



St. Joan of Arc School

March 27, 2024

Dear SJA Families,

Thank you to our 8th grade students who set up and coordinated the Domino Relay yesterday and lead us in prayer with the Living Stations of the Cross. [Click here](#) to see the recording. They are amazing!

As we move through Holy Week we encourage our students and families to spend time in prayer and reflect on all the blessings God gives us. Go to the parish websites for information on the Holy Week schedule for [St. Joan of Arc](#) and [St. Patrick](#). This is a wonderful way to experience our faith at this Easter season.

Easter Break is March 29 – April 7. When student return on April 8 the can wear the Spring uniform options. Please check the attached list for details.

The faculty and staff wish everyone a Blessed Easter Season.

God Bless,

Ms. Dianne Kestler
Principal



Important Events

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| March 27 | 10:30am Living Stations 12:05 dismissal - no aftercare |
| March 28 | Faculty Retreat - School closed – no aftercare |
| March 29 – April 7 | Easter Break |
| April 8 | School reopens – Spring uniform Casey Cares Pajama Drive begins |
| April 9 | Liturgy 8:30am Pre K3 Meet and Greet |
| April 12 | Hershey Park ticket sales end |
| April 15 | Joe Corbi pick up day. |
| April 19 | BINGO 6:30pm |
| April 22 | Earth Day/STEM Day/Buddy Day |
| April 26 | 12:05 dismissal |

Nurse's Notes

Health Forms for the next school year are available on the school's website, under Nurse. Paper forms will be sent home after spring break.

Please continue to contact me if your child is absent from school along with their teachers. Please include their symptoms so illnesses can be tracked. (sbaer@stjoanarc.org)

The Maryland Department of Health has now officially adopted the respiratory virus guidance to apply to the school setting, which is the same guidance announced by the Department of Catholic Schools on Monday, March 11th. Respiratory illnesses, including COVID, no longer require a mandatory 5-day isolation period. This direction from MDH supports the action taken by the Department of Catholic Schools.

There is no longer a '5 day quarantine period' with Covid illnesses. You may return to school after you are symptom free for 24 hours without medications. Please see the attachment below.

Water Bottles

Please make sure you are sending your child to school with a refillable water bottle. We have been going through large amounts of plastic, single use water bottles here at school.

Allergies!!

It is that time of year and the pollen counts are already soaring. If your child suffers from seasonal allergies, please be sure to medicate them prior to their arrival at school. We are seeing a lot of watery eyes, nasal congestion and coughs that could be helped with this extra step at home. If your child needs to receive medication here at school, please send it in with a signed Medication Administration Authorization Form. [Click here](#) for form.

Hershey Park – Every 10 tickets sold provides a free ticket for one of our 8th graders to attend their trip in the spring.

Discounted Hershey Park tickets are on sale. Ticket sales extended to April 12. Click [here](#) to purchase your admission, meal, and parking tickets today! Please email svara@stjoanarc.org with any questions.

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. Only a few spots left! [Click here](#) to apply.

BOOST Scholarship Program

The BOOST (Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today) Scholarship Program provides scholarship awards for some students who are eligible for the free or reduced-price school meals program (FARMs) to attend eligible nonpublic schools. Please click [here](#) for more information.

The parent application for the 2024-2025 school year will be open from until May 3, 2024.

This program is run through the State of Maryland. If you have any questions please email them to boost.msde@maryland.gov.

Pick up and Drop off

Reminder that we have been asked by the Aberdeen Police department not to double park on Law Street or Plater Street during our pick up or drop off times. Those not following these laws may possibly receive a citation. Information about pick up and drop off procedures can be found in the Handbook on page 15.

Parents need to stay in their cars on the lot. Students will come to the car.

Our school day begins at 8:10am. Students should arrive beginning at 7:50am go to their homeroom, and be ready for prayer to start the day at 8:10am. Students arriving after 8:10am are to be brought to the Law Street entrance and signed in by their parent.

Chess Club

Chess Club forming! See attached flyer for information and permission slip.

Think Summer!

Start planning for the summer of 2024!

SJA Summer Camp applications are now open. See attached flyer for information and registration.

Camp Invention, hosted at SJA is a separate application. [Click here](#) for Camp Invention registration..

