



St. Joan of Arc School

November 1, 2023

Dear SJA Families,
Happy November! What an amazing day today as our 2nd Grade students shared their faith with their knowledge of the saints.

Yesterday was full of fun with our STEM activities and Halloween treats. It was another exciting day at SJA.

Thank you to everyone who came out to Trunk or Treat. We had approximately 300 people turn out to share in the Halloween fun.

Grandparent’s Day will be November 21 from 8:30am to 11:00am. See details below.

We are still collecting for our 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 all Saint’s Day.

God Bless,
Ms. Dianne Kestler
Principal



Important Date

November 2	Mass of Remembrance 7:00pm
November 4	Daylight Saving Time
November 7	Liturgy 8:30am
November 9	Open House 8:30am – 10:30am By registration only
November 10	Veterans Day Mass – 8:30am
November 12	Alive Mass – 11:30am
November 14	Liturgy 8:30am
November 13 - 21	Book Fair
November 20 - 21	Parent Conferences – Virtual November 20 – 4:00pm – 7:00pm November 21 – 1:00pm – 4:00pm
November 21	Liturgy 8:30am Grandparents and Special Friends Day 8:30am – 11:00am
November 22 -24	Thanksgiving Break
November 28	Liturgy 8:30am
November 29	High School Placement Test for Grade 8

Grandparents Day

Grandparents and Special Friends are welcome to visit St. Joan of Arc on Tuesday, November 21. We will begin with 8:30am liturgy followed by classroom visits from 9:30am – 11:00am. The Book Fair will also be open that day. All visitors who come into the school building must bring ID with them for the safety of our students.

Power School

All parent of students in grades 3-8 have access to PowerSchool and your student's grades. If you have not signed in or are having difficulty doing so, please contact your student's teacher or send an email to hway@stjoanarc.org

Notes 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, 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. [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.

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

Thank you to all of our volunteers and those who attend the Trunk or Treat. Mark your calendar – Jingle Bell Shoppe is December 15. If you are interested in chairing the event please contact Jennifer Vaas, jennifervass1018@gmail.com

Parish News

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 – November 9

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.

Friday, November 10, 2023, 8:30 AM

On Friday, November 10th we will have a special mass at 8:30 AM to honor and thank all of our veterans.

Active duty and retired military, law enforcement, firefighters and first responders are encouraged to wear their uniforms, while all others are encouraged to wear red, white & blue.

Please take a moment to join us in giving thanks and praying for all those who have sacrificed so much, and who continue to sacrifice, in service of our country.



Community News

Christmas Time is Near

As we say goodbye to spooky season, we are nevertheless counting down until [Aberdeen's Christmas Street Celebration](#)! Mark your calendars on December 2, for Aberdeen's biggest event is just 33 days away!

The Salvation Army is looking for Volunteers! See attached flyer for more information.

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!



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.



REGISTER TO RING THE BELL



FOR THE **SALVATION ARMY**

We are looking for volunteers Monday through Saturday to ring the bell at our iconic red kettles for our Christmas fundraiser this year. We are low on funds and truly need your help. All proceeds from the red kettle goes into helping your nearest neighbor get a warm meal, find afterschool care, and so much more.



If you are interested, please contact

Maïor Linda Nickerson

Linda.Sloan-Nickerson@USS.salvationarmy.org

You can learn more about
The Salvation Army of Havre De Grace
by visiting our website

www.sa-md.org