



SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL School Bulletin

December 14, 2018

Upcoming Events



December 15

Breakfast with Santa 9:00-11:30

December 21

Mass with Student of the Month
Early Dismissal 11:30 am
NO Ext Day

December 22-January 2

Christmas Break

January 3

Return to school

January 4

Mass with Rosary

January 7

Re-registration Begins

January 7-11

Scantron Testing Window I

January 14-18

Scantron Testing Window II

January 18

March 4 Life
Kindergarten Report Cards

January 22-25

Scantron Testing Window III

January 21

No School
MLK Day

January 23

DDD for CYO Basketball

January 25

Mass with SOM
Trimester II Interims
Bingo/Chili Cookoff 6-8:30pm

January 27-February 2

Catholic Schools Week

January 27

School Mass in uniforms 5:30pm

February 1

Mass with Rosary
Early Dismissal

Please check the school website
for the complete calendar.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Greetings,

I trust this note finds you well during this season of hope, it is time to break out the winter coats, hats, and mittens! As Father John Wall said, "May we be renewed and energized in our faith, grounded in hope and transformed by His love to give witness to His good news to the poor". Blue bags for the St. Lucy "Reverse Advent" Program have started to come in already. As a reminder, please make sure the bags are returned by Thursday, January 3rd so they can be picked up by Catholic Charities the following day. Let us continue to assist, encounter, and transform those less fortunate.

A new trimester gives us all the opportunity to begin anew. Please allow me to ask for your cooperation in an arrival/dismissal concern I have. We are addressing tardies (8 or more/trimester for third through eighth grade) with lunch recess reflections this week. We are hopeful that tardies will be reduced overall after sharing some strategies with our students. I am also asking that families avoid early dismissals (between 2:30-2:55 p.m.) if at all possible. These early dismissals disrupt the class they depart, class content is missed, and it can be a challenge for the front office. Thank you in advance for your help in these two areas moving forward. On a positive note, tardiness, first thing in the morning, seems to have been reduced since the beginning of this week so we are off to a good start in the second trimester.

Thank you to all the parents, teachers, and students who attended the Christmas Program. A special note of thanks to Ms. Ceci and Ms. Hunt, the children were awesome. Stay tuned for the Preschool Christmas Program on Tuesday, December 18th at 6:30 p.m. Christmas break commences with an Early Dismissal on Friday, December 21st at 11:30 a.m, Extended Day will not be available and school resumes on Thursday, January 3rd, 2019. Please remember Mrs. Daugherty in your prayers who will miss several weeks for a knee replacement in early January. Here's to a speedy recovery.

Parents, please note that applications for FACTS financial assistance can now be submitted. The deadline is Friday, March 15th but "The early birds get the most worms." Once again, we have added some additional safety precautions since the recent incident at the parish. We have increased security at the church during our weekly mass and our Crisis Management Team has met multiple times to consider current practices and possible revisions moving forward. One other change in particular is that the front doors will remain monitored and locked until Extended Day hours end at 6:00 p.m. **An additional staff member was needed to accommodate this change so please note beginning Thursday, January 3rd Extended Day rates will change from \$7/hour for the first child to \$8/hour. If applicable, the second, and all remaining children in a family, will be charged \$7/hour instead of \$6/hour.** Our finance manager, Greg Mott, will make the necessary changes on FACTS beginning in the new calendar year. Due to this revision, the hourly rate will not increase for the 2019-2020 school year and the rates will remain at \$8/hour and \$7/hour. I would like to thank all our parents and teachers for their continued support and I continue to be ever grateful to our wonderful students for their spiritual development, academic efforts, empathy toward others, and positive behavior.

Merry Christmas and I look forward to seeing many of you at Breakfast with Santa on Saturday morning!

Temple Macdonald





School News

Background Checks – Policies for School Parent Volunteers

As part of the diocesan initiative to maintain a safe environment for our children, all volunteers with “substantial contact” with children are required to complete a background check prior to working in the school and to complete VIRTUS training. This includes parents who wish to attend field trips or volunteer in support of classroom activities. Parents are encouraged to complete this paperwork promptly and those who have not yet completed the background check process may request a packet of forms from the school office.

Lost & Found

Are you looking for lost items? Please stop by and check the Lost & Found by December 20th. The Lost & Found will be emptied on the 21st and any unclaimed items will be donated or discarded.