Home School Association

Chick –fil-A Spirit Night – Thank you for coming out and supporting SJA.

BINGO – April 19 - See attached flyer for information.

Use this link to purchase tickets <https://forms.diamondmindinc.com/stjoanarc/bingo>

Joe Corbi pick up day is April 15. The total sales were \$10, 907. SJA profits \$2,821. Great Job everyone!
St. Joan of Arc Parish News

See the [parish website](#) for details of the Holy Week Schedule.

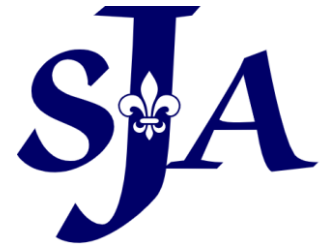
MSGR. ODWYER Retreat House presents “*Wonder with JPPI*” for MS Students June, July, August 2024.
See attached flyer for details.

Community News

The City of Aberdeen produces a weekly electronic newsletter, **the Aberdeen Advocate**, packed with all the latest happenings in and around town, including new businesses, construction updates, and local events & activities! [Click here](#) to subscribe.

Harford Family House supports families and adult individuals who are experiencing homelessness. See the attached flyer for opportunities to volunteer to support their program this summer.

SCHOOL UNIFORM 2023-2024



School uniforms are purchased from Flynn O'Hara Uniform Company.

Flynn O'Hara Uniforms
8868 Waltham Woods Rd.
Parkville, MD 21234
410-828-4709
<https://flynnohara.com/>

The appearance of any young person is primarily the responsibility of that individual and his/her parents. We expect students to maintain the type of neatness and grooming that does not interfere with the health and safety of themselves or others, nor with the educational process or religious dimension of the school. All uniforms must be clean, in good repair and properly fitted. All clothing must be labeled with the child's name.

The school recognizes that particular hairstyles are often part of racial, ethnic, spiritual, and cultural identity and practice. Accordingly, it is the policy of the School to permit individual families to decide the appropriate cared-for *hairstyle* for their children. All hairstyles need to be of natural colors. Boys need to be clean shaven.

PREK FALL/WINTER UNIFORMS (Nov. 1; March 31)

Girls and Boys

- Short or long sleeve navy uniform polo shirt
- Khaki elastic waist pants; no snaps, buttons, zippers or belts (No jumpers for PreK)
- **Second Layer**-Navy cardigan sweater, pullover sweater, sweater vest or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo
- Solid color black or white tennis shoes with Velcro closure (no tie shoes)
- White socks that cover the ankle – no logos

PREK SUMMER UNIFORMS Options (August 29 - Oct. 31; April 1 – June 8)

Girls and Boys

- Short sleeve navy blue uniform polo shirt
- Khaki elastic waist shorts no snaps, buttons, zippers or belts
- **Second Layer**-Navy cardigan sweater, pullover sweater, sweater vest or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo. (Navy crewneck sweatshirt with SJA logo maybe worn with shorts.)
- Solid color black or white tennis shoes with Velcro closure (no tie shoes)
- White socks that cover the ankle – no logos

GRADES K-5 FALL/WINTER UNIFORMS (Nov. 1; March 31)

Girls

- SJA plaid jumper (jumpers should be no more than 2 inches above the knee) with white peter pan collar blouse (cotton or polyester)
or
- Khaki slacks with SJA navy banded bottom shirt, or SJA navy polo shirt (tucked in and worn with brown or black belt)
- Navy tights, navy leggings with white or navy socks that cover the ankle, navy knee socks, white or navy socks that cover the ankle – no logos
- **Second Layer**-Navy cardigan sweater, pullover sweater, sweater vest or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo
- Uniform tan buck shoes
- Jewelry: watches, 1 pair of small earrings worn in the earlobe, one ring, a religious cross

medal worn on a thin chain

- No make-up
- ONLY clear/natural nail polish and natural nails are permitted
- No Smart watches are permitted

Boys

- Khaki trousers (worn with brown or black belt)
- Long or short sleeve navy blue SJA polo shirt (tucked in)
- White or navy socks that cover the ankle – no logos
- **Second Layer**-Navy cardigan sweater, pullover sweater, sweater vest or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo
- Uniform tan buck shoe
- Jewelry: watches, crosses or religious medals worn on a thin chain
- No Smart watches are permitted

