



St. Joan of Arc School

Grounded in Faith, Focused on the Future

September 7, 2022

Dear SJA Families,

We shared our Opening School Liturgy this week. It was wonderful to have everyone in the Church singing and praying together, led by our amazing choir. Parents are welcomed to join us each Tuesday at 8:30am for our weekly celebration.

On Friday, September 9 we will depart from SJA at 9:00am to walk to Festival Park for our 9/11 commemoration ceremony. Parents are invited to join us for the walk or meet us at the park. Finish your day by joining us for our Back to School Social from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on the school grounds. Bring your dinner and enjoy time with other SJA families. Dessert will be provided.

Sunday, September 11 at 11:15am is the first “Alive” Mass for the school year. Everyone is invited to join us for this uplifting family celebration.

Please remember to evaluate your children each day. Keep students home who display symptoms of fever, cough, headache, sore throat, vomiting or congestion. It is our goal to keep everyone safe and healthy.

God Bless,
Ms. Dianne Kestler
Principal

Important Dates:

September 9	Freedom Walk – Festival Park - Departure 9:00am Family Social – 5:00pm to 7:00pm SJA field and parking lot
September 13	Liturgy 8:30am
September 16	Family Income Survey Due!
September 19 – 23	Student Council Elections
September 27	Liturgy 8:30am

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.

FACTS Billing

The 8th grade fee of \$200 will be billed to your FACTS account this week. You may pay in full or make payments throughout the school year. Final payment must be made by April 3, 2023.

Tomorrow, the following items will be billed under the Incidental Expense portion of your FACTS Account.

Extended Care pizza for 9/2/22

PreK mat \$28.54

Trex

As you may know our school participates in the Trex Program (recycled plastic). We weigh the plastic and then take it to donation sites in the area to be recycled. In the past our school has won planter boxes and wind chimes for the amount of plastic we have recycled. If you are looking for volunteer hours you can sign up to take a bag, or two, or three to one of the donation locations. There are bins outside ShopRite and Weis. I can also give you other drop off locations if you are interested. If you are interested in helping drop off a bag or two I can send them home with your student on a day of your choosing. The bags are very light to carry but if needed we can help your student carry them to your car at pick up time. Please let Mrs. Simmons (rsimmons@stjoanarc.org) know if you are interested in volunteering. You can earn 1 volunteer hour per drop off trip. Please log your trip in Track it Forward for approval.

Transportation Procedures

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

Thank you to everyone who is following our guideline. Be sure not to block crosswalks or driveways. In the afternoon our cars are lined up in the parking lot in rows of 8 and are dismissed by row. Please do not pull out before you are directed. The safety of our students is our first priority.

SJA Voices

Mrs. Dandino is looking for choir members. If you are in Grades 4 – 8 and are returning or interested in joining the SJA Voices visit the following link for information and permission slip. Rehearsals begin September 12. <https://sites.google.com/stjoanarc.org/music/newsletter>

Join the Band

It's band registration time!

Mrs. Thamert, our band teacher, will lead a band demonstration Friday for students in grades 4-8. Mrs. Thamert will be reaching out via email/phone to assist those who are interested in registering.

For more information about the Band Program:

- Band Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/mrs-erin-thamert/home>
- Registration form: <https://www.instrumentalmusicprogram.org/>
- Instrumental rental info: On Mrs. Thamert's website
- Band Interest Form: <https://forms.gle/zj67S6Rpi1WUqBjSA>
- Email: knightchic@aol.com
- Phone: 410.486.4322

Please join Mrs. Thamert via Zoom to learn more about band registration, rentals, and schedule:

- Session 1: Friday, Sept. 9, 7:30 p.m.
- Session 2: Sunday, Sept. 11, 8:30 p.m.

Link to join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82852828321>

Mrs. Thamert will be reaching out to you via phone and email to discuss the band program and your child's interest in the program. She is very excited to speak with you. Let's Go Band!

Extended 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/>

Counselor's Corner

The importance of routines for children.

As a new school year begins, here at St. Joan of Arc School, I would like to encourage the use of routines to help keep mornings pleasant and relatively calm for everyone. Routines are comforting for children as they keep expectations clear and consistent. It provides children of all ages the ability to have control and mastery of their environment. Having good mornings often begin with the children getting a good night's rest. Bedtime routines will help get kids in bed with the least amount of resistance so they get adequate sleep. Including reading time (alone or with a parent) before bed is helpful to clear minds and wind down. Additionally, making sure all clothes are ready and book bags packed will help your morning routine run smoothly. Leaving as little to accomplish in the morning will keep stress levels down for both children and parents.

A Note from the Nurse

Health forms are now due. If your child requires medication at school - please send in the medication and physician order as soon as possible. Please contact our nurse if you have any questions. Sbaer@stjoanarc.org

MAP Testing

Students in grade 2 – 8 will be taking the MAP Growth Test this school year. The Fall testing is scheduled from September 19 – 30. A more detailed schedule will be shared by teachers for each grade level. Please read the attached letter for more information about the test.

Uniforms

Please be sure that your child is wearing the correct uniform each day. School uniforms are purchased from Flynn O'Hara Uniform Company.
<https://flynnohara.com/>

HSA News - Please see attached flyer for upcoming events!

2022 -2023 Officers

Christina Hinch – President Jennifer Vass - Vice president
Kristie Conn -Secretary Nina Colon – Member at Large

A treasurer and 3 members at large are still needed. Please contact Christina Hinch, if you are interested in serving.
cmhinch33@gmail.com

Career Day

Our **14th Annual Career Day** will be held on **Thursday, October 20, 2022** from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Please see the attached letter for more information.

