News and Views from Mr. Schmit

Happy End of the First Marking Period!

We have had an outstanding end to the first marking period. Thank you for helping your student(s) participate in our first Spirit Week of the school year and a huge thank you to Val Pickard and the Spirit Squad for helping make this a memorable week for all of us.

Here’s my Day 45 Rundown:

- There is NO SCHOOL on Tuesday, November 3 (Records Day).
- Student Report Cards will be viewable on Friday, November 6. Instructions for how to view report cards will be in next week’s Jet Gazette.
- The four water bottle filling stations donated by the SJS Education Foundation are all nearly installed in the school.
- Four EOS Temperature Cameras and installation have been generously donated to SJS. These cameras are being installed next week. We will have two cameras installed at each of the morning entry doors so the morning protocol will change slightly after the work is completed. I will let everyone know when the change to our morning routine will take place.
- Parent-Teacher Conferences are being scheduled and will be held via Zoom. The bulk of conferences will take place on Thursday, November 12 (Half-Day of School) throughout the afternoon and evening.
- There is NO SCHOOL on Friday, November 13.
- Friday, November 20 will be a VIRTUAL LEARNING DAY. We are using this day as a way to “practice” our remote learning classrooms JUST IN CASE. The usual attendance procedures will be followed. Faculty and staff will be present in the school as the students learn from home. We have been blessed with a full first quarter of in-person instruction, however we need to make sure we are ready to go to virtual instruction. This day will allow us to go over protocols with the students before and after November 20.
- On Monday, we are welcoming five new students, two to preschool and three to K-8. We now have 38 preschool students and 225 K-8 grade students enrolled at SJS!
- Looking forward to December, we will not be able to have our traditional Christmas program in the Church. However, our music classes will be working on a Christmas Program that will be recorded throughout the school day on December 15 and posted at a later date.
- The Foundation is having the annual Christmas Tree Lighting program outside this year on Monday, December 7 at 6pm.

Enjoy the weekend and stay safe and healthy! God is good!

God bless,
Andrew Schmit
PARENT CALENDAR

October

Fri 30 Last Day for Uniform Shorts
Fri 30 End of First Marking Period

November

Sun 1 Daylight Savings Time Ends-Turn your clocks back
Tues 3 No School-Records Day
Wed 4 Parking Lot Rosary at Church—6:30 PM
Fri 6 Report Cards Available Online
Mon 9 Education Foundation Ornament Decorating Option #1
Wed 11 Education Foundation Ornament Decorating Option #2
Thurs 12 Parent-Teacher Conferences (via Zoom)

St John Educational Foundation
Tree Lighting and Ornament Decorating

Our Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held Monday, December 7th at 6 PM outside in front of the school. Students have the opportunity again this year to create an ornament in Honor of or in Memory of a special person to be recognized at the Tree Lighting. Flyers were sent home last week for students to sign up for one of the ornament decorating sessions. The sessions will be after school on Monday, November 9th, and Wednesday, November 11th. Students should only attend ONE session. Please be sure to return the flyer if your student wishes to participate.

UNIFORM POLICY REMINDER

Today was the last day for uniform shorts until April.

Athletics Update

Volleyball: 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. **You must have your physical turned in to participate.** Next week, practice will be Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 5 PM to 7 PM.

Please use this link to register: [https://forms.gle/NzSUQ9HUnCWZ6K6RA](https://forms.gle/NzSUQ9HUnCWZ6K6RA)

Football: There will be no football skills clinics next week. Clinics will return the week of November 8th in the gym. Please stay tuned for dates and times.

Spirit Squad: Please use this link to register for Spirit Squad: [https://forms.gle/uBfgS1nHlZx7bjaP9](https://forms.gle/uBfgS1nHlZx7bjaP9)

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 fill out the [MHSAA Sports Health Questionnaire](https://forms.gle/uBfgS1nHlZx7bjaP9) 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.
Spirit Week at SJS

Check out our Facebook page for more Spirit week photos!
ON A PERSONAL NOTE

Thank you:

- To all families for participating in our first SJS Spirit Week and thank you to Coach Val for organizing this week of fun and community building. Stay tuned for our spirit stick winner to be announced next week.
- To the PSA for assembling and passing out treat bags for our school families.
- To the families who donated the candy for our Halloween treat bags.

Prayers:

- For Mr. Willard whose father has passed away.

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.

ALL SAINTS DAY

All Saints Day is Sunday. Most of us are familiar with names such as St. Anthony, St. Michael the Archangel, and St. Anne. Check out this article, “Saints of the Sidelines: The Lesser-Known Heroes of the Church,” to learn about some you may not know.

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

Who is your favorite saint?

Mrs. Roche: St. Teresa of Calcutta is my favorite saint. I think she is my favorite because I admire her ability to serve others in a truly selfless way.

Mrs. Farella: The Blessed Virgin Mary is my favorite saint. She is a role model for us all and provides guidance and prayers for all who ask.

Ms. Wharff: My favorite saint is St. Teresa of Avila. My favorite quote from her is: "Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which He is to bless His people."

Mrs. Ratke: St. Anthony is my favorite. He has been there for me for many things and to guide my way.

Ms. Feazel: Saint Anthony is my favorite saint. I pray to him often and he helps me find misplaced items.

Mrs. Salzano: St. Francis of Assisi has always been my favorite because I love animals too!

Mrs. Whitney: I am a fan of Our Lady of Lourdes. The story captivated me a child.

Mrs. Minnick: St. Jude because he was a faithful friend to Jesus and he brings hope and comfort when needed.

Mr. Forsleff: St. Cecelia because she was humble, brave, and a musician.

Ms. Adams: My favorite saint is St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. She was the OG saint in the United States aka the first American-born Catholic saint. In all seriousness, St. Elizabeth was a humbling person. Even though she had many losses in her family, she strived to become closer to God and trust “the will.” She opened the first free Catholic school in America, which is awesome!

Mrs. Dawes: My favorite saint is St. Ignatius of Loyola. Learning how to use his powerful Discernment of Spirit Rules and Spiritual Exercises have helped me gain essential spiritual growth.

Mr. Garbutt: St. Rocco!

Mrs. Wright: One of my current favorite saints to be is the Blessed Carlos Acutis. He is a great saint for the young people of today to learn about because of his interest in computers, video games, and the internet. He was a devout Catholic and went to mass everyday. What an inspirational life he led!

Mrs. Adams: My favorite saint is St. Therese of the Child Jesus, since I was a little girl. Her motto was from St. John of the Cross: “Love is repaid by love alone.”

Mrs. Haiss: My favorite saint is St. Rocco because he is the patron saint of Patrica, Italy, the hometown of my grandparents. We celebrate his feast day every year in August. Ironically, he is also the patron saint against pandemics, so let’s all say an extra prayer for St. Rocco’s intercession!

Mr. Schmit: St. Anthony