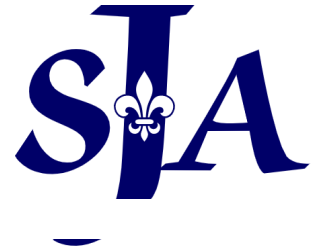


St. Joan of Arc School

Parent Newsletter



January 29, 2025

Dear SJA Parents and Families,

Happy Catholic Schools Week! I have to admit, this isn't what I had visualized when people told me it would be a crazy week.

We are doing everything we can to check the spread of flu and viruses. We have limited the interaction of students outside their own grades and suspended clubs for the week. We had the school sanitized last night after our usual cleaning was complete. Unfortunately, as you know we have had to postpone or cancel some of the fun things we had planned for the week, like the John Carroll Rock Band. We are attempting to re-schedule that and when we have a firm date, we will re-invite parents.

Mrs. Baer has been in contact with the Health Department throughout the uptick in student and staff illness. There has not been any recommendation from them that we move to virtual learning. As Mrs. Baer stated yesterday, if you are concerned about your child being in school, you may make a parental decision to keep them home, and let their teacher and Mrs. Baer know you are doing this. If it is practicable, I will ask teachers to send assignments home. If not, they will have the opportunity to make up work when they return to school.

I want to make one more pitch for Mr. Dugan's presentation to parents on internet and social media safety for their children, which is taking place tomorrow night at 6:30 in the church hall. We have asked that you RSVP, but if you have the opportunity to come at the last minute, and have not had the opportunity to RSVP, please come anyway. We will have room for you. This is an important topic for you to develop an awareness of, so you can know what to look for when you talk to your kids about staying out of harm's way in these areas. This presentation is for adults only.

Finally, Archbishop Lori will be here at the 11:15 to formally install Fr. Francis as the pastor of St. Joan of Arc. Please let us show our support by attending the 11:15 Mass. In addition, Archbishop Lori would like to recognize any Boy or Girl Scouts in attendance. If your son or daughter is active in scouts, please let Mrs. Maid know before the weekend at emaid@stjoanarc.org. Thanks, and I hope to see you at Mass.

Blessings,

Mr. Schmitz

Social Media & Internet Safety Presentation

We are asking that all parents attending please RSVP for this event by [clicking here](#). The presentation is for adults only.

Important Dates

Jan 27-31	Catholic Schools Week
Jan 30	6:30 Social Media & Internet Presentation
Jan 31	12:05 dismissal NO AFTERCARE
Feb 2	Family Mass @ 11:15
Feb 7	Middle School Social 6- 8pm
Feb 13	Class parties 2pm
Feb 14	No School / Faculty Retreat
Feb 17	School Closed
Feb 20	Individual Photo Day
Feb 27- Mar 14	Joe Corbi Fundraiser
Feb 28	End of Trimester / Asynchronous half day / No students on Campus

Family Mass Sunday Feb 2nd: On Sunday February 2nd, at 11:15 AM Mass, Most Reverend William E. Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore, will be coming to St. Joan of Arc to formally install Fr. Francis as our new Pastor. Our own 'SJA Voices' will join with the Parish Music ministry to sing for this important moment in the life of our parish and school community. A light reception will follow downstairs in the Parish Hall. All school families are invited to be present for this very special occasion.

Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts: The Archbishop would like to recognize any students who are active girl/bo scouts at the 11:15 Mass on this Sunday. Please have your student wear their scout uniform in attendance.

Influenza Like Illness- Update : We appreciate everyone's help and understanding as we navigate through this illness. While we do have some new cases today, we also have some students that are able to return to school as well. That is good news for us!

Some parents have asked about symptoms to look for and what to do. It seems that there are a few common symptoms, but by no means are these the only ones that have been reported. Most frequently is unusual fatigue, a dull headache that lingers, high fevers-especially overnight and body aches. Many have also had decreased appetite, nausea, diarrhea and vomiting.

We continue to update the Harford County Health Department on a regular basis and follow their recommendations.

If your child is not feeling well, we ask that you keep them home and evaluate how they are feeling. We are also asking if you are keeping your child home from school for any reason that you include the nurse in your email. If they are not feeling well, could you please list their symptoms so illnesses can be tracked in each classroom.

Hot Lunch : Our next hot lunch will be Wednesday 2/5/25. An order form will be sent out tomorrow morning at 8am. All orders for 2/5 /25 will need to be placed by 8 am on Monday 2/3/25.

