



November 12, 2025



A note from Mr. Schmitz....

Dear SJA Families and Parents,

The season is changing. Lots of cold and wind on the parking lot yesterday afternoon, and preparations to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas have begun. I hope that the upcoming holidays have many blessings and grace encounters in store for you.

Please send students to school with the current year spirit wear when we have those days. The spirit wear is based on the Archdiocesan faith motto for the current year, and so it is important for consistency. Thank you.

Look for permission slips for your 8 th graders to go to the bowling alley after the HSPT next week. It is just a small reward for their hard work.

Mrs. Jones is looking for a few good men and women to help her with the next sport we are going to try to get up and running – basketball. She could use assistance with coaching and refing the games. We don't know exactly what we need because we don't know how many of our middle school students will sign up. We will run separate sessions for boys and girls for this sport. See her flyer in this newsletter.

Blessings, Mr. Schmitz







DATES TO REMEMBER

November 13- MD STEM FEST

November 14- Asynchronus ½ day no students on campus

November 17- Scholastic Book Fair begins

November 19- HSPT for 8th grade

November 21- Report Cards

November 25- Grandparents & Special Friends day/ Trimester 1 awards/ 12:05 Dismissal NO aftercare

November 26- 28 - School closed for Thanksgiving break

December 11- Christmas Program 6pm in Church

December 12- Jingle Bell Shop

December 19- PBIS House day/ Class parties 2pm

December 22- January 2 - SCHOOL CLOSED For the holiday

APPLICATIONS



Applications for the 2026-2027 school are now open for **NEW** students! 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.

Emergency & Weather related Closings/ Delayed Openings

St. Joan of Arc School follows the same procedures for school closing and delays as does the Harford County Public School System. If Harford County schools close early because of inclement weather, SJA will do the same.

Extended Care will not open on days when school is closed. Morning Care will not be open when school is opening late. If school is dismissed early, Extended Care will be opened until 1 hour after dismissal.

Parish Bulletins



Salar Patrick College P





Asynchronous Day

Friday, November 14 is an Asynchronous learning day, students will not attend school. Students will have work to do at home for their classes. This work will be sent home or added to their Google Classroom. This work must be completed and turned in to the teacher.

Community Partners

Did you know we have a new page on our website? It's the Community Partners page! Discover the businesses run by SJA families and support our amazing community. Check it out today!

https://stjoanarc.org/community-partners/

House Color Day

November 13 is STEM Fest day. ALL students are to wear their house colors with PF bottoms.

From Mrs. Ericson

Congratulations to 1st grade on 100% book return!

BOOK FAIR ... coming soon

"The Book Fair is just days away! The Fair encourages students to read AND raises much-needed funds for our school. The easiest way for kids to shop the Fair is by creating and funding your child's eWallet. No more worrying about cash, and their balances show right on the register. Visit our school homepage to get started:

https://scholastic.com/bf/stjoanofarcschool"





Counselors Corner.....

As the holiday season begins, November is the perfect time to slow down and notice the good that is around us. Practicing gratitude can boost your mood, lower stress, and help kids and adults build resilience. Try this simple family challenge: at dinner or bedtime, have everyone share one thing they're thankful for and one way they helped someone else that day. Gratitude grows when it's practiced- and small moments of appreciation can make a big difference in our mental health. Let's model what it means to pause, reflect, and be thankful- especially during the busy season ahead.- Ms. B

GRANT & AID 2026/2027

The 2026-2027 Grant & Aid Applications opened on October 1, 2025. You may access the application by clicking <u>here</u>.

Please be sure to submit your application early. The deadline is February 28, 2026—no exceptions.

FACTS now offers a dedicated phone line for applicants who need assistance with the Grant & Aid process. Their representatives are available to help with the application form, documentation, or any general questions: (866) 315-9262.





From Nurse Baer...

Sunshine Committee News!

Here is a list of our Upcoming Service Projects.....

November-Food Drive to fill the Parish Pantry. This is a way we can help those in our community that need a little extra during this time. Every student that brings in \$5 or the equivalent to that in food will receive a "Pajama Day Pass" for a date in December. Please see flyer below

December- We will be sponsoring families in our community to help make their Christmas a little brighter. We are asking for Gift Card Donations in any amount from any vendor. Please send them to school marked 'Sunshine Committee'.

January/February- We will be collecting Mittens/Gloves and Socks to give to local charities. Sales are already starting! Shop now to save later!!

Your help in making these Service Projects a success is greatly appreciated! You may send items to school at any time marked 'Sunshine Committee." We couldn't do this without you!

Nurse's Notes.....

Cold and Flu Season is upon us. Please remember to get your Flu Shots! If your child is showing any symptoms: low grade fever, cough, stomach discomfort, please keep them at home to evaluate.

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

Thank you!







The Pastorate of St. Patrick and St. Joan of Arc

Youth Ministry will meet this Thursday, November 13th at the Meeting House from 6:30-8pm to make no-sew fleece blankets for Harford Family House's Emergency Shelter in Riverside! All middle and high school youth are invited - bring your energy, friends, and heart for service!

Due to the Ministry Fair and the Book Fair, our Sunday Catechesis and Confirmation Classes will meet in the Parish Office this weekend from 9:45-11am. Bring back your take-home activities to receive a prize, too!

Bingo Lovers Unite! Please join us for a cash bingo event this Saturday, November 15th at St. Patrick's to support our pastorate Faith Formation and Youth Ministry activities! All middle and high schoolers are invited to volunteer from 4-9pm! Doors open at 4:30pm for community members and guests, and the games begin at 5:30pm!

Calling all Altar Servers, too! All Catholic students in grades four and higher who have received First Communion may be trained to serve at school and/or parish masses! Please email charlotte.snyder@archbalt.org for details!



