



ST. JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
NEWS & NOTES

Striving to form the MINDS, HEARTS, and SOULS of its students in the likeness of Christ.

From the Desk of the Headmaster

Greetings from St. Joseph's Catholic School!

I want to begin my letter this month with a hearty thank you to all those who made the first combined Gala and Prom weekend a memorable, successful, and enjoyable one for our school community! Could we, as a school community, ever thank you, Mary Salgado, enough for your tireless, joyful efforts on behalf of our students and their families? I sincerely doubt it. We can simply accept it as the gift that it is. We often begin staff meetings here at school asking the question: *Where have we seen Christ at work in our school community?* Clearly, we have seen Him in Mary Salgado and the faces of so many, many women and men who have sacrificed their time, talents, and treasures to help us throw two amazing *Havana Knights* parties in one weekend to celebrate the school's tradition, community, and legacy.

Congratulations to the Class of 2017

On Saturday morning, May 27 at 10:00 AM, the school will hold its **Twenty-first Commencement Exercises**. We've come a long way from 1997 when the first 7 students graduated from St. Joseph's. This year, 100 students will graduate from the school and begin to carry out their respective missions of changing the world for the better, which is what we have tried to prepare them to do during their years at the school. Like every class from 1997 onward, the Class of 2017 is graduating with an impressive array of college acceptances and scholarship offers. Since the first graduating class, when the bar was set high by Allison Moon (now a mother of three, a lawyer in town, and newly elected to the SJCS Board of Trustees for a three-year term beginning in July 2017) who matriculated from St. Joseph's to the University of Notre Dame, our graduates ever since have gone to a wide-variety of our nations' best colleges and universities. For example, thus far the members of the Class of 2017 have been accepted to 107 different colleges in 27 states. Perhaps most notable this year is that St. Joseph's Catholic School now has its first Morehead-Cane Scholar enrolled at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Christian Gillespy. Congratulations to Christian, who served the students and the school very well this year as the Student Body President!

Graduation weekend kicks off appropriately with an opportunity to thank and give glory to God at Baccalaureate Mass on Friday evening, May 26, at 6:00 PM in the St. John Paul II Center. All are welcome to join us for both Mass and Commencement to pray for and celebrate with our graduates, but please keep in mind that space is limited.

For information about all year-end events, please be sure to read and keep this edition of *News and Notes* as a reference for dates and times.

Finally, in the category of partnering with parents, I'm including a [link](#) to an article about the new Netflix series *Thirteen Reasons Why*. This show is very popular with teens and pre-teens, including many of our students. The show is based on a 2007 young adult novel about a girl who leaves thirteen tapes behind explaining the reasons why and identifying the people responsible for her suicide. I've only watched a handful of episodes, but from what I have seen this [article](#) from the Catholic News Service does a great job of expressing why parents should be aware of it and indeed approach viewing it with extreme caution. I won't rehash the contents of the show and article, but please do take a few minutes to read the article and become aware if your sons and daughters are watching the show. If so, I highly recommend that you talk to them about it. Among the problems with the show is that its treatment of suicide is flawed and dangerous, according to suicide awareness groups. The Jed Foundation and the Suicide Awareness Voices of Education co-developed [Talking Points](#) to help viewers discern fact from sensationalized and romanticized fiction. Also, please beware that the show is rated for "mature audiences" and that it includes a steady use of profane language and sexual content.

In closing, please join us in praying for the following members of the SJCS family: the Bikulege family on the loss of their grandfather; for Ethan and Neal Hammond and their family on the loss of their great grandmother; for Quint Greggs and his family on the loss of his grandfather; for Sophia and Julian Gomez on the loss of their grandmother; and finally please pray for a speedy recovery for former Board Member Tom McPartland who was injured in a car accident.

With Love and Prayers,
Keith F. Kiser, Headmaster

Middle School Car Line & Late Stay Pick Up Changes

We are happy to announce we are breaking ground on the UKnight construction project. On April 28, part of the back Middle School parking lot will be fenced off for construction purposes. Only construction personnel will be allowed in the fenced off area. We apologize for the inconvenience these changes may cause, but we look forward to our expanded campus.

- Beginning May 1, Middle School car line will continue to run through the open portion of the middle school parking lot; so, car line will travel through the first parking lot lane, rather than the lane closest to the gym. Law enforcement personnel will be at the top and the bottom of the hill for the first few days to direct you through the new traffic pattern.
- Late Stay pick up will occur through the high school student entrance from May 1 through the end of the school year. No parking for late stay or athletic events will be allowed in the middle school lot for the remainder of the year.

