



St. Joan of Arc School

January 3, 2024

Dear SJA Families,

Happy New Year! It was wonderful to see everyone back this morning. I pray that everyone had a restful and fun holiday. This week we celebrate King’s Week with the closing of the Christmas Season on Saturday with Epiphany.

We will have the Blessing of the Classrooms on Friday. Attached to this newsletter is a blessing you can do at home with your family to bless your home.

As we begin 2024, the students will be taking the winter MAP Assessment January 16-19 and we will celebrate Catholic Schools Week January 28 – February 2.

Please take note of reregistration information and our weather related closing/delay policy.

Ms. Dianne Kestler
Principal



Important Events

January 3	School Reopens – King’s Week
January 5	Blessing of the Classrooms BINGO Dress Down Day – Sports Jersey/Sweatshirt
January 7	ALIVE Mass – 11:15am
January 15	School Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
January 16 - 19	Winter MAP Assessment
January 28 – February 2	Catholic Schools Week
February 2	12:05 dismissal

Weather related Closings/Delay Policy

St. Joan of Arc School follows the same procedures for school closing and delays as does **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 open until 1 hour after dismissal. Due to the confusion of the late opening, moving forward a SwiftK message and Facebook post will be sent for closings and delays.

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

New Student Applications

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

Registration for Continuing Students

Current SJA students are able to register for the 2024-2025 school year. Please click [here](#) to continue the enrollment process and complete the registration form and fee. SAVE \$75 on re-registration if paid on or before February 10, 2024. Re-registration increases to \$200.00 if paid after February 10, 2024. DEADLINE FOR RE-REGISTRATION is March 1, 2024. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Elisa Maid.

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.

Environmental Club

Join today! Club members will develop projects that make our school and our world a healthier, “greener” environment. This session’s projects will revolve around continuing our recycling programs, learning about hibernation, migration, winter tree identification, native gardens and preparing bluebird boxes for spring. Join us for lots of fun! See attached permission slip to sign up.

Jump Rope Club

SJA Jump Rope Club will be held on Tuesdays beginning on January 16th. Class is from 3:15-4:15pm. Students in 1st Grade through 8th Grade are invited to join. Participants will learn a variety of jump rope skills from single rope to long rope and partner skills and even double dutch. Students will also participate in a Virtual Jump Rope Tournament through Learnin' the Ropes. We are excited to see what jumpers learn during the 2nd year of this club! See attached permission form to sign up.

Knitting and Crochet Club

Join the Knitting and Crochet Club! See attached flyer for information.

Science and Technology Institute

Applications are now open for the Joint Science and Technology Institute (JSTI) summer programs! JSTI is a fully funded entry-level research opportunity for middle and high school students interested in STEM. The program spans two weeks for high school students and one week for middle school students. The goal of JSTI is to provide students with an opportunity to engage in hands-on activities, team building, and research projects mentored by professional researchers while also gaining exposure to various STEM careers.

There are JSTI opportunities in two locations: New Mexico (JSTI West) and Maryland (JSTI East). Eligibility for each program is different. Please visit <https://orise.ora.gov/jstieast/> and <https://orise.ora.gov/jstiwest/> to see all eligibility criteria.

To apply to a 2024 JSTI summer program, please visit the links below:

JSTI West – June 8-21, 2024, for high school students from across the United States.*

Link for high school students: <https://www.zintellect.com/Opportunity/Details/JSTI-HS-2024>

JSTI East – July 13-26, 2024, for high school students from across the United States and DoDEA schools overseas.*

Link for high school students: <https://www.zintellect.com/Opportunity/Details/JSTI-HS-2024>

JSTI East - MS – July 20-26, 2024, for middle school students from across the United States.*

Link for middle school students: <https://www.zintellect.com/Opportunity/Details/JSTI-EAST-MS-2024>

Parish News

For more information on Parish Activities [click](#) here.



Knitting and Crochet Club



Start: Tuesday January 16, 2024

End: Tuesday March 26, 2024

Time: 3:15pm-4:00pm

Where: Grade 5 classroom: Mrs. Baur will chair the club.

Students must provide their own knitting needles or crochet hook (H-8 size works well.)

Students will learn the basic stitches for knitting and/or crocheting. The final project will be a scarf or a potholder.

Please cut on the dotted line and send in the bottom portion.

My child, _____, has permission to participate in the knitting and crocheting club.

Parent signature: _____

Please return to Mrs. Baur by Wednesday, January 10, 2024.

Environmental Club Permission Slip

WINTER SESSION: January 16, 23, 30
February 6, 13, 20, 27
March 5, 12, 19



Time: 3:15 - 4:15

Where: St. Joan of Arc School

Who: Students in Grades 2 - 8 (maximum 18 students)

Club members will develop projects that make our school and our world a healthier, "greener" environment. This session's projects will revolve around continuing our recycling programs, learning about hibernation, migration, winter tree identification, native gardens and preparing bluebird boxes for spring. Join us for lots of fun!

Please fill out 1 permission slip for each child in your family.

Return permission slips no later than Monday January 8th to Mrs. Field or Mrs. Simmons

My child _____ Grade. _____ has my permission to participate in SJA Environmental Club.

How is your child going home? Car _____ Aftercare _____

Carpooling (your child may only go with people from this list):

(List people, other than yourself, that may be picking up your child from the club)

Person completing this form _____

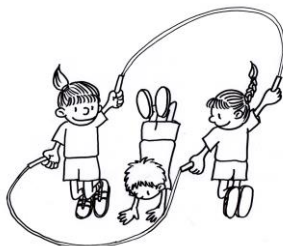
Parent signature _____ Date _____

Email address _____

SJA Jump Rope Club Permission Slip

Winter Session:

- Group 1- 1/16, 1/30, 2/13, 2/27, 3/12
- Group 2- 1/23, 2/6, 2/20, 3 /5, 3/19



Time: 3:15-4:15 pm

Where: St. Joan of Arc School

Who: Students in 1st Grade through 8th Grade (maximum 12 students per group)

Club members will learn new skills in jump rope from single rope to partner skills to double dutch. During the session the club members will also learn competition events and compete in school virtual competition sponsored by *Learnin' the Ropes*, a non-profit jump rope organization. Students are invited to bring their own jump rope but having a rope is not necessary to participate in this club. Students should bring tennis shoes to wear during club meetings.

Please fill out 1 permission slip for each child in your family.

Return permission slips no later than Wednesday, January 10th to Ms. Reith or Mrs. McNiel

My child _____ Grade _____ has my permission to participate in SJA Jump Rope Club.

How is your child going home? Car _____ Aftercare _____

Carpooling (your child may only go with people from this list):

(List people, other than yourself, that may be picking up your child from the club)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Person completing this form- _____

Parent signature- _____ Date _____

Email address- _____

Phone number- _____