



Weekly NEWSLETTER



A note from Mr. Schmitz.....

October 1 , 2025



Dear SJA Parents and Families,

October 1....Hard to believe!

There are many good things happening at SJA. We are looking forward to the Blessing of the Pets tomorrow, and the visit from the Diamondback Terrapins. Also, tomorrow, sports come to SJA with the beginning of intramural volleyball.

Next week, on October 8, we will celebrate Our Lady of the Rosary at the school Mass at 8:30 in the church. Look for first Trimester Interim Reports next Friday, October 10.

Drop-offs and pick-ups are going smoothly. I do have a request to pass along from a neighbor. Please do not block driveways to neighborhood parking pads when lining up for drop-offs or pick-ups. Thanks for helping us maintain good relations with the community!

I look forward to seeing a lot of you at the events we have coming up.

Blessings,
Mr. Schmitz





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DATES TO REMEMBER

October 2- Class photo and Individual picture/
Pet Blessing 2:30pm-3:00pm

October 3- School closed/ Professional
Development for teachers

October 7- Hearing and Vision Screening

October 10- Trimester 1 Interims / Bingo @ 6pm

October 17- PBIS House day/ **12:05 dismissal** /
Aftercare til 4pm

October 24- Trunk or Treat 5-7pm/ Middle
School social 6-8pm

October 29- Parent Teacher Virtual Conference
4-8pm

October 30- **12:05 dismissal** / Class parties/
Parent Teacher Conferences til 4pm

October 31- School Closed



We want to hear from you!

What does your child do outside of school that needs to be celebrated? Please email a photo and a brief description of his/her accomplishment to Mrs. Maid at email@stjoanarc.org. She will be posting these accomplishments and forming a SJA Brag Book. This is a great tool for us to showcase our students' interests and accomplishments to the community and to families who might have an interest in our school.

DO YOU OWN A BUSINESS?

SJA wants to strengthen and support our school community. Please let me know if you own your own business. We would like to create a page on our website with the name and logo of your business. Please contact Elisa Maid.

School store now open

Our school store is now OPEN! Please [click here](#) to place your order.

Parish Bulletins



[St. Joan of Arc Bulletin](#)



[St. Patrick Bulletin](#)



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TRACK IT FORWARD

This is the website we use to track volunteer hours for the year. Each family is required to volunteer 20 hours per school year. If you choose not to volunteer, your FACTS account will be billed on May 14, 2026 for \$10.00 per incomplete hour for up to 20 hours. Existing families, please make sure your information is correct and you have an account on Track It Forward. New families, please click the link below to register and create an account for the school year. Each family only needs one account.

[Track it Forward website](#)

APPLICATIONS

Applications for the 2026-2027 school are now open! Help spread the word about SJA to prospective families. Parents and students are our best resources to give 1st hand experiences. Plus we have a referral program too! Make sure the prospective family lists you as the referral. .

Picture Day

Picture Day is tomorrow October 2, 2025. This is for individual pictures as well as class pictures.

All students should wear their dress uniforms, but students who have PE that day – Kindergarten, and 4 th , 5 th , and 7 th grades – should wear their normal PE shoes so they can be on the gym floor. Please remember to send your student in with their picture form.

Blessing of the Animals

Please join us for our Blessing of the Animals on Thursday, October 2, 2025 at 2:30pm on the lawn next to the Parish.

We will open the school parking lot early at 2:10 for families to be able to be scanned for dismissal and then to head over the lawn next to the parish to join our students.

Families can bring their pets, please have them in a cage or on leash. Children who cannot bring pets may bring a photo or drawing of their favorite animal.

We look forward to having you and your pet join us!



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HSA NEWS

Join us for a fun family
event!



Support SJA

Cash Bingo!





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Hot Lunch Program

Hot lunch order links will only be delivered via Bright Arrow notifications on Thursdays and Sundays. Orders are due by 8am each

Monday morning for that Wednesday's

lunch. **Please be sure to put your**

student's name and correct grade on the order form. There will be **NO exceptions.**

Your student will have the option of ordering cheese pizza, pepperoni pizza or a garden salad (with or without chicken) from Pats. If a student is absent, we can not roll orders over to the next week.

Please click [here](#) to access the first order form. Please fill out one form per student.

Contact Mrs. Sierra Vara at svara@stjoanarc.org with any questions.

