



Weekly NEWSLETTER



December 17, 2025



A note from Mr. Schmitz.....

Dear SJA Parents and Families,

As you can imagine, our students are getting very wound up....at least the ones who aren't sick. Hopefully, with the long lead in to Christmas next week, everyone will have a chance to rebound and have a great Christmas.

Not to be Grinchy, but we will be paying more attention to having students comply with the Handbook uniform policies. Things are getting a bit lax, and that affects the tone of the school. Thanks for helping us with this issue. A separate communication will be coming out pertaining to the uniform.

I had mentioned that we were going to do a lockdown drill this week. Because of some internal relocation caused by a heating unit we are having issues with, we decided to do a shelter-in-place drill instead. Our students and teachers did well, and the shelter-in-place drill also satisfies a state requirement to help us stay on pace. Hoping for good news on the heating unit soon!

It seems as if the three-hour delay might be the new "go to" tool for delayed openings in Harford County Public Schools. I hope that this is not too much of an adjustment for our families.

This is our last Parent Newsletter for 2025. As a reminder, when we start the New Year, we are going to do a once a month distribution during the first week of the month, with other communications being issued as needed.

All of us here wish our students and families the most joyous of Christmas holidays, and a peaceful, prosperous New Year!

Merry Christmas,
Mr. Schmitz





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DATES TO REMEMBER



December 15-19- Christmas Spirit Week

December 18- Live Nativity play @ 2:00

December 19- PBIS House day/ Class parties 2pm

December 22 - January 2 - SCHOOL CLOSED For the holiday

January 5- Return to school

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.

Grant & Aid 2026/2027

The 2026–2027 Grant & Aid Applications opened on October 1, 2025. You may access the application by clicking [here](#).

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.

School Christmas Spirit Week

There is no better way to spend the last week of school before Christmas break but with a Spirit week. Please see below for each days theme.



Parish Bulletins



[St. Joan of Arc Bulletin](#)



[St. Patrick Bulletin](#)



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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/>

From Mrs. Ericson.....

Congratulations to 5th grade and Prek 3 on 100% book return!

Joe Corbi's Fundraiser.....

Its almost that time of year. Our Joe Corbi fundraiser will begin on January 22, 2026 and run through February 5, 2026. Mark your calendar.

Hope T-shirt for sale

We have a handful of Hope T-shirts for sale. Please email Mrs. Franke, pfranke@stjoanarc.org if you would like to purchase a short sleeve for \$15 or long sleeve for \$18. Limited number available.

Counselors Corner.....

As we approach Christmas break and prepare for Christmas, we are reminded of the actual reason for this holy season-the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amid the excitement of decorations, gifts, and celebrations, we encourage our students to reflect on the humility, love, and hope that came to us through Christ. This Advent season has been a time of prayer, preparation, and joyful anticipation within our school community. We wish all of our families a blessed and peaceful Christmas. May your homes be filled with faith, love, and the light of Christ. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year.



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Tuition for the 26-27 school year

The School Board has approved the tuition for the 26-27 year.



St. Joan of Arc School

Grounded in Faith, Focused on the Future

Dear Families,

The budget has been developed and tuition has been set for the 2026–2027 school year. This year's tuition will reflect an increase of **\$270.00**, approximately **3.02%**. We understand the impact that tuition changes can have on families. While we have maintained a tuition freeze for the past two years, an increase is now necessary to sustain the high standard of education we provide and to support fair compensation for our faculty.

To continue recruiting and retaining highly qualified educators, we are working toward achieving compensation at 80% of the rate for Baltimore County teachers. We remain deeply grateful to our dedicated faculty for their commitment to Catholic education.

2026-2027 TUITION RATES

	<u>1 Child</u>	<u>2 Children</u>	<u>3 Children</u>	<u>4 Children</u>	<u>5 Children</u>
Active Catholic	\$8,220	15,940	23,410	30,630	37,600
Non-Catholic	\$9,220	17,940	26,410	34,630	42,600

Discounts and Fees

Catholic Tuition Discount

The Catholic Tuition Discount Form must be submitted each year to qualify for the \$1,000 per child Catholic Discount.

Multi-Child Discount

- 2 children total discount \$500
- 3 children total discount \$1,250
- 4 children total discount \$2,250
- 5 children total discount \$3,500

8th Grade Fee

\$200 - Due April 17, 2026 (Includes the yearbook, retreat, and graduation fees)

Application and Registration Fees per Student (Non Refundable)

New Students

- Application Fee: \$99
- Registration Fee: \$175

Returning Students

- Re-registration Fee: \$200 each year
- **EARLY BIRD: \$150 if re-registered by January 10, 2026**

NEW: Tuition Deposit (Non-Refundable)

Each family will be responsible for a \$500 deposit, which will be applied to their 2026–2027 tuition. You may elect to pay the deposit in full or make payments toward the deposit through April 24, 2026.

FACTS Tuition Management & Financial Aid

FACTS will continue as the Archdiocese of Baltimore's provider for tuition management and financial aid processing. FACTS will collect all tuition payments—whether paid in full, semi-annually, or monthly.

All families are required to enroll in FACTS and make payments through EFT (automatic bank withdrawal) or credit card.

Register at: <https://online.factsmtg.com/SignIn.aspx> Please note: Credit card payments include an additional processing fee.



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From Nurse Baer...

JaFrom The Sunshine Committee.. ...

Thank you very much for your kind gift donations to help support families in our community for Christmas! We are sure you made their holiday a little brighter.

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! The Sunshine Committee

Nurse's Notes.....

Cold and Flu Season is upon us. We are currently experiencing an outbreak of both Flu and Flu like symptoms. It has hit some grades harder than others, but every class has been affected. The symptoms range from:

- nasal congestion,
- fever
- sore throat
- cough,
- extreme fatigue.
- body aches,
- cough
- headaches, many severe
- nausea with and without vomiting
- and cases of pneumonia

If your child presents with any of these symptoms, please keep them home until they are symptom free for 48 hours per our guidance for the Harford County Health Department. That is the only way we can limit the spread of this illness. Please know that it can last up to 10 days with a persistent, lingering cough. If taken early enough, Tamiflu has been helpful in controlling symptoms.

Please be sure to email 'attendance@stjoanarc.org or sbaer@stjoanarc.org with the reason why your child is absent along with their symptoms. This information is pertinent to the report we must send the Health Department. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Finally, please enjoy your holiday break with your families. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed, Healthy New Year!

Teresa and Susan

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

It's a Party Week in the Pastorate!

All Middle and High Schoolers (and their friends!) are invited to our Youth Ministry Christmas party this Thursday, December 18th, from 6:30-8pm at St. Patrick's! Get ready to celebrate the joy of Christmas with gingerbread house building, games, music and fun!

Families are invited to our Christmas Party in the Hall from 9:45-11:00am this Sunday, too! We're having a birthday party for Jesus with food, fellowship, and fun as we make ornaments, play games, and enjoy carols and cake! Children registered for Faith Formation can return the Take Home Activity from last weekend for a prize and pick up a new activity in the mailbox in the narthex. Have a blessed Christmas Vacation!

Blessings,
Charlotte Snyder
Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministry

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