



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

Fall Greetings from St. Joseph's Catholic School!

I hope it's been a great first quarter of the school year for your sons and daughters. If they are happy and their performance is on track with their and your expectations, congratulations! I quite honestly have not felt better about the cohort of professional teachers and staff who give so much of themselves week in and week out in order to form the minds, hearts, and souls of your students in the likeness of Christ. I hope you feel the same way.

While on the topic of academics, I want to take a moment to give a shout out to the teachers for the outstanding Advanced Placement (AP) pass rate from 2018. St. Joseph's students scored an 82% pass rate. This compares to a state pass rate of 59% and the national pass rate of 58.5%. Of the 291 AP exams taken last May by 156 SJCS students, they scored a "3" or better on 239 of the exams. A score of "4" was earned on 94 of the exams, while a perfect "5" was earned on 59 exams. Student must score between "3" and "5" on a five-point scale to earn college credit. A total of 46 SJCS students earned the designation of AP Scholar by the College Board. You can see a complete list of these students under the News tab on the school's website. The hard work your students are doing now will pay off!

While these are impressive results, if you are less than thrilled by your child's first quarter grades, you might be wondering what you can do to improve their effort and/or results. If you find yourself in this place at the end of the first quarter, I'd like to recommend the following podcast found [HERE](#) and the book referenced by the author who is interviewed: *He's Not Lazy: Empowering Your Son To Believe in Himself* for a fresh approach on what can be done to motivate teenagers. While the podcast and book is particularly insightful about what boys need to feel empowered and motivated, there's also much here that parents of girls will find helpful.

Should you find yourself in need of suggestions or simply have a concern about your child's experience at the school so far this year, please, please reach out to us. We have a lot of resources available to assist you and your students, beginning with the individual teachers, and extending to the household deans, the dean of student support, the college counselors, the chaplain, the campus minister, the school nurse, all the way to the MS and HS division directors. We are all here to do our very best to meet the needs of your sons and daughters. If you don't know where to start, please feel free to reach out to me, and I'll connect you with the right people. It's been my experience that, with open communication, good will, creativity, and perspective, we can figure out a positive way to accompany your child through whatever might be concerning you.

Fall Play: *The Man Who Came to Dinner*

I hope you have your tickets to the fall play, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, which runs from Friday, November 2 through Sunday, November 4, with a preview night on Thursday, November 1. If not, there's still time to get a good seat for what will be an enjoyable show. I want to encourage you, even if you don't have any connections to the theatre program, to get out to see this play. If you haven't seen a play in a while, I suspect that you might be surprised by how much your family enjoys the experience. Our student cast is extremely talented, and this comedy is sure to keep you all in stitches. SJCS live theatre certainly beats anything you were planning to watch on Netflix!

MS Bring a Friend Day & Admissions Open House

By now you are probably aware that MS Bring a Friend Day is Wednesday, November 6 and Admissions Open House is Sunday, November 11. I do hope you are actively encouraging your friends to check out SJCS by participating in these events. Both are great opportunities for families to see firsthand what we are all about at St. Joseph's. If your friends are reluctant to come to Open House on their own, offer to accompany them for a couple hours on that Sunday afternoon.

Congratulations to Our Fall Sports Teams

While a few of our teams are still in the thick of the playoff hunt for state championships (XC and Volleyball compete this weekend), our athletic teams have had a fantastic fall. For now, I'd like to simply highlight what our boys and girls swimmers did this year. The boys repeated as 3A state champions and the girls had their best 3A finish ever by placing third. Congratulations and thank you to all our athletes and coaches!

In closing, please join us in praying for the following members of the SJCS family: for Isabelle Moran on the passing of her uncle; for William '07 and Mary Kate '11 McClintock on the passing of their grandfather; for Catherine Culbertson on the passing of her grandfather; for Caitlin '11, Sean '14 and Cian '18 Rusnak and Timothy Barclay on the passing of their grandfather; for faculty member Michele Houmis on the passing of her father.

