



St. Joan of Arc School

October 25, 2023

Dear SJA Families,

The students are excited and the campus is buzzing about the upcoming events. Trunk or Treat is Friday October 27 from 5:00 to 7:00pm and the weather looks to be cooperating. Join us for a night full of Food, Games, Contests, and Trunk or Treating. Middle School students can extend the fun from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at the Middle School Social in the Church Hall. Information was shared by the Middle School teachers.

Halloween is Tuesday October 31. Dismissal is at 12:05pm. Students do not wear costumes to school but may dress down in Halloween/ Fall attire. Refer to the handbook for appropriate dress down attire. The day will include our STEM Festival activities and conclude with class parties from 11:00 – 11:45am.

Today we welcomed Mrs. Karen Murphy, associate superintendent to our campus. We were excited to share all the exciting things happened at SJA. As always our teachers and students were amazing!

Please remember the lot closes at 8:10am in the morning. Students arriving after this time need to be taken to the Law Street Door by a parent and signed in late. The main entrance remains closed from 8:10am to 3:10. Anyone needing to enter the building during these times must use the **Law Street** entrance.

For our Fall Service Project, we are going to help stock our own SJA Food Pantry. Attached is a list of items that we are asking each grade level to bring in over the next two weeks, October 25 – November 8. Please consider donating to this project.

Happy Halloween!

God Bless,
Ms. Dianne Kestler
Principal

Important Dates

October 25	Associate Superintendent Visit – Mrs. Karen Murphy PBIS Buddy Day
October 26	Grade 8 Bible Museum D.C.
October 27	Corner Stone Fall Dress Down Day \$1 Trunk or Treat 5:00pm to 7:00pm Middle School Social 6:30pm -8:30pm
October 29	Uniform Swap - Church Hall 10:00am – 11:00am
October 31 Halloween	12:05 dismissal No School Liturgy Halloween/Fall Dress Down Class Parties 11:00am to 11:45am STEM Day – Maryland STEM Festival
November 1	Liturgy 8:30am All Saints Day – 2 nd Grade Presentations
November 2	Mass of Remembrance 7:00pm
November 9	Open House 8:30am – 10:30am By registration only

Note from the Nurse

Students who are sent home sick need to stay home the next day in order to keep illnesses from spreading. If your student is feeling sick, please keep them home until their symptoms have improved.

Hearing and Vision Screenings

UM @ Upper Chesapeake Community Outreach Department will be here at SJA on Tuesday, November 28th to conduct Hearing and Vision Screening for our students. They will be screening ALL students in PreK-4, Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 8 and students that are new to our school this year.

They will also screen students that a parent or teacher has concerns about. If you would like your child screened, please let me know by Monday, November 13th. (sbaer@stjoanarc.org) There is no cost for this screening.

Parent volunteers are needed for this day to help walk the students back and forth for the screenings. If you'd like to help, please let me know. You must be VIRTUS trained. Even though the screenings will last most of the day, you can volunteer for any amount of time. Thank you in advance!

Attendance

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, could you please add 'attendance@stjoanarc.org' to your email to their teacher. Please include the reason for their absence including any symptoms they may be having if they are ill.

Thank you!

New Cough Drop and Mint Policy

Effective today, October 25, 2023 if your child requires use of a **cough drop or mint** while at school, they will no longer be provided. You will need to provide these for your child from home. Also, you will need to provide a parental note giving permission to administer them during the school day on an as needed basis.

Please place them in a Zip-lock along with your note. Your child may bring them directly to the Nurse's Office when arriving at school. They are **not** to be kept in their backpack or lunchbox. They will be kept in the Nurse's Office and administered one at a time as needed.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you!

Yearbooks

2022-2023 Yearbooks are for sale while supplies last. Please click [here](#) to purchase.

PreK 3 Program 2024 -2025 School Year

The SJA PreK 3 program will be full day/5 days a week. Students must be 3 years old on or before September 1st and must be potty trained. No exceptions. We will only be accepting 12 students. If you are interested in applying, please complete the application along with the \$99 fee. [Click here](#) to apply.

Applications have opened for the 2024-2025 school year for all grades. [Click here](#) to apply. Please contact Elisa Maid with questions at emaid@stjoanarc.org **Open House** is November 9. [Click here](#) to share this event on your facebook page.

STEM

Once again SJA will participate in the Annual Maryland STEM Festival. See the attached information for details.

School Safety

In our efforts to create a safe and nurturing environment for our students, we continue to look at ways to improve safety and for our students to feel safe on our campus. St. Joan of Arc, along with the other schools throughout the Archdiocese of Baltimore have adopted and will be utilizing the Standard Response Protocol throughout our campus this school year. The administration, teachers and staff have been trained in this protocol and have been teaching this to our students upon their return to school. Attached is information about the SRP.

HSA

Trunk or Treat

HSA is hosting SJA's annual Trunk or Treat on Friday 10/27 from 5:00-7:00pm. We have plenty of opportunities to volunteer. Please visit [Track It Forward](#) to sign up and earn hours. Join us for a night full of Food, Games, Contests, and Trunk or Treating. See attached Flyer.

