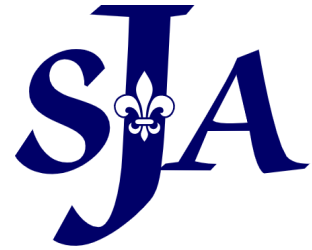


St. Joan of Arc School

Parent Newsletter



January 15, 2025

Dear Parents and SJA Families,

Since we have already used two of our snow days, we have one left of the three that were built into the calendar as extra days. After that, teachers will either send assignments home if a weather cancellation is anticipated, or post to Google classroom, assignments that students can work on at home, so that additional days we are closed count toward the total instructional days for the year. We continue to follow the school closing and delay schedule of Harford County Public Schools.

Last week I gave you a “Save the Date,” for a presentation by Mr. Joe Dugan. Mr. Dugan has 37 years of Law Enforcement Experience. He has worked as a Homicide Detective in Baltimore City and as a member of the HIDTA Task Force. The last seven years of his career was as a Child Abuse/ICAC Detective at the Harford County Sheriff’s Office, Harford County Child Advocacy Center. He now works as an Internet Safety Specialist with the Maryland State Police. The presentation will explain the origin and mission of the ICAC Task Force. He will discuss the many ways our children can find themselves in trouble on the internet, such as, loss of privacy, exposure to graphic content both from imagery and online games. He will also talk about other important internet safety for our children.

This presentation will take place on January 30, 6:30 in the church hall, 222 S. Law Street, Aberdeen. This topic is very important to know about to keep our kids safe and out of trouble. **We are asking that all parents attending please RSVP for this event by [clicking here](#). The presentation is for adults only.**

Stay warm, and be blessed!
Mr. Schmitz

Please be sure to read thru the newsletter in its entirety as there are also important flyers attached.

Important Dates

Jan 20	School Closed MLK Jr. Day
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

Inclement Weather

This year we had 3 days built into our calendar for inclement weather. We now used two snow days, because of this we will now have school on March 18, 2025 & April 2, 2025. Please make sure to update your calendars. Once all three of those are used, teachers will provide work for subsequent days we are closed, and those days will become Asynchronous instructional days.

Hot Lunch

Our next hot lunch will be Wednesday 1/22/25. An order form will be sent out tomorrow morning at 8am. All orders for 1/22 /25 will need to be placed by 8 am on Monday 1/20/25.

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**

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.

SJA Summer Camp

SJA will be holding summer camp this year starting the week of June 8th. Information and a registration link will be sent out by email next Tuesday January 21st. Parents please keep in mind summer camps do fill up fast, please fill your registration out promptly.

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.](#)

Reminder from the Nurse..

ILLNESS UPDATE!!

There are a lot of different illnesses currently circulating in our school community. We have an Upper Respiratory Illness that sometimes leads to pneumonia with or without a fever, a GI virus that starts with intermittent stomach pains and nausea and ends with vomiting and diarrhea, also

with or without a fever. There is also the GI Norovirus. So **PLEASE!** If your child is having any symptoms, please take the precaution and keep them home until they are feeling better.

Here are some guidelines for the common illnesses we are seeing. This is how long you are contagious - meaning you can spread your germs to another person:

GI Bug: 48-72 hours

Flu: 5 to 7 days

Covid: 5 to 10 days

Streptococcus: 24-48 hours with antibiotics, 2 to 3 weeks without treatment

Norovirus: 24 to 72 hours

RSV: 3 to 8 days

Upper Respiratory Virus or Human Metapneumovirus (hMPV): 2 to 5 days

Best Treatment:

Rest, Hydration and Over-the-Counter Medications to treat symptoms.

If fever or illness persists, contact your primary care provider for diagnosis and treatment.

Attendance: If your child is going to be absent from school, arrive late or leave early~~ Could you please email their homeroom teacher along with 'attendance@stjoanarc.org', with the reason your child is missing school. Please include their symptoms if they are ill.

Water Bottles, Lunch and Morning Snacks

Please remember to send your child with a **refillable water bottle each day**. We encourage them to hydrate all day long, but we are going through a large amount of bottled water each week. If you like to donate a case of water to your child's homeroom, the office or the nurse~It would be greatly appreciated.