With Love and Prayers,
Keith F. Kiser
Headmaster

Things You Need To Know**Winter Sports Tryouts Begin October 26**

Girls & Boys MS Basketball: Friday, October 26 from 3:30-5:00PM; Saturday, October 27 from 10:00AM-Noon; Monday, October 29 from 3:30-4:30PM

- Questions? Contact [Meby Carr](#) (MS girls coach) or [Greg Simms](#) (MS boys coach).

Boys Varsity Basketball: Monday, October 29 from 7:30-9:00PM; Tuesday, October 30 from 5:00-7:00PM; Wednesday, October 31 from 6:00-7:30AM (Please note the MORNING time)

- Questions? Contact Coach [Paul Assinessi](#).

Boys JV Basketball: Tuesday, October 30 from 5:00-7:00PM; Wednesday, October 31 from 6:00-7:30AM (Please note the MORNING time); Thursday, November 1 from 5:00-7:00PM

- Questions? Contact Coach [Paul Assinessi](#).

Girls JV Basketball: Tuesday, October 30 from 7:00-9:00PM; Wednesday, October 31 from 3:00-4:30PM; Thursday, November 1 from 7:00-9:00PM

- Questions? Contact Coach [Natalie Satterfield](#).

Girls Varsity Basketball: Monday, October 29 from 7:30-9:00PM; Tuesday, October 30 from 7:00-9:00PM; Wednesday, October 31 from 3:00-4:30PM

- Questions? Contact Coach [Natalie Satterfield](#).

Wrestling: Monday, October 29 from 6:00-8:00 PM in the cafeteria

- Questions? Contact Coach [Cameron Hallman](#).

Winter Cheerleading: Tuesday, October 30 from 3:30-5:30PM in the Dance Room; Thursday, November 1 from 3:30-5:30PM in the Dance Room

- Questions? Contact Coach [Jessica Reynolds](#).

Fall Art Exhibit, October 29 – November 4

The Fall Art Exhibit will be displayed October 29-November 4 in the SJCS Library. The exhibit is for all students, faculty, and staff to show off the artwork, crafts, jewelry, quilts, and other art they completed over the summer. This includes summer art camps the students participated in or even a Color Clay Cafe day trip. Parents may also participate! The artwork will also be available for viewing during Intermission of the fall play from November 1-4. Entries will be accepted between October 24-26. Contact the Art Teacher [Deborah Pickard](#) with any questions.

Schedule Change on Wednesday, October 31

Due to Team Day the following day, Wednesday, October 31 will be a 1:15 PM dismissal with all seven classes, and no Mass. There will still be Household Snack time. Students may wear casual uniform.

Christmas Wreath Sale Ends October 31

The Jubilate Arts Guild is excited to invite you to participate in our new annual online fundraiser, Mickman Brothers Fresh Minnesota Decorated Christmas Wreaths sale. Choose a decorated Christmas wreath, table top tree, and/or centerpiece to make your Christmas and Holiday season more festive. The best part is that all items ship directly to your doorstep! You can also choose to send one of these beautiful wreaths to family, friends, and/or loved ones, and leave a personal note by designating their respective name and address on the online order form. To view items available for purchase or to order, click [HERE](#). Please note: This sale will only last from October 1-31. Deliveries will arrive at the end of November through the first week of December.

Team Competition Day & Household Luncheons, November 1

All MS and HS households will participate in the annual Fall Team Competition Day on Thursday, November 1. MS Household Lunches will be 10:30-11:10 AM and HS Household Lunches will be 11:15 AM-Noon. All students will be **dismissed at 1:15 PM.**

- Dress for the students will follow "free dress" guidelines as outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook. All MS students must wear their SJCS gym shorts or sweatpants. All students should wear their Household t-shirts.

Thespian Society Annual Food Drive Ends November 1

The International Thespian Society will host their annual food drive as a Household competition and each Household will receive points per non-perishable food donation. All food donations will be collected from the Households at the beginning of Team Competition Day and will benefit the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry at Our Lady of the Rosary.

