



# Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



September 19, 2025

Confident in the Truth that all people are made in the image and likeness of God, the mission of Saint Joseph Regional School is to provide an education based upon the Catholic Intellectual Tradition and to instill in students God's greatest commands: to love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, and to love your neighbor as yourself.

Dear SJRS families,

Thank you to everyone who attended our Back To School nights this week. We appreciate getting to see you and give you updates on our classes, school life and welcome you into our schools and classrooms. I'd also like to thank our teachers for their extra hours and being present to our families on those evenings.

We are now fully in the swing of things and settling into routines. Over the next couple of weeks, we will start to embark on our i-Ready testing and our teachers are working with their classrooms to do some pre-assessments and get them ready for testing. This will happen three times during the school year and is a standardized testing program that is done throughout the Diocese. Thank you all for encouraging your students to do their best. They are all working hard and it is wonderful to see the joy they have for learning!

In Christ,

Dr. Annie Pearson  
Interim Principal

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH

### Hope St. Carlo Acutis

Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit.

*"My soul, be at rest in God  
alone, from whom comes  
my hope. God alone is my  
rock and my salvation, my  
fortress; I shall not fall."  
— Psalm 62:6-7*

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Sunday 9/21** -- Family Faith Formation Mass and Picnic (see below)

**Mon 9/22-Fri 10/10** -- i-Ready testing

**Wednesday 9/24** -- All-school Mass -- 9:15am

**Saturday 9/27** -- Golf Tournament at Bretwood (see below)

**Friday 10/3** -- Picture Day (see below)

**Saturday 10/4** -- Family Hike (see below)

**Thursday 10/9** -- KidSight vision screenings (see below)

**Thursday 10/9** -- Home & School Association meeting -- 6-7pm -- St. Bernard Parish Hall

**Monday 10/13** -- Columbus Day -- **NO SCHOOL**

**Monday 10/20** -- Diocesan professional development -- **NO SCHOOL**

**Tuesday 10/28** -- End of the 1st quarter

**CLICK HERE for the 2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

## LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

On Monday, we had the speeches and elections for the Middle School Leadership Council.

### 2025-2026 Leadership Council Officers

President: Brooklyn Pymm (Grade 8)

Vice President: Mason Bezio (Grade 7)

Secretary: Savannah Smith (Grade 6)

Treasurer: Zac Lucena (Grade 8)

CONGRATULATIONS to our new officers for this school year, and also to all of the students who ran for office! The candidates...

President: Brooklyn Pymm

Vice President: Mason Bezio, Mackenzie Clark, Simon John, Jackson Royce

Treasurer: Rocco La Querre, Dee Saunders, Savannah Smith

Secretary: Eli Lavigne, Zac Lucena



Mrs. Morse is shown here demonstrating percussion instruments to the 4th grade students. Each week they are being introduced to different band instruments. At the end of the month, they will have the opportunity to sign up to learn an instrument and receive lessons.

## HEALTHY INITIATIVES WITH MRS. HART

Mrs. Hart has planned a **SJRS/OLMA Family Hike**! All families are invited to attend. This is a **FAMILY** hike; families must hike along with their children.

Please plan appropriately with proper shoes, a water bottle, and a snack to enjoy at the summit. All families meet in the parking area at the trailhead.

**Mt. Caesar, Swanzey, NH**  
**Saturday, October 4th -- 10:00 AM**

Our Family Hike honors St. Francis of Assisi on his feast day for his love of nature and animals, and to enjoy an awesome hike with a beautiful view. Also, to build our school



community, enjoy local hiking, and have fun getting fit!

Please **CLICK HERE** for specific details about the hike, address, and parking.

### BACK-TO-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

Please **CLICK HERE** for the September Back-to-School Challenge from Mrs. Hart! It is an AMRAP challenge -- "as many rounds as possible" of the given exercises.



Miss McGuire's 3rd grade students are doing STEM projects together every Friday throughout the school year!

### BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY

Parents, we've heard you and we welcome you! As we build our community, we are seeking those with a generous volunteer spirit. We are grateful for all those who have already stepped up to help out! We have many opportunities for parents (or grandparents!) to get involved throughout the year. Below are some areas where we really need your help.

**Hot lunch assistance** -- We need assistance to help serve lunches on Fridays (pizza). If you are able to help, please contact Kate as soon as possible ([kate@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:kate@stjosephkeene.org)).

**Library** -- A few hours a week throughout the school year. Could you help out maybe one day per week for a few hours as the elementary classes visit our library?

#### After-school activities/sports

Destination Imagination

Chess Club coordinators (spring)

Please email Dr. Pearson ([apearson@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:apearson@stjosephkeene.org)) if you are able to lend a helping hand!

