



# St. John the Evangelist Catholic School

## Jet Gazette Newsletter

### November 11, 2021

## News and Views from Mr. Schmit

Greetings,

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who joined us outside around the flagpole this morning for our Veterans Day Prayer Service. Thank you to Deacon Larry Blondin for leading the prayer service and to Mr. Forsleff and Cameron Zinn (8th Grade student) for playing a moving rendition of "Taps" this morning. A special thank you to all of our parents who served or are currently serving in the military. You are greatly appreciated.

Here is the rundown for November 11, 2021

- Playground: There is going to be a playground expansion information meeting on Wednesday, November 17 at 6:30 PM in the Library. If you are interested in hearing about the plan or want to find out ways to donate to this project, please attend.
- Eucharistic Procession: On Friday, November 19, at around 8:50 AM, we will have an abbreviated Eucharistic Procession within the school. Our students will line the halls during the procession and pray as the Blessed Sacrament is brought throughout the school. You are invited to join in this procession by gathering in the lobby and main hallway of the school.
- The Youth Choir will be singing at the 5:00 PM Saturday evening mass next Saturday, November 20. Join us for prayer and worship as we receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the Feast of Christ the King!
- Annual Tree Lighting: The Tree Lighting Ceremony hosted by the Education Foundation will be Wednesday evening, December 1 out in front of the school.
- Advent Walk: The parish is hosting an Advent Walk around the parish campus on Friday, December 3 at 6:15 PM to help us prayerfully prepare our hearts for Christmas. If you or your family would like to participate, please contact Melanie French in the parish office.

I'm not sure if anyone is reading my "Unselfie: Why Empathetic Kids Succeed in Our All-About-Me World" weekly lessons but I'm going to continue with Lesson #3. As I continue re-reading this book I find myself taking more and more notes. It has been an incredible resource for me as an administrator of a preschool-8th grade school. The other day I was going back through my notes for Chapter 2 and came across Dr. Borba's reaction to integrating moral reasoning development into her classroom. After a lesson on moral reasoning, which she was proud of, two students decided to throw rocks at one another out on the playground. One misthrown rock ended up hitting a neighbor in the head. She was astounded how the two students who presented so much knowledge during the lesson on morality, displayed very little empathy for the man. "That was how I learned that moral reasoning and emotional literacy don't guarantee caring behavior (nor for that matter, does understanding another's perspective or even feeling with another). **To respond empathetically, kids must see themselves as people who care and value other's thoughts and feelings** (Borba 41)."

SJS parent community, despite the negativity and the noise that surrounds us from whatever is going on in our lives we have beautiful examples of empathy and compassion in our school from this week. The other day a young student tripped on her way across the parking lot after All School Mass. Four of her classmates immediately stopped and helped her to her feet. Another early childhood student was having a difficult time getting a coat on so a couple of students helped the student and even zipped up the coat. A homeroom of students wanted to do something special for a classmate who is going through a personal ordeal and made cards to brighten up this student's day. My last example of empathy comes from an early elementary classroom where students were sharing their findings from reading an excerpt and taking turns doing so, one student yielded her sharing time to a classmate who was sad because he had not been picked to share. All of these examples give me hope for the future. Let's continue working together to bring up disciples of Jesus who are caring and compassionate for others.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend. God bless,

Andrew Schmit  
Principal

# Dates to Remember

## NOVEMBER



Friday	12	<b>No School for Staff or Students</b>
Monday	15	Annual Food Drive begins
Saturday	20	<b>Happy Birthday Mr. Garbutt!</b>
Wednesday	24	<b>No School-Thanksgiving Break Begins</b>
Thursday	25	<b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>
Thursday	25	<b>Happy Birthday Mrs. Wright!</b>
Sunday	28	<b>Advent Begins</b>

### Annual Food Drive

Next week, we will be collecting non-perishable food items for our local St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. This will help them tremendously in stocking their shelves to provide items for the monthly food boxes that are donated to those in need.

Please feel free to donate any non-perishable items, especially those from the list provided below. Students can place donated items in the boxes outside their classroom. We will collect items until Tuesday, November 23rd.

#### Suggested Items

Boxed Cereal  
Macaroni and Cheese  
Tuna Fish  
Spaghetti or Elbow Macaroni noodles  
Instant Potatoes  
Pancake Mix  
Hamburger Helper  
Tomato Sauce/Spaghetti Sauce  
Canned Beef Stew/Chili/Baked Beans  
Cake Mix  
Jello or Pudding Mixes  
Vegetable Oil  
Peanut Butter and Jelly  
Toothpaste/Toothbrushes  
Shampoo and Conditioner



### Menu Change

Due to supply chain issues, the lunch menu has changed for Monday. Unfortunately, we cannot get mini pancakes or mini waffles because they are out of stock. The choices for Monday's lunch are:

**Mini Pepperoni Calzonettes, Cheese Pizza, or WOW Butter Sandwich**

Thank you for understanding!

### Amazon Smile

This holiday season, when you are shopping black Friday deals on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com) or purchasing last-minute gifts using your Amazon Prime account, be sure to shop on [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to support St. John Parish and School.

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support St. John School every time you shop, at no cost to you. Upon your first visit to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), select St. John Parish and then begin shopping. You'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Happy Holidays and happy shopping! Thank you for supporting SJS! Your commitment to the betterment of the parish and school is appreciated!