GRADES K-5 SUMMER UNIFORMS Options (August 29 - Oct. 31; April 1 – June 8)

- Khaki shorts (worn with brown or black belt)
- Khaki uniform skort
- SJA navy blue polo shirt (tucked in)
- White or navy socks that cover the ankle – no logos
- Uniform tan buck shoes
- No long sleeve shirts may be worn under short sleeve shirts nor leggings worn under shorts or skort.
- Girls may wear SJA plaid jumper (jumpers should be no more than 2 inches above the knee) with white peter pan collar blouse (cotton or polyester)
- **Second Layer**-Navy cardigan sweater, pullover sweater, sweater vest or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo. (Navy crewneck sweatshirt with SJA logo maybe worn with shorts or skort)
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MIDDLE SCHOOL Grades 6-8 FALL/WINTER UNIFORMS (Nov. 1; March 31)

Girls

- SJA plaid skirt or khaki slacks (worn with a black or brown belt)
- SJA navy polo shirt (tucked in)
- Navy tights, navy leggings with white or navy socks that cover the ankle Navy knee socks, white or navy socks that cover the ankle - no logos
- **Second Layer**- Navy cardigan sweater, pullover sweater, sweater vest or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo
- Uniform tan buck shoes
- Jewelry: watches, crosses or religious medals worn on a thin chain, one small pair earrings worn in the ear lobe or 1 pair of small hoop earrings, one ring
- No make-up
- Only natural nails are permitted with clear/natural nail polish
- No Smart watches are permitted

Boys

- Khaki trousers (worn with brown or black belt)
- Navy blue SJA long or short sleeve polo shirt (tucked in)
- **Second Layer**-Navy cardigan sweater, pullover sweater, sweater vest or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo
- White or navy socks that cover the ankle
- Uniform tan buck shoes
- Jewelry: watches, crosses or religious medals worn on a thin chain
- No Smart watches are permitted

MIDDLE SCHOOL Grades 6-8 SUMMER UNIFORMS Options (August 29 - Oct. 31; April 1 – June 8)

- Khaki shorts worn (worn with brown or black belt)
- Khaki uniform skort or SJA plaid skirt
- SJA navy polo shirt (tucked in)
- White or navy socks that cover the ankle – no logo
- Uniform tan buck shoes
- No long sleeve shirts may be worn under short sleeve shirts.
- No leggings may be worn under shorts or skort.
- **Second Layer-** Navy cardigan sweater, pullover sweater, sweater vest or Navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo. (Navy crewneck sweatshirt with SJA logo maybe worn with shorts.)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM (PreK – Grade 8)

Summer PE Uniform (August 29 - Oct. 31; April 1 - June 8)

- PE uniform instead of the regular uniform on PE days
- Regular tennis shoes that tie or have Velcro closings are required.
- White socks that cover the ankle – no logos
- Grey short sleeve t-shirt with SJA logo
- Navy micromesh gym shorts with SJA logo
- **Second Layer-**Navy Crewneck sweatshirt with SJA logo
- No jewelry is permitted on PE days
- Parents should make sure that the student is dressed properly for weather conditions.

Winter PE Uniform (Nov. 1; March 31)

- Regular tennis shoes that tie or have Velcro closings are required
- White socks that cover the ankle – no logos
- **Second Layer-**Navy Crewneck sweatshirt with SJA logo
- Grey t-shirt, long or short sleeves, with SJA logo
- Navy uniform sweatpants with SJA logo
- No jewelry is permitted on PE days
- Parents should make sure that the student is dressed properly for weather conditions.

Additional information:

- Spirt wear and hoodies are not part of the regular uniform. Jackets are not to be worn in the building. Second layers for regular uniform are: Navy cardigan, pullover or vest sweater with SJA logo, navy ¼ zip fleece pullover with SJA logo, Navy crewneck sweatshirt with SJA logo (Summer and Spring only.)
- PE Uniform second layer is Navy crewneck sweatshirt with SAJ logo.
- Hats/caps may not be worn inside the building.
- Complete uniforms, with shirts neatly tucked in and buttoned, are to be worn every day, except for the day on which a student has Physical Education or on Mondays.
- Fad or costume jewelry is not permitted. Girls are permitted small post earrings no larger than a dime. Boys are not permitted to wear earrings in school or at school related activities. Boys and girls may wear one bracelet and a watch, and one necklace with a small pendant.