Things You Need To Know

NEW! Admissions Testing Date, Saturday, April 29

An additional testing date for fall 2017 admissions has been added for April 29 to accommodate interest in sixth and seventh grade openings. If you know any parents with children entering these grades who might be interested, please encourage them to contact [Barbara McGrath](#) in the Admissions Office.

Sophomore Parent & Student Retreat, April 30-May 1

All sophomores and sophomore parents are invited to participate in the (rescheduled) 3rd annual parent & student retreat to be held on Sunday, April 30, from 2:00-8:00 PM at [Kanuga Conference Center](#) in Hendersonville, NC. This retreat is an opportunity for the entire family to hear the Gospel message while enjoying some time away together. All parents are encouraged to attend with their children. Students will stay the night and leave the next day when the retreat ends at 2:00 PM. More information has been sent to parents via e-mail. Questions? Contact SJCS Campus Minister [Gabe Lewis](#).

Please see the Exam section of this News & Notes for full details of final exams.

Spring Break 2019 WW I & WWII Battlefield Tour Interest Meeting, May 2

2019 will mark the 100th anniversary of the ending of WWI and the 75th anniversary of the landings on D-Day! Come commemorate these historic events on a WWI and WWII Battlefield Tour over spring break 2019. All current 8th grade through sophomore students are eligible. Come to an interest meeting on Tuesday, May 2 at 6:00 PM in the Library. For more info, click [here](#). For a limited time, the code **2019earlybird** will take \$200 off the listed price, and the cost is less than \$160 a month! There is also the opportunity to earn half a credit in English or History. Students should see Mrs. Neighbors or Mrs. Carr for more information or visit the website. You do not have to wait for the meeting to sign up.

Attention Parents of New High School Students: Placement Testing is May 2 & May 4

Newly accepted and enrolled high school students who are entering grades 9-12 and who are currently completing high school courses in math and/or any level of foreign language for high school credit at their current school and wish to advance to the next level at St. Joseph's **may** need to take SJCS Placement Tests. The tests will be held at SJCS on Tuesday, May 2 (Math) and Thursday, May 4 (Foreign Language) beginning at 3:30 PM. Information regarding these tests was sent home in recent acceptance packets. Students entering our high school from the area Catholic middle schools (Our Lady of the Rosary, Prince of Peace, St. Joseph's Anderson, St. Mary's, and St. Paul's) are not required to take Placement Tests but are required to submit a Teacher Recommendation as noted below.

- If your child is a new rising 9th grade student and will have completed a high school level math course in his/her current middle school, he/she must take the St. Joseph's Math Placement Test in order to receive credit for his/her current class/classes as well as secure his/her correct placement at SJCS.
- If your child is a new high school student (entering grades 9-12) and will have completed a high school foreign language course in his/her current school, he/she must take the St. Joseph's Foreign Language Placement Test in order to receive credit for the current class/classes as well as secure his/her correct placement at SJCS.
- Exceptions to the above are granted to students entering our high school from the local Catholic middle schools. These students are not required to take SJCS placement tests provided they submitted the appropriate Teacher Recommendation Form(s) from their current math and/or foreign language teacher(s). These forms were included in the acceptance packets and were due back to the SJCS Admissions Office on April 19, 2017 in order to exempt the testing.

Football Interest Meeting, May 3

There will be a mandatory meeting, in the JP II Center at 6:30PM, for anyone interested in playing football for the 2017-2018 school year. Any students enrolled for the 2017-2018 school year and will be in grades 7-12 may attend. The interested student and at least one parent must attend.

Annual May Crowning of Our Lady, May 4

For centuries the month of May has been a time of special devotion to Our Lady, the Blessed Virgin Mary. In celebration of Our Lady's month, we will have special hymns and devotions at our All School Mass on Thursday, May 4, including a crowning of her image. Each Household is asked to bring flowers to place at the image.

Senior Cord Luncheon, May 5

On Friday, May 5, the Senior Cord Lunch will take place in the Gym during HS Lunch. Seniors receiving honor society cords and memorabilia will receive personal invitations to the lunch. The lunch will be charged to the senior's account.

Senior College Celebration Day, May 5

The senior class will attend a panel comprised of recent SJCS alumni on May 5. Seniors will have the opportunity to ask questions about the transition to college and their experiences there. All seniors must attend. Seniors are invited to wear a college t-shirt from their chosen college on this day as well. Seniors should wear their t-shirt with uniform bottoms.

