



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



## A note from Mr. Schmitz

Dear St. Joan of Arc Parents and Families,

Last week, we completed another successful lock-down drill. As I have mentioned, these are required by Maryland state law. Nonetheless, we are very cognizant of the fact that they could be upsetting to children, so we advise you before so that you can talk to your children, and afterward so that you can follow-up if needed. Fr. Francis was visiting, so he walked the school with me. He was amazed at how quiet the school was.

I am also asking you to make sure to read Nurse Baer's message about the uptick in flu and flu-like illness we are experiencing in the school. Please follow all of her recommendations. We thought we were out of the woods, but things have been tough the past two weeks. Maybe our Easter break will help clear things out.

Next week, our window opens for spring MAP testing. If your child is testing next Thursday through the following Tuesday, please ensure that they are rested, eat breakfast, and that you encourage them to do their very best. We appreciate your support for your kids.

Blessings,  
Joseph A. Schmitz  
Principal

## Upcoming

**MAR 21 NO SCHOOL / PROFESSIONAL DAY**

**MAR 24 NO SCHOOL**

**MAR 25 CASEY CARES PAJAMA DRIVE BEGINS**

**MAR 28 STATIONS OF THE CROSS 2PM**

**MAR 31 SPRING UNIFORM BEGINS**

**APR 3, 4, 7 MAP TESTING**

**APR 9 SCHOOL WIDE FIELD TRIPS**

**APR 10 STEM NIGHT 5PM-7PM**

**APR 16 LIVING STATIONS 10AM/ 12:05**

**DISMISSAL**

**APR 17- 25 SPRING BREAK**

## Nurse Baer says...

We are currently experiencing another Flu (Mostly Flu B) and "Flu Like Illness" Outbreak here at SJA. Symptoms have included fever, cough, headaches, body aches, stomach complaints such as diarrhea and vomiting along sore throats. Students who have become ill at school with ILI have been evaluated and sent home as appropriate.

At this point, we have seen this illness in all of our classes.

If your child exhibits any of these symptoms, please consider keeping them home and see how they are. Please have them remain at home until they are symptom free without medication.

We need everyone working together to help limit the spread!

If your child is sent home sick from the nurse, **THEY MUST STAY HOME THE ENTIRE NEXT DAY OF SCHOOL.**

If your child is staying home for any reason, please include the nurse in your email to their teacher(s). ([sbaer@stjoanarc.org](mailto:sbaer@stjoanarc.org)) Please include their symptoms including temperature reading and any positive lab tests.

Your help and cooperation is greatly appreciated!

## 3 REASONS TO DONATE TO THE ANNUAL FUND

1. School improvement  
Your donation improves the quality of education that each student receives
2. Create a Culture of Giving  
Your gift will grow as it inspires others to give
3. Tax-Deductible  
Contributions are tax-deductible

[Donate here](#)

## HSA Members 25-26 school year

Our HSA will have open positions for next school year. If you would be interested in joining the HSA please email Mrs. Hinch [chinch@stjoanarc.org](mailto:chinch@stjoanarc.org) no later than May 1st.

Joe Corbi's will be delivered on April 14th. As soon as a delivery time is given families will be notified. For those who sold 4 or more items a dress down pass will go home for Wednesday, April 2nd.

Save the date for BINGO MAY 9th!!



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



From Mrs. Ericson....

Please remind your child to turn in their library book each week.

## STEM TIP OF THE WEEK

As a Catholic School we do our best to infuse catholic identity into everything we teach. This ideal is even carried over into our STEM curriculum. Students are taught to be good stewards of our earth and to use their God given gifts to serve others. You can enforce these concepts at home by taking some time to talk about community needs, then brainstorming ways to help. Children love using their imagination, and even if their solutions aren't plausible, they are still practicing critical thinking and problem solving skills, and are learning empathy and concern for others.

## Hot Lunch Reminder

In the event your child forgets their lunch on Wednesday and they receive a slice of pizza, your FACTS account will be charged appropriately. Please also note, we can not guarantee that we will have extra pizza.

## Summer Uniform



Summer uniform begins Monday, March 31st. Please make sure your child is in proper uniform.

## BOOST Scholarship

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

## Hershey Park Tickets

**Send our 8th grade to Hershey!**

DISCOUNTED HERSHEY PARK TICKETS ARE ON SALE AGAIN THIS YEAR! PLEASE [CLICK HERE](#) TO ORDER. TICKET SALES WILL END ON FRIDAY APRIL 11TH. ADMISSION TICKETS ARE DISCOUNTED TO \$50.00 EACH. MEAL TICKETS ARE \$20.00 EACH AND INCLUDE ONE ENTREE, ONE SIDE, AND ONE 24 OZ FOUNTAIN DRINK. EVERY 10 ADMISSION TICKETS SOLD, EARNS ONE ADMISSION 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.



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



## Join SJA at the Ironbirds game



Join SJA at the Ironbirds game on Thursday, May 22nd @ 7:05pm. Seats are limited, purchase your tickets [here](#). Password if needed is "st.joan" We hope to see you there!