Fall Play, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, November 1-4

Join the SJCS Theatre Department and *The Man Who Came to Dinner* as we bring to life this humorous adventure filled with witty banter, shameless name-dropping, and a story that highlights the best and worst of everybody! All performances will be in the JP II Center. To purchase tickets in advance, click [HERE](#).

All Souls' Day, November 2

All Souls' Day is the Catholic Church's commemoration of All the Faithful Departed. That day we will offer two requiem masses for the dead. We will have Mass at 10:35 AM (MS Lunch) and at 11:25 AM (HS Lunch). All of the prayers and readings will focus on the theme of praying for our departed loved ones that they may be cleansed from sinful attachments as they grow in the knowledge and love of the Lord. A signup list to add names will be sent out earlier in that week. Since it is All Souls' Day, all names are welcome regardless of month of death, though the list will not be read aloud at Mass.

Junior Class Rings & Senior Graduation Supply Orders, November 2

Orders for class rings and all graduation supplies will be taken on Friday, November 2. Representatives from Herff Jones will be available during 4th period and high school lunch in Room B302. Please bring order forms along with any required deposits or payment information.

Belk Charity Day Sale, November 3

Support SJCS through Belk's famous Charity Day Sale. By purchasing a \$5 ticket, you receive \$5 off your purchase AND SJCS receives that \$5 right back. Tickets are now available at the front desk until November 2. The sale takes place on Saturday, November 3 from 6:00-10:00 AM.

No School, November 5

There will be no classes on Monday, November 5. The school and school offices will be closed. Classes will resume on Tuesday, November 6.

SWITCH Presentation, November 6

As was mentioned at Meet the Teacher Night, the school is taking a comprehensive approach to processing the recent horrific revelations of clergy sexual abuse in the Church. As an educational moment, we have begun a relationship with a local organization called [SWITCH](#), which was founded six years ago with the mission of protecting women and men from the purveyors of sex-trafficking. Located as we are on I-85 between Atlanta and Charlotte, this is an issue of real importance for those of us living in the Upstate. On Tuesday, November 6, a survivor (who was herself trafficked) and a police officer (who works to fight these unimaginable crimes), both of whom work with SWITCH, will give a talk about their experiences at St. Joseph's at 7:00 PM in the JP II Center. Given the subject matter, this talk is geared toward parents and high school students.

Make-up Orders for Class Rings & Graduation Supplies, November 9

The make-up day to place an order for class rings and graduation supplies is Friday, November 9. A representative from Herff Jones will be available in the Small Conference Room during high school lunch to order a class ring, cap & gown, graduation announcements, or other graduation supplies.

ACT Practice Test, November 10

Kaplan Test Prep will be giving a full-length ACT Practice Test here at school on Saturday, November 10, from 9:15 AM-1:15 PM. This test is geared toward juniors who have not yet taken the ACT, but interested sophomores may also attend. Get familiar with the content, timing, and format of the ACT test and receive your score report immediately afterward. Results will provide a performance analysis detailing your strengths and weaknesses, which can be used to customize ACT test prep for actual testing for college admissions purposes. Please click [HERE](#) to register by October 29. Questions? Contact [Melissa Broering](#).

Admissions Open House, November 11

Please help us fill the campus on Sunday, November 11 by inviting a prospective parent (friend, neighbor, co-worker, or relative) to our annual Admissions Open House. The event begins at 1:00 PM and officially kicks off the admissions season for the upcoming school year for all grades. Interested families will have a chance to hear from several speakers: a new sixth grader, 2 graduating seniors, a graduate, and a current parent on the value of their time spent at St. Joseph's. In addition, they can tour with current students, meet and speak with teachers, coaches, and parents, and learn more about opportunities both in and out of the classroom. This is a once-a-year event, so please help us to spread the word.

- **HOW CAN YOU HELP?** Current SJCS families can help the school by placing the Open House Car Decal (the one you received at Meet the Teacher Night) on your outside back car window now. Extras for other in-town family members are available in the front office. These window clings will go on/come off easily, and everyone can help recruit for St. Joe's by this simple gesture. This visible sign on your car could also serve as a reminder to speak to one other prospective family about your child's St. Joe's experience. A strong enrollment helps all of us, and we thank you, in advance, for helping us recruit next year's students! NOTE: this year's decals are perforated/peel off easily from the front side.