Jubilate Knight for the Arts Talent Competition & Fundraiser, Saturday, May 6

Tickets can be purchased [here](#) for Jubilate Knight for the Arts Talent Competition and Fundraiser, Saturday, April 30 from 6:00-10:00 PM. Come to the Fine Arts Department's family-friendly annual fundraiser, highlighting our artistic school community. Join us for this joyful evening of creative entertainment provided by students, parents, and teachers. Come prepared to vote for your favorite performance act, purchase items in the Giving Gallery, and donate toward the Wish List benefiting the Choral, Band, Strings, Dance, Visual Arts, and Theatre programs. Online tickets are available through 10:00 AM on Friday, May 5. Tickets also will be on sale at the door, starting at 6:00 PM on Saturday, May 6, but seating is limited. Click [here](#) for event details and ticketing information. To volunteer at Jubilate Knight or donate an item, please email [Brandi Koontz](mailto:Brandi.Koontz).

Sixth Grade Retreat, May 8

On Monday, May 8, all SJCS 6th graders will participate in the annual class retreat from 8:30 AM-2:30 PM. Parents should drop students off between 8:00-8:30 AM at the Picnic Pavilion at Conestee Park, and pick up between 2:30-3:00 PM at the same location. Address and directions can be found [here](#). More information will be sent to 6th grade parents via e-mail. Parents will be charged \$5 to student accounts to help cover the costs of the retreat. Parents whose son/daughter is unable to attend the retreat should fill out the [withdrawal request](#). Questions? Contact SJCS Campus Minister [Gabe Lewis](#).

Volleyball Meeting, May 9

There will be a short meeting on Tuesday, May 9 after school in the gym for all rising 7th-12th grade girls interested in trying out for the volleyball team for the 2017-2018 school year. This meeting is for students only; parents do not need to attend. All girls newly enrolled for the 2017-2018 school year going into grades 7-12 are also welcome to attend. The meeting will begin at 3:15 PM and will end around 3:45 PM. Questions? Contact [Jan Carino](#).

Spring Concerts, May 9 & 11

This year the Fine Arts Department will sponsor two Spring concerts.

- Tuesday, May 9: MS & HS Strings and MS Band Concerts
- Thursday, May 11: MS Chorus and HS Band Concerts

All concerts will begin at 7:00 PM in the JP II Center. Admission is free with the donation of a non-perishable food item. Jubilate Arts Guild members will receive priority seating based on their membership level. Seating will not be assigned, but doors will open to Jubilate members only at 6:30 PM, followed by general admission at 6:45 PM. Be sure to pick up your Jubilate Arts Guild member tag at check-in. Additionally, the new Fine Arts Department decals will be available for purchase in the HS Commons.

Academic Awards Ceremony & Class of 2017 Red Door Ceremony, May 10

The MS and HS Academic Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 10 in the JP II Center at 11:55 AM. All students should wear their dress uniform that day. All parents are invited to attend and you will be notified, in advance, if your child is receiving an award. The Academic Awards Ceremony will conclude with the Class of 2017 processing out through the Red Door in the school's annual Red Door Farewell Ceremony. This program marks an end of one spiritual

journey and the beginning of a new one for our seniors. Parents are welcome to attend this special ceremony.

The St. Joseph's Singers Concert, A Celebration of Choral Music, May 16

Please join our HS Chorus students for their final performance of the year at Prince of Peace Catholic Church (1209 Brushy Creek Rd, Taylors, SC 29687) on Tuesday, May 16. The concert will begin at 7:00 PM. Admission is free; donations for the support of the parish will be taken at the door.

Eighth Grade Convocation Mass, May 17

The 8th Grade Convocation Mass will be held at noon on Wednesday, May 17, in the JP II Center. Eighth grade family members are welcome to attend Mass and the short convocation ceremony that follows. This Mass marks the transition from the middle school journey to the high school journey.

Team Competition Day/Yearbook Day, May 19 (Early Dismissal)

The HS and MS will have Team Competition Day and receive yearbooks on Friday, May 19. Students will be dismissed at 2:00 PM. More information will be e-mailed to parents regarding this day's unique schedule of events.

Senior Send-Off/Rising Senior Luncheon, May 19

Senior Send-Off will be held on Friday, May 19. The school will host a special program in the JP II Center for the entire HS beginning at 10:30 AM and parents are invited to attend. The Parents Guild will provide the senior class with the annual Farewell Senior Luncheon and will also provide the rising senior class with a luncheon following this ceremony.

Junior & Senior Luncheons Help Needed, May 19

Volunteers are still needed for the Junior and Senior luncheons on May 19. Questions/want to help? Contact [Mary Margaret Knight](#) (Junior Luncheon) or [Paula Bikulege](#) (Senior Luncheon).