Uniform Swap

Winter Uniforms begin November 1. Come check out the uniform swap to see if we have any items you may need. Feel free to bring clean items that are gently used to the swap if you are able! Volunteers are needed to work the swap. Please visit [Track It Forward](#) for opportunities. See attached Flyer.

RaiseRight Fundraiser

The final weekend of Bonus Fest starts Friday.

This weekend's featured brand is The Container Store. Check RaiseRight.com on Friday for all the weekend bonuses. Limited time \$5 and \$10 gift cards are also back now for early Christmas shopping. The next physical gift card order will be placed November 12 to try to get them in before Thanksgiving break.

Use school code A9C13C7351446 to earn for SJA if you haven't created an account yet.

Parish News

November 1st is All Saints Day, a holy day of obligation. Just like Sunday, Catholics are expected to participate in Mass. We will have two Masses at St. Joan of Arc on All Saints Day: all are invited to join our school kids at 8:30 AM Mass, with music provided by the SJA Voices School Choir. For those unavailable during the workday, we also have Mass at 7:00 PM. All welcome.

November 2nd is All Souls Day. We invite all our parishioners to come to a special "Mass of Remembrance" at 7:00 PM, where we will remember all whom we have lost from our parish this past year, and all our friends and relatives who have passed on to life eternal before us.

Flu Shot Clinic

A FREE flu shot clinic will be held at St. Joan of Arc Parish on Thursday, November 9th from 10 AM to Noon, downstairs from church in the Parish Hall. In addition to the latest influenza vaccine, you can also get your COVID-19 booster shot and pneumonia vaccine. All you have to do is bring your government issued ID and your insurance card if you have one.

You can also shorten your visit by printing out and completing [THIS IMMUNIZATION CONSENT FORM](#) ahead of time.



SJA Good Samaritan Pantry

SJA students is collecting the following items over the next two weeks!

October 25 – November 8

Please consider sending in the donations assigned to your grade.



GRADE	DONATION Small sizes!
Prekindergarten & 8th grade	Toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, paper towels, toilet paper
Kindergarten & 5 th grade	Body wash, shampoo, laundry detergent (prefer Tide pod type detergents)
1 st grade & 4 th grade	Cans of vegetables, can openers
2 nd grade & 6 th grade	Applesauce, cans of fruits – low sugar, grape jelly
3 rd grade & 7 th grade	Pasta and sauce, Mac and Cheese

Let's all help to support the needs of those in our community!

Uniform Swap

OCT 14, SAT, 6:00PM-7:00PM

**AFTER the 5:00pm SAT mass

OCT 23, MON, 8:00-11:30, 1:30-5:30

OCT 29, SUN 10:00AM-11:00AM

**After the 8:30 Mass & Before the 11:15 Mass

SJA Church Hall
(basement of church)

****PLEASE ONLY ENTER THROUGH THE BACK DOOR OF THE CHURCH – The back parking lot in the alley- after care pick up lot. DO NOT USE THE FRONT DOOR OF THE CHURCH OR THE SIDE DOOR; as to not disturb the masses going on)

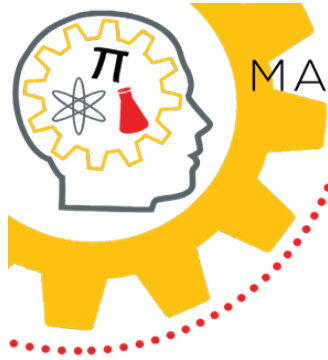
FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE

- The Swap is Free
- You don't have to bring in old uniform clothes to pick out clothes
- Bring in old uniforms, shoes, accessories that no longer fit your child
- PLEASE make sure uniforms are CLEAN
- We have the following items. Keep in mind the swap is first come first serve, so items may be taken. Sizes are limited, what we have is what students have grown out of.
 - *Khaki: Pants, Shorts, Skorts
 - *Polo: Long Sleeve and Short Sleeve
 - *Plaid Skirt
 - *Shoes
 - *Jumper Dress & Long Sleeve, Short Sleeve White Collared Shirt
 - *Cardigans
 - *GYM: Gray T-shirt: Short Sleeve, Long Sleeve, Sweat Shirt, Sweat Pants, Shorts

**** The swap is as good as we all make it, bring in your Clean Uniforms and Grow the Swap Collection we have to benefit from

**** Volunteers needed, look at track it forward to sign up

**** Students are welcome to come along with adult (weekend swaps)



MARYLAND **STEM** FESTIVAL

BRINGING STEM TO YOU

Free Events in Harford County:

10/14	11:20-2:30 pm	Observatory	Thomas Run, Bel Air
10/19	3:00-4:00 pm	Lego Club	Edgewood Library
10/19	4:30-5:30 pm	Pop Up STEM	Edgewood Library
10/20	10:00-4:00 pm	Block Party	Abingdon Library
10/20	2:00-3:00 pm	Block Party	Aberdeen Library
10/20	2:00-3:00 pm	Block Party	Fallston Library
10/24	11:00-12:00 pm	Experiment & Explore	Bel Air Library
11/02	10:30-11:15 am	Experiment & Explore	Fallston Library
11/03	2:00-3:00 pm	Block Party	Aberdeen Library
11/03	2:00-3:00 pm	Block Party	Fallston Library
11/09	6:00-7:00 pm	Lego Club	Whiteford Library

