

St. Joan of Arc School

Parent Newsletter



August 21, 2024

Dear SJA Families,

The school year is fast approaching and the teachers and staff have been in their rooms this week preparing to welcome all of the students on Monday August, 26th.

We anticipate that all teaching positions will soon be filled for the arrival of all the students.

Please take your time and read the attached information for the upcoming school year. We look forward to seeing everyone next week.

Mr. Gregory Komondor
Associate Superintendent for the Archdiocese of Baltimore
Acting Principal of St. Joan of Arc

Calendar

Below is the calendar for the first week of school. Click [here](#) to access and subscribe to the 2024-2025 SJA school calendar. This is a live calendar and is subject to change. Please check weekly for updates.

Monday August 26

- Pre-K3 & Pre-K4 Gradual Entrance
- 8:10-12:05 First Day of School for students grades K-8
- No extended care offered

Tuesday August 27

- 8:10-12:05 Half Day Pre-K3, Pre-K4, & Kindergarten
- First full day for grades 1-8
- No aftercare offered for Pre-K3, Pre-K4, & Kindergarten

Wednesday August 28

- 8:10-12:05 Half Day Pre-K3 & Pre-K4
- Full day for grades K-8
- No aftercare offered for Pre-K3 & PreK4

Thursday August 29

- 8:10-12:05 Half Day Pre-K3 & Pre-K4

- Full day for grades K-8
- No aftercare offered for Pre-K3 & PreK4
- Back to school night 6:00-7:30 pm

Friday August 30

- 8:10-12:05 Half day for grades Pre-K3-8
- No aftercare offered

Back to School Night

Please join us in the Church hall on Thursday August 29th from 6:00pm- 7:30pm for Back to School night. General information will start promptly at 6:00pm in the hall. We do ask that children not attend as this is for Parents only. Thank you for your understanding.

ARRIVAL / DISMISSAL PROCEDURE

Arrival

Arrive on Plater Street lining up close to the curb – ***NO CARS ARE TO BE DOUBLE PARKED– EITHER ALONG THE BUILDING OR PARKING LOT. Please do not block the crosswalks.***

Turn right into the alley off of Plater St. , but do not discharge students until you make a LEFT turn into the DROP-OFF ZONE on the parking lot. Please exit out onto Edmund Street.

Students will exit the vehicles on the passenger side and will be helped by safety patrol students and staff to proceed safely into the main entrance of the school.

AT NO TIME SHOULD A PARENT EXIT THE CAR IN THE DROP OFF ZONE.

All traffic will exit the parking lot onto Edmund Street. ***PLEASE DO NOT PASS OTHER CARS IN THE DROP OFF ZONE AS THIS POSES A DANGER TO STUDENTS.***

No student should be dropped off prior to 7:50 AM as there is no adult supervision until that time. Parents may enroll in Extended Care if they must drop off their child earlier.

Dismissal Procedures

Vehicles are to turn right to enter the parking lot through the alley entrance on Plater Street only. Vehicles will be lined up in rows beginning at the residential side of the lot. (Parents are asked not to arrive prior to **2:30pm** as physical education classes are conducted on this lot.)

Upon arrival parents should wait along Plater Street until the lot is open. ***NO CARS ARE TO BE DOUBLE PARKED– EITHER ALONG THE BUILDING OR PARKING LOT. Please do not block the crosswalks.***

The rows will be dismissed through the Edmund Street exit. **ALL CARS MUST EXIT WHEN DIRECTED ASKED TO DO SO.** *If your child is not yet in the car, you must exit the parking lot and re enter through the Plater Street entrance.*

Since no child may be left unattended, students not picked up 15 minutes after dismissal time will be sent to Extended Care and parents will be charged for at least one hour according to the Extended Care fees. Students will only be released to custodial parents or those on the emergency contact list.

The school office will be closed from 2:45-3:15PM daily to ensure safe and timely dismissal for all students. The last entry into school for early dismissal will be no later than 2:30 . This means the phones will not be answered and no more early sign outs are allowed.

SJA uses the Pik My Kid program for dismissal. Families will be given information to register within the system. Each family will be given a place card with the student name, number and a QR code. Teachers on duty for dismissal will scan the code or enter the student information into the system. At 3:05pm students will be notified through the system and proceed directly to their vehicles.

Supply Lists/Summer Work

Supply Lists and Summer work can be found on our School Website under [Resources](#) . Students should be working on their summer work throughout the summer months.

- **All summer work is due the first day of school, August 26th, 2024**
- **Students will have the whole first week of school to bring in school supplies**

School Admin

The domain for all emails from School Admin has changed. Prevent missing emails by checking spam settings and ensure that [@fenrollment.com](mailto:fenrollment@stjoanarc.com) is considered a safe and recognized sender.

Enrollment Information

All checklist items were due July 1. Please go to [school admin](#) and make sure all the checklist items are 100% complete. Please make sure contact information is correct.

FACTS

If you have not done so already, please set up your FACTS account. Tuition payments are withdrawn automatically each month. Incidental expenses default to auto pay unless you go into your FACTS account and cancel this feature. Summer camp, Extended Care, Field Trips and Classroom materials are examples of incidental expenses. Should you have any questions please contact Pam Franke at Pfranke@stjoanarc.org

Notes from the Nurse

Health Forms for the next school year are available on the school's website under Nurse. Paper forms were sent home. Be sure to get wellness checkups over the summer. Contact sbaer@stjoanarc.org with any questions.