NO SCHOOL, May 22

Due to limited inclement weather this past winter, Monday, May 22 will be a day off as a snow day was not used this year. The school and school offices will be closed.

MS Final Days of School, May 23-26

All MS students will be dismissed at 12:15 PM on May 23-25. Sixth and seventh graders will have two extended classes each day matching the 8th and HS Exam schedule. Friday, May 26 will be the last day of school and the students will be dismissed at 10:00 AM after 8th period. Eighth graders should go to morning Household on exam days and may need to stay later on Friday if they have a make-up exam.

Late Stay, May 23 - 25

We will have Late Stay on Tuesday through Thursday (May 23-25) after the 12:15 PM dismissal, but NO Late Stay on Friday, May 26, which is the last day of school, with a 10:00 AM dismissal.

Graduation Practice, May 25

Graduation practice will begin promptly at 1:00 PM in the Gym. This is a required event for ALL seniors and they should plan to be at practice from 1:00–3:30 PM. All seniors must be present and arrive on time at this practice in order to walk at Commencement.

Used Textbook Sale, May 26

Although not a school-sponsored event, parents may purchase, swap, or sell used textbooks in the high school parking lot on Friday, May 26, beginning at 10:00 AM. Arrive early for best selection. Parents who choose to participate in this event should raise their car trunk lid. Display a red sign with the grade level(s) you wish to purchase, and/or a green sign with the grade level(s) you wish to sell. Check the book lists (under Academics/Bookstore) on the school website after May 19 make sure you purchase books with the correct ISBN number. It is the sole responsibility of parents to verify that the correct used book is purchased as old ISBN numbers are not acceptable books for use. Workbooks may not be sold or purchased since workbooks need to be new and unused. **NOTE:** Schedules are not released until mid-summer. If you choose to purchase textbooks early, please be aware that you may need to purchase different books based on your student's final schedule.

MBS Textbook Buyback, May 26

The MBS EZ Drop Textbook Buyback will be held on the same day as the Used Textbook Sale, Friday, May 26, from 9:00

AM-noon in the library. Volunteers will also have some MBS boxes in the parking lot for the convenience of those participating in the Used Textbook Sale. MBS purchases books according to their inventory needs, and they will buy books that have been purchased elsewhere. Please see the link on the Academic/Bookstore tab of our website for specific information on condition requirements, frequently asked questions, and instructions on how to prepare a quote. To sell books back, you must prepare a quote on the MBS site and bring a printed copy of the quote to the buyback. If you need to prepare a quote, you can use the library's computers during the Buyback event for that purpose. Questions? Contact the school librarian, [Rod McClendon](#).

Graduation Reception Help Needed, May 26 & 27

The Graduation Reception is in need of a chairperson and volunteers to put together our Graduation Reception. We are looking for volunteers on May 26 and/or on Graduation Day, May 27, to help with food prep, or set up and serving food. Questions/want to help? Contact [Mary Margaret Knight](#).

Baccalaureate Mass, May 26

The Class of 2017 will have their Baccalaureate Mass at 6:00 PM in the JPll Center.

Commencement Exercises & Reception, May 27

The Class of 2017 will graduate at 10:00 AM in the SJCS Gym.

School Holiday, May 29

The school and school offices will be closed on Monday, May 29 for Memorial Day.

Summer Office Hours Begin May 30

Beginning May 30, summer office hours are 8:00 AM-1:00 PM Monday-Thursday. The office will be closed on Fridays, as well as the week of July 3-7. The office re-opens July 10 and summer hours continue until early August.

Final Report Cards, June 1

Final report cards will be emailed on June 1 after 4:00 PM. As a reminder, please remember to check your junk mail. If you did not receive a report card, please email [Carol Curry](#).

Fine Arts Summer Camps Begin June 5

Theatre:

- June 5-9, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM: Rising Stars (Grades 3-7) \$125
- June 5-8, 3:00-5:00 PM: HS Improvisation (Grades 8-12) \$75

Strings:

- July 10-14, 9:00 AM-Noon: Early Intermediate to Early Advanced (Grades 5-12) \$100

Visit the school website to register and for more information.

