



# St. Joan of Arc School

*Grounded in Faith, Focused on the Future*

August 24, 2022

Dear SJA Families,

Well, our building is coming alive. The faculty has been here unpacking books, learning new technology, sharing and planning, all focused on our mission:

*St. Joan of Arc Catholic School is a faith community of educators, learners, and families using God's gifts to develop 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills of innovation, collaboration, problem-solving, and reasoning to enrich the global society.*

We have chosen “**Though many, We are one**” as our theme this year. Based on 1Chorinthians:12, “For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, we are one body, so it is with Christ.” This theme truly shares who we are at St. Joan of Arc, a community working together for the success of our children.

We communicate through our weekly newsletter and school website. <https://stjoanarc.org/> Homeroom teachers will be sending a welcome email on Friday 10:00am. If you do not receive this email, please contact the office. [sficca@stjoanarc.org](mailto:sficca@stjoanarc.org)

The air conditioner still has not been repaired. As of today, the parts have not arrived. We continue to pray for cooler weather, but please know, that if the temperatures are above 90 degrees we may have to make the decision to dismiss 3 hours early at 12:05pm. As with other related weather closings, extended care will remain open for 1 hour after dismissal. A notification will go through our SwiftK notification system.

God Bless,  
Ms. Dianne Kestler  
Principal

**Important Dates:**

August 26	New Family Orientation	By Appointment
August 29	First Day of School Grades 1 -8	12:05pm dismissal No Extended Care
August 29	Orientation Grades PreK and K	9:00am and 10:30am
August 30	Full Day Grades 1 -8  Gradual Entrance PreK and K	3:05pm dismissal Extended Care for Grades 1-8
August 31	Full Day Grades 1 -8  Gradual Entrance PreK and K Back to School Night Grades 1 -8 6pm	3:05 pm dismissal Extended Care for Grades 1-8
September 1	Full Day Grades 1 -8  Gradual Entrance PreK and K	3:05 pm dismissal Extended Care for Grades 1-8

September 2	All students	12:05pm dismissal Extended Care for all grades
September 5	Labor Day	School closed – No extended care
September 9	Freedom Walk – Festival Park Family Picnic – 5:00pm to 7:00pm SJA field and parking lot	

### **Transportation Procedures**

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures are found in the Parent Student handbook on page 15. Please be sure to review before Monday. <https://stjoanarc.org/resources/>

### **Extended Care**

Monday, August 29 there is no morning or after care. All students attending our extended care program need to be registered before attending. Use the following link to complete the registration forms. <https://stjoanarc.org/forms/>

### **A Note from the Nurse**

All health forms are due. If you need forms or are having issues with appointments, please let me know!!

As a reminder, all new students, returning students entering Kindergarten, Grade 3 and Grade 6 - need a Health Inventory, Updated Immunizations, a Completed School Health Information Form and a Dental Record.

All students entering Grade 7- MUST have a T-Dap Vaccine and a Meningococcal Meningitis Vaccine.

If your child is going to be ABSENT, LATE TO SCHOOL OR LEAVING EARLY- Please let their teachers know along with the Nurse and Administration. You can do this by emailing: [ATTENDANCE@stjoanarc.org](mailto:ATTENDANCE@stjoanarc.org).

If your child requires medication at school, please bring that the first few days of school.

We will be able to provide Covid Antigen (Rapid) Tests this year on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays if needed. A parental consent form is required.

Thank You,  
Susan Baer  
School Nurse  
[Sbaer@stjoanarc.org](mailto:Sbaer@stjoanarc.org)

### **School Calendar**

School Calendar can be accessed on the SJA Website. <https://stjoanarc.org/calendar/>  
You can subscribe to the calendar for easy access on your phone or computer.

### **Summer Work and Supply Lists**

Summer work and supplies needed for the start of the school year can be found on our website. Use the following link to access this information. <https://stjoanarc.org/resources/> Summer work is due when students return to school.





