

St. John the Evangelist Catholic School Jet Gazette Newsletter April 21, 2023

News and Views from Mr. Schmit

Greetings,

What an amazing week of school! I hope this Friday finds you well and ready for a great weekend. I have a lot to say today so let's jump right in with the rundown.

The 32 days of school remaining rundown:

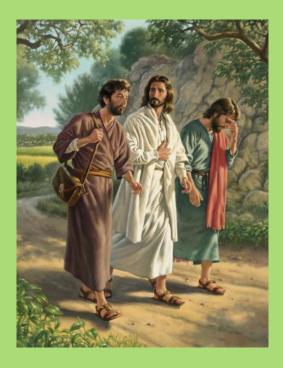
- Washington DC: The 8th graders, their parents, Mrs. Whitney and Mrs. Adams enjoyed their four day excursion to our nation's capital earlier this week. We are thankful they had a safe trip. On Sunday I was pleased to receive a very complimentary email from their battlefield tour guide after the group left Gettysburg. It was a jam packed trip and I look forward to hearing all about it when I'm able to speak with the 8th graders next week.
- No School on Monday, April 24: The teaching staff will be attending professional development at Holy Family as we will be learning more about the new religion text series along with the rollout of the Diocesan religion curriculum.
- Thank you to Mrs. Moore: A special thank you to Mrs. Jessica Moore for reading her new book "The Three Amigoats" to our Kindergarten-5th grade students this week. She brought along a special guest, for the children to meet.
- Catholic Charities Recognition: Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties recognized St. John School on Wednesday by presenting a certificate of appreciation to Mrs. Cislo and Mrs. Roche who went to Flint on behalf of the students and staff. Catholic Charities presented the certificate in gratitude for our "generosity of spirit, time, and talent for the benefit of God's children."
- Attendance: Now that we are well into the 4th quarter and as preparations for next school year have started, I need to remind our entire school community the importance of regular, consistent attendance for the academic, social, emotional, and spiritual growth of your child/ren. Chronic absenteeism has an impact on your child but also impacts the other children in the classroom along with the teacher. 46% of our students have missed 10 or more days this school year. Only 16% of our students have missed four or less days. Next school year we will pull regular reports and send reminders in regards to attendance and tardies. Please use the remaining seven weeks of this school year to form those excellent habits of being on time and being present each and every day.
- Final NWEA MAP: This final MAP testing window remains open for the next couple of weeks. In addition to the reading and math assessments our 3rd through 8th grades students are taking the Science test as well. This initial test will give us baseline data as the faculty continues to form instruction and review curriculum.
- Book Fair: The Book Fair is being held next week.
- Family Fun Night: Along with the Book Fair, we will host a Family Fun night on Thursday, April 27 from 4pm-6pm. There will be a number of stations, including STEAM, Sloan Museum, and a prayer garden.
- GCCS Middle School Fun Night: Our 6th-8th Graders are invited to the GCCS Fun Night next
 Friday, April 28 at Powers Catholic.

- GCCS Formal Family Dance: All families are invited to the GCCS formal dance next Saturday evening at Powers. The sign up for the event is attached to the Jet Gazette email.
- DRAMA CLUB: Our drama club will be taking the stage in 2 weeks to present "Shrek the Musical." They will host a special school performance in the Activity Center on Tuesday, May 2 at 1PM. The show will then move to the stage at Powers Catholic High School for a 6pm show on Friday, May 5, and 11AM and 5PM performances on Saturday, May 6. We are looking forward to seeing our 4th-8th graders drama club performers!
- Fun Day: We are hoping to bring back SJS Fun Day on Tuesday, June 6. We will need a host of volunteers to help with this day. Please call the office or email Mrs. Haiss if you are interested in helping us out on June 6.
- Save the Date: Our final day of school is a half day on Thursday, June 8. Before we have the end of year celebration in the back parking lot, Deacon Larry will again lead a Eucharistic Procession throughout the school, beginning at 11:00AM. Feel free to join us in prayer

At Mass this weekend we will hear the Gospel account of the Road to Emmaus from the Evangelist Luke. I briefly mentioned this Gospel account in last week's article because of Fr. Robert's Wednesday All School Mass homily. However, this Gospel is worth reflecting on, praying on, thinking about because of how it is bursting with Liturgical symbolism. The one thing that noodles around in my brain from this Resurrection account is how the story begins with two disciples walking away from Jerusalem on a journey, even with the news that the tomb was empty. In this first part of the story these disciples appear to be emotionally down and consumed by pessimism. However, everything for them changes when they encounter Jesus as they walk with him and break bread with him. After they finally recognize Jesus they rush back to Jerusalem to report to the Apostles that Jesus had appeared to them on the road. How often do we allow our perception of things to be defined by negativity? Are we being examples of hope and positivity to our children? Are we helping them to grapple with the realities of life by taking things to Jesus in prayer or through encountering the risen Christ at Mass? I know I struggle with this. Let's pray for one another that we can be beacons of hope and light for our families and those we encounter in our daily lives. Let's pray that we pass along the love and joy we find in the hope and promise of the Resurrection.

I hope you all have a blessed weekend. See you on Tuesday.

Andrew Schmit Principal



Dates to Remember

APRIL

Mon 24 Teacher PD-No School for Students

Tues 25 Book Fair Week begins

Tues 26 K of C Pastoral Appreciation Dinner honoring Mr.