Band Program Instrument Fair, June 26 & July 20

Any incoming 6th grade students interested in joining the Band ensemble next year should drop by the Musical Innovations Music Store on Monday June 26 (11:30 AM-1:30 PM) or Thursday, July 20 (3:30-6:00 PM). The SJCS Band Director, Marjorie Malphrus, and other music professionals will be available to assist you in having a "hands on" experience with several band instruments and to discuss options in leasing/purchasing an instrument. If you already have an instrument in the family, Musical Innovations can also evaluate it for playing condition. This is a session designed for parents and students to make an informed choice about their music classes for next year. Please remember that 6th grade is the only year beginning instruction takes place. Questions? Contact [Marjorie Malphrus](#) or Musical Innovations (864-286-8742). The location is 150 Tanner Rd., Greenville, SC 29607.

Textbook Purchases Begin, July 3

The school's online textbook vendor, MBS Direct, will open for business on July 3. (Select summer reading titles will also be available on MBS beginning June 5.) MBS provides free ground shipping for St. Joseph's on all orders over \$99 during the week of July 17-23. MBS carries the majority of our books, but they are sometimes unable to stock some of the older editions we use. Parents are welcome to buy from other sources, but the MBS site does provide a good guide for verifying that the right book is being purchased. In order to ensure you have all the necessary materials for each course, please consult MBS or the 2017-2018 SJCS Textbook List found on our website under Academics/Bookstore after May 19.

Rising Ninth Grade Trip, July 24-26

Parents of current 8th graders, mark your calendars for the 9th Grade Freshman Trip to St. Augustine, Florida, which will take place Monday, July 24 through Wednesday, July 26, 2017. These dates are chosen because it is a week when sports teams are not allowed to practice. All new or returning rising 9th grade students are invited to attend. This marks the first experience of the SJCS High School Community, and is always a very enjoyable experience for the students who participate. The trip is run by SJCS Campus Minister Gabe Lewis along with a team of rising senior peer ministers and a group of SJCS teacher chaperones. The cost of the trip depends on the amount of students who sign up, but it has generally been around \$350. This year, a parent committee is working to lower the cost significantly and the 2017 price will be e-mailed along with more information on the trip. Questions? Contact the SJCS Campus Minister [Gabe Lewis](#).

Mandatory ALL SPORTS Parent Meeting, July 27

Fall 2017 Sports begin as early as July 28. Please see below for the date of each fall sport tryouts. If you have a student that plans to play ANY sport during the 2017-2018 school year, there will be a mandatory parent meeting on July 27 at 7:00 PM in the gym. Any student participating in a sport at SJCS must complete the required forms prior to the first practice: Pre-Participation History and Pre-Participation Sports Physical Exam, Parent Consent Form, and Concussion Form. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Join Us in Italy this Summer, July 27-August 5

Due to a change in schedule, the Spring Break trip to Italy has been rescheduled for July 27-August 5. There are a few spots available if anyone wishes to sign up. Go to <http://www.explorica.com/Carr-5627> to see the itinerary and costs. Questions? Contact [Meby Carr](#).

Fall 2017 Team Tryouts Begin July 28

- The following tryouts begin on Friday, July 28: Boys and Girls cross-country (7:30-9:00 AM), JV and Varsity football (8:00-Noon)
- The following tryouts begin on Monday, July 31: JV and Varsity girls tennis (4:00-6:00 PM), boys and girls swimming (7:30-9:30 AM), JV and Varsity volleyball (1:30-3:30 PM).
- The following tryouts begin on Monday, August 7: Girls golf (TBD), MS football (5:00-8:00 PM), and MS volleyball (3:30-5:30 PM).

Rising Senior Application Boot Camp, August 1-3

The College Counseling Office will host a college application boot camp for rising seniors August 1-3 at SJCS. All rising seniors are welcome. More details will follow in an email.

Pep Band Pre-season Camp, August 7-11

All band students, with at least one year of playing experience at SJCS, who are interested in playing for the Pep Band, are invited to attend pre-season band camp. Brass players and percussion are needed especially. The camp will be held at SJCS on August 7-11 from 9:00-11:30 AM. We will have a pizza lunch on the last day. The cost for the camp is \$25 and includes a t-shirt, pizza lunch, and music. It is the perfect way to get your "playing chops" back in shape for the start of school. When the school year begins, Pep Band will rehearse on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30-3:00 PM. We plan to play for at least three varsity home football games, the fall pep rally, and possibly a JV or Middle School football game. All dates will be available as soon as the 2017 Varsity Football schedule is available. Questions/interested? Contact SJCS Band Director, [Marjorie Malphrus](#).