### COLD WEATHER REMINDER



Colder weather is upon us!! Please be sure students come to school everyday prepared to go outside. Our policy is to have outside recess everyday as long as temperatures are 10 degrees or above (factoring in the wind chill). Please be sure your children bring warm coats or jackets for the cooler temperatures. It is also a good idea to label all items.

## Spiritwear

We will be debuting even more new styles before Christmas so stay tuned. Spiritwear will make great gifts so check out our online Spiritwear shop [here](#) if you haven't had the chance.



## Save the Date

The Education Foundation Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on December 1st. Please join us. Cookies and hot cocoa will be provided.



## 8th Grade Fundraiser

To raise money for the 8th grade Washington DC trip, our 8th graders are selling Christmas poinsettias. Poinsettias are sold for \$10 per plant. They come in red, pink or white wrapped in holiday foil sold in a 6-inch pot. They make a perfect holiday gift or festive decoration. If you are interested in purchasing, please see an 8th grader in Ms. Feazel's homeroom class. Thank you and Happy Holidays!!



## Log Your Volunteer Hours

To log your volunteer hours, go to our school website and click on the "Good Stewards" tab. Then, you can click on "Submit Parent Volunteer Hours." If you have questions, about how to log hours, please contact the office.



## Athletics Update

### Boys Basketball

It is time to register for 5/6 grade and 7/8 grade boys basketball. Registration was due today, but we will still accept forms on Monday. Registration forms are available in the school office and are also attached to this email. A current sports physical dated April 15, 2021 or after is required. Fee to play is \$60. Practices will start the week of December 15th and games will begin after Christmas break.



7th/8th Grade Boys interested in playing may attend sports conditioning clinics starting the week of November 15th:

Mondays: 6:30 PM to 8 PM

Saturdays: 10 AM to 12 PM

Sports conditioning clinics for boys in 5th/6th Grade interested in playing will start after Thanksgiving. More details coming soon.

## Volleyball

### St. John Green and Gold Teams

Sat 11/13 9 AM Start at Powers

Wed 11/17 5 PM Start at St. John

Sat 11/20 9 AM Start at Powers



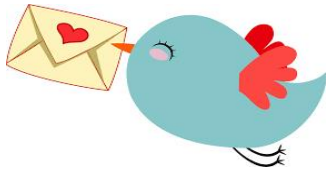
**Jr. Jets Sports Clinic Information Coming Soon!**

## PSA AUCTION NEWS



### The Big Game

**Be sure to save the date for our PSA Auction to be held on February 5, 2022.**



# ON A PERSONAL NOTE...

## Prayers:

- For the Sementilli family who is mourning the unexpected loss of David's uncle, Shae Dunn.
- For Gabriela Lesneski who is recovering from an illness.

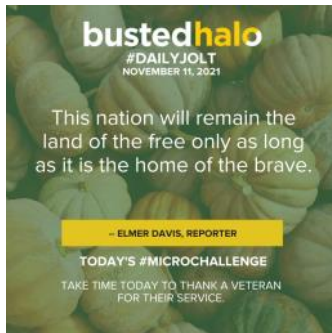
## Thank You:

- Thank you to all veterans for your courage and bravery in fighting for our freedom and protecting our country. We thank you for your service. May God bless you always!
- To everyone who was able to join us for our Veterans Day Prayer Service today.
- To Deacon Larry for leading our Veterans Day Prayer Service.
- To Mr. Forsleff and 8th grader, Cameron Zinn, for playing Taps at our Veterans Day Prayer Service.
- To the PSA for providing muffins and bagels for the staff this morning. What a nice surprise!



## Building Foundations of Faith

Today's #microchallenge from bustedhalo.com



To stay up to date with parish events, here is a link to the weekly parish bulletin: <https://www.stjohnfenton.org/bulletin.html>

Thank you to all who supported Applefest 2021. Information regarding next year's Applefest, which will be the 50th anniversary of Applefest, will be coming soon. Stay tuned for how you can get involved.





# Staff Spotlight

Mrs. Ratke

First Grade Homeroom

**How long have you worked in education?** 15 years **How about at SJŠ?** 5 years

**What is your alma mater?** Central Michigan University—Fire Up Chips!

**What is your favorite thing about working in a Catholic school?** I get to share and teach about God's love.

**Tell us about your family:** My husband, Anson, is a middle school teacher in Hartland. I have twins, Ryan and Elliot, and they are in 3rd grade. Morgan is in 2nd grade, all here at SJŠ.

**Do you have any pets?** Our beagle hound, Benny, is 5.

**What are your favorite hobbies?** Walking and being outside—summer preferred.

**What are your favorite foods?** Chips and cheese dip, soft pretzels and cheese dip

**What is one thing you will NOT eat?** Shrimp

**If you could go anywhere on vacation, where would you go?** Disney World!

**Who is one of your favorite saints and why?** St. Anthony. I pray to him for everything. He has always been a guide for me.

**What is your favorite movie?** I don't know if I have just one. Recently, it's Cruella.

**What is one of your favorite Bible stories?** Daniel and the Lion's Den. It shows to have faith and trust in God.

**What is one of your favorite family Thanksgiving traditions?** Getting an ornament from my grandma. Now, my mom has taken on the tradition for her grandkids.

**What is your MUST HAVE Thanksgiving dish?** Stuffing and cranberry relish

**What is something that you are thankful for?** My family and friends

**This or that? THANKSGIVING EDITION**

Watch Football or Watch the Parade

Stuffing or Mashed Potatoes

Watch Movies or Play Games

Apple Pie or Pumpkin Pie

Dress Up or Comfy Clothes

