



# St. Joan of Arc School

November 8, 2023

Dear SJA Families,

The students had a special treat yesterday after Liturgy, we were able to take a tour of the new Parish Life Center. It was amazing to see all the smiles and WOWs from the students. We cannot wait until we can actually use the new space.

For everyone's safety parents need to stay in their cars at dismissal. Please do not walk to the school building to claim your student.

On Thursday, November 9 at 10:00am we will run another test of our Swift K Alert system. Parents should receive a text and email alert. Please contact the office if you do not receive the alert.

Veteran's Day Mass will be November 10 at the 8:30am. Our middle school students will be attending the Mass. Military families that wish to have their younger students attend will need to sign them out from school.

Sunday, November 12 is our parish Faith Formation Advent event and ALIVE Mass. See below for additional details. Students who attend will receive a special treat.

Grandparent and Special Friend's Day will be November 21 from 8:30am to 11:00am. See details below.

Student pictures and ordered spirit wear items were sent home with students today.

Happy November!

God Bless,  
Ms. Dianne Kestler  
Principal



## Important Events

November 9	Open House 8:30am – 10:30am By registration only Band Day
November 9	Swift K Alert System at 10:00am.
November 10	Veterans Day Mass – 8:30am Red White and Blue Accessories with regular uniform
November 12	Alive Mass – 11:30am
November 14	Liturgy 8:30am
November 13 - 17	Book Fair
November 17	Corner Stone Dress Down Day \$1.00
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 Book Fair open T1 Closes
November 22 -24	Thanksgiving Break
November 28	Liturgy 8:30am
November 29	High School Placement Test for Grade 8
December 1	Report Cards sent home
December 2	Aberdeen Christmas Parade

December 5	Liturgy 8:30am Awards Assembly
December 7	Sounds of the Season 4:00pm – 5:00pm Aberdeen Library
December 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception Liturgy 8:30am

### **Grandparent Special Friend's 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. Use the link below to let us know who will be attending so we have a count for that day. Please complete by November 14.  
<https://forms.gle/2SmSkqFknBzcdBoi9>

### **Book Fair**

The Book Fair is November 13 – 17. See attached flyer for more information. Volunteers can sign up on Track it Forward.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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!

### **Spirit Wear**

Spirit Wear sales will be open from November 3, 2023 – November 12, 2023. Orders will arrive before Christmas. To place an order please click [here](#) to access the link.

### **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](mailto:emaid@stjoanarc.org) **Open House** is November 9. [Click here](#) to share this event on your facebook page.

### **Grant & Aid Applications**

The 2024-2025 Grant & Aid Applications opened on November 1, 2023. You may access the application by clicking [here](#). Please be sure to complete your application early as the deadline is February 28, 2024 **NO EXCEPTIONS**. Should you have any questions please contact Pam Franke at [pfranke@stjoanarc.org](mailto:pfranke@stjoanarc.org).

### **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**

Mark your calendar – Jingle Bell Shoppe is December 15. If you are interested in chairing the event please contact Jennifer Vaas, [jennifervass1018@gmail.com](mailto:jennifervass1018@gmail.com)

### **RaiseRight Fundraiser**

This week there are a lot of dates for upcoming Holiday bonuses and shipping.

Nov. 12 - The next physical gift card order will be placed Nov. 12 to try to get delivery before Thanksgiving break. This will be the last group school order before Christmas. No order will be placed in December due to shipping estimates for the holidays. eGift cards are always available for purchase and immediate use.

Limited time \$5 and \$10 gift cards are now available. These are great for stocking stuffers. If you want to use them as gifts this Christmas season, order by Nov. 12 or see note on Ship to Home during December.

Nov. 16-17 Raise Days - bonuses for eGift cards and reloadable cards only

Nov. 25-Dec. 8 Dazzle Days Holiday Bonuses - special 2 week bonuses and 1-day surprise bonuses

Dec. 9-18 eGift Card Bonuses

There will be more details available on RaiseRight.com during each bonus event.

Note on Ship to Home option - can take up to 2 weeks, so RaiseRight is recommending holiday orders be placed by Dec. 6 and tracking is not available for U.S. Mail deliveries.

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

## **Parish News**

### **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.



### **Sunday, November 12**

On Sunday November 12th we will have our next Parish Faith Formation Event, open to all, when we will look forward to the joyful season of Advent. We will have some great times together and prepare our hearts and minds for this very special season that celebrates the coming of Jesus.

Come to the Parish Hall at 9:30 AM and enjoy a light breakfast with other families. Then, learn and experience the spirit of the Advent Season and help us create a special Advent reflection book! First, we will read, in small groups, a daily seasonal gospel. Then each small group will create a meditation, and a daily prayer or call to action. These will later be assembled into a book of Daily Reflections to be distributed to everyone in the Parish! (Last year the Archdiocese of Baltimore highlighted a number of these reflections on their website!)

Finally, at 11:15, we will have our monthly 'Alive!' Mass, with music by our Open Children's Choir (for 3rd grade thru Middle School) and participation of our youth and parish families.

## **Community News**

### **Christmas Time is Near**

[Aberdeen's Christmas Street Celebration!](#) Mark your calendars on December 2, for Aberdeen's biggest event. St. Joan of Arc Parish and School will be participating!

# SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS®

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**Safe . Easy . Essential .**

**Student Preview Day: *November 13 and 14*** students will get an opportunity to come to the Book Fair and write down their favorite books on a wish list.

**Student Shopping Hours: *November 15 and 16*** students who have money for the Book Fair may come to the Church Hall to purchase their books during their scheduled time.

**Family Book Fair Night: *Thursday, November 16 3:30-6pm*** Families are welcome to come and purchase books. This is a great opportunity to shop with your child while supporting SJA.

**Grandparent's Day: *November 21*** Students and their Grandparents/Special Friends will have an opportunity to come to the Book Fair to purchase books after mass.

**Payment Options:** Credit Card, Check(**made out to SJA**), Cash, and eWallet

For more information, visit our online book fair link.

**Online Book Fair:**

<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/stjoanofarcschool13>

We look forward to seeing you and your family at our Book Fair! Remember, all purchases benefit our school.

My shopping day is \_\_\_\_\_.



# 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.