Exam Schedule**AP Exam Schedule**

Monday, May 1	7:30 AM – Chemistry
Tuesday, May 2	7:30 AM – Spanish Language and Culture 11:30 AM – Art History 11:30 AM – Physics 1
Wednesday, May 3	7:30 AM – English Literature and Composition 11:30 AM – Physics 2
Thursday, May 4	7:30 AM – U.S. Government and Politics
Friday, May 5	7:30 AM – U.S. History
Monday, May 8	7:30 AM – Biology
Tuesday, May 9	7:30 AM – Calculus AB & Calculus BC
Wednesday, May 10	7:30 AM – English Language and Composition
Thursday, May 11	11:30 AM – Statistics
Friday, May 12	11:30 AM – European History

Students must report to the Meeting Room at the times listed above. Parents are reminded that AP students are excused from all of their classes on any day they have an AP exam, and they may arrive later to school or leave campus early. However, if it is beneficial to attend other classes on that day, they should do so. If they stay on campus after an exam, they must check in at the front office before reporting to class or the Library. They may not leave campus after a morning exam and return to school for a later class.

Senior Exam Schedule

Monday, May 15	8:05–10:00 AM – Theology 10:20 AM–12:15 PM – English
Tuesday, May 16	8:05–10:00 AM – Science 10:20 AM–12:15 PM – Foreign Language/Electives
Wednesday, May 17	8:05–10:00 AM – History/Electives 10:20 AM–12:15 PM – Math
Thursday, May 18	Make-ups as needed

Final Exam Schedule, Grades 8-11 for Non-AP Courses

Tuesday, May 23	8:05–10:00 AM Period 1 Exam 10:20 AM–12:15 PM Period 2 Exam
Wednesday, May 24	8:05–10:00 AM Period 3 Exam 10:20 AM–12:15 PM Period 4/5 Exam
Thursday, May 25	8:05–10:00 AM Period 6 Exam 10:20 AM–12:15 PM Period 7 Exam
Friday, May 25	8:05–10:00 AM Period 8 Exam 10:20 AM–12:15 PM Make up Exams

Exam Guidelines

- Students are not allowed to test early.
- **SJCS Exemption Policy:** Excepting math courses, juniors and seniors can exempt exams in year-long courses if they have a 90 average in the course by the Friday before final exams are scheduled to begin. Exemption averages are calculated by averaging the Fall semester grade with the third and fourth quarter grades. Students on probation

or those who have certain disciplinary actions may not be eligible.

- Eighth grade students should go to morning Household on exam days.
- High school students should report directly to their exam room and must be seated by 8:00 AM. Anyone not in attendance after 8:00 AM will be considered tardy. No students are to be admitted to the exam once the exam has been distributed. Likewise for the second exam, students should be seated and attendance taken by 10:15 AM and no student will be admitted after the exam has been distributed.
- Students should bring review materials for other exams and study quietly if they finish an exam before the end of the exam period. Silence should be maintained from the moment exams are distributed until all exams are collected at the end of the exam period. Students with questions should raise their hands quietly.
- Once an exam begins, students are not permitted to leave the room. Restroom trips should be for emergencies only and then only after the student has turned in their exam.
- Students with only one exam on a given day need be present only for that exam. If they do not have a 10:20 AM exam they may leave at the end of the 8:00 AM exam period. Similarly, if a student does not have an 8:00 AM exam, they do not need to report until the 10:20 AM exam period (by 10:15 AM). All students leaving or arriving between the exam times should enter/exit through the front office.

From the Business Office

Senior Tuition & Flik Accounts

Senior Flik Dining and Student tuition and fees account must be paid prior to graduation in order for students to participate in the ceremonies. All senior student Flik Dining accounts must be paid in full prior to May 1, 2017. After May 1, seniors will be able to purchase lunch only if they have a positive balance in their Flik dining account. Questions? Contact [Chef Shawn Butler](#). May Family Statements will include billing for Graduation Cords and any remaining library charges. Senior tuition and fees must be paid in full, except for the June tuition draft, which will be drafted by May 20, 2017. Questions? Contact [Melody Thompson](#).

Tuition Statements

All families please carefully review your monthly Family Statement. May Family Statements will include any outstanding library late fees or lost book charges. June Family Statements will include charges for any missing or damaged Chromebooks, Chromebook chargers, or Chromebook cases. If you have any questions regarding the Chromebook return policy, please see the Technology Department's section of *News and Notes*. Until all tuition, fees, and other student charges are paid up to date or in full, the school will not provide a diploma or transcript and reserves the right not to allow a student to enroll in a new grading period, participate in graduation exercises, and receive grades or a report card. Tuition account details can be viewed at any time via your family My Backpack portal. You can find the link to your My Backpack account [here](#). Please contact [Melody Thompson](#) if you need help with your user ID or password.

