



Monthly NEWSLETTER



January 28, 2026



A note from Mr. Schmitz....

Dear SJA Parents and Families,

Happy Catholic Schools Week! This is Catholic Schools Week, although we will postpone various celebratory events until next week given the weather. Please read the message from Superintendent Sr. Patricia McCarron shared yesterday I hope everyone stayed safe through the weekend's snow and ice.

As of today, Wednesday, 1/28, we have used the inclement days that were built into our calendar. Days that were built in to be off if we did not get any days off for weather will now be instructional days. We now have three asynchronous days to apply to additional closure up to three days. After that, we will await direction from the Archdiocese to see what the plan would be for adding instructional days to the calendar, or seeking a waiver from MSDE.

We will have many celebrations of our Catholic identity in February. The traditional St. Blase Day blessings of the throat will take place on February 3 in classes. Our school observance of Ash Wednesday on February 18 at our school Mass begins the holy season of Lent, and during Lent, we will celebrate Stations of the Cross on Fridays in the church.

High School Admissions Notifications will be sent out on Thursday, February 19, after 4:00 p.m. Please take time that evening to digest acceptance decisions as a family.

Blessings,
Mr. Schmitz





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DATES TO REMEMBER



Feb 6th HSA Winter Bingo

Feb 13th 1/2 day dismissal / PBIS house day/ Pancakes for Pollinators Breakfast/ Aftercare til 4pm

Feb 16th No School

Feb 18th Ash Wednesday

Feb 20th Stations of the Cross/ Dental Health Visit Prek 3- K

Feb 24th 2nd & 3rd Grade Field Trip to Baltimore Museum of Industry

Feb 27th Asynchronous 1/2 day for students / FACTS Grant and Aid Deadline

Registration for the 2026 - 2027 school year!

Follow these 3 easy steps.

1. Click on the following link to visit your family's Admissions & Enrollment Portal: <https://stjoanarc.fsenrollment.com/>
2. Log-in
3. Complete the 'Registration form' to begin the re-registration process.

REGISTRATION FEES

CONTINUING STUDENTS.....\$150.00 ea. (paid on or before January 10, 2026)

\$200.00 ea. (paid after January 10, 2026)

DEADLINE FOR RE-REGISTRATION IS February 10, 2026





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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

Attention School Families! The tuition assistance application for the 2026-2027 school year opened in October! If you are interested in applying for tuition assistance, time is of the essence, there are only two months left to submit your application! Please log into your FACTS account to begin the application process.

The Archdiocese of Baltimore is requiring the following documentation for verification of your application.

- Your 2024 Tax Return
- Your 2025 W-2's.

The deadline to submit your application and the required documentation is February 28, 2026. Please be sure your application notes that it is complete, as we are unable to consider incomplete applications.

Questions: Contact Pam Franke, Business Manager, St. Joan of Arc School or Sharon Tornatore, Regional Controller, Archdiocese of Baltimore.



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Tuition for the 26-27 school 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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Aftercare reminder for February

Feb. 13 Half day school with Aftercare 12-4

Feb. 16 No school no extended care

Feb. 27 No Aftercare

We're also looking for colored masking tape, scotch tape, white paper, crayons, markers, any kind of marker that's sparkly when you draw, rainbow crayons, etc for our art cart.

Girls can still sign up for Basketball. See flyer below

**BOYS AND GIRLS
BASKETBALL \$15**

Boys - 1st session* Jan 21- Feb 18th
Girls - 2nd session* Feb 25 - Mar 25th
Wednesdays* - 3:15 - 4:15 PM
Grades 6-8th
*days/dates are tentative

Name: _____
Grade: _____

FOR COACHING & REFEREE
OPPORTUNITIES, EMAIL
MJONES@STJOANARC.ORG



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Environmental Club

Any students grade K- 4th that would like to participate please email Mrs. Simmons, Rsimmons@stjoanarc.org for a permission slip.

Environmental Club Permission Slip

WINTER SESSION: February 26
March 5, 12, 19, 26
April 16

Time: 3:15 - 4:15
Where: St. Joan of Arc School
Who: Students in Grades K - 4 (maximum 18 students)



Club members will develop projects that make our school and our world a healthier, "greener" environment. This session's projects will revolve around continuing our recycling programs, learning about hibernation, migration, winter tree identification, native gardens and preparing bluebird boxes for spring. Join us for lots of fun!

Please pack an afternoon snack to eat while we take attendance.
(Let us know if your child has food allergies)

Please fill out 1 permission slip for each child in your family.
Return permission slips no later than Monday February 23rd to Mrs. Simmons

My child _____ Grade _____ has my permission to participate in SJA Environmental Club.
Food allergies _____

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)

Person completing this form _____
Parent signature _____ Date _____
Email address _____

Camp Invention Sign up

St. Joan of Arc will be hosting Camp Invention again this summer July 6th - July 10th. Please see the flyers below for all information.





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Counselor's Corner.....