From Mrs. Ericson: Mrs. Ericson would like to congratulate Mrs. Simmons classon 100% book return !

Registration: Registration for current students at SJA is now open for the 2025-2026 school year . It is important to make sure you have registered your child before the deadline, [Please register here](#) . THE DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS FEBRUARY 1, 2025. If you have any questions please reach out to Mrs. Elisa Maid. You may reach her by email at EMaid@stjoanarc.org.

Grant & Aid: The 2025-2026 Grant & Aid Applications opened on November 1, 2024. You may access the application by clicking [here](#). Please be sure to complete the application early as the deadline is February 28, 2024 **NO EXCEPTIONS**.

Facts now has a phone line just for applicants to call if they need assistance with the Grant & Aid application. Their representatives are happy to help with the application form, documentation, or other general questions! **(866) 315-9262**

SJA Summer Camp:SJA Summer Camp information will be sent out to families by the end of the week. We apologize for not having registration information out to families this week. We are working hard to finalize all details,

STEM Camp July 7-11:SJA will be holding a STEM CAMP this summer. This is a great experience for your student to use their creativity, imagination, and build confidence. Attached to the newsletter is the Camp Invention flyer. Sign up now and use the discount code “ FUN25” to take \$25.00 off. [Click here to register.](#)

Stem Opportunities:Looking for STEM opportunities outside of school for your student? Take a look at this STEM website for STEM opportunities outside of school. Here is the link:<https://sites.google.com/stjoanarc.org/stem/stem-opportunities>

Clubs:Please see attached permission slips for Jump Rope Club, Knitting and Crocheting Club, Arts and Crafts Club, and Environmental Club.

HersheyPark Tickets:Discounted HersheyPark tickets are on sale again this year! Please click [here](#) to order. Ticket sales begin today, January 15th and will end on Friday April 11th. Admission tickets are discounted to \$50.00 each. Every 10 tickets sold earns one ticket to help send our 8th graders on their class trip for free! Tickets are valid for any one public operational day in 2025. Please email svara@stjoanarc.org with any questions.

Track it Forward:All families registered on Track it Forward have received an "Hour Update" email this past week. If you have not received an email regarding your volunteer hours, please register your family on Track it Forward by clicking [here](#).

NEW opportunities have been added for upcoming events as well as our ongoing opportunities. We are always in need of water, forever stamps, and reams of paper. School reviews and testimonies are also year around opportunities!

Please keep in mind that 20 hours need to be completed by May 5, 2025 in order to receive credit for this year. Any hours left incomplete by May 6, 2025 at 8:00am will be billed through FACTS at the rate of \$10.00 per hour. Please keep in mind that 20 hours need to be completed by May 5, 2025 in order to receive credit for this year. Any hours left incomplete by May 6, 2025 at 8:00am will be billed through FACTS at the rate of \$10.00 per hour.

Are you looking for an easy way to get your hours for the year? We are looking for a chairperson to coordinate our Restaurant nights for next year. All you need to do is coordinate with a restaurant each month for us to hold our fundraiser as well as creating a flyer. If this is something you would be interested in please contact chinch@stjoanarc.org.

HSA news

Thank you to all those who participated in our Restaurant night, we appreciate your support. Our next fundraiser will be Joe Corbis, this has been a huge success in past years. The fundraiser will run February 27 thru March 14, 2025. The delivery date will be Monday, April 14th. Information will go home with your student as the date nears. Be on the lookout!

Join us February 28th for a Cash Bingo in the church hall. Please see the flyer attached for more information!

Pastoral Visit

with Archbishop William E. Lori
and formal installation
of our new pastor,
Fr. Francis Ouma



Come to
St. Joan of Arc on
February 2nd, 2025
for 11:15 AM Mass
with
Most Reverend
William E. Lori
(Archbishop of Baltimore)

Pilgrim Virgin Statue Legion of Mary, St. Joan of Arc

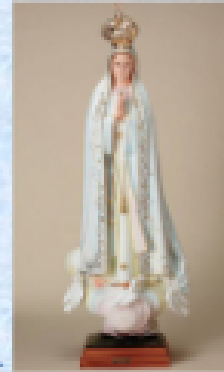
Promoting Family Prayer and the Rosary in Your Home!

Our St. Joan of Arc Legion of Mary group is re-starting a program aimed to promote family prayer and the rosary at home, it is called the "Pilgrim Virgin Statue".