From the Fine Arts Department

New Opportunities for Jubilate Arts Guild Involvement

With the successful growth of both our Jubilate Knight fundraiser and the expansion of the Fine Arts programs in recent years, the number of people involved in Jubilate Arts Guild through board or committee memberships has also grown substantially. We would like to continue to build on this strong core team of leaders and event volunteers. If you've thought of getting involved, but were uncertain of possible roles, responsibilities, and commitments, NOW is the time to ask questions! We would love to know how your gifts of talent, ideas, enthusiasm, and time might benefit the arts programs by helping you to find a role that best meets your schedule and commitment level. There are various ways to begin your involvement for next year, including the following officer positions on the Jubilate Arts Guild: Vice President, Secretary, and Concert Coordinator. Questions or Interested? Contact [Amy Poinsette](#).

From the Academic Support Services & College Counseling Office

Senior Graduation Surveys

All seniors must complete their Graduation Survey in the College Counseling Office no later than May 5. Completing this survey is essential in your college receiving your final transcript.

Seniors Final Transcripts

We will send final transcripts to the college(s) that you indicate on your Graduation Survey. Please note that this also includes the NCAA. Final transcripts will be sent out the first and second week of June. If your college requires a form to be included with the transcript, please make sure the College Counseling Office has this form. Please continue to bring in all college acceptance letters and scholarships offers to us.

Rising Senior Families

If you have not scheduled your college planning meeting or would like to have a follow up meeting, please contact [Heather Najmabadi](#) or [Karen Miller](#) to set one up. All students should meet with their college counselor at least once before the end of the school year. Parents who have not yet filled out a [Junior Parent Questionnaire](#) should do so by May 12.

Free Online Test Prep

SJCS students have free access to Kaplan's online SAT and ACT "On Demand" test prep courses, which normally cost \$299. This is excellent preparation for the May and June testing dates. The instructions and codes can be found on the school website under "College Guidance." Khan Academy also has free online SAT test prep at www.khanacademy.org.

From the Tech Services Department

Returning Chromebooks

- All 8th, 9th, and 10th grade students are required to return their Chromebooks to the Library by May 26, immediately following the end of the last exam at 10:00 AM. Your Chromebook may be returned to the Library before May 26 if you are done with exams and/or will no longer need your Chromebook to study. The Chromebooks are to be returned with charger and case. The case should be emptied of all items except the Chromebook and charger.
- All Chromebooks will be evaluated for damages at time of turn-in. Be prepared to wait as you turn in your Chromebook as there are many students returning them. All students will be given a receipt at turn-in and if damages are found, they will be noted and the appropriate fee will be billed to your student account.
- The Chromebooks will be restored to factory settings over the summer so all of your downloaded files **MUST** be moved to your Google Drive prior to turning it in or else the files will be lost.
- Contact [Mary Cummings](#) prior to May 26 if there are any concerns regarding the return of your Chromebook. Otherwise, your account will be charged for any items not returned. The charges for non-returned items are: Chromebook \$300, Charger \$15, Case \$25.

Service Hours Opportunity

High school students interested in earning service hours in the technology department over the summer, contact [Mary Cummings](#) via email in May to sign up.

Chromebook Pick-Up in the Fall

Students receiving Chromebooks for the 2017-2018 school year (grades 8-12) will be sent an email over the summer with information regarding pick-up times and insurance.

Student Email

- Students new to SJCS for the 2017-2018 school year will receive information regarding their email address over the summer.
- All students should periodically check their email over the summer.
- Seniors will have access to their email/Google Drive until July 31.

eBooks

Over the summer students can check out eBooks to read on personal devices. If you forgot your username/password contact the Librarian, [Rod McClendon](#) or [Mary Cummings](#).

From the Development Office

Annual Auction Gala, Havana Knights: Tradition. Community. Legacy.

The 2017 Annual Auction Gala, Havana Knights: Tradition, Community, Legacy, was held on Friday, April 21. It was a beautiful evening filled with warmth, love, delicious food from Table 301, lively music, and a vibrant spirit of togetherness as we salsa danced through the streets of Havana. Thank you to all of our sponsors who made the evening possible. Thank you to our vendors who created our little Havana that landscaped and embraced our community throughout the evening. Thank you to our parent volunteers, the Prom Committee, Student Government Underclassmen, and our Advancement Representatives who worked so selflessly to see to every detail-this would not have been possible without you. Thank you to our student musicians who shared their incredible talents and performed at the event. And thank you to all of you who attended and filled the room love and laughter. We had another incredibly successful year and we are very, very grateful!