Morning Snacks and Lunch: While it is a process getting back in the swing of things after our break and snow day, please double check before leaving the house that your child has their snack and lunch for the day. This is becoming a common issue, we value your assistance.

HSA

Our next Restaurant night will be held on Monday January 27 , 4 -8 pm at Panera Bread located at 1022 Beards Hill Rd, Aberdeen MD. A flyer will be sent out next week. Present the flyer or mention our school when you order to help raise money for SJA.

We will be holding our first Bingo Friday, February 28th @ 6:30 in the church hall. Details will be out soon, please SAVE THE DATE!

Message from Mrs. Ericson

Congratulations to our 5th grade class on 100% book return last week.

Jump Rope Club: Join the SJA Jump Rope Club! See attached permission form.

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.

Parish Bulletins

[St. Joan Of Arc](#)

[St. Patricks](#)

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. _____

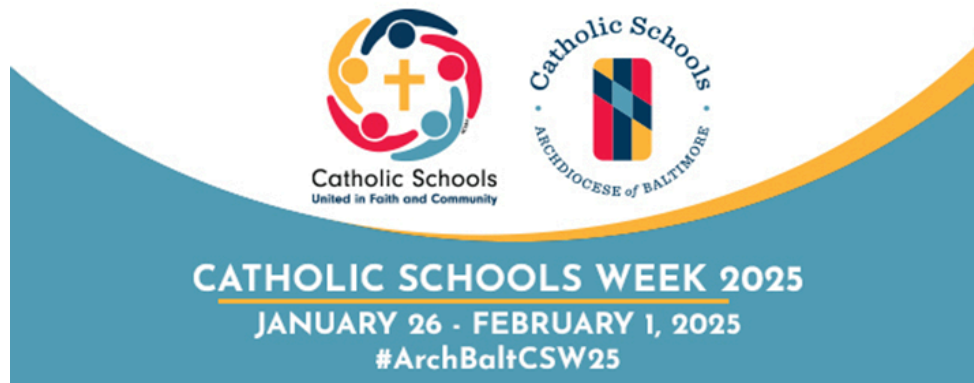
4. _____

Person completing this form- _____

Parent signature- _____ Date _____

Email address- _____

Phone number- _____



Sunday – Celebrating Our Parish School : Students will welcome Catholic Schools Week by speaking at St. Joan of Arc and St. Patrick’s in Havre de Grace about their experience at SJA.

Monday – Celebrating Our Community : Students will celebrate the “Souper Bowl” by bringing in canned soup for the Good Samaritan House and wearing their favorite football jersey with P.E. bottoms. Students will make cards for community members. Prospective families interested in SJA are invited to Open House from 8:30-10:30 am by registration only.

Tuesday – Celebrating Our Families: Students will be making thank you cards for their parents. Parents are invited to attend the JC Rock Band performance with their students. Parents must RSVP before January 24 th and we are limited to 2 guests per family.

Wednesday – Celebrating Our Students :Chick-fil-A breakfast sandwiches will be served in the morning with special student activities throughout the day. Students will wear their class color with P.E. bottoms.

Thursday- Celebrating Our Parish Staff & Vocations: Students will celebrate the support of our Parish Staff by making cards/gifts for the Parish Staff. Students can wear red, green and violet accessories to represent liturgical colors. Students will make prayer cards for residents at Mercy Ridge.

Friday – Celebrating our Faculty : Students will celebrate their teachers with special surprises. Lunch will be provided by HSA for the Faculty. Students dress like your teachers and teachers dress up like students. **12:05 pm dismissal**

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

Knights Unite for STEM Education



APRIL 10, 2025

5:00-7:00 PM

Our Mission

The purpose of the Family STEM Night is to inspire students to explore STEM topics and careers, to showcase school STEM projects, and to highlight businesses and organizations in our community that use STEM skills. Our hope is that this STEM Night inspires our students and invites them to explore all the ways STEM skills are used in industry and in everyday life.

Will You Host a Table?

We are looking for individuals or organizations to host tables at our STEM night. Each table should teach children how STEM is used in your career, or provide a hands on STEM activity for students to participate in. There is no fee for hosting a table, we are just hoping to build partnerships with organizations in our community and expose our students to practical applications of STEM.



For more information please email our STEM Coordinator mfield@stjoanarc.org



Camp Invention®

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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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