

St. Joseph/St. Robert School Newsletter

FROM THE DESK OF MRS.
DURKIN
November 22, 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,

Thomas Merton once said that to be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything. I am truly grateful for our school community this Thanksgiving and will remember you in prayer over the holiday.

In September we had Back to School Night and in October we had conferences. Beginning this month, I will be welcoming parents to "Tea with Me," an informal monthly opportunity to meet with the principal to discuss any school wide topics. Individual issues or specific questions or concerns about your child's progress should please be brought directly to the attention of their teacher. This month's gathering will be in the evening, but they will alternate so that some will be during the day as well. In months past some of the conversations were related to school safety, the reception of the sacraments, iReady, and how our Catholic identity is infused throughout our school day. Our first "Tea with Me" will be held on Monday, November 27th at 7:00p.m. if you would like to join us.

It's time to order your 2023 Photo Christmas Ornaments! For those of you who are new to our school, every year before Christmas, volunteers from our HSA come together to make personalized Christmas ornaments for your family. There is more information later in this newsletter and a hard copy will come home with the student who is the youngest sibling in each family on Monday.

Congratulations to Bella who has been accepted to several local high schools and has been offered a scholarship to Archbishop Wood! Keep her and all the 8th graders in prayer as they begin to make decisions about the next steps on their educational journey. Well done!

Gratefully,
Mrs. Durkin





Congratulations!!! We have crossed the \$15,000 mark on our Walkathon donations! This ensures that we've maximized the matching donation from our generous anonymous donor! Thank you! And thank you to Mrs. Perks for managing this event. If you haven't donated yet, you can click on the Walkathon graphic on our website or send a check to school to help us match last year's \$18,000 total.

Please see the information below about our upcoming events:

Cherrydale Pickup - Wednesday, 11/29:

Cherrydale Order Pickup at school is on Wednesday, November 29th between 3:00p.m. - 7:00p.m. All orders that included frozen items ship directly to school. Other orders had the option to ship to your home or school. Parents, you should have received email notices when people placed orders under your child's name telling you if they had their items shipped to the school.

Christmas Tree Lighting - Thursday, 12/7:

Don't miss the second annual SJR Christmas Tree Lighting on Thursday evening, December 7th. It will be a wonderful way to kick off the Christmas season at SJR! See the flyer below.

Pictures for HSA Ornaments - Monday, 12/11 and 12/13 as needed

Little Elf Shop - Tuesday, 12/12:

The annual shopping tradition is coming up soon! Please cut and paste the link below to see our school's website for the Elf Shop. New this year, parents are able to go to the site and buy gift certificates. I know this will be helpful, especially for the younger students, so they don't have to carry cash or a blank check to school.

<https://stjsrcath.myschool.holidayshop.org/>

Online Safety - Tuesday, 1/16 7:00p.m.

Our second HSA meeting has been re-scheduled for January 16th so that Annabel Dotzman, The Associate Director of Educational Technology for The Archdiocese of Philadelphia, can join us to provide information about how to guide your children to be safe online. Please mark your calendars.

Bingo - Friday, 1/19:

Mark your calendar for the new year! We hope the ladies of SJR can join in the Bingo fun on January 19th. There will be some communication coming up seeking assistance with the baskets for the silent auction.

HSA Board



From Around the School

Upcoming Clubs:

Art Club:

The art club is currently meeting. The group is very flexible so if you haven't registered and would like your child to attend, feel free to reach out.

Science Club:

Tom and Terri Molz will again be hosting the Science Club for four weeks. Students in grades 3-6 are welcome to participate in fun, hands-on experiments in our science lab. The club will be meeting in January. Be on the lookout for sign up information as we get closer to Christmas.

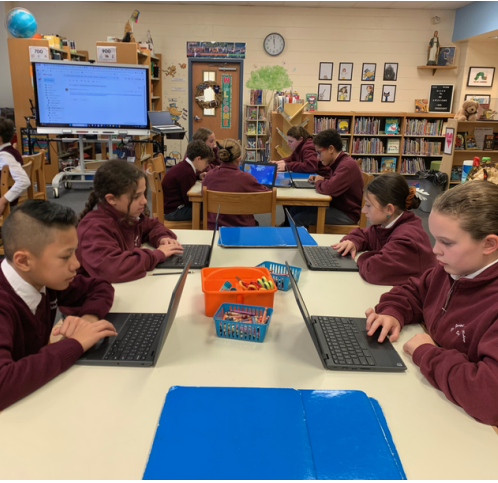
Sign Language Club:

SJR will again be hosting the sign language club. This will be offered for students in grades 5-8. It will run weekly for the month of February. Look for more information to come out soon.

A Building Club?

SJR has acquired enough Lego type blocks to run a building club. We're looking for someone who might want to run that club for students in grades 3-6. Please reach out to Mrs. Durkin if you are interested.

Drama Club: The Drama Club continues to rehearse for their spring production of, *The Little Mermaid!* I can't wait to see it and hope you will join us in the audience at Archbishop Wood on Saturday, April 6th.



