

St. John the Evangelist Catholic School Jet Gazette Newsletter August 2023

# Welcome Back to School



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL** 

# Welcome New Families and New Students!

We would like to wish a warm welcome to all of our new families registered for the 2023-2024 school year! The following is a list of new families registered as of today:

The Akridge Family, Isabelle-PK The Armstrong Family, Owen-PK The Belanger Family, Cullen-PK The Bragg Family, Grayson-PK The Brooks Family, Easton-PK The Brown Family, Rose-PK The Champine Family, Sophia-PK The Chapin Family, Greenlee-2 The Cislo Family, Vaida-PK The Dankovich Family, Sophia-4, Colton-2 The DiGiovanni Family, Dominic-7 The Gabrielson Family, Carl-PK The Grabowski Family, Kennedy-K The Henry Family, Margaret-PK The Hunter Family, Brooklyn-PK The Kopf Family, Rory-PK The Korth Family, Rosemary-PK

The Kouza Family, Conor-1 The Martinez Family, Weston-PK The McCallum Family, Declan-K The Murphy Family, Maren-PK The Parsons Family, RJ-K The Pechman Family, Warren-PK The Prendergast Family, Jack-PK The Roy Family, Adelaide-PK The Schuiling Family, Chase-3, Ryker-2 The Serra Family, Smith-K The Stanton Family, Adelaide-PK The Stephens Family, Xavier-7, Joaquin-4 The Sylvester Family, Slade-PK The Tocco Family, Charles- PK The Vasquez Family, Isaac-7 The Zelley Family, Kinley-PK

# It's a Family Tradition!

Last but not least, we would like to welcome the following students who will be joining their siblings at SJS!

Larkin Arndt-PK Emma Burger-PK Clarence Campbell-PK Bree Carter-PK Wesley Distefano-PK Emmaline Hatmaker-PK Gemma Hunt-PK Norah Landaal-PK Charlotte Mackey-PK

Monroe McAndrew-PK Camden Mika-PK Isla Morgan-PK Noah Repke-PK Richard Robitaille-PK Gabriella Sutphen-PK Joseph Turner-PK Lucas Yeates-PK

# **Dates to Remember**

Friday, August 11	Class Lists posted in Lobby Windows in the afternoon
Tuesday, August 15	Happy Birthday Mrs. Salzano!
Tuesday, August 15	School Office Closed for Staff Retreat
Tuesday, August 15	New Family Meeting-6 PM in Library
Wednesday, August 16	School Office Closed (AM) for Staff Development
Friday, August 18	Happy Birthday Mrs. Konett!
Monday, August 21	Back to School Open House-begins at 5 PM
Tuesday, August 22	First Day of School for K-8th grade/Half-Day 11:30 Dismissal
Tuesday, August 22	Playground Dedication-12 PM
Tuesday, August 22	NO JETS CLUB-Jets Club opens on Wednesday
Wednesday, August 22	First Day of School for Preschool-Half Day for Preschool and Kindergarten
Monday, August 28	Picture Day
Tuesday, August 29	Curriculum Night-details on Page 5
Friday, September 1	No School-Labor Day Weekend
Monday, September 4	Labor Day-No School

<u>1st-8th Grade First Week</u>		
Tues 8/22	Half-Day	
Wed 8/23	Full Day	
Thurs 8/24	Full Day	
Fri 8/25	Full Day	

Kindergarte	<mark>n First Week</mark>
Tues 8/22	Half-Day
Wed 8/23	Half-Day
Thurs 8/24	Full Day
Fri 8/25	Full Day

	Preschool First Week**
Tues 8/22	No School
Wed 8/23	Half-Day
Thurs 8/24	Half-Day
Fri 8/25	Half-Day

\*\*For all Preschool Students. First Full Day for students in full day program will be 8/28.