Mid-Quarter Progress Update, November 13

An email will be sent to parents at the mid-quarter point, November 13, as a reminder to check your student's progress and contact teachers with any questions or concerns. Instructions for access to ParentsWeb can be found on the Students & Parents page [HERE](#). Information will be at the bottom of the page.

Spring Break 2020 Western US Trip Informational Meeting, November 13

There will be an information meeting November 13 at 6:00 PM in the Meeting Room for those interested in going on the Spring Break 2020 Western US trip with Mr. Swingle. For the complete itinerary, pricing, and payment options, click [HERE](#). Sign up early and receive a discounted price. Questions? Email [Jamie Swingle](#).

MS St. Albert the Great Science Day, November 14

On Wednesday, November 14, the MS celebrates the memorial of St. Albert the Great, Doctor of the Church, and Patron of Scientists. Sixth grade students will be demonstrating scientific concepts, seventh grade students will demonstrate their inventions, and eighth grade students will present their Science Fair projects, with all grades in the gym. Students have received details from their Science teachers. Please be sure students bring all of their materials with them in the morning. Family members are invited to view the projects between 12:45 PM and 2:00 PM with invention ballots due by 1:45 PM. Dismissal for all MS students will be after 2:00 PM when winners have been announced and cleanup is complete. Since HS students will be dismissed at 12:15 PM that day, parents can park in the HS lot and enter through the front door of the gym. Pizza will be available for MS students who order [HERE](#) by November 8. If students do not order pizza, they should bring their lunch.

High School Youth in Government (HS YIG), November 14-17

HS YIG will take place November 14-17. The 77 students involved will leave after school on Wednesday and return on Saturday by 2:00 PM. The delegation includes twenty-two legislative pairs, two attorney trial teams, one appeals trial team, one Supreme Court justice, eleven appointed leadership students, and one student running for elected office. Questions? Contact [Meby Carr](#).

Freshmen Ambassador Applications Due November 16

Each year, the Admissions Office seeks out qualified ninth graders who would be willing to host prospective students for their shadowing day. This is a campus leadership role, and this position can prove helpful when listed on a student's application for Student Council, National Honor Society, summer jobs, and/or colleges. Freshmen Ambassador Applications may be found [HERE](#). The forms are also available in the Admissions Office; however, they must be received by no later than 4:00 PM on Friday, November 16. Late applications will not be accepted, and interviews will begin shortly thereafter.

Campus Ministry Family "Friendsgiving", November 16

SJCS Campus Ministry is hosting a family "Friendsgiving" potluck on Friday, November 16 from 6:30-8:30 PM in the SJCS cafeteria. Bring your favorite dish and join other parents and kids to give thanks and share a meal together. A sign-up form will be e-mailed to parents. Questions? Contact [Gabe Lewis](#).

Grandparents Day, November 19

Join us on November 19 for our thirteenth annual Grandparents and Friends Celebration. All Grandparents and Special Friends of students are invited to join their grandchildren on campus for a Mass, a short presentation, school tour, and lunch reception. The schedule of the celebration will be different from last year. Please note: Invitations are sent to all grandparents in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia. If you have NOT filled out the grandparent information in Parents Web, or if your child's grandparent lives outside the local area, and you would like them to receive an invitation, please send their names and addresses to [Rachel Neubauer](#) by no later than November 9.

HS Spring Musical Auditions, November 26-27

Auditions for the HS Spring Musical will be held November 26-27, with callbacks on November 28. These auditions are open to all HS students. More information will be available on the Fine Arts website in early November. Questions? Contact Fine Arts Director, [Teresa McGrath](#).

“Catholicism 101”, November 27

This fall we invite any of our non-Catholic families to join us on Tuesday, November 27 at 6:30 PM in the Meeting Room, for an informal evening of information, conversation, and fellowship, with wine and dessert. Father Duncan will speak on what makes Catholicism distinct from other Christian traditions. There will also be time to answer common questions on topics such as: the Mass, the nature of salvation, authority, the Virgin Mary, and the saints. This evening is open to any of our non-Catholic parents who wish to learn a little more about the school's religious foundation. If you would like to join us, click [HERE](#) to RSVP.