### FAITH FORMATION AT PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Elementary school families are welcome to participate in the Family Faith program at Parish of the Holy Spirit. This home-based program is a requirement for children wishing to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation. Typically this means participation from grades 1-3, but also includes older children depending on the situation.

The Parish also offers Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS), based on the child development principles of Maria Montessori, for children ages 3-6 (Level I) and 6-9 (Level II). The CGS website [cgsusa.org](http://cgsusa.org) has videos and other helpful content regarding the philosophy.

Please see the parish website [swnhcatholics.com](http://swnhcatholics.com) for more information and registration. If you have questions, please contact Carol Spindler at [faithformationswnh@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationswnh@gmail.com).





This year our theme is the Creed. All families with children in elementary to middle school are invited to join this home-based program.

We have monthly parent evenings and community events to assist in learning and living the faith together.

Participation in the program is required as part of sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation.

**Please register online at [swnhcatholics.com](http://swnhcatholics.com).**

**For more information, you may contact Carol at [faithformationswnh@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationswnh@gmail.com)**

Family Faith Formation begins with a **picnic** on St. Bernard grounds after the 11:15 Mass on Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. Burgers, hot dogs, and drinks will be provided. Feel free to bring a side dish or dessert to share!

Our first **parent evening** will be Tuesday, Sep 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00PM in the parish hall.



The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) offers children a unique opportunity to encounter God and nurture a relationship with Jesus, the Good Shepherd, in a specially prepared environment called the Atrium. Whether you have children or grandchildren who might want to participate, or are just curious about the program yourself, you are warmly invited to stop by our upcoming Open House!

## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Open House

Sunday, September 14  
9 - 11:30 a.m.

Cenacle House  
(next to St Margaret Mary Church)



### SOCCER NEWS

Our Middle School Soccer Team got off to an excellent start yesterday with a strong 7-2 win over Trinity! A special shoutout to Mr. and Mrs. Hart who are refereeing our games! Thank you to our volunteer coaches, Mrs. Petschik, Mr. and Mrs. Park, and OLMA students Ethan Young, Ethan Petschik, and Holden Sadders. Two more home games are up next week on the soccer field at KSC.

**CLICK HERE for the full soccer schedule.**



## KIDSIGHT VISION SCREENING -- OCTOBER 9TH

KidSight is a FREE vision health-screening program carried out in local schools and day-care centers. Keene Lions Club volunteers provide equipment and technical assistance as needed. The effectiveness of this program is recognized by local eye doctors and by members of the Dartmouth Health/Cheshire Medical Center Pediatrics Department.



**Students in Preschool, Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 3, and Grade 7 will be screened.**

If you have a concern about your student who is in another grade, you may have them screened as well. Just let Lisa Muchmore in the Main Office know ([lmuchmore@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:lmuchmore@stjosephkeene.org)) and be sure to complete the consent form.

**CLICK HERE for the KidSight Information and Consent Form**

Consent forms must be completed for students to get the vision screening!



Our New Hampshire Dance Institute (NHDI) Year-Long Program got off to an energetic start this past week. Our team will be dancing every Tuesday morning before school with NHDI teaching artist Tracy Croteau! Any interested students in grades 4-8 are still able to join. Please contact our coordinator Andrea Wright with questions ([wrightortizfamily@gmail.com](mailto:wrightortizfamily@gmail.com))

## 50/50 RAFFLE UPDATE

We began distributing the 50/50 raffle tickets at the Back-to-School Nights this week. If you did not attend, please keep an eye out at dismissal time in the next few days as we give the tickets directly to parents. Remaining tickets to be distributed will come home with students, so please be sure check their backpacks.



If you have any questions or would like additional tickets, please contact Jen Marshall ([jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org)).





### **Our annual GOLF TOURNAMENT is coming up!**

Join us to hit the beautiful fairways of Bretwood Golf Course. Play is Scramble format with great prizes. The field will be limited to the first 100 golfers (25 foursomes) to register, so gather your family, friends, and colleagues! **CLICK HERE for details and to register .**

**CLICK HERE for sponsorship information .**

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# PICTURE DAY IS HERE!

*Ha llegado el día de las fotos!*

Saint Joseph Regional School

**Your Picture Day is:**

*Tu día de la foto es:*

**10-03-25**

**Your Unique Code is:**

*Tu código único es:*

**Y76DXWPV**

*Expires 24 hours after picture day.  
Caduca 24 horas después del  
día de la foto.*

**1**

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**Enter your unique code**

*Introduzca su código único*

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Our newsletter archive can be found on our website [HERE](#).



St. Joseph Regional School | 92 Wilson Street | Keene, NH 03431 US

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