More Free Events:

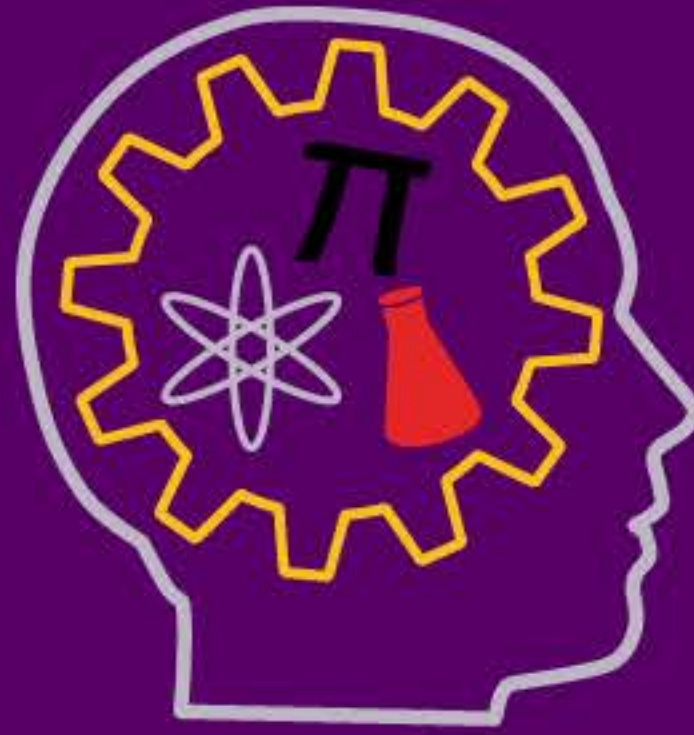
10/14	10:00-11:30 am	Games to Developers	Online
10/14	2:00-4:00 pm	Agar Art	BUGSS -Baltimore
10/21	10:00-12:00 pm	Agar Art	BUGSS-Baltimore
11/28	2:00 pm	Intro to Coding	for middle school girls-online

Find even more events @
<https://marylandstemfestival.org/>

NINTH ANNUAL

Save
the Date

MARYLAND
STEM
FESTIVAL



2023

October 13 - November 11

The Theme Is...



**A month-long festival to encourage
student interest in STEM!**

MarylandStemFestival.org



[/MarylandSTEMFestival](https://www.facebook.com/MarylandSTEMFestival)



[mdstemfest](https://www.instagram.com/mdstemfest)



[@mdstemfest](https://twitter.com/mdstemfest)



STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Our school has adopted The “I Love U Guys” Foundation’s Standard Response Protocol (SRP). Students and staff will be training, practicing, and drilling the protocol.

COMMON LANGUAGE

The Standard Response Protocol (SRP) is based on an all-hazards approach as opposed to individual scenarios. Like the Incident Command System (ICS), SRP utilizes clear common language while allowing for flexibility in protocol.

The premise is simple - there are five specific actions that can be performed during an incident. When communicating these, the action is labeled with a “Term of Art” and is then followed by a “Directive.” Execution of the action is performed by active participants, including students, staff, teachers and first responders. The SRP is based on the following actions: Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, and Shelter.

HOLD

“In Your Classroom or Area”

Students are trained to:

- Clear the hallways and remain in their area or room until the “All Clear” is announced
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Close and lock the door
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



SECURE

“Get Inside. Lock outside doors”

Students are trained to:

- Return to inside of building
- Do business as usual

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring everyone indoors
- Lock the outside doors
- Increase situational awareness
- Account for students and adults
- Do business as usual



LOCKDOWN

“Locks, Lights, Out of Sight”

Students are trained to:

- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Recover students from hallway if possible
- Lock the classroom door
- Turn out the lights
- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Do not open the door
- Prepare to evade or defend



EVACUATE

“To a Location”

Students are trained to:

- Leave stuff behind if required to
- If possible, bring their phone
- Follow instructions

Adults and staff are trained to:

- Bring roll sheet and Go Bag (unless instructed not to bring anything with them, dependent on reason for evacuation.)
- Lead students to Evacuation location
- Account for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.



SHELTER

“State Hazard and Safety Strategy”

Hazards might include:

- Tornado
- Hazmat
- Earthquake
- Tsunami

Safety Strategies might include:

- Evacuate to shelter area
- Seal the room
- Drop, cover and hold
- Get to high ground

Students are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies

Adults and staff are trained in:

- Appropriate Hazards and Safety Strategies
- Accounting for students and adults
- Report injuries or problems using Red Card/Green Card method.



St. Joan of Arc School

HSA Proudly Presents

TRUNK OR TREAT

Friday,
OCTOBER 27TH

Best Costume
& Car Contest

5:00pm - 7:00pm
SJA PARKING LOT

Food & Drinks ~ **Games** ~ **Music** ~ **Raffles** *cash only*