# Daily School Hours for 2023-2024

We are in compliance with the Diocese of Lansing Education Department regarding instructional time requirements for 2023-2024. The State of Michigan and the Diocese of Lansing require schools to schedule 1098 hours and 180 days of instruction in a school year. The Diocese of Lansing complies with state laws regarding the number of fire and tornado drills required per year, certification of teachers, the number of school days and instructional hours per year.

#### Daily School Hours for K-8<sup>th</sup> Grade:

8:00 AM First Bell/Instructional Day Begins
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8:05 AM Tardy Bell

3:30 PM Dismissal

#### Preschool:

8:00 AM - 11:15 AM Half Day

8:00 AM - 3:20 PM Full Day

MORNING DROP OFF LOOP WILL OPEN DAILY AT 7:40 AM. Please do not release students from your cars until the loop is officially open and supervisors are present. If you need to drop your child off prior to 7:40, please register him or her for Jets Club.





#### School office hours are Monday-Friday 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM when school is in session.

PLEASE NOTE: 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. Any students needing early dismissal will need to be picked up prior to 3:10 PM. After 3:10 PM, all students will be sent to the preschool loop, upper loop, or Jets Club. Students may not wait by the office.

# **School Supplies**

The majority of school supplies are included with the cost of tuition. There are just a couple things that will need to be provided from home:

- Backpack—Large enough to fit folders and books
- **Gym shoes**—Clean with non-marking soles. Must be able to be left at school. Gym shoes do not need to be brand new.
- Art shirt—Large, old shirt or t-shirt that will fit over school uniform shirt.
- Students in grades 5-8 have lockers if they wish to bring locker supplies/decorations.

#### \*\*Middle school students only\*\*

- Pencil bag or pencil pouch
- Gym uniform from Dennis Uniform



# 2023-2024 Teaching Assignments

Mrs. Roberts	Preschool 3
Mrs. Boyle	Preschool 4
Mrs. Miller	Preschool 4
Ms. Wharff	Kindergarten
Mrs. Konett	Kindergarten
Mrs. Bragg	1st grade
Mrs. Kromberg	1st grade
Ms. Kozara	2nd grade
Mrs. Trollman	2nd grade
Mrs. Cislo	3rd grade
Mrs. Roche	3rd grade
Mrs. Salzano	4th grade
Mr. Marion	4th grade

Mrs. Farella	5th Grade
Ms. Adams	5th Grade
Mr. Garbutt	6th grade HR MS Math 6th Writing
Mr. Penneau	6th grade HR MS Religion 6th Social Studies
Mrs. Hogan	7 <sup>th</sup> grade HR MS Literature 7/8th Writing
Mrs. Whitney	8th grade HR MS Science 7th/8th Social Studies

Mrs. Sterling	PE
Mrs. Wright	Computers and PASS Mentor Teacher
Mr. Tucker	Music
Mr. Willard	STEAM
Mr. Forsleff	Art
Mrs. Minnick	Teacher Aide
Ms. Jennings	Preschool Aide and Library
Mrs. Minock	Preschool Aide
Mrs. Battaglia	Preschool Aide
Mrs. Wilson	Preschool Aide

# **Back to School Open House**



Join us on Monday, August 21st between 5 PM and 6 PM for our Back to School Open House. Your family will be able to tour the classroom and meet your teachers. Everyone will gather in the courtyard at 6 PM to catch up after a fun summer. Hot dogs will be provided. The annual Backpack Blessing will take place at 6:15 PM. Don't forget your backpack!! \*\*SEE BELOW FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING PRESCHOOL

## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

On the first day of school, there will be no Morning Loop Drop Off. K-8 families may park over by the Activity Center and gather in the courtyard. Teachers will come out to meet their students when the first bell rings at 8 AM. Students will say "See you soon" to their families and walk to class with their teachers. K-8 students will begin normal Morning Loop procedures on Wednesday, August 23rd.

