

August 21, 2016

From the Principal's Desk

Fingerprinting and Safe Environment

We completed our first Safe Environment class on Thursday. We have two more classes scheduled.

If you are volunteering with the students, you must be fingerprinted and take the Safe Environment training course as mandated by the diocese

Please contact Dean Klabik, dklabik@sjsfl.org to reserve a place in one of the two remaining classes.

Wednesday, August 24th at 6:30 pm
Saturday, September 10th at 9:00 am

All classes are scheduled for Mrs. Smith's room. She will meet participants at the south gate (main entrance) at the designated time for the class.

Thank You for Your Participation and Support

Thank you to all of our parents who attended the Back to School Night last Wednesday evening. With over 70% of our families in attendance, there was very positive energy as we begin the new school year.

Bishop Dewane celebrated Mass with our children on Friday. Thank you to the parents, grandparents, and guardians who were able to join us. Our bishop is very supportive of our school and commented on how well behaved our students were during the Mass. Our 8th graders met with the Bishop after the Mass and asked in depth questions that demonstrated a high level of understanding and maturity. We were very proud of all of our students.

Storm and Rain Pick Up Procedures

Because of the increased number of students in Kindergarten through Grade 3, we will be changing our pick up procedures if it is raining or storming.

- Make sure you have activated your email in the Parent Portal.
- If it is raining and/or storming, an email alert will be sent to all parents to notify that pick up will be inside.
- Parents will need to park in the North or South parking lots, use an umbrella, and walk to the north or south gate. A staff member will be at the gates to monitor parents coming onto campus.
- Parents will be directed to go to the classroom of the youngest child in the school. All siblings will have been sent to that classroom.
- Parents may then walk their children to their cars.
- Please use caution when exiting the parking areas.



Science Teacher Update

Last week we received news that Dr. Thielen would not be able to return to St. Joseph until after the birth of her baby. The baby is not due until January. We will certainly keep her and her family in our prayers.

We were very fortunate that Mrs. Mary Kowalski will be coming to teach our students, and pick up Dr. Thielen's classes. Mrs. Kowalski is a certified teacher with a Science degree from Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA.

She taught middle school at St. Joseph School in Lockport, IL. She also prepared students for Science Fair. 30 – 50% of her students went on to compete at the Illinois State level, where many received silver and gold ratings.

We welcome Mrs. Kowalski and are grateful she will be working with our students. She is a welcome addition to our staff.



Mrs. Mary Kowalski



Mrs. Kowalski with her most recent Illinois state winners

Curriculum Presentation Meeting

for Middle School Parents

Tuesday, August 23

6:00 pm

Mrs. Owens Room

Overview of Middle School

Math and Science Programs



After School Chorus Practice Updates

Mrs. Gaillard will be working with two student choirs this year. There have been some adjustments in choir membership and times.

Grades 4 to 8 are invited to participate in the St. Joseph Honors Choir. This choir will meet on Tuesdays from 3:00 – 3:45, and on Wednesday mornings from 8:15 – 9:00. This choir will lead the school singing during Mass and will perform for special events.

Grades K – 3 are invited to participate in our primary choir which will be called “Grace Notes”. These students will meet on Thursdays after school from 3:00 – 3:45.

ALL STUDENTS in the school will participate in the Christmas program in December.

In addition, the Honors Choir and Grace Notes will present a special music concert in St. Joseph’s Church in December.

We know we have many talented students and are looking forward to building these two performance choirs.

Family Fun Day – August 28th

Sunday, August 28th in the Parish Center – Noon – 3:00 pm

St. Joseph Church – following the 11:00 am Mass

We invite all members of our school community, who belong to St. Joseph’s Church, to attend the Family Fun Day sponsored by the Office of Faith Formation. Families will enjoy games, activities for the kids, and food. In addition, there will be registration and sign-up information for Sacramental Preparation classes.

All of this happens at the Parish Center! Come, meet and greet other families! What a great way to get to know your church community!

SJCS Parents who might be interested in getting service hours, can sign up on our school volunteer page, which is located on the St. Joseph Website at www.sjsfl.org. Volunteer opportunities are located under the Parent Tab. You may also email Rachel at floridapierce@yahoo.com All volunteers will receive volunteer hours for school.



School Pictures

Thursday, August 25th

Grades PK – 8

Yearbook Photos (in School Uniforms)

2016 Carnival Spectacular

The dates for the 2016 Carnival Spectacular have been set, and our Committee has been hard at work to ensure that this year's Carnival Spectacular will be the best one yet, so we hope you are as excited as we are. This year's carnival will once again feature rides by Dreamland Amusements, Food prepared by St. Joseph Knights of Columbus members, Bingo, Children's Games, Live Entertainment, and more!

This year, with Carnival weekend coinciding with Veterans Day, we will Honor our Heroes throughout the weekend; Veterans and Active Duty Military on Friday, Nov. 11; Law Enforcement Personnel on Saturday, Nov. 12; and Fire and EMS Personnel on Sunday, Nov. 13. More details about this will be released as the Carnival dates draw near.

Sponsorship Packages are now available! Do you know a local business that would be interested in serving as a sponsor for this year's Carnival Spectacular? Please contact Carnival Chairperson, Melanie Teves Bell, at kmcsgators@gmail.com for details on Sponsor Packages, or with any Carnival questions that you might have!

St. Joseph Carnival Carnival Spectacular Save the Dates!

Thursday, November 10

5:00 – 10:00 pm

Rides & Food

Friday, November 11

Noon – 10:00 pm

Rides, Games, Food, Bingo, & Entertainment

Saturday, November 12

Noon – 10:00 pm

Rides, Games, Food, Bingo & Entertainment

Sunday, November 13

Noon – 8:00 pm

Rides, Games, Food, Bingo, & Entertainment

This Week's After School Activities

Middle School Math Help with Mrs. Owens – after school

- Mondays – Grade 6
- Tuesdays – Grade 7
- Thursdays – Grade 8

(Contact Mrs. Owens for more information)

Volleyball Practice – 3:00 – 5:00 pm

- Monday – Practice
- Tuesday - Practice

Volleyball Jamboree JV Games - Thursday
4:00 pm, 4:30 pm, 5:00 pm

Volleyball Jamboree Varsity Games – Friday
4:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 5:30pm

Flag Football Practice – 3:00 – 4:30 pm

- Tuesday - Practice
- Thursday - Practice

After School Music Programs

Monday

Intermediate Guitar 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Church Choir Room

Tuesday

St. Joseph Honors Choir – Grades 4 to 8

3:00 – 3:45 pm Church Choir Room

Wednesday

Beginning Guitar – 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Church Choir Room

Thursday

Grace Notes – Primary Choir – Grades K – 3

3:00 – 3:45 pm Music Room

Intermediate Guitar 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Church Choir Room