At a time of your choosing, a Legion of Mary prayer team will come to your home (usually on a Sunday afternoon) with the Pilgrim Virgin statue. They will give a background about the rosary, pray the rosary with you and your family, leave the statue and encourage your family to pray the rosary each evening. At the end of the week, a prayer team will come to your home to take the statue to another family. If for health reasons, you'd rather receive the statue but desire to do the prayers remotely, we can accommodate your request.

This program is a great way to introduce your family to the rosary and foster family prayer! Besides praying for each family's needs, a parish prayer intention book will accompany the statue from home to home. These petitions will include praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. What a wonderful way for us to come together as family in prayer for our parish and Church!

For information or sign up, please contact Virginia Bahr at virginiabahr@gmail.com or Deacon Ray at: ryanpelt@stjoanarc.org.



"The Rosary is the most beautiful and the most rich in graces of all prayers; it is the prayer that touches most the Heart of the Mother of God...and if you wish peace to reign in your homes, recite the family Rosary."

- Pope Saint Pius X

2025 C5ISR Center Math & Science Summer Camp

The 2025 C5ISR Center Math & Science Summer Camp is a unique program designed to inspire and educate students in the fields of math and science. The application process will open on **Monday, February 3, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** Please note that seats fill up quickly, often within the first day, so be sure to apply early to secure your spot.

Important Details:

- Application opens: Monday, February 3, 2025, at 10:00 AM
- Application process: First Come – First Served basis, with placement preference given to children of current military members
- Camp location: Harford Glen Environmental Center, Bel Air, MD
- Themes and dates:
 - Rising 5th & 6th Grade: Flight and Rocketry (July 21 – July 25)
 - Rising 7th & 8th Grade: STEM in Pop Culture (July 28 – August 1)
 - Rising 9th & 10th Grade: Natural Disasters (August 4 – August 8)

For more information about the application process and details about the various themes, please visit: <https://c5isrcenter.devcom.army.mil/k12/>.



SJA Family STEM NIGHT

Volunteers Needed

SJA is excited to announce the return of our Family STEM Night "Knights Unite". This is a great opportunity for students to showcase their STEM projects and demonstrations. Additionally, special guests from the world of STEM will be sharing their work and performing demonstrations. It is a great free event that will engage and motivate students. However, we need your help. We are looking for volunteers to fill various roles in this event. They say "many hands make light work", so we are asking for many hands. Below are event roles and times needed. Our goal is to break roles into shifts so that everyone can have time to also enjoy the event. If you can volunteer for the whole event, that is great as well. Please let us know if you can help by contacting mfield@stjoanarc.org and indicate the roles and times that you are available. This is a rare opportunity to get volunteer credit after hours. VIRTUS Training is required for this event.

Thank you for your support of this event.

- **Set-up Crew:** Help put down mats and set up tables and chairs in the gym, put up signage - needed from 3:30-5:00 pm
- **Clean-up Crew:** Help put away tables, chairs, supplies, take trash to dumpster - needed from about 7:00-8:00 pm
- **Welcome Table:** Welcome guests, hand out passports, direct people where to go - 4:50-7:00 pm
 - First Shift 4:50 pm to 6:00 pm
 - Second Shift 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
- **Classroom Chaperone:** Monitor students and guest as they participate in a STEM activity that put on by middle school students, help guest perform STEM activity - 4:50-7:00 pm
 - First Shift 4:50 pm to 6:00 pm
 - Second Shift 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
- **Hall Monitor:** Makes sure guests do not enter unattended areas or open locked doors - 4:50-7:00 pm
 - First Shift 4:50 pm to 6:00 pm
 - Second Shift 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm



Camp Invention®

FUN & CREATIVITY COLLIDE AT **CAMP INVENTION**



LEARN MORE AT [INVENT.ORG/CAMP](https://www.invent.org/camp)



A fourth grader finds fun in physics with her magnetic penguin pal.



An Instructor empowers a third grader to build creative problem-solving skills while designing her own claw machine.



A second grader gains confidence as he wires his transmitter and sends Morse code messages.

A TYPICAL DAY AT THE ALL-NEW 2025 CAMP INVENTION®

Give your child a summer experience that builds confidence, creativity and imagination! Campers team up with friends to explore open-ended STEM challenges led by qualified educators and guaranteed to be full of hands-on FUN!

A.M. BASE CAMP: Drop off your camper with qualified local educators who start each day with games that ignite creativity.



CLAW ARCADE™

Campers unleash nature-inspired creativity to make their own claw machines with unique prizes, then give a confidence-boosting pitch to hook investors!



