

# *From the Desk of Mrs. Jaster*

*December 9, 2015*

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**APPLE OF MY EYE:** Congratulations to the following students who were recognized for doing something good: Emma Ryan, Sean Ferello, Mrs. Kloc, Cole Pollick and Nick Welte.

## **FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT: Advanced Technology Continues to Highlight SJR**

With the overwhelming support of the SJR community, the 5K Race For Catholic Education raised \$16,000 dollars for the advancement of our technology initiative. Recently, our students were excited to begin using the 27 Google Chromebooks that were purchased from the 5K proceeds. Cutting-edge technology has become an integral part of the school day to enrich the ways in which our teachers teach and students learn.

## **Tuition Assistance for 2016/2017 – Submission Deadline Fast Approaching: December 31, 2015**

It is very important that every SJR family review the new application process for tuition scholarship. Families can apply who have students enrolling in grades Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup>. Families with one dependent must have an annual income of less than \$91, 620. For each additional dependent, you can make an additional \$15, 270 per child. If you qualify, it is strongly recommended that you apply. ***Through the generosity of businesses that have allocated their tax dollars to SJR, we were able to provide tuition assistance to 20 students for the 2015-2016 academic year.***

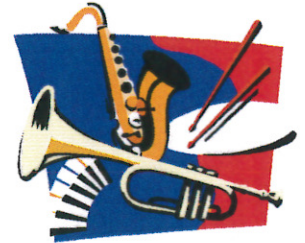
SmartAid applications for tuition assistance are available. To apply, please visit: [www.SmartAidForParents.com](http://www.SmartAidForParents.com). The St. Joseph/St. Robert school code is 91062. You will need your most recent tax return and when available, you will need to submit documents related to your current year's income in January. **If you did not qualify in 2014 and your income status has changed for 2015, you need to apply now with 2014 tax return and then forward 2015 tax return in January.** Should you have any questions, please contact Kathy Williamson at: [kwilliamson@stjstr.org](mailto:kwilliamson@stjstr.org)



## HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS:

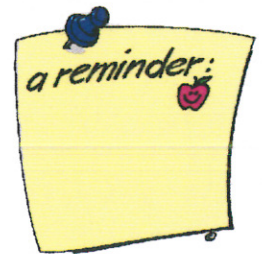
- **Scrip News:** A variety of Scrip cards are available each day in school. If you are in need of a Giving Tree gift, why not stop in? Last day for Special Orders is Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. **Houlihan's** gift cards are now available.
- **Milk and Cookies:** The Home and School will be treating the children to milk and cookies on Wednesday 12/23. If a child has any type of food allergy, please contact Mrs. Suzanne Sorge by Friday December 11<sup>th</sup> so that an alternate treat can be provided.

**BAND CONCERT:** Our Band students will present their annual Christmas concert on Monday December 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:15pm and 7pm. All are welcome to come to enjoy this wonderful presentation!



## GENTLE REMINDERS:

- **Confessions:** The children in grades 4 – 8 will be going to confession next Monday morning at 11am.
- **Christmas program:** Our Christmas program will take place on Tuesday evening, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm in church.
- **Live Nativity:** The Live Nativity will be presented at St. Robert Church on Sunday evening 12/13 at 7pm.



**HOME AND SCHOOL MEETING:** Our January Home and School meeting is one that we encourage all parents to attend. We have invited Mr. Bill Brannick, the director of technology for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to address the safe use of technology in school and at home. In an age where children are creating a digital footprint from early on, it is imperative that we work together to ensure their responsible use of technology.



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**SJR CYO News:** The St. Joseph's / St. Robert's CYO is selling tickets for the World Famous Harlem Globetrotters as they come back to Philadelphia. Our players and families are receiving a special discounted ticket to this game. Tickets are \$24 each for lower level seating. The game is Saturday, March 12, 2016, at 12:30 PM. For more information please call Dottie Prior at [215-260-3603](tel:215-260-3603) or Paul Dickson at [215-771-4471](tel:215-771-4471).

**SERVICE CORPS POSTER CONTEST:** The winners of the Service Corps Christmas poster contest are Mairead McDermott and Julia Fellmeth. Congratulations!



these needy folks.

**CLOTHING FOR HOMELESS VETERANS:** Do you have any gently used sweaters, tops, gloves, hats... that might help keep some homeless veterans warm this winter? If so, please send your donations to school and we will be sure to get them to a local charity benefiting

**JUST A THOUGHT:** Once again, I have come across signs of **the Advent Virus** – have you?

### **WARNING.....WARNING: ADVENT VIRUS**

Be on the alert for symptoms of inner **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love**. The hearts of a great many have already been exposed to this virus and it is possible that people everywhere could come down with it in epidemic proportions. This could pose a serious threat to what has, up to now, been a fairly stable condition of conflict in the world.



Some signs and symptoms of **The Advent Virus:**

- A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than on fears based on past experiences.
- An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
- A loss of interest in judging other people.
- A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
- A loss of interest in conflict.
- A loss of the ability to worry. (This is a very serious symptom.)
- Frequent, overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
- Contented feelings of connectedness with others and nature.
- Frequent attacks of smiling.
- An increasing tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
- An increased susceptibility to the love extended by others as well as the uncontrollable urge to extend it.

Please send this warning out to all your friends. This virus can and has affected many systems. Some systems have been completely cleaned out because of it.



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***SJR SCHOOL:  
PROUD OF OUR PAST,  
FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE,  
MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE!***

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Dear SJR Families,

The Home and School Association invites you to remember our "Specials" teachers and staff at Christmas. These 12 individuals do not have a homeroom but have a tremendous impact on all of our children at SJR. Please know that participation is voluntary. If you would like to contribute, a suggested gift would be \$ 10 per family. Please send your cash or check made payable to SJR HSA to Nicole Wade, c/o Alyssa grade 6 by Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you and have a Merry Christmas!

Nicole Wade  
[njw626@yahoo.com](mailto:njw626@yahoo.com)

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## HSA NOTES

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### Milk and cookies

The HSA will be serving milk and cookies to the students on Wednesday, December 23. There is an option for a cookie that is peanut, tree nut and egg free. If your child needs this cookie please contact Suzanne Sorge at [suzannesorge@verizon.net](mailto:suzannesorge@verizon.net) by Friday, December 11

### Specials Collection

See flyer below. Money is due Friday, December 11 to Nicole Wade.

### Little Elf Shop

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to make the day a success! The children had a wonderful time shopping.

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### Box Tops

Don't forget to clip your boxtops and send them to Suzanne Sorge c/o Matthew grade 3. Every family who sends in 350 will receive a dress down day and the family who sends in the most boxtops will receive 3 dress down days at the end of the school year. The Ewald Family is currently on the lead with 916!!