Out of Uniform Days

On occasion, there may be out of uniforms days scheduled. Clothing may not contain terms, logos, pictures, cartoons, slogans, writing, or images that are offensive, political, harassing, or discriminatory in nature.

Students also **MAY NOT WEAR:**

- Dresses, skirts, or shorts more than 2 inches above the knee
- Sandal, flip flops or other open shoes (safety reasons)
- Pants or jeans with tears, shreds or holes

- Tightly fitted or revealing clothing. (leggings must be worn with a long shirt that covers the top half of the leg)
- Tank tops, sleeveless shirts, or shirts with cut – out shoulders

**When in doubt, do not wear it to school.

If an article of clothing is deemed to be inappropriate, a student may be required to alter his/her apparel. Students who are wearing inappropriate clothing will not be permitted to attend classes until that clothing has been changed. Parents will be notified in this event.

Field Trips

Students are expected to wear their regular uniform on all field trips unless otherwise specified.

Lost and Found

St. Joan of Arc requires that all items of clothing be labeled with the child's first and last name. In that way, we may return clothing that is left in an area other than the child's classroom. Due to limited space, unclaimed clothing will be held for one month in the lost and found bin and then be donated.

Parent Information 2023 -2024



School Times

7:50am Parking lot opens for drop off
7:50am - 8:10am Students go directly to Homeroom
8:10am Students are late and need to report to the Main Office.
2:30pm Parents line up for dismissal, parking lot opens at 2:50pm
2:45pm - 3:10pm Office is closed for dismissal
3:05pm Dismissal begins
12:05pm Early Dismissal Days

Emergency & Weather related Closings/Delayed Openings

St. Joan of Arc School follows the same procedures for school closing and delays as does the 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 opened 1 hour after dismissal.

Dismissal Procedures

PikMyKid App

The PikMyKid app is required for all families in order to run a safe and efficient dismissal. Existing families, your account has rolled over for the new school year. Please make sure if you have a new student entering, they are registered to your account. All students will bring home a PikMyKid Car Tag at the start of school with an ID number and QR code.

New families, please download the PikMyKid app onto your mobile device. Please keep this handy in your car and hand them out to anyone who plans on picking up your child. You will be the Primary Parent for your child and in control of their dismissal time through the App. You can delegate alternate individuals, but they should have the App also as it will send a matching student ID number to the phone for us to validate the correct person is picking up the proper child. If you are part of a car pool, each child's number will be sent to the phone for validation.

VIRTUS (Volunteer)

All volunteers must complete VIRTUS training. Please [click here](#) to learn more.

Track It Forward

This is the website we use to track volunteer hours for the year. Each family is required to volunteer 20 hours per school year. If you choose not to volunteer, your FACTS account will be billed on May 14, 2024 for \$10.00 per incomplete hour for up to 20 hours. Existing families, please make sure your information is correct and you have an account on Track It Forward. New families, please click the link to register and create an account for the school year. Some opportunities are already available. We are looking forward to having volunteers back in our school! <https://www.trackitforward.com/site/stjoan-arc-school>

FACTS

All families are required to have a FACTS account. This account is initially set up through School Admin during the registration process FACTS is the platform all Archdiocesan schools use for tuition payments and incidental expenses (field trips, novels, extended care, etc.) There are two sections within your FACTS account. One for tuition and the other for incidental expenses. Tuition payments are automatically withdrawn from your designated account. The incidental account can be set up as automatic withdrawals or you may go in and pay when billed.

Please note if you need to reschedule a tuition payment you must contact Pam Franke 3 business days prior to the scheduled payment date.

Any questions regarding your FACTS account please contact Pam Franke, Business Manager at 410-272-1387 ext 217 or pfranke@stjoanarc.org

PBIS

PBIS reinforces positive behavior. SJA stands on the principles of respect, responsibility and leadership. [Click here](#) to learn more about PBIS. Teachers will provide parents with account information.