PENGUIN LAUNCH™

Campers team up for an eco-expedition as they investigate Antarctica with a robotic assistant, then design launchers to propel plush penguins across snowy landscapes!

GAMES & LUNCH: Half the campers head outside to play action-packed games while the others eat lunch — and then they switch.



IN CONTROL™

Campers take the driver's seat on the ultimate road trip as they design a custom control panel and navigate their journey with help from GPS and AI tools!



ILLUSION WORKSHOP™

When they explore the science behind special effects, campers uncover optical illusions in movies, art and animation before building their own moving props!

P.M. BASE CAMP: The day wraps up as campers wind down with problem-solving games.

All images feature actual campers enjoying our new 2025 program.

SECURE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

Register at INVENT.ORG/CAMP or 800-968-4332

Grades: K - 6th

Location: St. Joan of Arc School
230 S Law St, Aberdeen, MD 21001

Dates: July 7 - 11, 2025

Time & Cost: 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM | \$275 (before discount)

Sibling Discounts and Payment Plans Available at INVENT.ORG/CISAVE

Extended Day Hours Available: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM | Additional \$100

Camp Director: Melissa Field & Megan Reith | campinvention@stjoanarc.org

Exciting news for this location: We are offering an Extended Day experience, making our program schedule more convenient for busy families. With Extended Day, your program will run from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with an additional cost of \$100 per week. To sign up for this program schedule, please select the Extended Day option during checkout.

If these dates/times don't work for you, please visit invent.org/camp for other locations near you.

SAVE \$25 WITH CODE

FUN25

AT INVENT.ORG/CAMP

Offer expires March 20, 2025



Scan to secure
your spot today!

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Investors in Creativity and Invention
Army Educational Outreach Program
Burton D. Morgan Foundation
General Motors
Grainger

Nordson Corporation Foundation
Overdeck Family Foundation
Sara Blakely Foundation, Inc.
U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) STEM
Walton Family Foundation

SJA Jump Rope Club Permission Slip

Winter/Spring Session:

- February- 10th & 24th
- March- 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st
- April- 7th and 14th



Time: 3:15-4:15 pm

Where: St. Joan of Arc School

Who: Students in 1st Grade through 8th Grade

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 should bring their own single rope to club practice, that way it is their size. Please make sure your jumper's rope is labeled with their name. Bead ropes work well but licorice ropes are also acceptable. 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, February 4th 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. _____

3. _____

2. _____

4. _____

Person completing this form- _____

Parent signature- _____ Date _____

Email address- _____

Phone number- _____

ARTS AND CRAFTS CLUB

Grades 1-4

Start Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2025

End Date: Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Meeting Dates: 2/18; 3/4; 3/25; 4/15; 5/6

Time: 3:15-4:00

Where: Mrs Baur's classroom



Students will participate in drawing activities and making craft items.

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

My child, _____, has permission to participate in
the arts and crafts club.

Parent signature: _____

Parent email address: _____

Knitting and Crocheting Club

Grades 5-8

Start: February 11, 2025

End: Tuesday, April 29, 2025

Time: 3:15pm-4:00pm

Meeting Dates: 2/11; 2/25; 3/18; 4/8; 4/29

Where: Resource room: Chairperson-Mrs. Baur



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

Students will learn the basic stitches for knitting and/or crocheting.

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: _____

Environmental Club Permission Slip

WINTER SESSION: February 10, 24
March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
April 7, 14



Time: 3:15 - 4:15

Where: St. Joan of Arc School

Who: Students in Grades K - 4th (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 pack an afternoon snack to eat while we take attendance.
(Let us know if your child has food allergies)

Please fill out 1 permission slip for each child in your family.
Return permission slips no later than Monday February 3rd to Mrs. Simmons

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

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 _____



BINGO NIGHT



FRIDAY
FEB. 28TH

\$20.00
entry fee

SJA Church Hall

Doors open at: 06:00pm

Game starts at: 06:30pm

CASH PRIZES!!

Small refreshments available for purchase





2025 Individual Order Form



**Benefit Your Organization by
Purchasing Your Tickets Here!**



**Every 10 tickets purchased supports our
2025 8th grade class!**



**Regular Admission tickets are discounted to
\$50.00 each**

*Valid for one 2025 operational day
(May 2025-January 1, 2026)

No refunds or ticket extensions will be offered

St. Joan of Arc School will distribute tickets in May.

Please email svara@stjoanarc.org with any questions.