## **Parent Information**

### **School Times**

7:50am Parking lot opens for drop off  
7:50am - 8:00am Students line up and wait by grade  
8:00am Students enter the building and the School Day begins  
8:10am Students marked late  
2:30pm Parents line up for dismissal, parking lot opens at 2:50pm  
3:05pm Dismissal  
12:05pm Early dismissal Days

### **Emergency & Weather related Closings/Delayed Openings**

St. Joan of Arc School follows the same procedures for school closing and delays as does the Harford County Public School System. If Harford County schools close early because of inclement weather, SJA will do the same.

Extended Care will not open on days when school is closed. Morning Care will not be open when school is opening late. If school is dismissed early, Extended Care will be opened until 1 hour after dismissal.

### **Dismissal Procedures**

#### **PikMyKid App**

The PikMyKid app is required for all families in order to run a safe and efficient dismissal.

Existing families, your account has rolled over for the new school year. Please make sure if you have a new student entering, they are registered to your account.

All students will bring home a PikMyKid Car Tag at the start of school with an ID number and QR code.

New families, please download the PikMyKid app onto your mobile device. Please keep this handy in your car and hand them out to anyone who plans on picking up your child. You will be the Primary Parent for your child and in control of their dismissal time through the App. You can delegate alternate individuals, but they should have the App also as it will send a matching student ID number to the phone for us to validate the correct person is picking up the proper child. If you are part of a car pool, each child's number will be sent to the phone for validation.

### **VIRTUS (Volunteer)**

All volunteers must complete VIRTUS training. Please [click here](#) to learn more.

### **Track It Forward**

This is the website we use to track volunteer hours for the year. Each family is required to volunteer 20 hours per school year. If you choose not to volunteer, your FACTS account will be billed on May 15, 2023 for \$10.00 per incomplete hour up to 20 hours. Existing families, please make sure your information is correct and you have an account on Track It Forward. New families, please click the link to register and create an account for the school year. Some opportunities are already available. We are looking forward to having volunteers back in our school! <https://www.trackitforward.com/site/stjoan-arc-school>

### **FACTS**

All families are required to have a FACTS account. This account is initially set up through School Admin during the registration process. FACTS is the platform all Archdiocesan schools use for tuition payments and incidental expenses (field trips, novels, extended care, etc.) There are two sections within your FACTS account. One for tuition and the other for incidental expenses.

Tuition payments are automatically withdrawn from your designated account. The incidental account can be set up as automatic withdrawals or you may go in and pay when billed.

Please note if you need to reschedule a tuition payment you must contact Pam Franke 3 business days prior to the scheduled payment date.

Any questions regarding your FACTS account please contact Pam Franke, Business Manager at 410-272-1387 ext 217 or [pfranke@stjoanarc.org](mailto:pfranke@stjoanarc.org)

### **PBIS**

PBIS reinforces positive behavior. SJA stands on the principles of respect, responsibility and leadership. [Click here](#) to learn more about PBIS. Teachers will provide parents with account information.

### **SJA School Calendar**

All SJA events will be posted to the calendar located online on the school website. Please sync your device to this calendar. <https://stjoanarc.org/calendar/>

### **School Newsletter**

A weekly newsletter is sent electronically every Wednesday at 4:00pm. If you do not receive the email please notify the office immediately. The Newsletter can also be found on the school website.

### **Media Release**

As stated in the [Student/Parent Handbook](#), parents who do not want their child to participate in media opportunities are asked to notify the principal in writing by September 1.

**Timeline for Grant/Aid and ReEnrollment**

November 1 - FACTS (Grant and Aid) applications open

December 1- January 8th - ReEnrollment for Current families in School Admin

February 28 - FACTS 9 Grant and Aid) deadline

**PowerSchool**

PowerSchool is the online portal for reporting student progress in grades 3 -8. Teachers will provide parents with account information.

**Extended Care**

St. Joan of Arc School offers affordable before and after school care for families who have need of this service. Hours are from 7:00am until school begins and dismissal until 6:00pm on regular school days. Care will be provided for early dismissal days and teacher professional development days if warranted. [Click here](#) for more information to register.