Uniforms

Purchase new uniforms from [Flynn O'Hara](#) Uniforms. Sign up for emails to get promotions throughout the summer months.

Yearbooks

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. 8th grade student copies are included in their 8th grade fee.

Spiritwear

Show your school spirit and purchase your [SJA wear](#). The store will be open until Friday September 13th to get all orders in.

Weekly SJA themed tshirts- This year's AOB theme is "Give Thanks with A Grateful Heart". SJA has decided to use "Be Grateful and Give Thanks" for our tshirt logo. The deadline to order shirts is Friday, September 13. Once orders are delivered, students may wear these shirts every Wednesday with their PE bottoms or dress uniform bottoms unless otherwise stated. Please click [here](#) to place your orders.

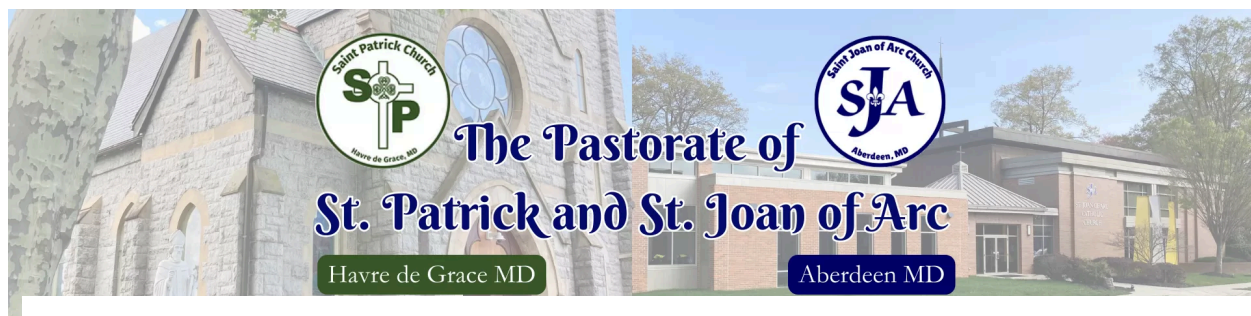
HSA

We are a group of parents trying to make a difference with the parent/school relationship. It is our goal to get parents involved and to ensure there are fun, engaging activities throughout the year to help raise money and build relationships. We hope the children/parents leave SJA with tons of memories and friendships for their upcoming years. During the Back-to-School picnic (date TBD) we will have a table with sign-up sheets for all parents to be able to see what events are planned for the year and to be able to plan/sign up if they want to be a part of the fun! We hope to have more volunteers this year join to help make our events successful. We are still

looking for additional Members at Large. If you are interested please reach out to our President Jen Vass at jennifervass1018@gmail.com

Trex

Our school participates in the Trex Program and there are two ways families can help. You can bring in plastic bags (see poster and video) and/or you can volunteer to take plastic to donation sites. (Bringing in plastic bags does not get volunteer hours) We weigh the plastic after it comes to school and then take it to donation sites in the area to be recycled. In the past our school has won planter boxes and wind chimes for the amount of plastic we have recycled. If you are looking for volunteer hours you can sign up to take the bags to our donation location. You will need to take a picture of the donation at the store for verification. The donation locations are bins outside Food Lion, Safeway, and Weis. Depending on how many families sign up, it could be a bi-weekly volunteer job and spans the entire school year. The bags are very light to carry but if needed we can help your student carry them to your car at pick up time. Please email Mrs. Simmons (rsimmons@stjoanarc.org) to let her know if you are interested in volunteering. You can earn 1 volunteer hour per drop off trip. Please log your trip in Track it Forward for approval.



Pastorate Updates

Family Faith Formation

St. Patrick and St. Joan of Arc are invited to watch the Aberdeen Ironbirds this Friday, August 23rd at 7:05pm! There will be a section of the ballpark reserved for everyone to sit together and enjoy the game. Tickets are \$15 a person. Please scan the QR code on the flyer below to purchase tickets. We hope to see you there for a fun night at the ballpark!

Parish Bulletins

[St. Joan of Arc Weekly Bulletin](#)

St. Patrick Church Weekly Bulletin

Upcoming Scholarship Opportunity for the 2024-2025 School Year

The Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary will have two \$250.00 scholarships for this coming school year (2024/2025). One for rising 4th and 5th graders, and another for rising 6th, 7th, & 8th graders. In order to apply, candidates need to:

- Have a Veteran in their family (living or deceased) who was honorably discharged. Applicants must be United States Citizens.
- Submit a 2-4 paragraph essay on their family member, or write about what Patriotism means to them OR Draw a picture of their Veteran family member with an explanation of what Patriotism means to them.
- Submit one letter of recommendation from a community leader (teacher, priest, scout leader, etc.)
- All submissions need to be turned into St. Joan of Arc School Main Office with the candidate's First Name, Last Name, and Grade by September 11, 2024.

Winners will be presented with their certificates at the Trimester 1 award ceremony.