before we would trick or treat at home.

**Ms. Adams:** When I was little, I went trick-or-treating in my grandma's neighborhood with my family, cousin, aunt, and grandma. We got hot dogs and hot apple cider at one of the houses and big candy bars at the big houses!

**Mrs. Boyle:** My favorite Halloween memories are trick or treating with family and friends. One year, my friend and I changed into different costumes and went around the neighborhood again!

**Mrs. Wright:** One year for a Halloween party when my kids were in elementary school, we all dressed up as characters from Harry Potter: Prof. McGonagall, Prof. Dumbledore, Harry, and two Hermiones. My kids also attended a Fenton Community Center outdoor Harry Potter movie event dressed up in their costumes and they won a prize!



## STUDENT Spotlight

What is your favorite Halloween treat?

Gabby Rogers (Preschool): Snickers!

Georgia Higgins (Preschool): I love chocolate bars. ALL candy bars, everyday!

Brianna Webb (Kindergarten): Those lollipops, the big ones with the swirls!

Riley Niles (1st grade): Sour Patch Kids

Jason Taddei (2nd grade): Three Musketeers and Hershey's are my favorites!

Tiffany Gadany (3rd grade): I like Skittles!

Patrick Carsten (4th grade): Reese's Peanut Butter cups

Fianna Doherty (4th grade): Candy Corn

Melanie Jensen (5th grade): My favorite candy is Reese's Peanut Butter cups because I love the sweet, chocolatey peanut butter flavors mixed together.

Kiefer Ward (8th grade): Kit Kat bars

James Moose (8th grade): Snickers