SJA School Calendar

All SJA events will be posted to the calendar located online on the school website. Please sync your device to this calendar. This is a live calendar so please check back weekly for updated events.

<https://stjoanarc.org/calendar/>

School Newsletter

A weekly newsletter is posted electronically on the school website under [News](#) every Wednesday at 4:00pm.

Media Release

As stated in the [Student/Parent Handbook](#), parents who do not want their child to participate in media opportunities are asked to notify the principal in writing by September 1.

Timeline for Grant/Aid and ReEnrollment

November 1 - FACTS (Grant and Aid) applications open

December 1- January 8th - ReEnrollment for Current families in School Admin

February 28 - FACTS 9 Grant and Aid) deadline

PowerSchool

PowerSchool is the online portal for reporting student progress in grades 3 -8. Teachers will provide parents with account information.

Extended Care

St. Joan of Arc School offers affordable before and after school care for families who have a need for this service. Hours are from 7:00 am until school begins and dismissal until 6:00pm on regular school days.

Care will be provided for early dismissal days until 4:00pm. [Click here](#) to register or email extendedcare@stjoanarc.org for more information.

Attention! Attention! Attention!

Chess Club Forming

Grades 4-8

When: Tuesdays starting April 16th and ending May 14th.

Time: 3:15-4:15

Where: St. Joan of Arc –Grade 5 classroom

Bring a chessboard and chess pieces (if possible)



Students will meet once a week to learn how to play chess, practice strategies, and play matches.

Parent volunteers who are knowledgeable in the area of chess are welcome to help with the teaching of chess.

Please sign and return the permission slip by March 27, 2024.

Mrs. Baur

My child, _____, has permission to participate in chess club on Tuesdays from April 16th-May 14th.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____



Welcome to St. Joan of Arc School's 2024 Good Vibes Only Summer Camp! We look forward to providing your child with the best summer ever. SJA is offering 8 weeks of summer camp, making it easy to fit one or more weeks into your schedule. To register [click here](#).

Week 1: Around the World - June 10-14, Camp Cost \$260 (5 days)

We will travel around the world in 5 days! Fun facts, games, traditions and food samples from around the world, ending the week with an International Dance Party!

Week 2: Nature Week - June 17-21, Camp Cost \$208 (4 days)

Nature, Nature, Nature! Learn about critters and their habitats, as well as our outdoors with Mrs. Simmons! Please note there is no camp on Wednesday, June 19th.

Week 3: Creative Chefs - June 24 -28, Camp Cost \$310 (5 days)

We will cook all week preparing dishes that the kids will eat from fresh ingredients. Everyone will learn kitchen safety and how to use kitchen tools to make yummy foods!

Week 4: Independence Week - July 1-3, Camp Cost \$156 (3 days)

Hot dogs, Baseball and Apple pie! This 3-day week is all things USA!

Week 5: Camp Invention - July 8-12, See Separate Registration (5 days)

Camp Invention is a high-energy, hands-on STEM Camp. Register at [Camp Invention](#).

Week 6: Water Fun - July 15 -19, Camp Cost \$260 (5 days)

Water, water everywhere! Join us for lots and lots of outdoor water fun!

Week 7: Art/Music – July 22 – 26, Camp Cost \$260 (5 days)

Come ready to create!

Week 8: VBC Week - July 29- August 2, Camp Cost \$180 (5 days)

This is an add on to SJA VBC. To register for VBC please contact the parish. Hours for this week are M-Thurs 11:30am – 5:00pm and Friday 8:00am – 5:00pm

SJA BINGO NIGHT

\$20 pre-sale
\$25 CASH
at the door

Join us for an unforgettable evening of excitement, camaraderie, and the thrill of the win! Get your daubers ready and mark your calendars for an evening filled with anticipation and fun