Parish News

St. Joseph's Parish

St. Joe's is looking to hire a Director / Coordinator of Religious Education Part-time employment – St. Joseph Church The position of Director/Coordinator of Religious Education (DRE or CRE) is a part-time, 12 months a year position. The complete job description can be found at <https://phillyocf.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/D-CREPart-Time-Job-Description.pdf>. Interested candidates should send their resume to: Rev. Joseph Bordonaro, St. Joseph Rectory, 1795 Columbia Avenue, Warrington, PA 18976; or Fr.bordonaro@verizon.net. Position available immediately. Call the Rectory Office with any questions. 215-672-3020.

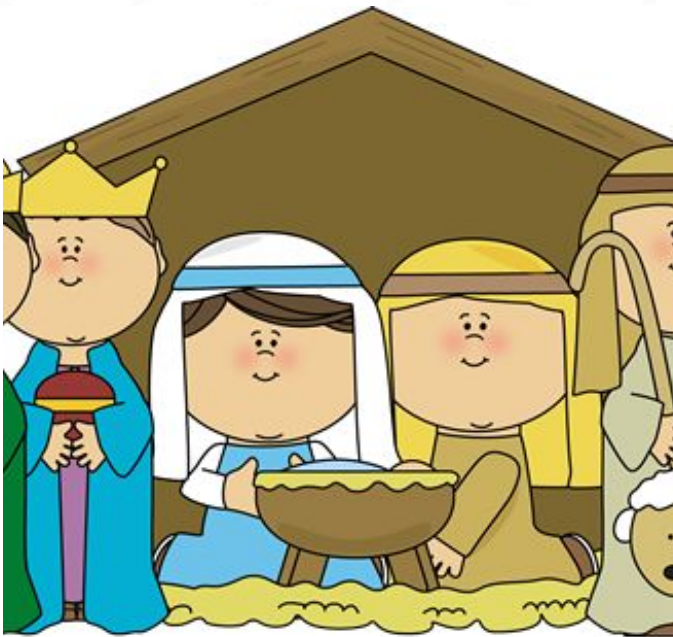
St. Robert's Parish

The SJR Christmas Pageant will be on Thursday, December 21st in St. Robert's Church at 6:30p.m. This is part of the SJR music and religion curriculums and it is expected that all students participate.

In addition, St. Robert's Youth Group would like to bring back, once again, the Live Nativity on Sunday December 17th at 7pm. If you would like to participate contact mompalo@aol.com before November 26th This is a great Confirmation project! It is optional for those who would like to volunteer.

Apple of My Eye

When a student is "Caught doing something good" any teacher can give them a red ticket. These red tickets are kept in the office and every Friday morning five are drawn randomly to be "Apple of My Eye" winners. This week, **Carson, Jake, Drew, Emma, and Michaela** are our winners! Congratulations!



ST. JOSEPH /ST. ROBERT SCHOOL

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



Our next Bingo Bonanza Ladies Night Out fundraiser is scheduled for Friday, January 19, 2024. We have bingo rounds that are in need of a sponsor.

If you have a business or are employed by someone who might be interested in supporting our school, please consider being a sponsor. Your sponsorship will be recognized throughout the evening and in our event program. We hope that you are able to help us fund this event. Your sponsorship or donation is tax-deductible.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and please join us for a fun night on January 19th. Please contact me with any questions.

Gina Smart (ginasmart@aol.com)

SPONSORSHIP FORM

Please return this form by November 20, 2023

_____ I would like to sponsor a round of Bingo (\$250)

_____ I would like to donate \$_____ to be applied towards a Bingo round

_____ I would like to donate items to be used in Raffle Baskets (i.e. gift cards, products, etc)

Sponsor Information

Contact Name _____ Address _____

Company Name _____ Phone # _____

Email _____

Checks can be made payable to SJR HSA and return this form to St. Joseph / St. Robert School

(Attn: Bingo Bonanza Gina Smart)

850 Euclid Avenue Warrington, PA 18976

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

Let us help fill your Christmas tree with your favorite faces! It's time to order your **2023 Photo Christmas Ornaments!**

Every year before Christmas, volunteers from our HSA come together to make personalized Christmas ornaments for your family. These are photo ornaments, and will fill your Christmas tree with the most beautiful memories of your children, so please order as many as you'd like to gift to your friends and family!

If you'd like to order an ornament, we will be taking a picture of your child on the days listed below. You may request an individual picture of your child, a family photo of your children (for those with siblings who attend SJR), or both an individual and family photo. The ornaments will be delivered to your children to bring home with them before they begin Christmas break.

Pictures will be taken on **Monday, December 11th**. Ideally ALL pictures will be completed on that day. If your child is absent that day for their individual picture, or if a child in your family is absent for the family photo, there will an additional picture day on **Wednesday December 13th**.

Please return the order form ASAP to Kristi Brennan c/o Brynn Brennan, grade 6. Order forms will also be included in the Weekly Newsletter.



CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT ORDER FORM

Family Name: _____

Child(ren)'s Name & Grade #: _____

Family and/or Individual Ornament Please Mark "F" or "I"	Child's name (for individual photos only)	Grade #	Quantity	Sub Total at \$5.00 each

Total # of Ornaments: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Payment can be made in cash or check to "SJR HSA"

Please contact Kristi Brennan at kris1481@aol.com with any questions.

Return order forms by Friday Dec 1st to Kristi Brennan c/o Brynn, grade 6.