On Wednesday, August 23rd, preschool families may park and walk to the main entrance beginning at 7:45 AM. Preschool classroom aides will be by the main entrance to greet students as they say "See you soon" to their families and walk into the building with the classroom aides. Preschool students will begin normal Morning Loop procedures on Thursday, August 24th.

## **Curriculum Night**

Our Annual Curriculum Night for parents will take place on Tuesday, August 29th. Please try to have at least one parent attend this important meeting.

5:00 PM PK-5th Grade Classroom Meetings Begin

> Sessions will be at 5 PM, 5:20 PM, and 5:40 PM. (Sessions are repeated for parents with more than one elementary age child.)

- 6:00 PM **General Presentation for all families**
- 6:40 PM Middle School Classroom Meetings

Parents will follow an abbreviated middle school student schedule.

We still have a few 2022-2023 yearbooks for sale. If you would like to purchase one, please stop by the office. They are \$15 each, cash or check only.



# **Preschool Information**

- ALL preschool students will be dismissed at 11:15 during the first week of school. Your child's teacher will communicate dismissal procedures to you.
- Preschool students will need a backpack, art shirt (old t-shirts work great), and rest blanket (full day students only).
- Open House Sign Up Genius will be sent from your child's teacher. Preschool ONLY will have slots available from 4 PM to 6 PM for you and your child to meet your teacher and our the classroom. Please contact your child's teacher if you are unable to attend the open house. Please note K-8 Meet the Teacher will begin at 5 PM and will be drop-in style.

#### **Important Parent Information**

#### • 2023-2024 Student Emergency card

On Tuesday, August 22, the oldest child in each family will receive an Emergency Card to take home. This must be completed on both sides by a parent. Please return it the <u>next school day</u> with your student. It is imperative that we have updated emergency numbers on hand for your children. Please be sure that at least one parent and/or emergency contact can be available to pick up your child within 30 minutes in the event your child becomes sick at school.

#### • Report All Student Absences

When a student is absent, the parent or guardian **MUST** call the school office no later than 8:45 AM or email Mrs. Haiss at: ahaiss@sjseducation.com. If the student absence is due to illness, please report the nature of the illness to the school office when you call.

### Jets Club Before and After School Care

#### 7:00 AM-7:45 AM

#### 3:30 PM-6:00 PM

St. John School offers before and after school care for families who require additional child care. Jets Club registration packets are available in the office. Jets Club begins on Wednesday, August 23rd. Drop-in Jets Club will be extremely limited and must be pre-approved through the office before 3 PM each day. Please be sure to register for Jets Club if you think you may need extended care at any time throughout the school year. Please contact Mrs. Anderson at danderson@sjseducation.com for more information or if you have any questions.

#### **VISITOR PROCEDURES**

- All visitors must enter through the Main Entrance only and sign in at the Main Office.
- Visitors may not go to classrooms unless pre-arranged with the teacher.

• If an item from home has been forgotten, please deliver it to the office. Students will be called to the office periodically to pick up items.

- Guests will not be permitted to join students for lunch
- No third party lunch deliveries

# Ways To Reduce Your Tuition Costs

#### Work As A Parent Supervisor:

Tuition credit can be earned by supervising students:

AM Loop Duty	7:30 AM to 8:15 AM
PM Loop Duty	3 PM to 4 PM

Lunch/Recess Supervision 10:45 AM to 1 PM

If you are interested in helping as a parent supervisor, please contact the school office.

#### Scrip Program:

SCRIP is a program which allows families to purchase gift cards to various businesses, many of them local. Using these cards toward everyday purchases is

an easy way to reduce tuition costs. Businesses give a small rebate to the school for each gift card purchase. From each rebate, 95% is applied to your students' tuition, with 5% going to the school to cover SCRIP expenses. 8TH GRADE FAMILIES MAY CHOOSE TO USE 100% OF THEIR FAMILY PROFIT TOWARD THEIR CHILD'S WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP.

Any questions or concerns, please contact Candice Kelso at 810-691-8358.