Lucy Project

The Lucy Project helps people around the Arlington diocese who are food deprived. Our hope is that every day during advent our school families will put the requested food items in the blue bag that was provided to each family. Then when we return to school in January, please bring the full bag to school. Thank you to all the families that have already completed the Lucy Project.

PTO News



- Give the gift of Education.....St John PTO is sending an African child to Catholic School!!!! Please consider sending in a donation to send a second child to Catholic School in Africa. We would like donations submitted before Christmas break as their school begins in February. Thank you for your generosity!



Notes from the Nurse

We are all spending more time being cozy, warm inside due to the cold and wet weather. This coziness brings about some issue related to health that we need to keep in mind.

Cold/Flu – please remind your students to wash hands often and to stay home when they don’t feel well. The Sick Day Guidelines are attached to this bulletin. I am tracking flu & strep cases on a daily basis. I have also talked with the VA Department of Health regarding our tracking. St. John’s School is doing excellently in minimizing strep & flu thus far.

Head Lice – the occurrence of head lice in schools is on the rise throughout the state according to the Department of Health. Please remind your students to never share personal items and to avoid touching each other’s hair. Please keep coats, hats, etc hung up and put away to prevent spread.

If we work together, we can minimize the health hazards that come with every winter season.

I pray that you and your family have a very blessed Advent & Christmas Holiday.

Mrs. Catts
School Nurse

St. John the Evangelist School Sick Day Guidelines

The most important way to help stop the spread of infectious illness is to keep your child home when they are sick.

According to school policy your child should be kept at home when:

- He or she has a temperature of 100.4 or higher
- Has vomited and/or had diarrhea at least 3 times in a 24 hour period
- Has symptoms that will keep your child from participating in learning, such as
 - Very tired
 - Lack of appetite
 - Uncontrollable cough
 - Sneezing often
 - Headache
 - Body aches
 - Earaches
 - Sore throat – minor sore throat is OK for school if no other symptoms mentioned above are present
 - Severe/Bad sore throat – should be assessed for strep throat
- Has excessive and constant coughing or sneezing and/or nasal congestion as often this spreads sickness to others.

24 Hour Rule

- Fever – your child may not attend school until he/she has been without fever for 24 hours without medications to lower fever such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen.
- Vomiting/Diarrhea – your child may not attend school until he/she has been without vomiting (at least 3 times in 24 hour period defines vomiting) or diarrhea for 24 hours without medications such as Imodium.
- Antibiotics – your child may not attend school if he/she is being treated with an antibiotic until they have received at least 24 hours of the medication.

PLEASE NOTE: NO MATTER THE SEVERITY OF SYMPTOMS, IT IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE SCHOOL NURSE AND/OR ADMINISTRATION IF A STUDENT WILL BE SENT HOME OR EXCLUDED FROM SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT DUE TO ILLNESS.

St. John the Evangelist School PTO Presents

BREAKFAST *with* **SANTA**

Saturday, December 15



9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Join us in Trinity Hall for Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit and Sausage, Dunkin Donuts Coffee and Donut Holes, Apple Juice, Orange Juice and Chocolate Milk + crafting, gift stations, Elves Gift Shop a picture with Santa and other activities for the kids.

Doors open at 8:45 AM, Santa arrives at 9:15 AM
Breakfast served 9 AM - 11 AM

Pre-Purchased Tickets (by Dec. 12)

Adults (12+) - \$11.00
Children (3-12) - \$3.00
Children Under 3 - FREE

Wrapped Gifts - 1 for \$2.00 or 3 for \$5.00
Cookie Decorating \$2.00

Tickets at the Door
Adults (12+) - \$15.00
Children (3-12) - \$5.00
Children Under 3 - FREE

*Merry
Christmas*



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Merry Christmas



Please join the St. John School PTO for our annual Breakfast with Santa.
To secure your tickets, please fill out the order form below and return it to school
with your check made payable to St. John School by December 12.

Advance ticket prices are \$11.00 per adult,
\$5.00 per child and children under 3 are free.
We look forward to seeing you there! Ho Ho Ho!

Last Name _____ Grade _____ # Adult Tickets _____
Total \$ _____ # Child Tickets _____