As we move through the winter months, the shorter days and early darkness can sometimes affect our mood and energy levels. This is a great time to help children notice and reframe their thoughts by intentionally looking for positives—whether it's enjoying extra family time, noticing small daily joys, or celebrating personal successes. February also reminds us to focus on love, kindness, and respect for others, inspired by Saint Valentine, the patron saint of love. This month is an opportunity to encourage children to show compassion, include others, and practice gratitude at home and at school, helping to strengthen both emotional well-being and resilience. - Ms. B

From the Nurse

While I am happy to say the number of students that are ill with the Flu or 'Flu Like Symptoms' is down, we still have a lot of illness going through the building.

PLEASE if your child is not feeling well, please keep them home for 24 hours and evaluate whether or not they should be seen by their health care provider. Flu A, Flu B and Covid are everywhere in our community, which is why we still need to be cautious.

Please remember to include "attendance@stjoanarc.org" when emailing your child's teacher about lateness, absences or when they are leaving early. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out: sbaer@stjoanarc.org.

Thank you!

Water Bottles

Please remember to send your child to school with a refillable water bottle. It is an essential part of their school supplies. While some water has been donated, we have gone through almost 200 bottles in one week! There are filler stations for the students to use on each floor.

Your help is greatly appreciated!!



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

This weekend kicks off SJA's Catholic Schools Week! Please join us this Sunday, February 1st, for our Parish Faith Gathering in the Hall from 9:45-11:00! We will have a delicious pancake breakfast, and we will talk about Candlemas! Bring a candle (or multiple candles) to be blessed! We would love for our students to show off their school pride by coming to mass in their school uniform! Students who attend any mass in their uniform and have a picture taken with the priest will earn a dress-down day! We have lots of opportunities to get involved in the 11:15 Mass as well! Please considering singing with the student choir, or email Charlotte.Snyder@archbalt.org to volunteer as a reader, gift bearer, usher, or greeter. All are welcome! The Basketball Free Throw Contest for kids ages 9-14 will be happening in the Parish Life Center, too! Come register and practice at 1:30pm before the event starts at 1:45pm.

On February 8th, our Sunday Catechesis Classes will meet in the Hall and Confirmation Class will meet in the Meeting House from 9:45-11:00. On Sunday, February 15th, we will have our Snow Make Up First Sacraments and Confirmation Classes and Parent Session. First Reconciliation is on Saturday, February 21st, and February 22nd will be our First Sacraments Class and Confirmation Class with Parent Session.

Please join us for our upcoming Youth Ministry Nights as well! Don't worry if you've never attended before! Find a date that works and come join us for food, fellowship and fun!

- 1/29: Catholic Trivia Night - St. Patrick
- 2/05: Souper Bowl of Caring Dinner & Service Night - St. Patrick
- 2/12: Mardi Gras - SJA
- 2/19: The Search - St. Patrick
- 2/26: Escape Room - SJA



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HSA News

Joe Corbi

Our Joe Corbi Fundraiser is off and running. Please be sure to register online. Orders are due February 5th.

HSA will be having BINGO on Friday, February 6th in the church hall. [Please click here purchase tickets.](#) Mark your calendars!



SpringFest...Save the Date



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STEM NIGHT

SJA
PRESENTS...

STEM FAMILY NIGHT

OCEANS OF INNOVATION

COME MAKE WAVES BY HOSTING A STEM TABLE

Do you or your organization have experience working in a STEM field? Our school would love to have you host a table at our STEM night and share your knowledge with our students!

St. Joan of Arc School is hosting a family STEM night on Thursday, April 23, 2026 from 5:00-7:00 pm, and we would love to have your help! We are looking to partner with local organizations, businesses, and community members to make our STEM night a memorable and educational experience for our students and their families.

The purpose of our 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 encourages our students to explore all the ways STEM skills are used in industry and in everyday life. The theme for this year's STEM event is "Oceans of Innovation".

There is no fee for hosting a table at this event, we are just hoping to build partnerships with organizations in our community and expose our students to practical applications of STEM. Each table host is asked to provide a volunteer who can share a poster, interactive demonstration, science experiment, or engineering challenge with our students. Your involvement will provide an invaluable opportunity to inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers, and innovators.

If you are interested in hosting a table, please contact me, Melissa Field, via email at mfield@stjoanarc.org, by Friday, April 3, 2026.

APRIL 23, 2026
5:00-7:00 pm

SJA
PRESENTS

STEM FAMILY NIGHT

OCEANS OF INNOVATION

APRIL 23, 2026
5:00-7:00 pm

Join us for an exciting evening of hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math activities inspired by the wonders of the ocean!

SIGN UP FOR A FREE TREE!

SJA is partnering with Neighborhood Forest to give students a free tree to take home and plant this spring!

- Tree saplings will be sent home with participating students during Earth Week (April 22nd)
- Sign up using the link below to reserve your child's tree.

[{SJA Registration Link}](#)

