



# St. Joan of Arc School

May 29, 2024

Dear SJA Families,

Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students completed their last full day at St. Joan of Arc today. They are ready for their graduation ceremony on Friday afternoon. We are so proud of all they have accomplished and know they will represent SJA grounded in their faith and focused on the future.

Our PreK students have a special activity planned for Monday, June 3. Grades K-7 Class Parties are scheduled for June 4. Teachers will share details on the webpages. Student may dress down in their bright summer colors to celebrate.

June 5 is a 12:05 dismissal with aftercare until 4:00pm. The last day of school is June 6, everyone is invited to join us for Liturgy and Awards at 8:30am. Dismissal will be at 12:05pm – no aftercare.

As we wind down this school year and look to 2024 -2025, I have attached a calendar of our start date, school closings and early dismissals for your planning.

Attached is a letter from Archbishop Lori sharing information about the “Seek the City to Come” initiative. Please contact Ms. Geri Byrd, Director of Seek the City to Come at [geri.byrd@archbalt.org](mailto:geri.byrd@archbalt.org) with any questions.

God Bless,

Ms. Dianne Kestler  
Principal



## Important Events

May 29	Waste Free Wednesday Rita’s Fundraiser
May 30	St. Joan of Arc Feast Day
May 31	Grade 8 Graduation – 4:00pm No aftercare
June 2	ALIVE Mass – 11:15am
June 3	PreK Celebration Last Day for PreK
June 4	Class Parties 2:10pm
June 5	12:05 Dismissal Aftercare open until 4:00pm
June 6	Last Day of School Liturgy and Awards 8:30am 12:05 Dismissal No Aftercare
June 7	Last Day for Teachers
July 6	Save the Date – 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Havre de Grace

## **2023 -2024 Yearbook**

[Click here](#) if you would like to purchase a copy of the 2023-2024 SJA Yearbook. The cost is \$24.38 (including tax and processing fee) Purchasers will need to click on Aberdeen and St. Joan of Arc School. Yearbooks will be distributed in the Fall. 8<sup>th</sup> grade student copies are included in their 8th grade fee.

### **Preparing for 2024 -2025**

Check list items in school admin need to be completed by July 1, 2024. [Click here](#) to complete.

### **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.

### **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](mailto:sbaer@stjoanarc.org))

### **Pick up and Drop off**

As we navigate these last few days and special activities please continue to follow the pick-up and drop off guidelines.

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 Main entrance by their parent.

### **Think Summer!**

Spots are still available for some of our Camp Week. Contact the office if you have questions. 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**

Thank you to our hard working HSA board members who worked so hard throughout the year to raise funds and plan activities to support our school.

**Final Spirit night is tonight at Rita's in Aberdeen. See attached flyer for details.**

### **Parish News**

On July 1, St. Joan of Arc and St. Patrick will be forming a Pastorate. Please [click here](#) for information about the process and to help answer questions you may have.

#### **St. Joan of Arc News**

"Behold the Lamb of God" – Vacation Bible Camp – **July 29 – August 1**. Click [here](#) for more information and how to sign up.

**June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Parish Mission with, Robert Feduccia.

See the SJA [parish website](#) for other events and more information.

#### **St. Patrick News**

See the St. Patrick [parish website](#) for other events and more information.



320 Cathedral Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
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May 24, 2024

Dear Families,

Archbishop Lori shared the final plan for the Seek the City to Come initiative on Wednesday, May 22. This vision is the culmination of thoughtful discernment, prayer, and extensive discussions with pastors, lay leaders, and the Catholic Center team over the past two years. The initiative aims to reimagine and reshape the Church's presence in the city and surrounding areas, responding to the evolving needs of our community with a Eucharistic vision.

It is important to note that the final plan of Seek the City to Come does not include any action with our Catholic schools. This initiative focuses solely on parishes and will not affect schools in any way. Even schools connected to a parish that is merging will remain unaffected by the Seek initiative.

Please take a moment to read the communication from Archbishop Lori and review the final draft for the Seek the City to Come:

- [Archbishop Lori Announcement: Seek the City to Come](#)
- [Seek the City Final Plan](#)

If you have any questions about the Seek the City to Come initiative, please contact Ms. Geri Byrd, Director of Seek the City to Come at [geri.byrd@archbalt.org](mailto:geri.byrd@archbalt.org) or 410-547-5318.

Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Donna Hargens, Superintendent  
Archdiocese of Baltimore

Mr. Greg Farno, Chancellor of Education  
Archdiocese of Baltimore

*Rise*  
**ABOVE**

# **Waste Free Wednesday Returns**



**When: Begins May 1, 2024**

**Why: To help the environment by reducing the amount of school waste.**

**How: Bring your lunch into school in 3 reusable containers & receive an extra Responsibility Point on PBIS Rewards!**





## **Fundraiser**

**Wednesday, May 29th  
ALL DAY!**

**Rita's of Aberdeen  
772 W. Bel Air Avenue  
Aberdeen, MD**

**20% of Sales Support**

**SJA St. Joan of Arc**  
*A Catholic STEM Elementary School*

***\*You must present this flier or mention  
SJA at time of purchase for your school  
to receive credit\****

## 2024-2025 School Year – Schedule for School Closings and Early Dismissals



Please note that this calendar is subject to change

August 26	First Day of School Grades K – 8 <i>PreK 3 –PreK 4 Gradual Entrance</i>	12:05 dismissal	No aftercare
August 27	K students will dismiss at 12:05 Grades 1 – 8 Full Day <i>PreK 3 –PreK 4 Gradual Entrance</i>		No aftercare for PreK and K
August 28 - 29	Grades K – 8 Full Day <i>PreK 3 –PreK 4- 12:05 dismissal</i>		No aftercare for PreK
August 30		12:05 dismissal All students	No aftercare
September 2	Labor Day	School closed	No aftercare
October 4	Professional Day	School closed	No aftercare
October 11	Parent Conferences	12:05 dismissal	
November 15	End of T1 ½ day asynchronous for students – no students on campus (Teachers on campus)		No aftercare
November 26	Grandparents Day	12:05 dismissal	No aftercare
November 27 - 29	Thanksgiving Break	School closed	No aftercare
December 20	Christmas Break	12:05 dismissal	No aftercare
December 23 – January 1	Christmas Break		No aftercare
January 17		12:05 dismissal	
January 20	MLK Jr Day	School closed	No aftercare
January 27 – January 31	CSW	12:05 dismissal on January 31	No aftercare
February 14	Faculty Retreat	School closed	No aftercare
February 17	President’s Day	School closed	No aftercare
February 28	End of T2 ½ day asynchronous for students – no students on campus (Teachers on campus)		No aftercare
March 18	Inclement Weather Day 1 – Closed if no snow days used	School closed	No aftercare
March 21	Professional Day	School closed	No aftercare
March 24		School closed	No aftercare
April 16		12:05 dismissal	No aftercare
April 17 –April 25	Easter Break	School closed	No aftercare
May 15	Inclement Weather Day 2 – Closed if no snow days used		No aftercare
May 23		12:05 dismissal	No aftercare
May 27	Memorial Day	School closed	No aftercare
<b>May 30</b>	<b>Grade 8 Graduation</b>	<b>4:00pm</b>	No aftercare
June 4		12:05 dismissal	
June 5	Last Day of School	12:05 dismissal	No aftercare

