

St. Joseph/St. Robert School Newsletter

FROM THE DESK OF MRS.
DURKIN
November 29, 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,

It was so exciting to stand in the car lane at arrival yesterday in the snow! I asked my stepfather once what his favorite season of the year was and he answered, "The next one." I love that answer! I'm kind of the same in that I find I am always looking forward to what the new season will bring. And December brings a lot.

Sunday begins the Season of Advent. I encourage you to make the most of this special time with your family. In addition to your regular Mass attendance, consider an Advent calendar which identifies special prayers or actions in preparation for welcoming Jesus at Christmas. An Advent wreath can be a daily reminder of the reason for all of the hustle and bustle. Be sure to display a Nativity Scene. We will be emphasizing the blessings of this season at school while, simultaneously engaging in some Christmas fun. One tradition is that **beginning on Monday, students may wear Christmas accessories with their uniform. Christmas socks or ties are popular. Nothing that lights up, buzzes, or jingles, please and no headbands that extend off of the head. At the discretion of the faculty, any accessory that becomes a distraction may be asked to be removed.**

This Friday is the end of the trimester. Teachers will be working to finalize grades and report cards will be distributed on Monday, December 11th. You can view your child's grades over the course of the term through your parent portal. Our district code is SJSR-PA and you use whatever username and password you set up when you enrolled your child.

The children are hard at work in music class preparing for our annual Christmas Pageant which will be on Thursday, December 21st at 6:30p.m. in St. Robert's church. Because it is part of the religion and music curriculum, it is expected that all students participate. It is a beautiful way to begin the Christmas season and we look forward to seeing you there.

Next Wednesday, December 6th, the 5th through 8th grade students will be visiting The Constitution Center. It is a trip that is being sponsored by The Connelly Foundation, a generous supporter of Catholic education. Please keep the foundation in your prayers. **Because of the trip, music/band lessons with Mr. Rumpf will be on Monday, Dec. 4th.**

December 7th brings Kindergarten's Polar Express day at school. And that evening the HSA is sponsoring our 2nd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting. I can't wait - I'm still smiling just thinking about last year's!

Thank you for all you do for our community!

- Mrs. Durkin



Walkathon Update: We have currently raised an impressive \$16,800. If you have not made a donation and would like to help us reach the \$18,000 goal, please do that by the Friday deadline. You can continue to donate online or you could send a check to school.

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



Advent is a Time to Wait!: The First Grade is sharing a picture of an Advent wreath that they created in anticipation of the upcoming season. They learned about the candles, evergreen, and all of the symbols of the wreath. Thank you to our technology teacher, Mrs. Barnes, for her work at SJR!



Girl Scouts:

A scout troop has formed for SJR students in grades Kindergarten and First. They had their first meeting Monday night! If your daughter is interested in becoming a "Daisy" and joining some friends for service, activities, and crafts, please let me know and I will put you in touch with the group.

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.

St. Joseph's Parish Christmas Bazaar!

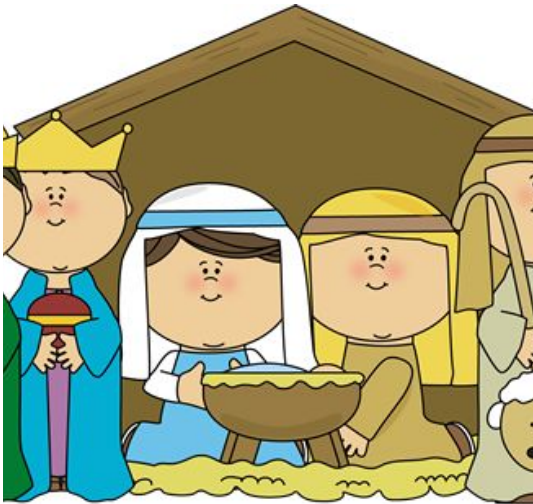
On Sunday, December 3rd, St. Joe's will be hosting its annual Christmas Bazaar. The fun starts at 9:00a.m. and continues until 2:00p.m. There will be vendors/crafts, food (including a pancake breakfast!), music, games for the kids, pictures with Santa, and some great raffle baskets. I hope to see you there!



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

We didn't have school last Friday so we don't have any new Apples - But I love this picture so much I decided to leave it up there!

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.