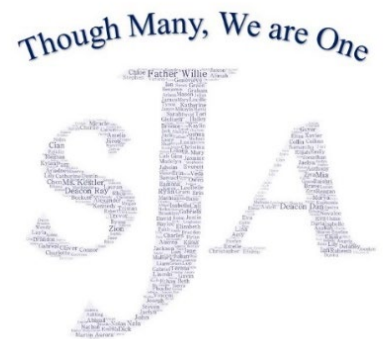
Parish News

Middle School Parents

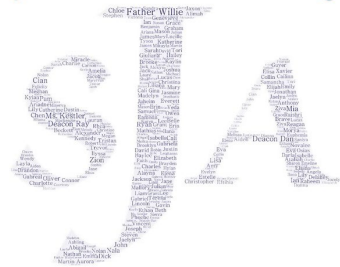
Save the date for Sunday morning September 18th at 9:30am in the parish hall. Parents are invited to a listening session to encourage parish participation for middle school youth and their families. We hope to begin a process that will attract youth to the church and better serve our families.

Join Us on September 11 at 11:15am for our first Alive' Mass!

Alive' Mass is a new monthly Parish Faith Formation event that will take place at 11:15 AM Mass. Children and families will be invited to participate as ministers of the Mass, and music will be provided by the 'Alive' Ensemble and the SJA Voices children's choir. Come and join us for an uplifting family celebration! Open to all.



Though Many, We are One



September 6, 2022

Dear Parents,

In September, January and April your child will take a MAP® Growth™ test from NWEA® on a computer or tablet. MAP Growth scores help teachers check student performance by measuring achievement and growth. Teachers use results to tailor classroom lessons and set goals for students.

MAP Growth tests are unique, and it adapts to your child's responses to measure your child's skill level. If your child answers a question correctly, the next question is more challenging. If they answer incorrectly, the next one is easier. These results will provide a more complete picture of what your child knows and is ready to learn—whether it is on, above, or below their grade level.

Since MAP Growth tests provide immediate and accurate information about your child's learning, it's easy for teachers to identify students with similar scores that are generally ready for instruction in similar skills and topics, and then plan instruction accordingly.

MAP Growth reports also provide typical growth data for students who are in the same grade, subject and have the same starting performance level. Each school year, students in grades 2 - 8 take the tests in September, January and April. Students in grades 2 – 8 will take tests in Reading, Language Arts and Math. Grades 3, 5 and 7 will also take a test in Science. Following each testing period, you will receive a Family Report showing a summary of how your child is performing academically.

We are truly excited to focus on your child's individual growth and achievement. For more information about MAP Growth, visit [NWEA.org/familytoolkit](https://www.nwea.org/familytoolkit).

Sincerely,

Ms. Dianne Kestler
Principal



Mark Your Calendar

HSA presents: Events to remember

- **September 9** ... Back to School Social
- **September 19** ... Charleston Wrap Fundraiser begins
- **October 28** ... Trunk or Treat
- **November** ... event to be announced
- **December** ... Jingle Bell Shop
- **January 29** ... Catholic School Week begins
- **February** ... Movie Night
- **March** ... Basket of Cheer Raffle
- **April** ... Bull Roast
- **May** ... SJA Night at Ripken Stadium



**SJA'S STUDENT BODY WELCOMES
COMMUNITY PROFESSIONALS JUST LIKE YOU**

SJA'S 14TH ANNUAL CAREER DAY

CAREER EXPOSURE & *Awareness*



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**ST. JOAN OF ARC
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**
230 S. Law Street
Aberdeen Maryland

THURSDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2022

10:00AM - 2:00PM

(RAIN DATE: 21 OCTOBER 2022)

TO RSVP OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT ROXANNE @
ROXXYFDR@YAHOO.COM OR TEXT @ 985 713 4729



St. Joan of Arc School
230 South Law Street
Aberdeen, Maryland 21001
Phone (410)272-1387
school@stjoanarc.org



29 August 2022

Dear SJA Parents and Community Members:

Can you believe another school year is already upon us? The summer flew by, and I am sure you all agree when I say it is so good to have our students walking the SJA halls again. This year, SJA will be hosting our **14th Annual Career Day on Thursday, 20 October 2022** from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (rain date Friday, 21 October 2022).

Career Day is very special for our students. It is a day when they get to experience the wonders of prospective careers, discover jobs they haven't been exposed to, and learn from professionals (you!). We love highlighting the careers of SJA parents and community members, so we are once again turning to you all for volunteers.

When you volunteer at Career Day, you open students' eyes to the future, showing them how today's education can be connected to tomorrow's career. As a guest speaker, you will present your profession to the students in small groups. If you are reading this and eager to help, but not quite ready to be a Guest Presenter, don't fret as we have MANY areas that we will need assistance with, i.e. time keeper, hospitality, rotation assistance, set up, donation acceptance, etc.

We hope you will consider volunteering to be a part of such an insightful day for our SJA students. If you are interested in being a **Guest Presenter**, please respond by completing and returning the enclosed Presenter's Form <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N7QGPXY> no later than 30 September 2022. The form may be returned via email to Roxyvdr@yahoo.com OR you may respond using the Survey Monkey provided. If you are interested in volunteering to be a part of the **Career Day Committee** to assist with set up, hospitality, class/group chaperone and/or clean up you may complete the Career Day Committee form or you may respond via the following Survey Monkey link, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N9ZYTCG>. Upon receipt of your request to either be a guest Presenter or a member of the Career Day Committee, I will contact you to provide additional information and instructions.

If you are not interested or able to participate but know someone who is, please give them (or us) the necessary contact information to reach out.

Thank you, in advance, for supporting SJA and our incredible students. We can't wait to see as many of you as possible at Career Day!

Sincerely,

Roxanne Robin
Career Day Coordinator