Junior Class Kairos Retreat, November 30-December 2

The annual junior class Kairos Retreat will take place from November 30-December 2 at Kanuga Retreat Center in Hendersonville, NC. Information will be communicated to members of the junior class and their parents via e-mail. This is an optional retreat but all juniors are asked to prayerfully consider attending. Questions? Contact [Julie Schroeder](#) or [Gabe Lewis](#).

Box Tops for Education Next Deadline is December 4

Collect your box tops to raise money for our school and help your student to earn Household Points and Krispy Kreme Doughnuts. Before sending them in, please cut them out and check expiration dates. Our next collection deadline is Tuesday, December 4. Questions? Contact [Meredith Dobson](#) or [Stacy Covington](#).

Mandatory Trip Meeting for Spring Break Trip, December 6

There is a mandatory meeting for all participants and at least one parent traveling on the Spring Break America in the World Wars trip on Thursday, December 6 at 6:30 PM in the Meeting Room. An email has been sent detailing what each participant needs to bring to the meeting. Questions? Contact [Meby Carr](#).

Sophomore Class Day, December 7

All 10th graders will spend Friday, December 7, off campus at Asbury Hills Retreat Center in Cleveland, SC, for their Sophomore Class Day. This is a day of community building and reflection that is required for all students. Transportation will be organized by the school, though several parent drivers will be required. To offer to drive or for any other questions, contact SJCS Campus Minister, [Gabe Lewis](#).

Semester Exams & Christmas Travel Reminder

As we near the Christmas Holidays, please remember to book family travel plans for after your student's scheduled exams. Eighth grade and high school exams are Monday, December 17 through Thursday, December 20 with make-up exams only on Friday, December 21.

Re-Enrollment for the 2019-2020 School Year

In order to provide our families with a re-enrollment process that is both seamless and paperless, SJCS now offers continuous re-enrollment. Under this process, students are continually re-enrolled from their initial admission into the school until they graduate from SJCS. In late January, when the next school year's tuition rates are published, parents will receive an email with a link instructing them to select a payment plan for the upcoming school year. In addition, students will be automatically re-enrolled, with a \$300 yearly re-enrollment fee billed to their account. Should a parent desire that their child not to return to SJCS for a subsequent year, written notice must be presented to the school's Admissions Office by the end of February.

Used Uniform Sale, February 7, 2019

Mark your calendars for the used uniform sale on Thursday, February 7, 2019. The sale will take place in the cafeteria beginning at 3:30 PM.

France & Spain Student Trip, June 2020

Just a few spots remain for the trip to France and Spain in early June 2020. The exciting itinerary leads us from Paris to Madrid, with the Mediterranean Coast in between. From touring the Arc de Triomphe, to climbing the towers of Notre Dame, to visiting the top of the Eiffel Tower, to a scenic, illuminated boat ride along the Seine River, we will visit the most famous landmarks in Paris. We will continue along the Mediterranean Coast to Barcelona, known for its artistic treasures and fine architecture. There, we will explore all the major sites, including Gaudi's masterpiece, the still-unfinished Sagrada Familia. Students are sure to delight in all the sites as we discover Barcelona by bike. If you are interested in providing

this opportunity for your child, please contact [Shawna Fesler](#).

Attention Eighth Grade Parents

SJCS eighth grade parents were mailed an important letter from Headmaster Keith Kiser at the end of September about transitioning their child from eighth to ninth grade. If you do not recall seeing this letter, please contact [Jenny Starks](#) in Admissions for an electronic copy, as many “need to know” items were covered, such as:

1) **Eighth Graders Serve As Tour Guides at Open House**: All eighth graders were asked to be here on Sunday, November 11th from 11:30 AM-3:30 PM to help with Middle School Open House Tours. In return for their service, each student who volunteers will receive a Homework Pass and a “Free Dress” day (following the guidelines in the Student Handbook) the following Monday, November 12. If your child had a conflict helping serve on Open House Sunday, you were asked to contact [Jenny Starks](#).

