Happy End of Third Quarter and Spring Break!

Wow! Where did March go? This has been a whirlwind of a month with so much going on in our classrooms and around the school. Our third quarter is in the books and now we get a chance to breathe, relax, and then hit the ground running on Tuesday, April 6.

Here is my March 26th Rundown:

- Holy Week begins this weekend with Palm/Passion Sunday (Regular Mass times). Holy Thursday (April 1), Mass will be at 6:30PM. The Divine Liturgy on Good Friday (April 2) will be at 1PM. Over 20 people will be welcomed into the Church at the Easter Vigil (closed to the public). Easter Sunday (April 4), our Masses will be at 7AM, 10AM and 11:30AM.

- Our middle school band program will reconvene on Wednesday April 7, from 3:30 to 4:30. Mr. Tripp is looking forward to working with our young musicians. We have also started planning for next school year and are looking forward to growing our music program here at St. John School.

- Please remember to report ALL absences. As part of our health and safety protocols, the office needs to follow up on all absences. We would like to cut down on the number of follow up calls and emails. Please call the office or email Mrs. Haiss if your child will be absent for any reason. If the absence is due to illness of any kind, please be specific. We are required to submit daily reports so a general report of "not feeling well" still requires a phone call to a parent for more information.

- As we enter our week away from school, it will be important to remember that our health protocols and procedures have helped to keep us in school for face to face learning for 129 days. Please remember if your student is showing any symptoms please keep him/her home from school. If your student has been deemed a close contact of a positive case, the student needs to stay home to quarantine. Also, please remember that IF YOU, THE PARENT, ARE NOT FEELING WELL AND HAVE TO TAKE A COVID TEST, ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD MUST QUARANTINE UNTIL THE RESULTS ARE KNOWN. I know we all know this but it is good we are reminded of our protocols so we can keep our school in-person throughout the final quarter of this crazy school year. I’m praying for the continued health and safety of our school community over the next couple of weeks!

- Fr. Ryan’s residence is still here at St. John while he is serving as the Parish Administrator for St. Mary Magdalene. Fr. Ryan was able to stop by twice during the week to say “hi” to students. After Easter weekend, Fr. Ryan is hoping for things to normalize a bit in Brighton so that he can still visit the school from time to time. Please keep him and the people of St. Mary Magdalene in your prayers.

- Our 7th/8th Grade ACT Aspire and 1st-8th Grade NWEA MAP testing windows open up in April. Our 8th Grade begins their Aspire testing the week of April 12 (information in the Middle School Newsletter), with both 7th and 8th finishing up the Aspire test in May. Our third NWEA testing starts on April 19th.

- The in-person Book Fair will be the last week of April. More information will be coming after break.

There is so much more to share but we will have time for that after our Spring Break. I am praying for all of you during Holy Week as our Lenten journey from the desert culminates with an Easter Sunday celebration at the empty tomb!

God bless!

Andrew Schmit
PARENT CALENDAR

March
Fri 26 End of Third Quarter

April
Thurs 1 Happy Birthday Ms. Jennings!
Sat 3 Happy Birthday Ms. Jazzmine!
Sun 4 Happy Easter!
Mon 5 Easter Monday-No School
Tues 6 Classes Resume
Tues 6 Uniform Shorts can be worn until end of year
Fri 9 Third Quarter Report Cards Available
Mon 12 Spring Spirit Week Begins
Thurs 15 Spring Picture Day!

LENT AND HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

HOLY THURSDAY, April 1st
No morning Mass
Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 6:30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY, April 2nd
STATIONS: 12:30 pm, LITURGY 1:00 pm
VENERATION OF THE CROSS:
North Parking Lot 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

EASTER MASSES
Vigil: 8:30 pm—Outdoors and Hall
Sunday: 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am
(Church, Parking Lot and Hall)

HOLY WEEK CONFESSIONS
Monday: 8:45-10 am, 4-6 pm—Church
Tuesday: 11-1 am, 5-6 pm—Drive Up, Activity Center
Wednesday: 12-1 pm, 6-7 pm—Church
Thursday after Mass of the Lord’s Supper,
until all are heard

HELP WANTED
Our Annual Book Fair will be held during the last week of April. We are in need of a couple volunteers to help that week.
If you are interested, please email Ms. Jennings at tjennings@sjseducation.com for more information.

Dress Code Reminder
Dennis Uniform shorts will be allowed after Spring Break for the remainder of the school year. On Spirit Wear days, boys may wear jean shorts and girls may wear jean skirts or jean capris.