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SCHOLARSHIP



Tuition assistance may be available for those who are related to a member of K of C Council #7418. Application forms are available in the school office and can be found on the school website. Please be sure to read the updated qualification requirements. All completed forms are due in the school office <u>by Thursday, August</u> **17th.** 



# **School Uniform Information**

School uniforms are required for all students preschool-8th grade. **Uniforms MUST be from Dennis Uniform.** For online shopping, please use code "HAA" for approved items for St. John School. During a typical week, a uniform is required Monday through Thursday and students may wear spiritwear on Fridays. We still have a supply of Dennis Uniform Scrip available in the office. This is sold at an 8% discount off the face value and may be used for online and in-store purchases. The office can only accept

cash or check for the purchase of scrip.

DENNIS UNIFORM STORE 1532 North Opdyke Rd. Suite #450 Auburn Hills, MI Phone (248) 340-8890 www.dennisuniform.com

All Middle School students should have a gym uniform purchased from Dennis Uniform for the 2023-2024 school year.

# Spiritwear

The PSA will have spiritwear items for sale during the Back to School Night. Spriitwear may also be purchased through our online <u>Spiritwear Store</u>. Items will be restocked soon, including some new arrivals!

On Spiritwear days, students may wear St. John School or Powers Catholic High School apparel with jeans or uniform bottoms. Jeans should be in good condition free from rips or tears. Students may not

wear leggings to school on spiritwear days or out of uniform days. This applies to all students from preschool to 8th grade.

Students who are not wearing the appropriate uniform or spiritwear may be asked to change into something from the uniform closet or be asked to call home for a change of clothes.

# **Additional Dress Code Information**

Please note that students are asked to adhere to the following guidelines as indicated in our Parent Student Handbook:

- No uniform/spiritwear shorts may be worn during the period from November 1st through March 31st. During this time period, leggings or tights ARE REQUIRED for any girls wearing uniform skirts or jumpers. No bare legs during this time period.
- Shirts should be tucked in at all times. (Age appropriate grade levels)
- Belts must be worn on Dennis Uniform items with belt loops. (Age appropriate grade levels)
- Socks or Tights must be worn at all times.
- Shoes must be secure on the foot with closed toe and closed heel. No Crocs or open-toe sandals may be worn Outdoor boots must be removed outside the classroom and may not be worn throughout the school. Fashion boots such as UGGS, cowboy boots, etc. may be worn on Spirit Days only.
- Leggings may not be worn as pants by students of any age (preschool-8th grade) on any uniform, spiritwear, or out of uniform day. The exception is leggings that are worn UNDERNEATH a uniform skirt.

All faculty and administrators have the right to judge what is and is not appropriate regarding the Uniform Dress Code and to enforce consequences for inappropriate dress.



# **Student Health and Wellness**

#### Immunizations

- For Nonmedical waivers (religious, philosophical or other objections), parents should visit their county health department. Waivers will then be digitally uploaded into the MCIR database from the health department.
- If your child has a medical reason (a true contraindication or precaution) for not receiving a vaccine, a physician must sign the State of Michigan Medical Contraindication form; this form is available at your doctor's office (not the county health department).
- Based on the public health code, a child without either an up-to-date immunization record, a certified nonmedical waiver form or a physician signed medical waiver form can be excluded from school. (Taken from the Health Dept. parent letter January 13, 2015)
- For more details, read this flyer from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.



St. John remains committed to being a Nut Free School. We have several students with life threatening allergies to peanuts and tree nuts. Please remember when packing lunches and snacks that our classes and lunchroom are nut free. Thank you for helping to keep our learning environment safe for all our students.

## Parents of Children with Allergies

If your child has allergies that are significant enough to warrant accommodation in the school setting, please send a written evaluation from the allergist, with any recommendations that the allergist may have, to the school office as soon as possible. Allergy plan forms are available in the school office. A current head & shoulders photo of each child with allergies is needed in the office. Please email a photo to Mrs. Anderson at danderson@sjseducation.com or come to the office to have a photo taken.

