



# St. Joseph/St. Robert School Newsletter

*FROM THE DESK OF MRS.  
DURKIN*

September 20, 2023

During this busy week, let's remember, "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

Dear SJR Families,

There are three issues that I need your assistance with:

- Central Bucks school district met yesterday with the Regional Vice-President of First Group (The parent company of "First Student" buses) to discuss how to correct the issues that students from both the public and private schools have been experiencing in regard to the buses. I hope to hear about a plan soon. I will keep you posted. In the meantime, this continues to impact our arrival and dismissal. Because of the increased number of cars, it would be helpful if car riders would please plan to be at school by 8:00a.m. There are many cars arriving after 8:15. Our drop off time is between 7:50 - 8:10a.m. but if you're planning for 8:10 you're going to be late and it can hold us up getting into the building.
- I've noticed a great number of students who are out of compliance with the dress code. I found out why when I went to the family handbook and saw that, when updated, part of the information was left out. I attached the complete dress code to an email that was sent to each family. If you could please familiarize yourself with it and review it with your child. The family handbook will be updated to reflect this.
- Our Art teacher, Mrs. Jacobs, has requested that all students in grades K-8 bring a sketchbook with them to art class this week. If you could please send that to school with your child next week.

I am so looking forward to our golf outing on Friday and to the dinner at the Bucks Club that evening! Thank you to the CYO and HSA members who have worked so hard to set it up. It looks as if we'll be blessed with perfect weather!

Have a wonderful rest of your week!

Mrs. Durkin

# Residency “Snapshot”

## St. Joseph & St. Robert School



Week of Sept. 11th, 2023



The Bucks IU, Act 89 Mobile Fab Lab kicked off its year with a residency at St. Joseph/St. Robert school in Warrington. We were lucky enough to work with students from first through 8th grade! The classes used lasers to cut out fall leaves and design custom phone holders as well as 3D printers to create keychains. We used our inference skills to discover how robots use sensors and fabricated code to navigate mazes with our Sphero bots. Student creativity and a warm, welcoming environment were on display all week!

1st Grade, Laser cut leaves and Indi robotics

2nd Grade, Coding with Indi & Fall food cut outs

3rd Grade, Engineering with 3D pens & robotics

4th Grade, 3D food trucks & Parts of Speech

5th Grade, Custom bookmarks & Sphero bots

6th Grade, Button designs & Robot mazes

7/8th grade, 3D design & printing, Laser engraving & problem solving with robotics







## Home and School Information

### SJR CYO & HSA Golf Outing is on Friday!!

**The First Home and School Meeting** – Please mark September 26th at 7:00p.m. on your calendar and plan to attend the first HSA meeting of the year. In addition to HSA business, Dr. Mary Coakley has been invited to educate us all about anxiety in children. In the past several years, anxiety among children and adults has skyrocketed. Dr. Mary Coakley, a Clinical-Developmental Psychologist, will explain how anxiety shows up in children and will give parents practical tools and strategies to help their children manage their fears and increase their confidence.

**Thank You!** – Thank you to the HSA for its generous support of the Health and Safety initiatives of the school. The upgraded glass has been installed in all exterior doors of the school thanks to the funds raised from the 5K last year..

HSA has many events coming up that require more volunteers including;

- Trunk or Treat (10/20/23 flyer below)
- Halloween Dance for 4th-6th grade (10/28/2023)
- Halloween Hayride for 7th & 8th (10/28/2023 See flyer)
- Walk-a-thon (11/10/2023)
- Little Elf Shop (12/12/2023)
- Bingo (1/19/2024)

If you are interested in helping out for any of these events please sign up on the below link!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084EA5A728A4FACF8-sjrhsa#/>

Reminder: As our thanks for helping, you will earn chances towards a \$200 grand prize tuition payment drawing at our last HSA meeting. We will draw three (3) winners this year:

- For every event that you volunteer = 1 chance
- For every event that you chair = 5 chances

Thank you,  
HSA Board



# From Our Director of Advancement....

## EITC Informational Webinars

Learn how to redirect your state tax dollars to support students in the Archdiocese and receive a 90% Tax Credit with the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program.