Spring Spirit Week
Week of April 12th

Monday 4/12
Class Color Day

Tuesday 4/13
Superhero Day

Wednesday 4/14
Crazy Hair Day

Thursday 4/15
Dress Your Best Day
Spring Picture Day

Friday 4/16
Beach Party Day
“Take it all in... it's as big as it seems. Count all your blessings. Remember your dreams.”  
—Jimmy Buffett

**ATTEND, DONATE, SPONSOR and/or VOLUNTEER for the Auction!**

We can’t wait until May 22nd! You can choose to attend the auction in person this year or you can choose to participate online at home. If you want to attend in person tickets are on a first come, first served basis and may be limited due to Covid 19 guidelines. The Cheeseburger in Paradise themed dinner event will be so much fun! Please go to the Auction webpage and go to BUY TICKETS NOW to reserve your spot today. If you choose to attend online from home, registration and instructions for the online bidding platform will be communicated at a later date once we get closer to May 22nd.

https://sjpsa.ejoinme.org/2021

Don’t forget to check out, share and like our Auction Facebook page! This page will keep you up to date with auction information, news and sneak peeks of some of our auction items this year.

https://www.facebook.com/StJohnFentonSchoolAuction2021/posts

We sincerely THANK all of our gracious sponsors and volunteers that are helping to make this year’s auction AMAZING! We appreciate your generosity and your dedication to the success of St John School. While our work is not yet finished, we hope you ALL enjoy a relaxing Spring Break and celebrate the Easter season that is upon us. When we return to school, we will be in FULL AUCTION MODE!! Please keep in mind that all donations are due by April, 26, 2021. While you are out shopping or dining during the break, think about how you can contribute to this year’s auction. Put together a fun basket for our silent auction. Purchase and donate a gift card for one of our local retailers or restaurants. Be creative and come up with a unique idea of your own. (All local donations requests with your classroom are also due at this time.) We gladly welcome your generous donations, we just ask that they are turned in by April, 26th.

When you have spare moment, please check out our website: https://sjpsa.ejoinme.org/2021. There are items suggested for donation on our DONATIONS page! or auction questions or to inquire about volunteering, please contact Kelly Ahn (313.300.8841 or kahn@stout.com).

We can’t wait!! SEE YOU ON MAY 22ND!!!
Thank you:
- To everyone who donated to our Lenten Canned Food Drive.
- To everyone who donated to our Lenten Service Project with our March Jeans Days. We raised over $1270 for Catholic Charities.

Prayers:
- For safe travels for all those who will be traveling over Spring Break.
- For Mrs. Forsleff who has health complications.

Please spread the word to your family and friends that our New Family Registration is now open on our school website. If they would like to visit our school, invite them call the school to schedule a tour.

Today's #microchallenge from bustedhalo.com

DRIVE-IN MASS
Available during all weekend mass times
How it works:
+ Park in the designated parking area in the north parking lot during any of our weekend Masses
+ Tune your car's radio to 88.3 FM
+ Watch the Mass on our outdoor screen as it is happening live in the Church
+ During communion, Extraordinary Ministers will come to your vehicle to distribute Holy Communion.

To stay up to date with parish events, click here for a link to the weekly parish bulletin.
Staff Spotlight

What Easter traditions does your family have?

Mrs. Wright: An Easter tradition in my family is going to Grandma and Grandpa's house, going to church, and then having an Easter egg hunt along with dinner. I did this when I was a child, when my own children were little, and my siblings who have grandchildren continue the tradition.

Mrs. Salzano: My mom would hide our Easter baskets around the house every year. My sister Alex would wake up first and find all the baskets and then she would give me clues to help me find mine.

Ms. Adams: When I was younger, we always did an Easter egg hunt with all my cousins on Easter Day. The eggs would be filled with candy, quarters, etc. Of course, my brother was the fastest and would go around to each egg and shake them to hear if there were quarters and grab those eggs first. East egg hunts with my cousins were always my favorite!

Mrs. Minnick: We always have pasta! This year is lasagna.

Mrs. Farella: At Easter, our family usually goes to church together and then gathers for Easter dinner with the extended family.

Mrs. Dawes: One of the most special Easter traditions was making the homemade coconut lamb cake with my mom each year. She was an amazing cook!

Mrs. Boyle: I always remember the Easter Egg hunt! There were hundreds of eggs and one coveted Golden egg. Aunts and Uncles filled the eggs with candies and spare change. The youngest always went first, staggered by the older ages. The oldest boys always found the golden egg with $20. We always said they peeked. Happy Easter!

Mr. Garbutt: We would always gather on Good Friday morning and decorate figollis (a Maltese cookie) with icing and all sorts of candy. Then we would wait until Sunday to eat them.

Mrs. Ratke: Going to church and then coming and finding our Easter baskets. Now I do this with my kids too! Something I always look forward to is hiding the eggs and watching the big cousin Easter egg hunt at Easter dinner.

Mrs. Anderson: As a child for Easter, we would always get up and dress up in our special Easter Sunday clothes and head to early mass. After church is when we realized that the Easter Bunny had come the following night!!! Then around 11-12:00 in the afternoon we always headed to Canada to have Easter Dinner with my Me'Me' and Pe'Pe'. I certainly miss those days but hold fondly onto those memories!!

Mrs. Whitney: I would have to say all of my family, cousins, aunts and uncles getting together for an Easter Egg hunt and dinner.

Mrs. Roche: Coloring Easter eggs is my very favorite Easter tradition.

Mrs. Haiss: We used to spend Good Friday with my Nonna coloring Easter eggs and she would make us a special pasta for that day. She also used to make Italian Easter bread (it had an Easter egg on the top) and she always said you had to have a white tablecloth for Easter dinner to celebrate the risen Jesus.