## MEDICATIONS

Any medication for your child must be kept in the school office. Medications should be labeled. You must also fill out a medication authorization form before any medication can be given. The form is available in the office or on the school website. Please note that we do not keep general medications on hand, such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen. All medications must be provided by parents.



# **Food Service**

#### LUNCH TIMES

Kindergarten and 1st grade:	11:00 AM-11:20 AM
2nd and 3rd grades:	11:25 AM-11:45 AM
4th and 5th grades:	11:55 AM-12:15 PM
Middle School:	12:20 PM-12:40 PM

Breakfast is available for purchase by the Main Office every morning from 7:45 until 8:00.

You may add money to your child's lunch account online through our Revtrak website: <u>https://stjohnschool.revtrak.net/</u>. You may also send in cash or check to the school office.

The cost of a student lunch is \$3.25.

The cost of student breakfast is \$2.00

A la carte items are available at breakfast and lunch and cost ranges from \$0.50 to \$1.25.

# **Requirements for Volunteers**

The Diocese of Lansing requires that anyone who has contact with minor children receive Virtus Training, including all volunteers. In order to be a volunteer at St. John the Evangelist Catholic School, you must complete the following:

1. Register online at https://www.virtusonline.org for an online training session.

2. Read and sign the Diocese of Lansing Volunteer Code of Conduct. This form is available in the school office or you can print one <u>here.</u>

3. Read and sign the Diocese of Lansing Criminal Background Check Form. This form is available in the school office or you can print one <u>here</u>.

\*\*Please note that if you were contacted to complete a Virtus refresher course and have not had a chance to complete it, you are ineligible to volunteer until the course is completed per diocesan rules. Contact Mrs. Haiss if you have any questions.

You may not participate in any volunteer positions until you have completed all requirements.

#### Parents Volunteering or Supervising at the school

A minimum of 18 volunteer hours is required each school year for families with students in grades K-8. Preschool only parents are required to volunteer 10 hours. There are many opportunities to volunteer throughout the school year including athletics, Applefest, PSA auction, Book Fair, field trips, homeroom parents, popcorn Fridays, and many others. The best way to stay informed about these opportunities are by reading the Jet Gazette and teacher newsletters/emails regularly. We are always looking for people to help.

- Dress appropriately. (Use student dress code requirements as a guideline.)
- Enter/Exit Main Entrance only
- Please sign in at the school office and take a visitor or volunteer sticker when you enter the building.
- Please do not go to your child's classroom unannounced.
- Please sign out in the school office before you leave the building.

## **CURRENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

We are looking for Homeroom Parents at almost every grade level. Please email Mrs. Haiss if you are interested in being a homeroom parent. Homeroom parents are responsible for coordinating with your child's homeroom teacher to help in areas such as planning class parties, helping out with 8th grade graduation events (middle school level), and helping to facilitate the Homeroom Auction Project. You do not have to do it all alone. You can and should get other parents in the class to help you. The PSA is also a great resource for our homeroom parents.



#### September 14-17

A few Applefest volunteer opportunities are listed below. More opportunities will be coming soon!

Elephant Ear Booth	Click <u>here</u> to sign up.
Apple Pie Making Email Amy Blissett at blissett2002@gmail.com	
Happy Apple Pie Booth	Call Mary Kay Schwarz at 810-241-1571.
Pancake Breakfast	Email Mr. Schmit at aschmit@sjseducation.com

# **Parent School Association**

Our Parent School Association serves as a fund raising and community building organization. The PSA does a fantastic job planning fun filled family activities. The main objectives of the PSA are to:

- Promote open communication among the parents, teachers, and administration
- Promote good will and cooperation between and among parents, faculty, administration, and St. John Parish
- Direct and coordinate parental support to St. John School through assistance with activities, social functions, and fundraisers
- Foster a profound appreciation for the ideals of Catholic Christian education in the home and to promote Catholic Christian education through cooperation with the faculty and parish

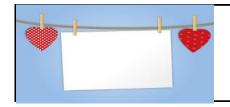
## **PSA Board**

Michelle Pagnani (President) Krystal Fatolitis-Payne (Vice President) Anne Lehr (Secretary) Whitney Kruger and Brandi Webb (Members At Large) Jessica Moore and Amie Schmit (Spiritwear) Thank you all for your continued service to our school!