2) **“Lunch with the Headmaster”**: Several eighth graders have already signed up for/or completed their lunch with Headmaster Keith Kiser and Middle School Director Wanda Jaraczewski. All eighth graders are encouraged to do this. These group luncheons serve as a halfway check point to see how your child’s St. Joseph’s career is going.

3) **Eighth Grade Day**: If your child plans to re-enroll here in the ninth grade, it is not necessary that he/she “apply” for high school, as your child is already a student in our school. However, it is required that all SJCS eighth graders complete our high school admissions test. This test provides us valuable data on our current eighth grade class, allows your son/daughter a chance to compete for one of two academic scholarships awarded each year to incoming ninth graders, and will assist us in placing your child in the correct high school classes. The test will be given to all SJCS eighth graders during the school day (Eighth Grade Day) on Wednesday, January 16, 2019.

Admissions Assistant Position Available

The Admissions Office is currently searching for a candidate to fill the position now held by Jenny Starks, who is retiring. Click [HERE](#) to read more. Please encourage any candidates who would be a good fit for this position to apply.

From the Middle School Director

“In a cultural climate in which moral norms are often thought to be matters of personal preference, Catholic schools have a crucial role to play in leading the younger generation to realize that freedom consists above all in being able to respond to the demands of the truth (cf. Veritatis Splendor, #84).” – Address of the Holy Father Pope John Paul II to the Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Regions of Chicago, Indianapolis, and Milwaukee (USA) on Their “Ad Limina” Visit, May 30, 1998, #3

The power of a Catholic, faith-based education is supported by years of evidence that acknowledges our graduates are incredibly prepared to influence and shape the world around them. The community of St. Joseph’s Catholic School is no exception. Our students are challenged to put forth their best selves every day. At times, that can seem overwhelming. We tend to get caught up in grades, SAT scores, AP pass rates and just about every other standardized measurement of academic success. While there is great value in strong academic achievement, a St. Joseph’s Catholic School education presents an opportunity that is so much more valuable and meaningful than the final grade report.

At last month’s World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) in New York, conference panelists offered support for what those of us committed to Catholic education have long believed ... that the ability to frame decisions and work within a moral and ethical context are skills that have relevant impact. In the accompanying article, Wan suggests that “the most important skills for the 4th Industrial Revolution include ... philosophy, ethics and morality education”. More information can be found [HERE](#).

Our young people are navigating a world that is increasingly complicated, with challenges and situations that we could not even anticipate just a few years ago. It makes sense, then, that our charge as Catholic educators and parents is to help our young people develop a strong and steady moral compass that will stand firm in the face of complexity, adversity, and trial. At times we will flounder, and even fail, in our attempts to bring clarity and perspective to this critical effort. However, the strength of a Catholic, faith-based school community lies in the understanding that our work is relevant, resilient, life-changing and life-giving. The partnership between educators and parents presents an opportunity to bring synergy and unity to this never-ending challenge.

As we enter a season of gratitude and thanksgiving, we at SJCS convey our deepest appreciation for your trust in the work we do. We continue to pray for God’s wisdom, guidance and blessings toward the entire St. Joseph’s community.

From the Athletic Department

Athletic Twitter Account

New this fall: our Athletic Department has a new Twitter account [@sjcs_athletics](#). Please follow us for athletic scores and updates!

Sports Participation Requirements

Any student participating in a sport at SJCS must have a physical dated after April 1, 2018 and complete the required forms ONLINE prior to the first practice. NO PAPER FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED, NO EXCEPTIONS! The required forms that must be filled out online prior to the first practice are: Pre-Participation History and Pre-Participation Sports Physical Exam, Parent Consent Form, Concussion Form, a copy of your athlete's birth certificate, and Steadman Hawkins form. All required athletic forms must be submitted through Arbiter Athlete found [HERE](#). Information on how to create the parent and student login at Arbiter Athlete will be available on the SJCS website under Athletics, or you can send a text to 69274 containing S777 in the message and you will instantly receive a text inviting you to create an account. Be sure to type St. Joseph's Catholic School in the search line when looking for our school.