**CASH
PRIZES**

**BASKET
AUCTION**

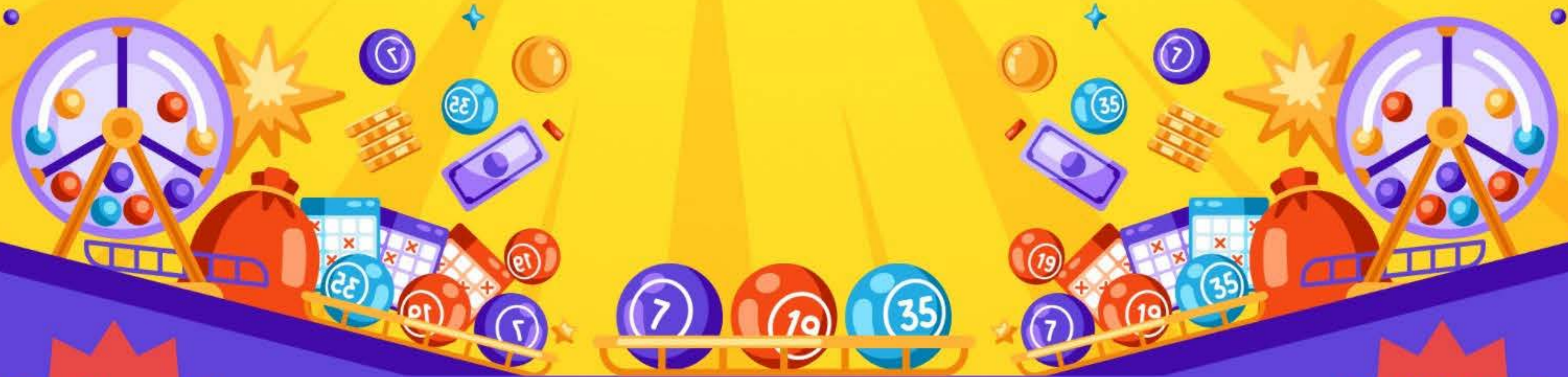
**ONLY WATER &
SNACKS FOR
SALE**



Friday, 19 April
Doors open at 6:30pm
Games start at 7pm



St Joan of Arc
Church Hall (Basement)



Over
\$300 in
prizes

Order tickets on the SJA website or send
an envelope with \$20 marked "HSA Bingo"
to your homeroom teacher

BOYB
&
FOOD

SUMMER 2024

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Homeruns for the Homeless

Ripken Stadium

July 23rd

1-2 hour shifts between 6:30AM – 8:00PM

Ages 13 and up

- Filling coolers with ice/water/Gatorade
- Score keepers
- Assisting with the Golden Arm competition
- Runners
- Shagging balls (bring baseball glove if you have one)

Hope for Harford's Homeless Golf Invitational

Maryland Golf & Country Clubs

August 5th

Shifts between 8:00AM - 5:30PM

- Assisting with registration
- Raffles
- Scoring and spotting
- Fundraising

Charm City Moonlight Run

Harford County Equestrian Center

July 13th

6:15PM – 10:15PM

All ages, however, if under 13, parent must be present to assist and will be dependent on responsibility

- Pre-race set up
- Parking
- Distributing t shirts and medals
- Directing participants
- Clean up



Interested individuals should contact Sue LeBuhn at SLebuhn@harfordfamilyhouse.org

MSGR. O'DWYER RETREAT HOUSE PRESENTS
15523 YORK RD SPARKS MD 21152

WONDER with JPII



CREATION

Day 1 - We will WONDER at the created world around us, through exploration, observation, and learning about God as Creator.

LEADERSHIP

Day 2 - We will WONDER at the unique leadership gifts that we all have and put them into practice them on the Low Ropes Course.

CHALLENGE

Day 3 - We will WONDER at new heights while challenging ourselves on our High Ropes Course!

Join us for 3 full days of programming all about what it means to be created in God's Image! We will utilize Pope St. John Paul II's teachings to explore our relationships with God, ourselves, others, and creation! There will be time for prayer, small group discussion, team building challenges, games, pool time, and more!

CHOOSE YOUR SESSION:

JUNE
25-27

JULY
16-18

AUGUST
6-8

**FOR INCOMING
6TH, 7TH, & 8TH
GRADERS!**

All sessions run 8:30-3:00

REGISTER USING THE QR CODE

* price increases after 3/15*
Limited spots, sign up today!

COST:
\$175

Questions?

faith.brake@archbalt.org

