



SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL

School Bulletin

September 1, 2017

Upcoming Events



September 1

Mass with Rosary
Early Dismissal 11:30 am
NO Extended Day

September 4

NO School/Labor Day

September 6

Dress Down Day for Houston Relief

September 11-29

Scantron Testing Window I

September 12

Cold Stone Spirit Night 4-7pm

September 14

Back to School Night 7-9pm

September 15

Mass with Student of the Month
Picture Day
Pep Rally
NO Extended Day
Back to School Picnic 3:30-5:30pm

September 18-21

Fall Book Fair

September 22

Quarter I Interim
Early Dismissal 11:30 am
Professional Development

September 27

K-4 Think Stretch Assembly
8:20-9am Trinity Hall

September 29

Oktoberfest
Early Dismissal 11:30 am
NO Ext Day

October 9

No School/Columbus Day

October 11

Assembling of Wreaths

October 13

Race For Education
Early Dismissal 11:30am

Please check the school website
for the complete calendar

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

GREETINGS...

Welcome back to all members of our school community. My appreciation goes out to faculty, staff, and maintenance for all your hard work as we begin another school year. A word of gratitude to Mr. Griffin (class of 1987) for welcoming our families on the first day of school, it is a small world indeed and we are thrilled to have the next generation of Griffins here at SJES.

Please continue to check our website (sjesva.org) for early dismissals, holidays, upcoming events, etc. There are a few additional Half Days in the first quarter due to Diocesan and parish dates but we will typically have an average of one per month beginning in November. In terms of parent involvement, we encourage you to remain active in your children's education so please continue to check homework online in addition to your child's agenda. For new families, there is a "homework" tab directly on the front page of our website and our uniform guidelines can also be found under "Resources" for your convenience. Returning families are reminded that there was a change made to the Middle School Fall/Spring dress uniform and the changes are attached. If you would like further clarification on uniforms or any other matters, please feel free to contact the front office.

Parents, the first few days of school are now complete so I would ask that you please drop your children off in the morning carpool line for the remainder of the year. It is important that our students (regardless of age) learn to practice independence and responsibility. I know it is challenging to let go but the children will develop a sense of pride once they realize we trust them to accomplish this task on their own. Thank you for your cooperation.

The first round of standardized testing (Performance Series by Scantron) will take place from September 11-29th for our 3-7th grade students. These students will be tested three times a year once again in Math, Reading, and Language Arts. I am delighted to report that we showed the largest growth in Reading and the second largest growth in Math in terms of gains analysis in the entire Diocese of Arlington which includes 37 elementary/middle schools! Our Kindergarten through second grade students will take the PALS assessment in the fall and once again in the spring to monitor student growth as well. Please avoid scheduling vacations or appointments during this timeframe if at all possible so testing make-ups are limited.

I encourage you to attend our annual Back to School Night on Thursday, September 14th beginning at 7:00pm. This is a great opportunity to learn more about our school, classroom instruction from our teachers, and the opportunities that are available at St. John the Evangelist. Mrs. Lynch, our PTO president, will also speak briefly about volunteer opportunities that are available for this coming year. Our first Spirit Night, Back to School Picnic, and annual parish Oktoberfest is quickly approaching.

Please see the note below from our superintendent Dr. Bigelow regarding the recent flooding:

There is information on the Diocesan website for those interested in providing a monetary donation that will go to Catholic Charities USA and the USCCB to be used as part of the Catholic Church's relief efforts. Here is the link: <https://secure3.arlingtondiocese.org/donate/hgf/hgf>.

We will hold a Dress Down Day for those affected on Wednesday, September 6th. Families are asked to bring in a minimum of one dollar to show our support for those who continue to be affected.

In closing, we are very grateful for the personal and financial sacrifices your family has made to attend St. John the Evangelist. Our wonderful faculty and staff look forward to forming a strong partnership with you this year and beyond. May we continue to grow in God's grace and wisdom.

Temple W. Macdonald
Principal



School and Club News

- If you have not completed the **Emergency Care Form** through the Powerschool Parent Portal, please log on and complete ASAP. This piece is crucial in our crisis plan. If you need assistance with your log in information, please contact Melissa Quarry mquarry@sjesva.org
- Please ensure you have completed the **Photo, Press, Audio and Electronic Media Release for Minors**. The form is attached to this communication.
- **Supply fees** are due to your homeroom teacher. If payment has not been made please promptly submit to your child's teacher.
- **Criminal Background Checks for Volunteers & VIRTUS Requirements** As part of the diocesan initiative to maintain a safe environment for all of 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. All parents who wish to attend field trips or volunteer in support of classroom activities are required to complete the background check process and attend VIRTUS training. As we begin a new year, in accordance with diocesan policy, only those parents who have completed the criminal background check are eligible to volunteer in the school. Those who have not yet completed the background check process may request a packet of forms from the front office.