Faith Formation

As we begin our 2025–2026 Faith Formation year, we look forward to walking with your family in faith! Children preparing for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will have their first class with their parents on Sunday, October 12 from 9:45-11am in the Hall. Students preparing for Confirmation will have their first class with their parents on Sunday, October 19th, from 9:45-11am in the Meeting House. Children who are enrolled in kindergarten through 5th grade Catechesis classes will have their first meetings on Sunday, October 19 from 9:45-11am in the Hall. Our next Youth Ministry event will be making chili for Our Daily Bread, a Catholic charities affiliate that provides hot, nutritious lunches to anyone in need in Baltimore. We will meet on Thursday, October 2 from 6:30-8pm in the St. Patrick's Hall at 650 Pennington Avenue. Please join us and sign up to bring an ingredient at [Youth Ministry Chili Sign-up Genius!](#)

Counsleors Corner....

This month, our Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) theme is Planting Seeds of Kindness. Just as a small seed can grow into something beautiful, even the smallest acts of kindness can grow into stronger friendships, healthier classrooms, and happier hearts. At school, students will be encouraged to notice and practice kind words and actions each day. At home, families can support this theme by modeling kindness, pointing out "kindness moments," and talking together about how kindness makes others feel.

By working together, we can nurture a school community where every student feels valued and supported.



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Nurses Baer Says...



Just a reminder to send in any medications your child may need at school. This includes Over-The-Counter Medications.

Also please remember to include "attendance@stjoanarc.org" when emailing your child's teacher about lateness, absences or when they are leaving early. Thank you!

We will be holding Hearing and Vision Screenings on Tuesday, October 7th. We will screen all new students, and those students in PreK-4 (if new), Grade 1 and Grade 8.

If you have concerns about your child, please let me know, and I can add them to the schedule.

Volunteers Needed: Parent volunteers are needed on October 7th to help walk the students to and from class and the screenings. If you would be available, please let me know. Your help is greatly appreciated and it would go towards your volunteer hours. You must be VIRTUS trained.

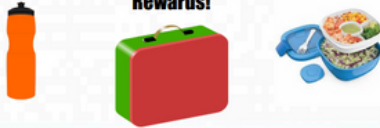
There is a change in the Nurse's Office this year. Mrs. Baer will be working Monday through Thursday. Mrs. Teresa Stupi will be working on Fridays.

Thank you!!

Trash Free Tuesday



When: Begins September 23, 2025
Why: To help the environment by reducing the amount of school waste.
How: Every Tuesday bring your lunch in at least 3 reusable containers & receive 3 Points on PBIS Rewards!



Pastorate of St. Patrick's and St. Joan of Arc
FIRST RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION

Click here to register.

Parent Meeting and First Class September 28th

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion Registration

CONTACT SINEAD BOYD FOR MORE INFORMATION
 SINEAD.BOYD@ARCHBALT.ORG
 410-939-2525




TURN SHOPPING INTO EARNING

Experience the right way to fundraise

Gift card fundraising is the best way to raise money. Buy gift cards from your favorite brands to earn on your daily purchases. It's never been easier to create opportunities for what matters most to you. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted.

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It's super convenient. All I need to go shopping is my phone—I don't even need credit cards or my purse. I'm going to pay for these things anyway, I love being able to use gift cards so we get something in return."
 Jan H., owner Joe Hockey

Get started by downloading the **RaiseRight™** app on your phone or go to **RaiseRight.com** on your computer. For step-by-step instructions, visit **RaiseRight.com/NoStartEarning**.

RaiseRight Fundraiser runs all year round. Use the QR code on the left or use enrollment code **ASC13C7351446** for SJIA at RaiseRight.com. See flyer for Bonus Fest for ways to increase earnings in October.



RaiseRight.

BONUS FEST
 October 3-26

Shop new bonuses every weekend, Friday-Sunday. Earn more on your everyday shopping and make a bigger impact on your organization.

Things to know

- Bonuses start each weekend at 12:00 am ET Friday and end at 11:59 pm ET Sunday.
- Offers will be announced each Friday via email and on Facebook.
- Every purchase from our weekly featured brand earns you an entry to win one of four \$100 gift cards!

Plus, four chances to win a gift card from one of our featured brands!

How to participate

- Already have a RaiseRight participant account? View and shop bonuses on the RaiseRight mobile app or at **RaiseRight.com**.
- Don't have an account yet? Follow the easy steps to get started at **RaiseRight.com/NoStartEarning**. Check with your program coordinator to get your organization's unique enrollment code.

DSW JCPenney Total Wine GAP

RaiseRight. App Store Google Play

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"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."
 — Romans 12:12