Dear Parents and Guardians,

We recently hit the halfway mark of the school year. So, it is time to send out some reminders regarding school policies and procedures. Please remember that all of these policies are in place for the safety of our students and our staff members.

4th to 8th grade students should be dropped off at the front door of the school. The primary wing door is only for students in PK through Grade 3. Please DO NOT drop upper grade students off at the primary wing door.

Students CANNOT be DROPPED OFF or PICKED UP from the St. Katharine Drexel parking lot. Even if you are a parishioner at St. Katharine Drexel, you are not allowed to use the St. Katharine Drexel lot. This has always been a rule, and we have published this rule multiple times. Please make the safety of others your top priority and follow the rules for drop off and pick up.

When dropping off in the morning, please DO NOT drop off Pre-K students unsupervised at the primary wing.

It is a school policy (See page 49 of the Parent-Student Handbook.) that if a student is absent from school, he/she may not participate in any after school evening school sponsored events; such as, sports, dances, etc. If your child is sick enough to stay home during the day, they CANNOT participate in evening activities. Coaches will be reinforcing this rule with their players.

If everyone would follow the rules, it would make the rest of the year go by smoothly for everyone. Thank you for your cooperation.

Peace and all good things!
Karen Smith

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

We would like to thank everyone who has completed the re-enrollment process by completing your re-registration form for the 2020-21 school year. If you have not completed that process by February 18th, you will no longer be eligible for the early discount. Also, please know that after February 18th, your child(ren)’s seat will no longer be secured and may be given to another candidate. We are already screening prospective students and will begin making admission decisions soon. By completing the re-registration process, you are ensuring your student a seat for the 2020-2021 school year.

2020-2021 Calendar

Our calendar for the 2020-2021 school year has been approved by the Department of Catholic Schools. While the entire calendar has not been completed, we can share the following dates with you:

- Move In Day - August 31st
- First Full Day of School - September 1st
- Parent-Teacher Conferences - October 8th & 9th
- Thanksgiving Break - November 25th-27th
- Christmas Break - noon dismissal on December 22nd, return on January 4th
- Easter Break - Noon Dismissal on April 1st, return on April 12th.
- Graduation - June 4th
- Last Day of School for Students - June 10th

LOST & FOUND

With our weird winter, students come in wearing coats and sweaters, then take them off and leave them around the school. Lost and found is full of these items! Please check to see if your students have all their jackets before we send this batch to a charitable organization on March 6th.
We will start the Lenten Season with Mass at 10:00 on February 26th, Ash Wednesday. On February 21st, your student will be bringing home Rice Bowls from Catholic Relief Services which students can save their small change throughout the Lenten season. This money will be donated to Catholic Relief Services so that they can continue doing good works for those who are hungry around the world. Students can return their money to school by April 20th.

We have a Coffee with the Principal scheduled for Monday, February 24th. It will be held at 1:45 in the afternoon rather than in the morning since Mrs. Smith is currently teaching a class during 1st period. Our topic for the day will be our transition to a new inclusion program called the Vianney program that will take place during the 2020-2021 school year and will replace our current PRIDE program.

**Spring Sports**

**Today (2/14)** is the last day to sign up for Spring Sports. Co-ed Volleyball registration for students in grades 6-8, and Lacrosse for all ages is now open! Sign up today at https://www.sjrcs.org/athletics. Let’s Go Wildcats!

**LAX Clinic Youth Strength & Agility clinic W/ Coach Plez**
Saturday, February 29, 2020, 9am–11am
Sunday, March 1, 2020, 2pm-4pm
Join one of the top-rated Personal Trainers in MD, grounded in the core values of:
- Movement Science
- Functional Fitness
- Fundamentals of Strength Training
- Cardiovascular & Performance training
Open to Boys and Girls all ages of SJRCS. Come take advantage of specialized time with our coaches focusing on:
- Stick Skills
- Field Communication
- Offensive Plays
- Defensive Maneuvers
2 days: $60, 1 day: $40 Pay day of clinic
Register by 2/23 at st.john.lacrosse@gmail.com.

You do not want to miss this year’s Gala & Auction. Plans are underway for another fabulous night out! Don’t delay, purchase your tickets today at www.sjrcs.org/roaringintothe20s

**Show the Love February Sponsorship Promotion**

Sponsor SJRCS’s most attended fundraiser of the year! Through the month of February sponsor at the $500 level and receive 2 tickets to the Gala. See the flyer in the electronic Friday Folder.

You have an idea for a popular auction item or experience? Have something to donate?
Contact Lara Schumacher at lara.capone@gmail.com.

**Attention Gardeners of all ages!!!!!**

The Garden Committee has planned a spring cleanup for March 21st from 9a.m. -2p.m. We will be cleaning up the front sign, Mary garden, flower beds, and the learning garden to prepare for the spring. Not only will you be sharing your talents with the school and gaining volunteer hours, you will also be helping the Gala and Auction committees earn Disney Tickets to use in the auction. Please bring your children with you as this will be a learning project. Sign up on Disney’s Point of Light at https://www.allforgood.org/projects/YQp9Rn84.

**Hearing and Vision Screening** will take place 3/9/2020-3/10/2020 for all students in Pre-K 4, kindergarten (if not previously screened in Pre-K within the last year), 1st grade, 8th grade and any students new to the school. Maryland State Law mandates this screening. Parents/guardians who have an objection to this screening based on the tenets and/or practice of their church or religion must notify the school prior to the screening date. Please make sure if your child wears glasses or contacts that they have them on the screening days.

If your student attends Pre-K and is not at school the day of screening, and you would like to have them screened please bring them to the school on the day of the screening. All student that have been screened will have a notification letter sent home.

**STEM Fair registration is open!**

2020 SJRCS STEM FAIR
sjrcsstemfair.weebly.com
Registration opens February 10th

9th Annual
March 14, 2020

http://sjrcsstemfair.weebly.com/

We can always dream!
Ten students from our school participated in a Math competition at T.J. Middle School last Saturday! Ernest Binfon had the highest score for our school. He was in the top half of the 120 students who competed. Students who participated were: Ernest Binfon, Caleb Staiger, Will Parsons, Thomas Simmons, Galen Belmar, Adrian Naylin, Clare James, Theo Amon-Kotey, Isaiah Mbaamalu, Brandon Valente.

Ms. Holt’s 1A class celebrated the 100th day last week!

We have outstanding teachers here at SJRCS! We were recently able to honor two of them for their outstanding work in our school. Mrs. Andrea Sommers, Grades 5 & 6, was selected as our Archdiocesan Teacher of the Year. And Mrs. Jennifer Rooney, PK 4 Teacher, was selected as our FOCE Teacher of the Year. Congratulations to them both!

Mr. Benna, father of Madigan and Tillman (1B, 4B) demonstrates the guitar for the first graders during music class.