## Summer Camp at SJA

Bring on the fun and sign up for summer camp at SJA. See attached flyer for detailed information for camps. Camps are filling up quickly. [Please click here to register.](#)

## STEM Camp July 7-11

SJA will be holding a STEM CAMP this summer. This is a great experience for your students 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.](#)



## Our Lenten School Project

We are still collecting hygiene products for women and children that utilize the WE Coalition through The Willow House right here in Aberdeen. It is the yellow house at the end of Law Street. (301 Bel Air Ave.) They provide support and housing for women and children in need. The items we will be collecting are: soap, body wash, toothpaste, lotion, perfume/body spray, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, combs, brushes, small mirrors, etc. We are also asking for a small toy to be added to the children's bags-like coloring books and crayons, deck of cards, card game, small toy or puzzle.

There will be a school wide prize of "Ice Cream for Breakfast" on Wednesday, April 16th- the day before our Easter Break. Thank you for your help with this project! If you have any questions, please reach out to Gina Sanphillipo or Susan Baer

## Casey Cares Pajama Collection

March 25-April 7

Please send NEW pajama sets in and give them to your HOMEROOM TEACHER to be tracked.

## Parish Bulletins



[St. Joan of Arc Bulletin](#)



[St. Patrick Bulletin](#)



# Give thanks with a grateful heart



## My School Cares Program

Courtesy of the Greater Baltimore Area Chick-fil-A Restaurants

Collection Dates: March 25-April 7, 2025

Pajama collections can be held between March 1-April 4, 2025.

### Service Project: Casey Cares Pajama Drive

**ABOUT CASEY CARES:** Casey Cares is a non-profit organization that enhances the lives of critically ill children and their families by providing opportunities for family fun and engagement outside of the doctor appointments and hospital stays.

One of the major needs for Casey Cares is donations of New Pajamas for infants through young adult sizes. They provide fun pajamas to children on their birthdays, in the hospital and during in-home treatments to cheer them. They work with regional hospitals to provide pajamas throughout the year and give out over 60,000 pairs each year.

LEARN MORE: [www.caseycare.org](http://www.caseycare.org)

### Join in the fun and win prizes!

#### Individual Prizes:

**PARTICIPATION PRIZE:** Each student who donates a new pair of pajamas will receive a coupon good for a free Chick-fil-A® Kids Meal (Elementary School) or Chick-fil-A® Sandwich (Middle School). Value approximately \$5.29-\$6.59 per student.

**SUPER STAR PJ COLLECTOR:** Any individual that collects more than 40 new pairs of pajamas by hosting their own drive will receive a 20" Push Chick-fil-A® Cow, and Chick-fil-A® Catering Tray Card good for a free small tray (value: \$70).

#### Team Prizes:

**TOP 3 FUNDRAISING SCHOOL HOMEROOMS:** (Collecting over 40 new pair of pajama)  
- Prize: Milk & Cookie Party delivered to your school (value: \$105.00 per classroom).  
- Homeroom Teacher will receive a coupon for a Small Chick-fil-A® Catering Tray (value: \$37.00).

The participating school may submit up to 10 homeroom classes that qualified in collecting over 40 new pair of pajamas. In the event of a tie, the school will make the final decision on the top 3 homerooms selected to win the Milk & Cookie party.

**TOP FUNDRAISING GRADE LEVEL:** (Collecting over 100 pairs of pajamas)

- Prize: 5 ct. Chick-fil-A® Nugget Be Our Guest Card (value: \$3.06 per BOCI for the entire class level)

The participating school may submit only 10 grade level who qualified in collecting over 100 new pairs of pajamas. In the event of a tie, the school will make the final decision on the top grade level selected to win the lunch prize.



## IT'S A SCHOOL WIDE LENTEN SERVICE PROJECT

We are collecting hygiene products to benefit the Willow House. \*

(right at the end of Law Street at 301 Bel Air Ave. Its the Yellow House!)

\*The Willow House is part of the WE Coalition which provides support and housing for women and children in need.

We will be making 'Blessing Bags' for the women and children.

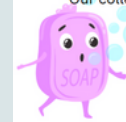
This could be soap, body wash, toothpaste, lotion, perfume/body spray, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, small toys, combs, brushes, small mirrors, etc. (Donations must be new/unused.)

For the Children's Bags, we would like to include a small toy, coloring book and crayons, a book, card game or game.

Our collection will run from Wednesday, March 5th through Wednesday, April 9th.

There will be a school wide Ice Cream for Breakfast Treat on April 16th at snack time.

This is sponsored by the Sunshine Committee. Questions: Contact: [gsanphillipo@stjoanarc.org](mailto:gsanphillipo@stjoanarc.org) or [sbaer@stjoanarc.org](mailto:sbaer@stjoanarc.org)



**Volunteers Needed**

# SJA Family STEM NIGHT

Knights Unite for STEM Education

**APRIL 10, 2025**  
**5:00-7:00 PM**

Come join the SJA students and staff as we celebrate our annual Family STEM Night! This event is a free, come-and-go event for Pre-K-8 students, families, and community members!

Engage in fun, interactive, STEM learning activities and demonstrations, take a peek at our 4th and 5th grade Science Fair and Invention Convention projects, and learn about STEM related careers!

**ST JOAN OF ARC SCHOOL**  
230 S. LAW STREET  
ABERDEEN MD 21001

**Volunteers Needed**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT [MFIELD@STJOANARC.ORG](mailto:MFIELD@STJOANARC.ORG)

# PASTORATE YOUTH NIGHT

**FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH**

Wednesday | April 9  
6.30-8.00 PM

Fun!  
Friends!  
Games!

**SJA Parish Life Center**  
230 S. Law St.  
Aberdeen MD

We hope you have a great rest of your week.