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM 2022-2023**

The appearance of any young person is primarily the responsibility of that individual and his/her parents. We expect students to maintain the type of neatness and grooming that does not interfere with the health and safety of themselves or others, nor with the educational process or religious dimension of the school. All uniforms must be clean, in good repair and properly fitted. All clothing must be labeled with the child's name.

The school recognizes that particular hairstyles are often part of racial, ethnic, spiritual, and cultural identity and practice. Accordingly, it is the policy of the School to permit individual families to decide the appropriate cared-for hairstyle for their children. ADM 8.0

School uniforms are purchased from Flynn O'Hara Uniform Company.

Flynn O'Hara Uniforms

8868 Waltham Woods Rd.

Parkville, MD 21234

410-828-4709

<https://flynnohara.com/>

### **PREK FALL/WINTER UNIFORMS (Nov. 1; March 31)**

#### **Girls and Boys**

- Short or long sleeve navy uniform polo shirt
- Khaki elastic waist pants; no snaps, buttons, zippers or belts (No jumpers for PreK)
- Navy cardigan sweater with SJA logo or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo
- Solid color black or white tennis shoes with Velcro closure (no tie shoes)
- White socks that cover the ankle – no logos

### **PREK SUMMER UNIFORMS Options (August 29 - Oct. 31; April 1 – June 8)**

#### **Girls and Boys**

- Short sleeve navy blue uniform polo shirt
- Khaki elastic waist shorts no snaps, buttons, zippers or belts
- Navy cardigan sweater with SJA logo or Navy crewneck sweatshirt with SJA logo or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo
- Solid color black or white tennis shoes with Velcro closure (no tie shoes)
- White socks that cover the ankle – no logos

### **GRADES K-5 FALL/WINTER UNIFORMS (Nov. 1; March 31)**

#### **Girls**

- SJA plaid jumper (jumpers should be no more than 2 inches above the knee) with white peter pan collar blouse (cotton or polyester)  
or
- Khaki slacks with SJA navy banded bottom shirt, or SJA navy polo shirt (tucked in and worn with brown or black belt)
- Navy tights, navy leggings with white or navy socks that cover the ankle, navy knee socks, white or navy socks that cover the ankle – no logos
- Navy cardigan sweater with SJA logo or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo
- Uniform tan buck shoes
  - *Grade 1 wears solid color black or white tennis shoes or tan buck shoes*
  - *Kindergarten wears solid color black or white tennis shoes with Velcro closure (no tieshoes)*
- Jewelry: watches, 1 pair of small earrings worn in the earlobe, one ring, a religious cross medal worn on a thin chain
- No make-up
- ONLY clear/natural nail polish and natural nails are permitted
- No Smart watches are permitted

#### **Boys**

- Khaki trousers (worn with brown or black belt)
- Long or short sleeve navy blue SJA polo shirt (tucked in)
- White or navy socks that cover the ankle – no logos
- Navy sweater or vest with SJA logo or Navy blue ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo
- Uniform tan buck shoe
  - *Grade 1 wears solid color black or white tennis shoes or tan buck shoe*
  - *Kindergarten wears solid color black or white tennis shoes with Velcro closure (no tieshoes)*
- Jewelry: watches, crosses or religious medals worn on a thin chain
- No Smart watches are permitted

**GRADES K-5 SUMMER UNIFORMS Options** (August 29 - Oct. 31; April 1 – June 8)

- Khaki shorts (worn with brown or black belt)
- Khaki uniform skort
- SJA navy blue polo shirt (tucked in) or SJA navy blue banded bottom shirt
- White or navy socks that cover the ankle – no logos
- Uniform tan buck shoes
  - *Grade 1 wears solid color black or white tennis shoes or tan buck shoe*
  - *Kindergarten wears solid color black or white tennis shoes with Velcro closure (no tieshoes)*
- No long sleeve shirts may be worn under short sleeve shirts nor leggings worn under shorts.
- Girls may wear SJA plaid jumper (jumpers should be no more than 2 inches above the knee) with white peter pan collar blouse (cotton or polyester)
- Navy cardigan sweater with SJA logo or Navy crewneck sweatshirt with SJA logo or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo

