Dear Parents and Guardians,

You might remember that last year, one of our Mass collections was used to support Mrs. Kira Froude (mother of James, Anne, and Samantha) and her plans to be part of Operation Walk. This organization brings a team of doctors, physician assistants, nurses, surgical technicians, physical therapists, and volunteers from Maryland, Virginia, California, Colorado and Illinois, to Panama to perform surgery so that people can walk without pain.

SJRCs donated $500 to cover the cost of treating one patient. In all, Operation Walk helped 49 patients. The patient we sponsored was a 57 year old man named Rogelio. He had serious defects in both knees which made it difficult for him to walk more than a short distance without the aid of crutches. His knees were in a permanently bent position. He traveled 3 hours in order to have the surgery.

Here is a picture of Rogelio the day after his surgery. He is thankful that now he can walk without pain. Thank you to all the SJRCs families who helped to make this possible. Mrs. Froude even brought him an SJRCs shirt! We are so happy that the money donated by SJRCs was able to be used for such a good cause. Thank you to Mrs. Froude for having the courage to make the trip and to improve the lives of so many people beyond our borders.

Peace and all good things,
Mrs. Karen Smith

Speech Services
If your child is eligible for speech services through FCPS, we are happy to let you know that we will be starting services next week. The speech therapist will be here on October 30th and again on November 13th.

Invite a friend to this year’s open house. Remember, you will receive a $350 referral credit if they enroll and attend for the 2020-2021 school year.
**REMINDER:**

**Children & Youth Protection Policy Requirements**

Here are the steps that must be taken in order to volunteer at SJRCS. In the rush to register, many mistakes are showing up that draws out the process considerably. **ALL volunteers are considered substantial contact with children,** which should only be clicked when entering role. **EVERYONE** must complete a background screening, list 3 references (complete address/email) and online training. There are no shortcuts to registering, if any of the above is missing, one cannot volunteer. **ONLY when I notify the registrant by email are they considered certified.**

Background screenings are taking 12 business days or more. Even though ESR states the screening is completed, the Office of Child and Youth Protection makes the final approval.

Some problems that are reoccurring with VIRTUS registration this school year are:

- Incorrect background screening checked -only 3970-Base Package ESR2 is correct- no volunteer will ever drive students at school.
- No references given/info left out, faulty emails -training started but never completed or never started at all. It is best to fully complete the VIRTUS registration steps all at once, so please allow time to do this.

One final note, those who have been notified of 5 year renewals must complete in the month they are due. After 30 days the account is considered inactive until a new background screening/training is completed. If any problems with the VIRTUS process please, please contact me at school- dprice@sjrcs.org. **DO NOT create a second account!** Thank you!

Denise Price/Screening Coordinator

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**Community News...**

**National Drug Take Back Day**

October 26, 2019

The Maryland State Police in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration are asking citizens to dispose of unwanted prescription drugs during the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, October 26, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at all state police barracks. State police barracks throughout Maryland will be participating in the National Drug Take Back Day. Each barracks will act as a collection station giving citizens an opportunity to dispose of all unwanted and unused prescription drugs. The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs. Residents can locate the closest Maryland State Police barracks by visiting the state police website: [MSP Barrack locations](#).

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**Garden Committee**

The new Garden Committee will meet on November 5th, at 6:30p.m. If you love to garden or would just like to help make our school more beautiful, RSVP to Jason Wheatley at jww613@yahoo.com.

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**SJRC Wildcat’s 2019-2020 Basketball Registration**

***NOTE Registration is ONLINE ONLY and will CLOSE on October 27th***

**Grades 1 & 2** – Play in our In-House Coed League- $50.00 (includes T-shirt). **The in-house program will begin in January and run into February.** The in-house teams will not have practice, only games at St. John between 8:00 - 12:00 on Saturdays.

**Grades 3 – 8** – Play in the Monocacy Youth Basketball League- $130.00 (Uniform Fee - $40.00 if needed). The Monocacy Youth Basketball League Teams will start practice in November with games beginning in early December. Games are usually Saturday morning or afternoon at St. John’s, TJ Middle, or other local gyms.

Go to [www.sjrcs.org](http://www.sjrcs.org) click on Student Life, Athletics, Register Now, on the website or Click on the MySchoolBucks on the home page to register for Basketball.

Please join us as we launch our first 2020 Silent Auction and Gala Planning Committee Meeting of the year! Thursday, November 14, at 7pm, in Media Center.

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Don’t forget to wear/send in rain coats or umbrellas with students on predicted rain days. There will be regular dismissal unless we have thunder/lightening.

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Denise Price/Screening Coordinator
Mrs. Kiratu shared about Kenya with the third grade. We learned what it was like to live and go to school in Kenya. The children even tasted sugar cane!

Frederick City Fire Department visited PK and K classes to teach them about fire safety and give them an overview of the firetrucks and ambulances.

THANK YOU to all the families who provided our teachers with a YUMMY dinner during Parent Teacher Conferences last week!

A fun time was had by all at H.S.A.’s Summers Farm Campfire Event!

Note from Ms. Whitney/Admin Secretary. I feel truly blessed to work at SJRCS. No two days are ever the same! I helped to cover in PK3 this week and want to say, “God Bless our PK instructors”!!! While having fun with my new friends, “herding cats” is an appropriate description!

Ms. Theis's 1B is going to be pen pal-ing with a first grade class in Australia this year! They received their first letters last week, and are finishing their letters back to mail this week. So exciting!