We are still receiving Gala Donations. If you have not contributed to our Annual Auction Gala and would like to do so, please click [here](#) for a 100%-tax deductible gift. A special thanks to Mary Salgado, Gala Chair, whose tireless efforts and leadership made the night memorable for all that attended, and to the following Gala Committee who put in many hours behind-the-scenes to organize the wonderful event: Sharman Armstrong, Abbey Bell, Melanie Calder, Kiera Egan, Ed Stein, Catherine Puckett, Macie Lawton, Aimee Miller, Ann Harris, Missy McLearn, Michelle Mullins, and Jill Murphy.

Annual Fund

What is the Annual Fund? The Annual Fund is used to pay for budgeted expenses that are not covered by tuition. Approximately 7% of the budget is not covered by tuition payments. The Annual Fund goal for 2016-2017 is \$450,000. This money is raised through the Annual Auction Gala and individual donations to the Annual Fund. Donations to the Annual Fund can be designated for use in the following areas: Tuition Assistance, Academics, Campus Ministries, Student Life, Fine Arts, or Athletics.

Founders Circle

What is the Founders Circle? The Founders Circle is a group of philanthropic leaders at St. Joseph's Catholic School. The Circle was established to honor the selflessness of the school's original Founders, which finds continuing expression through the generosity of those who now sustain the St. Joseph's Annual Fund. The Founders Circle forms the backbone of the Annual Fund and provides our students with the best education possible. Membership in The Founders Circle is for a period of one year and is then renewable with a qualifying gift each year to the St. Joseph's Annual Fund. Annual membership levels begin at \$1,000 of unrestricted giving, with additional recognition at the \$2,500, \$5,000, and \$10,000 levels, respectively. For membership information, please contact [Kevin Meyer](#).

From the Parents Guild

Graduation Reception

Calling all Junior Parents! We are forming a committee to plan and host the Graduation Reception which will immediately follow the 2017 Commencement Exercises. This is a very special event for our graduating seniors, their families, and friends. Questions or willing to help? Contact [Mary Margaret Knight](#) or [Rachel Neubauer](#).

With Sincere Thanks To:

- Rikke Gillespy and the members of the After-Prom Committee for organizing such a wonderful event for the students. We would also like to thank the Egan Family for allowing us to have this event at Sportsclub Five Forks and to the Fann Family for providing the rental furnishings. Thanks also to the parents who generously donated gift cards and prizes as well as those who stayed up late to chaperone this event.
- A thank you to the 2016-2017 Parents Guild Board from President Mary Margaret Knight: Serving as President of the Parents Guild this year has been a wonderful experience! I have enjoyed working with so many of our amazing volunteers that make each of our school events a huge success. I want to offer my utmost gratitude to the leadership of Kevin Meyer and Rachel Neubauer. Your guidance and patience has made this year a wonderful experience! I have been blessed to have had the opportunity to serve as President and work with such an amazing Parents Guild Board. A huge thank you to Rikke Gillespy (1st Vice President), Kathleen Dunlavey (2nd Vice President), Cyndi Jennings (Secretary), Casey Muron (Treasurer), and Jill Murphy (Ways and Means). Your service and dedication is greatly appreciated!

From the Athletic Department

Summer Sports Camps

The 2017 Summer Sports Camps dates and sessions are posted on the SJCS website. Please click on the following link for more information: [SJCS 2017 Summer Camps](#).

Sports Participation Requirements for 2017-2018

In order to participate on a SJCS sports team, two forms must be completed and turned in prior to tryouts. NO EXCEPTIONS! The required forms are: [Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation Form](#) and [Concussion Consent Form](#). Students will not be permitted to try out unless both forms are turned in prior to the first tryout date. All forms should be submitted to SJCS, Attention: Athletic Office. NOTE: the medical form must be dated on or after April 1, 2017 in order for your son or daughter to participate through the 2017-2018 school year. Please make a copy of the completed forms for your records before submitting to the school. Also, we are required to have a copy of your child's Birth Certificate on file in the Athletic Office. We must have this turned in before tryouts begin in order to submit the required eligibility form into the High School League Office. If you have already submitted your son's/daughter's Birth Certificate, you do not need to turn in a copy every year. Questions? Contact [Mary Beth Koettters](#).

Training Consent Form

Greenville Health System will continue to provide SJCS athletes with the services of an athletic trainer. If you would like your child to be treated by our trainer in case of injury, you must also complete the form titled [Athletic Training Services Consent & Authorization Form](#). Please submit form to SJCS, Attention: [Kate Abdelnour](#), SJCS Athletic Trainer.