Knights Athletic Booster Club

The SJCS Athletic Booster Club appreciates everyone's incredible support this year for all levels of membership! Your support enables us to provide the best facilities and resources for our athletes. For more information on joining the Booster Club, click [HERE](#) or contact [Gidge Marchant](#). We are in need of a volunteer to help order food for winter concessions in the gym. This would be a great opportunity for any new family to get involved! If interested, please contact [Gary Walajtys](#) or [Michael Pace](#).

From the Parents Guild

With Sincere Thanks

The Parents Guild would like to thank the following volunteers for helping to get the school year off to a great start:

- Amy Cassidy and Missy Marchal for organizing and hosting Ladies Night Out
- Stacy Covington and Meredith Dobson for their hard work on our Box Tops Fundraisers

We appreciate the efforts and dedication from all of our volunteer coordinators and the many volunteers that give their time and talents to make our events at SJCS a success!

Spirit Wear Available in the School Store

Did you miss the Fall Sale? If so, we have some good news for you. Several items from the Fall Spirit Wear Sale are now available in the school store. These items are in limited supply, so act quickly. Your students School Store Account can be used for these purchases, or you may come in any time the school store is open and pay with cash or check.

Easy No Cost Fundraisers

- Publix Partners: Program changes will take effect October 1. It's easy to participate and it no longer requires a plastic tag. First, begin by setting up your account online [HERE](#). Once set up, click on 'My Publix Partner' and enter 'ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL – GREENVILLE, SC' to designate your savings. When completed, use your phone number at check out during your weekly Publix visits and help us continue to raise money for SJCS. To date, we've raised over \$56,000 from this incredible program!
- Harris Teeter Together in Education: Register your VIC Card or sign up for eVIC card [HERE](#). Once your account is set up, scroll down to *Together in Education* and type in the code for SJCS, 5284. Please note this process needs to be renewed every year, as the programs runs from October to May.
- Lowe's Foods: Join the *Cart to Class* program by clicking [HERE](#). We are listed under 'St. Joseph's'. Once selected and saved, we will begin receiving rewards from your weekly shopping trips.
- Amazon Smile: Help us raise money each time you make purchases on Amazon by using Amazon Smile. To designate SJCS, click [HERE](#). St. Joseph's is listed under *St. Joseph's Catholic School Inc.* In order for us to receive savings, please use smile.amazon.com for your future Amazon purchases.

Questions? Contact [Jackie Zannino](#), Parents Guild VP of Ways & Means or [Rachel Neubauer](#), Assistant Director of Development.

School Store

- I wanted to take a moment to first thank all of the many parent volunteers that work in the School Store; we couldn't do it without each and every one of you. All sales from the School Store benefit the Parents Guild and makes it possible

to provide additional support outside the budget to the St. Joseph's community. We are so blessed to have so many willing volunteers to help serve St. Joseph's students and faculty. Thank you again for all that you do!

- If you are interested in volunteering at the School Store we still have some fun opportunities. The 1st and 3rd Monday morning shifts before school are available from 7:30-8:00 AM. This is a great opportunity to get to know other parents, staff, and the students. If you are interested in serving this amazing community, please contact either [Erica Walajtys](#) or [Jill Wagner](#).
- For the convenience of our school families, students may set up a prepaid account with the School Store by submitting payment online through My Backpack or sending in check/cash to the front office. Please note: the School Store account is different than FLIK and must be funded separately. If your student is in Late Stay, the School Store is available until end of Late Stay for snacks and drinks. Thank you to Mrs. Quinones for helping to make sure our Late Stay students stay safe and have nutritious options.