Schmit and Sister Mary Ann

Thurs 27 Family Fun Night 4-6 PM

Thurs 27 Mini Golf Challenge Due

Fri 28 GCCS Middle School Fun Night 6-8 PM

MAY

Tues 2 Drama Club presents Shrek Jr.

Wed 3 Mary Crowning at All School Mass

Fri 5 Drama Club presents Shrek Jr.

Sat 6 Drama Club presents Shrek Jr.

Sat 6 Education Foundation Derby Dinner

Sat 13 Middle School Dance at Powers 6PM

Wed 17 Spring Concert 2 PM

Wed 24 Grandparent Mass

Fri 26 **Half-Day-11:30 AM Dismissal**



REMINDER

We are now into the 4th quarter and the end of the year is quickly approaching. Please be sure to pay all remaining tuition balances by the end of April. Many students also have negative balances in their lunch accounts. Please be sure to pay those fees as soon as possible.

Book Fair

Week of April 25th

Book Fair Information can be found here. You can load funds for your child to spend at Book Fair right on the Scholastic site. You may also send cash or check to the school.



CALLING ALL READERS (and Golfers)!

You are invited to participate in The Hole in One Mini Golf Family Challenge. The challenge is to create a mini golf hole. The winner gets to go to Uncle Ray's for ice cream and play a round of mini golf with Mr. Schmit.

See Attached Flyer for more details!



Performance Dates/Times

Tuesday, May 2 1 PM @ SJ Activity Center

Friday, May 5th 6 PM @ Powers

Saturday, May 6th 11 AM and 5 PM@ Powers

Open Enrollment is taking place now. If you know anyone looking to transfer schools or enroll their young child, please let them know about St. John School. Encourage them to set up a tour or call the office for more information. Your recommendations are our best form of marketing. New families can find a link to register for the 2023-2024 school year on our website. You can also share that link with them by clicking here.







Snapshots from our 8th grade field trip to Washington DC.





From the PSA

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is just around the corner! At St. John we like to celebrate our teachers all month long! Please help us by sponsoring a lunch or decorating the school etc. See details by clicking on the link below:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b44aca823a7f94 -staff1#/

Feel free to shower your teacher with love anytime! The official Teacher Appreciation Week is May 8th - 12th. More updates and reminders will be in the Jet gazette closer to May.

Volunteer Hours

Don't forget to log your volunteer hours. The form to log hours can be found on the school website under the "Good Stewards" tab. As a reminder, families are charged \$10 per unfulfilled volunteer hour. Thank you for all the time you give to make our school and parish a wonderful place.



ATHLETICS

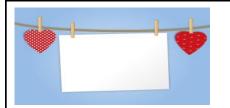
TRACK FAMILIES

Update from Coaches: All families with track athletes, whether they have already shown up or not, need to join the Remind group on the Remind app. Moving forward all communication will come through Remind only. The class code is: @gccssa. All athletics need to fill out the GCCS Athletics Emergency Contact Form. All athletes need to be picked up from practice no later than 5:30 or they will be waiting with PCHS Security.

Stay tuned from information regarding Summer Sports Clinics. Junior Jets Volleyball information/sign up will be out next week!



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ON A PERSONAL NOTE...

Prayers:

- For Luke and Ryan Repke's grandfather, Gary Arman, who is ill.
- For all the victims of the MSU shooting, especially for former SJS student, Nate Statly. There is a GoFundMe account set up to support his family for those who wish to donate. Click here to access the GoFundMe page.

Thank You:

To Jessica Moore aka Farmer Jessie for visiting on Wednesday with Tilly and Ginger.
 We loved hearing your story, "The Three Amigoats."



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





Staff Spotlight

Happy Earth Day! What is your favorite way to spend time in nature?

Mrs. Dawes: My favorite way to spend time in nature is walking, hiking, and watching animals and birds.

Ms. Adams: Hiking on trails with my dog, Juno, in all four seasons and swimming in the refreshing lakes Michigan has to offer in the hot summertime!

Mrs. Salerno: I love being on the lake watching the sunset.

Mrs. Bragg: My family LOVES to camp! We have a travel trailer, and spend most of our weekends camping from May-October. We often go on hikes, nature walks, and bike rides while we are camping.

Mrs. Trollman: Walking on the beach by the ocean

Mrs. Farella: My favorite thing to do in nature is hike and bike on beautiful nature trails.

Mrs. Kromberg: Going for walks!

Mr. Forsleff: There is nothing better than walking alone in a quiet forest, or seeing stars away from artificial light.

Mrs. Wright: I enjoy appreciating the nature that God has created by walking and hiking in wooded parks or by rivers and streams.

Mr. Garbutt: The best way to spend time in nature is on a golf course or on a boat.

Mr. Marion: My favorite outdoor activities are biking, kayaking, and camping.

Ms. Brack: Going for a ride on my paddle board.

Ms. Wharff: Springtime is perfect for watching things grow. I love being in the garden and seeing all of the new life sprout up! I can't wait to start planting!

Mrs. Adams: On the water, like boating, or near the water like on the beach. I also like to go hiking and walking.

Mr. Willard: Tenting at a local campground, seeing the sights at a national park or taking a long walk at one Michigan's beautiful Metroparks.