**MIDDLE SCHOOL Grades 6-8 FALL/WINTER UNIFORMS** (Nov. 1; March 31)

**Girls**

- SJA plaid skirt or khaki slacks (worn with a black or brown belt)
- SJA navy blue banded bottom shirt or SJA navy polo shirt (tucked in)
- Navy tights, navy leggings with white or navy socks that cover the ankle Navy knee socks, white or navy socks that cover the ankle - no logos
- Navy sweater with SJA logo or Navy blue ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo
- Uniform tan buck shoes
- Jewelry: watches, crosses or religious medals worn on a thin chain, one small pair earrings worn in the ear lobe or 1 pair of small hoop earrings, one ring
- No make-up
- Only natural nails are permitted with clear/natural nail polish
- No Smart watches are permitted

**Boys**

- Khaki trousers (worn with brown or black belt)
- Navy blue SJA long or short sleeve polo shirt (tucked in)
- Navy sweater with SJA logo or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo
- White or navy socks that cover the ankle
- Uniform tan buck shoes
- Jewelry: watches, crosses or religious medals worn on a thin chain
- No Smart watches are permitted

**MIDDLE SCHOOL Grades 6-8 SUMMER UNIFORMS Options** (August 29 - Oct. 31; April 1 – June 8)

- Khaki shorts worn (worn with brown or black belt)
- Khaki uniform skort or SJA plaid skirt
- SJA navy blue banded bottom shirt or SJA navy polo shirt (tucked in)
- White or navy socks that cover the ankle – no logo



- Uniform tan buck shoes
- No long sleeve shirts may be worn under short sleeve shirts.
- No leggings may be worn under shorts.
- Navy sweater with SJA logo or Navy crewneck sweatshirt with SJA logo or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo
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**PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM (PreK – Grade 8)**

**Summer PE Uniform (August 29 - Oct. 31; April 1 - June 8)**

- PE uniform instead of the regular uniform on PE days
- Regular tennis shoes that tie or have Velcro closings are required.
- White socks that cover the ankle – no logos
- Grey short sleeve t-shirt with SJA logo
- Navy micromesh gym shorts with SJA logo
- Navy Crewneck sweatshirt with SJA logo
- No jewelry is permitted on PE days
- Parents should make sure that the student is dressed properly for weather conditions.

**Winter PE uniform (Nov. 1; March 31)**

- Regular tennis shoes that tie or have Velcro closings are required
- White socks that cover the ankle – no logos
- Navy Crewneck sweatshirt with SJA logo
- Grey t-shirt, long or short sleeves, with SJA logo
- Navy uniform sweatpants with SJA logo
- No jewelry is permitted on PE days
- Parents should make sure that the student is dressed properly for weather conditions.

**Spirit wear and hoodies are not part of the regular uniform. Jackets are not to be worn in the building. Second layers are described above.**

**Out of Uniform Days**

On occasion, there may be out of uniforms days scheduled. Clothing may not contain terms, logos, pictures, cartoons, slogans, writing, or images that are offensive, political, harassing, or discriminatory in nature.

Students also MAY NOT WEAR:

- Dresses, skirts, or shorts more than 2 inches above the knee
- Sandals or other open shoes (safety reasons)
- Pants or jeans with tears, shreds or holes
- Tightly fitted or revealing clothing. (leggings must be worn with a long shirt that covers the top half of the leg)
- Tank tops, sleeveless shirts, or shirts with cut – out shoulders

\*\*When in doubt, do not wear it to school.

If an article of clothing is deemed to be inappropriate, a student may be required to alter his/her apparel.

Students who are wearing inappropriate clothing will not be permitted to attend classes until that clothing has been changed. Parents will be notified in this event.

**Field Trips**

Students are expected to wear their regular uniform on all field trips unless otherwise specified.

**Lost and Found**

St. Joan of Arc requires that all items of clothing be labeled with the child's first and last name. In that way, we may return clothing that is left in an area other than the child's classroom. Due to limited space, unclaimed clothing will be held for one month in the lost and found bin and then be donated.