



# St. John the Evangelist Catholic School

## Jet Gazette Newsletter

### May 5, 2023

#### News and Views from Mr. Schmit

Greetings:

It's Cinco de Mayo, the day that commemorates when the Mexican forces defeated the French forces of the Second Empire at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. This former high school history teacher couldn't help himself. Anyway, this week was incredibly busy as our teachers and students are busy with the learning experience here at St. John on top of our drama club's presentation of Shrek Jr and an 8th grade field trip today to Camp Copneonic. Speaking of the Drama Club, I am incredibly proud of our 38 fourth to eighth grade members for their performances of Shrek Jr The Musical this week. Under the direction of Melanie McPeake, Val Pickard and Miss Jacqueline, the students are ready for their three performances this weekend on the stage at Powers Catholic High School. So because of the performance this evening I'm jumping to the rundown:

Cinco de Mayo Rundown:

- **Shrek Jr. The Musical:** Our Drama Club presents Shrek Jr The Musical. Come and see our 38 drama students perform on the stage of Powers Catholic High School tonight at 6pm and tomorrow at 11AM and 5PM. Good luck to all!
- **Foundation Dinner:** The Jockeys and Juleps Derby Dinner is taking place tomorrow at Birchview. The event is sold out. Barb Walstrom and Martha Koenigschect have put in a ton of work to ensure a successful event. It will be a great time.
- **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. As part of our ongoing efforts to minimize chronic absenteeism and keep our attendance policies up to date, I have emailed and spoken with the truancy officer for Genesee County. Please use the remaining five weeks of this school year to form those excellent habits for your children of being on time and being present each and every day.
- **NWEA:** The bulk of our NWEA testing is completed with the exception of a couple of makeups. I'm looking forward to diving into the data later next week and meeting with Mr. Mark Callahan, the Director of Genesee County Schools as we look forward to instruction and goal setting for next school year.

- Spring Concert: The school will gather on Wednesday, May 17 at 2pm in the church to listen to the grade level performances. I am exploring different ways we can accomplish the spring performance for the future, as a way to highlight our fine arts and other specials, instead of just gathering to listen to the children singing a song or two per grade level.
- Volunteer Breakfast: Our volunteers will be celebrated with the annual “Volunteer Breakfast” on Thursday, June 1, in the Grand Hall of the Activity Center. The second annual recipient of the Kelly Ahn Volunteer Award will be announced during that event. You can RSVP for the breakfast via the link on page 3.
- 8th Grade Clapout: The annual 8th Grade Clapout will take place at the close of school on Friday, June 2. Our homerooms will line up in the courtyard and cheer on our 8th grade class as they exit the school, together, for their last day of school at St. John.
- Fun Day: Plans are coming together for Fun Day on Tuesday, June 6. We will be sending out a Sign Up Genius link soon!

We only have five weeks remaining of school and it's easy to count down the days until we hit the Summer Break. I'm guilty of it. I know exactly how many days remain in the school year. But the focus has to shift. We cannot just coast into the final week of school, acting like it's all about wrapped up. As a coach and someone who has dabbled in marathons, I can tell you that if you have a mentality of “almost done” you will get eaten up by the activity you are doing and focus on the incorrect thing. In a marathon, when a runner hits mile 20, that's when the race actually begins. It's not about hanging by a thread just to get to the finish line. In that event it's about finishing strong and pushing to the end to finish strong. This week I discovered a praise and worship song by Brandon Lake, entitled “Gratitude.” He sings, “So I throw up my hands Praise You again and again 'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah.” Powerful words and a heartfelt reminder that we have something to give, even when it feels like we have nothing left. Gratitude. That's what we have left. What a reminder! One of our homerooms has the “May Mindset” posted in the classroom that is referenced daily. “We will try our BEST. We will APPLY the skills we've learned. We will listen and show respect. We will teach, live, and learn as Jesus did.” I believe all of us: faculty, staff, parents, AND students need to commit to this mindset until we celebrate on June 8 with a Eucharistic Procession and our Level-Up Celebration. Let's be grateful for what God has given us and how he has blessed us this school year, but press on to the end and finish this school year with the focus of growing and be better today than we were yesterday.

Have a blessed weekend!

God bless,

Andrew Schmit

# Dates to Remember

## MAY

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
Sat	13	<b>Happy Birthday Ms. Patty!</b>
Sun	14	<b>Happy Mother's Day!</b>
Sun	14	<b>Happy Birthday Ms. Bade!</b>
Wed	17	Spring Concert 2 PM
Wed	24	Grandparents Mass
Wed	24	<b>Happy Birthday Mrs. Minnick!</b>
Thurs	25	<b>Happy Birthday Fr. Robert!</b>
Fri	26	<b>Half-Day-11:30 AM Dismissal</b>
Sat	28	<b>Happy Birthday Mr. Tucker!</b>
Mon	30	<b>Memorial Day-No School</b>

## JUNE

Fri	2	<b>8th Grade Last Day/Clapout</b>
Fri	2	<b>Preschool Last Day</b>
Wed	7	<b>8th Grade Graduation Mass 6 PM</b>
Thurs	8	<b>Last Day for students-Half Day-11:30 Dismissal</b>



### Performance Dates/Times

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

## From the PSA

Teachers play an important role in shaping the lives of their students and deserve our gratitude and appreciation for all that they do. The PSA would like to THANK all of the amazing SJS teachers and staff!