Notes from the Nurse



Welcome back to a great new school year. I am looking forward to a healthy 2017-2018. Please note the following:

- If you have not returned any health history updates, health forms, allergy or asthma action plans, or medication authorizations please do so as soon as possible.
- No forms from last year will carry over to this school year.
- There is a supply of sunscreen in the clinic should your student request it. If you do not wish for your child to use the sunscreen please alert the nurse.
- The Lions Club will be here on October 24th for the annual hearing and vision screening. More information to come.

Mary Catts,
RN MSN

Fall Clubs



Drama Club: The TORCH Drama Club is beginning its drama season with the EMBERS production of *The Frog Prince* (dinner theater)! This group meets Tuesdays and Thursdays after school at 4-5 PM in Mercy Hall and is open to 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students. Casting is full and a wait list is started! chris@galvinproductions.com
Chris Galvin, Producer, TORCH



Tennis: Our practice schedule will be on Monday's and Thursday's each week until the end of the season, which is approximately Oct. 29th. Tennis is open to 5th-8th Grade Students. Contact Mrs. Chapman cchapman@sjesva.org for more information.



Soccer: Middle School Boys/Girls Soccer Club will meet on Wednesday from 3:30-4:30 beginning September 6th. Please contact Coach MacQueeney for more information tmacqueeney@sjesva.org



Cross Country: The team will practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays until the CYO meet in late fall. Cross Country is open to girls and boys grades 3-8 of any level. Practice will begin next Thursday, September 7th. Contact Mr. Hechinger for more information rhechinger@sjesva.org



Mass Club: Please consider joining SJS at the daily 6:30 am morning Mass followed by breakfast! For more information please contact Kelley Smith ksmith@sjesva.org



Spanish Club: Will meet on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:00 starting in October. Open to middle school students. For more information contact Mrs. Cutting lcutting@sjesva.org



Math Madness: Open to 4th and 5th grade students. Meets on Thursdays from 3:30-4:00 in the library. Contact Mrs. Hammelman lhammelman@sjesva.org or Mrs. Brueckl dbueckl@sjesva.org for information.

Third Grade Book Club: Will meet on Tuesdays from 3:30-4:00 in the library. Contact Mrs. Hammelman lhammelman@sjesva.org or Mrs. Hunt chunt@sjesva.org for information.



Middle School Battle of the Books Club: Will meet at lunch on Tuesdays in the library with Mrs. Hammelman. Please contact lhammelman@sjesva.org for information.

Elementary Battle of the Books (4th and 5th Grade) Will meet on Wednesdays during lunch with Mrs. Hammelman lhammelman@sjesva.org and Mrs. Hunt chunt@sjesva.org.

All participants must have a signed Parental Consent Form on file with the club coordinator.



September 5, 2017

Dear Parents,

Again this year, St. John the Evangelist School is presenting a health program to its students. My name is Kathleen Weghorst, and I will be the guest teacher for the next ten weeks leading the *Too Good for Drugs* program (*Too Good*). *Too Good* in elementary and middle school teaches the fundamental elements of social and emotional learning through developmentally appropriate activities that set the foundation for a healthy adolescence. Lessons build the skills children need to set daily goals, identify and manage emotions and feelings, and make healthy choices that contribute to their overall health and well-being.

Too Good is a nationally recognized program that teaches five essential social and emotional learning skills, which research has linked with healthy development and academic success:

- Goal Setting
- Decision Making
- Bonding with pro-social others
- Identifying and managing emotions
- Communicating effectively

I work for Fauquier CADRE, Inc., a local non-profit organization established in 1989. CADRE is a community coalition of concerned people who are working together to prevent the use and abuse of alcohol and drugs by area youth. CADRE is made up of citizens, private business people, law enforcement officials, educators, parents, and counselors. I am also a certified teacher who has taught both general and special education to students in grades Kindergarten through 8th grade.

For more information on the *Too Good* program, please visit the webpage of the Mendez Foundation which developed the program. Their web address is www.mendezfoundation.org/toogood/elementary. There you can see sample lessons, evaluation studies, research, and more. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 540-347-2340 or fcadre@mindspring.com.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Weghorst
Executive Director/Prevention Specialist
Fauquier CADRE, Inc.



St. John's School Spirit Night
At



On Alexandria Pike in Warrenton
Tuesday September 12th
From 4-7pm

**Come say hi to your teachers while they
scoop some ice cream for you!**
Make sure to mention St. Johns!
See you There!



Welcome Back Picnic

\$5 per
family



When: Friday, September 15

3:30-5:30

Where: Pavilion/field

Burgers/hot dogs/drinks

Look for flyers next week to register