### Informational Webinar Dates

- ▶ Friday, September 8 at 1:00 PM
- ▶ Monday, September 18 at 4:00 PM
- ▶ Thursday, September 28 at 7:00 PM
- ▶ Wednesday, October 11 at 12:00 PM
- ▶ Monday, October 23 at 11:00 AM

Application for the Educational Improvement Tax Credit BLOCS Scholarship for the 2023-2024 academic year continues to be open. Your family may be eligible for tuition assistance. Please see the flyer for how you can benefit. The deadline is fast approaching!

There is another way the EITC program can benefit you and our school. If you have a Pennsylvania tax burden of \$1,000 or more, you can sign up for the EITC program and, instead of paying your state taxes to Pennsylvania, direct that money to our school. Isn't that incredible? Even more incredibly, you then get a 90% tax credit the following year. If you believe in Catholic education and you want to control your tax dollars – this is the program for you. Please contact our Advancement Director, Mrs. Kathy Williamson, at 215-343-5100 for more information.



Scan the QR code  
to sign up for a  
webinar!

*Foundation*   
For Catholic Education

# OPEN HOUSE

SJR's first Admissions Open House for the 2023 - 2024 school year is Sunday, November 5th. We'd love to meet prospective families and students who would like to learn more about our community, curriculum, mission, vision, campus life, and admissions process. Please share this information with those you know who may be interested. Let them know that they can make an appointment today by calling 215.343.5100.



**ST. JOSEPH/ST. ROBERT SCHOOL**  
FOCUSED ON FAITH AND LEARNING

Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC)  
BLOCS Tuition Scholarships for 2023-2024

Application for the Educational Improvement Tax Credit BLOCS Scholarship for the 2023-2024 academic year continues to be open. Before applying, please visit: <https://www.blocs.org/scholarship-faqs> and review the FAQ. It is very important that every SJR family review. We recommend that you apply even if you are over the annual income. If available, your family may qualify for other sources of tuition funding. Families can apply who have students enrolling in grades Pre-K through 12th .

**The 2023-2024 family income level is \$105,183. The allowance for each dependent is \$18,514. For example, a family with one dependent can have an income level of \$123,697 (\$105,183 + \$18,514) or less to qualify. If a family has two dependents, then the income level would be \$142,211, and the increase of \$18,514 would continue for each dependent.**

Applications for tuition scholarships are completed through FACTS by visiting: <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>. The application fee is \$30.00 & all submissions are strictly confidential. Once you complete an online application, you will be required to attach your 2021 or 2022 Federal Tax forms and all supporting tax schedules. Everything must be submitted to FACTS by September 30, 2023 to determine your family's eligibility for tuition scholarship. If qualified, Mrs. Dorothy Aschenbrenner, SJR Business Manager will notify the family of their award.

**Questions about the application process can be directed to FACTS at 866-441-4637. In addition, you may contact Kathy Williamson at: [kwilliamson@stjstr.org](mailto:kwilliamson@stjstr.org)**



# Haunted Hayride

SAT OCT 28th  
7-10 PM

Winding Brook Farm 3014 Bristol Rd Warrington, PA  
Wagon leaves promptly at 8:15 PM  
\$25 per student

Includes Pizza and Drinks before hayride and S'mores after hayride

Please send payment & permission slip to school  
via Keegan Kulp Grade 7 by 10/13





**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023**

**5:30 P.M.-8:00 P.M.**

**SJR Parking Lot**

*\*Early Set up can begin at 4:30p.m.\**

**Come Join us for SJR's Family Trunk or Treat!**

**Bring food, drinks & CANDY!!! Decorate those trunks, come in your best costumes and HAVE FUN! This event is for EVERYONE whether you decorate your trunk or not!**

**PRIZES will be given for BEST costumes as well as BEST decorated trunks!**

**\$20 ENTRY FEE FOR DECORATING YOUR TRUNK ONLY!**

**(spots with electricity will be limited so please bring extra extension cords)**

**In order to run this event as safely as possible:**

- Please bring store brought, individually wrapped Candy or Treats
- There must be someone at the vehicle at all times to hand out candy

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Please send the bottom of this form in with cash or check(made payable to SJR HSA) to

Nikki DeGuida c/o Aiden DeGuida 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

**\$20 per vehicle Forms due by FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup>**

People Attending: #Adults \_\_\_\_\_ #Kids: \_\_\_\_\_

Electricity (circle one): YES or NO

FAMILY NAME : \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Spots will be assigned. I will do my best to accommodate requests

REQUESTS: \_\_\_\_\_