This week let's take the time to share and show our gratitude for the great work that is being done here at SJS!!

### Happy Teacher and SJS Staff appreciation week!

Thank you to all the teachers and staff who work tirelessly to create a supportive and engaging learning environment for our students. Thank you for inspiring and motivating your students to learn and helping them to reach their full potential. Thank you for your patience and dedication, for going above and beyond to help your students succeed, and for being a positive role model and mentor to them. We appreciate all the hours spent planning lessons, grading assignments, and providing feedback to your students. We recognize the challenges you face and the sacrifices you make to ensure your students receive the best education possible.

Once again, thank you to all the teachers and staff for your faith, hard work and commitment to a strong academic and spiritual education for SJS students!! You make a difference, and your efforts are deeply appreciated.



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b44aca823a7f94-staff#/>



RSVP for the volunteer breakfast [here](#).

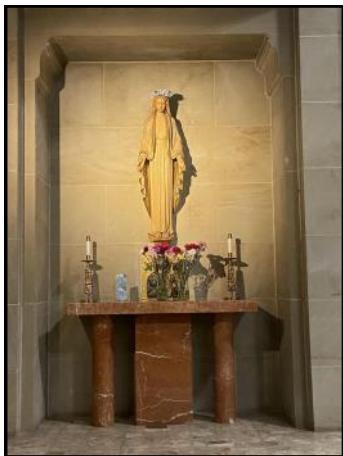
Open Enrollment is taking place now. If you know anyone looking to transfer schools or enroll their young child, please let them know about St. John School. Encourage them to set up a tour or call the office for more information. Your recommendations are our best form of marketing. New families can find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

## SAVE THE DATE

We are still working on finalizing the calendar for the 2023-2024 school year. So you can begin planning, the first day of school will be Tuesday, August 22nd for grades K-8. It will be a half-day. Our first day of preschool will be on Wednesday, August 23rd. We will publish the final calendar as soon as it is ready.



## ANNUAL MARY CROWNING



## 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.



## 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

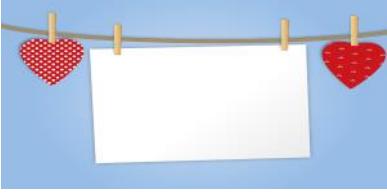
## TRACK FAMILIES

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 athletes 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 Mrs. Holbrook and her family. Her mother-in-law, Debra Farver, has passed away.
- For Patti, aunt of Emelia and Eli Justice, who is ill and in hospice care.
- For Chris Ebbitt, uncle of Elijah and Patrick Garbutt, who is ill.
- For Gary Arman, grandfather of Luke and Ryan Repke, 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.

## Congratulations:

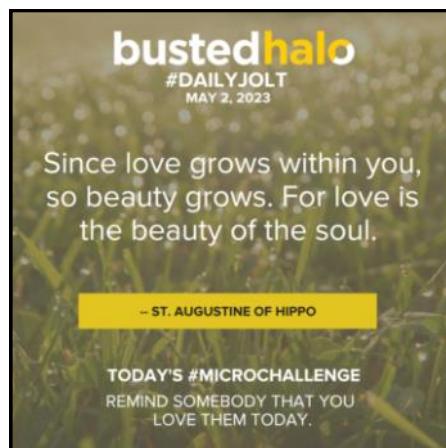
- To Peter and Isabella Loy and their family on the birth of their baby sister, Gianna Louise.
- To Charlotte Griffin and her family on the birth of her baby sister, Emmalina Jewel.



## Thank You:

- To the many families who decorated our halls for Teacher Appreciation Week.
- To the Stratton family providing lunch for our staff on Monday.
- To the Grossmann family for providing breakfast for our staff on Thursday.

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





## Staff Spotlight



What is your favorite board game?

**Mrs. Kromberg:** Life!

**Ms. Wharff:** I like the board games Monopoly and Candyland. In our family, we love to play card games. Phase Ten and Rummy are favorites. I'm trying to learn Euchre at the moment.

**Mrs. Bragg:** Beat the Parents! So much fun to play as a family!

**Mrs. Wright:** It's hard to choose just one board game, so my top 3 are Monopoly, Scrabble, and Yahtzee.

**Mrs. Whitney:** I enjoy Scattergories.

**Ms. Adams:** As a kid, I always enjoyed Candyland and Chutes and Ladders. As an adult, I have been on a Catan kick!

**Mrs. Roberts:** My daughter loves the game of LIFE, so I enjoy playing that with her!

**Mrs. Williams:** Guess Who!

**Mr. Forsleff:** Monopoly

**Mrs. Trollman:** Chinese checkers because I used to play it with my grandma.

**Mrs. Adams:** Monopoly was always fun to play.

**Ms. Schefka:** My favorite board game is Monopoly.

**Mrs. Haiss:** I probably love Scattergories the most, but game nights are one of my favorite things to do!