From the Development Office

Annual Fund

Our goal this fiscal year (July 2018–June 2019) is to engage the financial support of 100% of our school families, faculty, and staff in giving to the Annual Fund. Thanks to all who contributed in the month of October and congratulations to the 6th grade which is leading with a grade level participation of 23%. The Annual Fund provides approximately 6% of the school's budget that is not covered by tuition. These dollars are raised every year through the generosity of our community, and provide tuition assistance, support for academic programs, athletics, fine arts, campus ministry, and enrich student life. Our Annual Fund goal for this year, which includes proceeds from the Gala, is \$475,000. If you have not had a chance to participate but would like to, you can contribute online [HERE](#) or simply complete the [Annual Fund Donations Form](#) and return it to school. Questions? Contact [Kevin Meyer](#) in the Development Office.

From the Academic Support Services & College Counseling Office

Ninth & Tenth Grade Classroom Meetings

The College Counseling Office conducted classroom meetings with the sophomores last month and Mrs. Charlton, Dean of Student Support, met with the freshman earlier in the school year. The first meeting with the sophomores focused on preparing for the PSAT. Mrs. Charlton discussed the following with the freshmen during her visits: academic requirements, volunteer requirements, starting a college resume (they actually started an activity log), as well as college/career myths. Classroom meetings will continue next semester.

Senior Parents

It's that time of the year when deadlines are fast approaching for seniors' admissions and scholarship applications. Remember that the faculty members who write letters of recommendation need as much advance notice as possible to craft your student's recommendation, and for the College Counseling staff to compile secondary reports, transcripts, letters of recommendation, etc. It is incumbent upon the seniors to make sure they give us adequate notice (ideally, at least four weeks in advance of the deadline) on requests. Please follow-up with your son or daughter today to make sure they get on top of their deadlines and college admissions 'to do' lists, and have them get their requests in to us as soon as possible.

From the Fine Arts Department

Christmas Concert Dates

Be sure to mark your calendars for the upcoming Christmas concerts:

- Band Ensembles: Tuesday, December 11 at 7:00 PM in the JP II Center
- Strings Ensembles: Wednesday, December 12 at 7:00 PM in the JP II Center
- Choral Ensembles: Thursday, December 13 at 7:00 PM in the JP II Center

Jubilate Arts Guild Membership

Looking for a way to support the SJCS Fine Arts Department? Click [HERE](#) to join the Jubilate Arts Guild. Jubilate Arts Guild members receive many benefits at Fine Arts programs throughout the year. If you have a student involved in theatre, band, strings, chorus, dance, or visual arts, please consider joining our Jubilate Arts Guild. Questions? Contact the Jubilate Arts Guild President, [Ann Cancellio](#).

Red Door & St. John Paul II Ornaments

Don't miss your chance to get your Red Door glass ornaments or a St. John Paul II Chapel commemorative ornament designed by SJCS Art teacher, Deborah Pickard. These beautiful keepsakes will make ideal Christmas gifts for students, alumni, parents, grandparents, or teachers. All proceeds will support the SJCS Fine Arts programs. Orders received by December 1 will be filled prior to Christmas break. Sample ornaments are on display in the entryway to the school office or can be seen [HERE](#).

Jubilate Knight for the Arts 2019

Preparations have begun for the annual Fine Arts fundraiser, "*Jubilate Knight for the Arts*" on Saturday, May 11, 2019. This family-friendly talent competition highlights our artistically gifted St. Joseph's community (students, parents, teachers, and alumni). Guests will have a variety of opportunities to financially support the SJCS Fine Arts programs during this entertaining celebration of the arts. Make plans join us and support SJCS Fine Arts!

- **Audition:** It's not too early to start planning to audition. Any member of the SJCS community (students, teachers, parents, alumni, siblings) is welcome to audition. Music, comedy, drama, dance, juggling, hula hooping, magic shows, and so many more talents are welcome. Start preparing your performance now. Performances may be up to four minutes in length. Visit the school website at the beginning of December for more details and audition dates. Questions? Contact [Teresa McGrath](#).
- **Volunteer:** Planning has already begun but it's not too late to volunteer. If you are interested in helping plan Jubilate Knight or would like to volunteer at the event, please email [Ann Gushue](#) or [Christine Balts](#). The next Jubilate Knight Committee meeting is planned for Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 7:30 AM. Everyone is welcome to join our planning meetings.