# **Athletics Update**







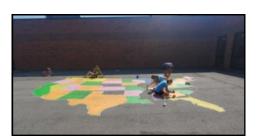
# **ON A PERSONAL NOTE...**

# Thank You:

- To the parents who maintained our flower beds this summer.
- To Katie Easlick, Kristine Hatmaker, and Nicolette Zylinski for organizing our Used Uniform Closet this summer.
- To our Student Council and Mrs. Whitney for painting the courtyard this summer.

# **Congratulations:**

• To Clare Missentzis and her family on the birth of her new brother, James.





• To Charlotte and Lydia Carlson and their family on the birth of their new brother, Noah.



# COMMUNICATIONS

The weekly Jet Gazette is sent via email every Friday when school is in session. Our school website, www.stjohnfenton.com and our Facebook page, *St. John the Evangelist Catholic School* are great resources for school information. Also be sure to check out our Instagram account! We also have our weekly parish bulletin which can be found on the parish website. The bulletins not only share the beauty of the Catholic faith and the wonderful things our

church does for the community, but also highlights the amazing reasons our school is a great fit for your children.



# 2023-2024 School Calendar (Updated 8/3/23)

Tuesday, August 22, 2023	First Day of School for K-8 students—Half-Day
Wednesday, August 23, 2023	First Day for Preschool students—Half –Day for preschool/kindergarten students
Friday, September 1,2023	Labor Day Weekend—No School
Monday, September 4, 2023	Labor Day—No School
Thursday, September 14, 2023	Early Dismissal at 2 PM
Friday, September 15, 2023	Teacher PD-No School for students
Thursday, October, 12, 2023	Half-Day—Parent Teacher Conferences
Friday, October 13, 2023	Teacher PD-No School for students
Thursday-Friday, October 26-27, 2023	Teacher PD-No School for students
Friday, October 27, 2023	End of First Quarter
Wednesday-Friday, November 22-25, 2023	Thanksgiving Break—No School
Friday, December 8, 2023	Immaculate Conception-All School Mass
Wednesday, December 20, 2023	Half-Day —Christmas break begins at end of day
Thursday, January 4, 2024	Classes Resume
Friday, January 12, 2024	End of Second Quarter
Monday, January 15, 2024	Records Day—No School for students
Sunday, January 28, 2024	Catholic Schools Week begins
Saturday, February 3, 2024	PSA Auction
Wednesday, February 14, 2024	Ash Wednesday—All School Mass
Thursday, February 15, 2024	Half-Day—Parent Teacher Conferences
Friday, February 16, 2024	No School for staff or students
Monday, February 19, 2024	Presidents' Day-No School
Wednesday, March 6, 2024	Teacher PD-No School for students
Friday, March 22, 2024	Half-Day—Spring Breaks begins at end of day
Friday, March 22, 2024	End of Third Quarter
Monday, April 1, 2024	Easter Monday—No School
Tuesday, April 2, 2024	Classes Resume
Friday, May 24, 2024	Half-Day for staff and students
Monday, May 27, 2024	Memorial Day—No School
Friday, May 31, 2024	Last Day for Preschool
Thursday, June 6, 2024	Last Day of School—Half-Day
Thursday, June 6, 2024	Last Day of School—Half-Day
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Half-Day Dismissal is at 11:30 AM

St. John the Evangelist Catholic School is a faith-based community dedicated to teaching, learning and living as Jesus did.