



Step up to Respect – Jump to Responsibility – Accelerate to Leadership

SJA SCHOOL AND HSA PARENT UPDATE, DECEMBER 3, 2014

Dear SJA Families,

It's hard to believe that December is here and the cold weather is upon us! Please remind your students to bring hats, gloves, and warm coats in order to enjoy recess time. Unless it is very cold or there is precipitation, we will take the children outdoors. Research has shown that not only is it beneficial physically for children to run and play outdoors, there are also many psychological and cognitive benefits.

Remember, if we have inclement weather, we follow Harford County Schools closings and delays. I will also send out a phone call through Connect5 as soon as a determination has been made. If we have a delay, there will be no morning Extended Care.

I invite any parent who is interested to attend a Principal's Coffee next Thursday, December 11th, in the Church Hall from 8-9AM or from 6-7PM. This informal meeting time is for you to ask any questions that you might have. As you know, my door is always open to parents, but I want to make myself available to you each trimester at an informal meeting. It is my honor and privilege to serve the St. Joan of Arc School community!

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Christmas program next Friday, December 12th at 1:30PM. Miss Kahl has prepared the students to present "The Festival of Carols in Scripture and Song". The band will perform as well as the handbell choir. This will be enjoyable for all.

Please note that there will be no extended care on Friday afternoon, December 19th, so that the staff may attend the Christmas luncheon. This day is an early dismissal and the beginning of Christmas break for the students.

I wish you many blessings as your family celebrates the Advent season and prepares for the celebration of the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

Peace and all good,
Mrs. Bahr

TURKEY TROT 5K:

On Thanksgiving morning, several St. Joan of Arc students and their families gathered to participate in the Bulle Rock Turkey Trot 5K in Havre de Grace to benefit the Susquehanna Hose Company. Braving the cold temperature to participate in this race along with Miss Kahl and her sister were:

The Foulk Family
The Hinton Family
P. Castaldi
Mrs. Kenney

The SJA cheering section also included T. Kenney and Mrs. Castaldi.

AWARDS ASSEMBLY:

The 1st Trimester Awards Assembly will be held this Friday, December 5 at 2:00pm in the church. Parents of those students receiving an award this trimester should receive a notification today with your child's report card. Students should wear their regular dress uniforms.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT:

St. Joan of Arc School will have its Christmas Concert on Friday, December 12th at 1:30pm in the church. The concert will focus around the "Festival of Lessons and Carols." For the concerts, students should wear:

Boys: Dress pants, dress shirt, tie (optional), or sweater
Girls: Dress pants, skirt or dress (skirt and dress length should be close to their knees)

Students may also add a winter hat, scarf or Christmas hat to match what the class is wearing. **First and Seventh grade** are asked to wear a crown for their song, "We Three Kings."

Band Students wear black pants and white shirt/blouse (ties for boys) or as directed by Mrs. Thamert.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Miss Kahl or Mrs. Thamert.

HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TESTING DATES AND LOCATIONS:

All students planning to enter a Catholic High School in the Archdiocese of Baltimore must take the High School Placement Test. The test will be offered at the following schools on December 6th and 13th:

December 6th:

Archbishop Spalding
Calvert Hall
Cristo Rey Jesuit
Mercy High School
Notre Dame Prep
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Saint Frances Academy
Saint John's Catholic Prep
St. Maria Goretti
Seton Keough

December 13th:

Archbishop Curley
Catholic High
Institute of Notre Dame
John Carroll School
Loyola Blakefield
Maryvale
Mount de Sales
Mount St. Joseph
St. Mary's High School

For complete details and how to register for the HSPT, visit the Archdiocese of Baltimore website at <http://www.archbalt.org/schools/highschool-information/hspt-faq.cfm>.

2014 SJA PARISH CHRISTMAS BASKET PROGRAM:

Holiday giving to those less fortunate really puts the *Christ* in Christmas. Please help by sending in your donation according to the list below by **Friday, December 12th**. We thank you for your support and participation.

Pre K -& K – Small bag white rice/ can of black beans

Grade 1 – 1 can beef stew/ 1 package egg noodles

Grade 2 – Small jars peanut butter and grape jelly

Grade 3 – assorted cans of vegetables

Grade 4 – assorted cans of fruit

Grade 5 – small boxes of chicken stuffing / mac n cheese

Grade 6 – Ramen noodles / hot or cold cereal

Grade 7 – Spaghetti sauce /pasta

Grade 8 – Bath soap (Bars), dish soap, laundry detergent, toothpaste, individually wrapped toilet paper, Kleenex (any of these can be purchased from the Dollar Store).

EXTENDED CARE:

Extended Care will not be open on Friday, December 19, 2014. This is a half day and your child must be picked up at 12:10pm. The Extended Care Staff is invited to the SJA Christmas party that afternoon. Please make arrangements accordingly. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

YEARBOOK CLUB:

Any middle school student who is interested in joining the Yearbook Club, please see the attached Sign-up/Permission Slip.

MARKETING & DEVELOPMENT:

SJA ANNUAL APPEAL:

The SJA Annual Appeal is underway. Please show your support for the mission of St. Joan of Arc by making a donation. For the first 50 school families making a donation of \$50 or more, you will receive an embroidered SJA baseball hat. For donations of \$200 or more, you will receive the baseball hat and a chance for front row seats at the Christmas program on December 12th. No donation is too small. Your employer may even have a matching gift program which is a wonderful way to maximize your donation. Thank you for your support.

OPEN HOUSE SIGNS:

Thank you to those families who displayed our open house signs in your yard or business windows. Please return the sign and its stake to the school office. We will reuse the signs with the new date for the next open house in January. Thanks for helping to promote SJA!

PROUD PARENT T-SHIRTS:

Our SJA Proud Parent T-shirts are in. They make a perfect Christmas gift. T-Shirts are only \$15 each. Email Margie Forbes at mforbes@stjoanarc.org for sizes.

HSA NEWS & UPDATES:

CHRISTMAS PARADE -- SJA Float CANCELLED--

Due to unforeseen circumstances, SJA will not have a float in the parade this weekend. Sorry for the confusion.

YOU SAY WHEN YOGURT FUNDRAISER:

We are excited to partner with **You Say When Yogurt** (Greenbriar Shopping Center-Bel Air). We will be selling giftcards and the school receives 20% of all sales. This is the perfect gift or stocking stuffer! Details were sent home with the youngest child.

All giftcards will be delivered prior to the Christmas break! Giftcard orders are due to the school by **Friday, December 5th**.

JINGLE BELL SHOP:

The annual Jingle Bell Shop will be held on December 17th in the church hall. Children will be given the opportunity to shop for gifts for their family and friends. All items are \$1.25.

We do need volunteers to help on the 17th. If you can help, please email Jennifer Miller millerfamily3739gmail.com.

If you have extra wrapping paper or tape that you could donate to the shop, we would be grateful. Please send into school marked for ***Jingle Bell Shop***.

Thank you and have a good evening and a wonderful weekend!

SJA SCHOOL AND HSA

Attachments:

Yearbook Permission

YEARBOOK CLUB

The Yearbook Club is seeking ten creative and serious Middle School students to work on the yearbook! Mrs. Baur will be evaluating interested students due to the overcapacity of past years. Yearbook Club will meet every Wednesday, from 3:10 to 4:00. If you are interested, please fill out the form below and return it to your homeroom teacher by Tuesday, December 17th.

Yes, I am interested in joining the Yearbook Club.

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____