



# Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



August 25, 2022

*Empowering students to grow as informed, inspired, compassionate souls.*

Greetings SJRS Families and Faculty,

We are looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday morning! We especially extend a warm welcome to all of our new students and families!

I would also like to warmly welcome our 8th grade students and families for their final year at SJRS. We invite the families of the 8th graders to join us on Monday morning at 8:30am in the gym when the 8th graders will enter the building on their last first day (to thunderous applause!) as they assume their roles as the leadership of the student body for the coming year.

The first few weeks of school are going to be warm of course, so please be sure your children dress accordingly.

Please pay close attention to all of the important details below for the start of school. If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to reach out directly to Kate in the Main Office ([kate@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:kate@stjosephkeene.org)) or Rebecca Bezio, Dean of Students, ([rbezio@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:rbezio@stjosephkeene.org)).

Have a wonderful, blessed weekend! We will see you on Monday.

May Your Spirit Be Lifted,

Christopher Smith  
Principal

## 1 JOHN 4: 7-8

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for **God is love.**

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Friday 8/26** – Pre-K, Kindergarten Open House – 9:00-9:30am

**Monday 8/29** – **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!**

**Monday 9/5** – Labor Day – **NO SCHOOL**

**Friday 9/9** – Back-to-School Picnic – 5:30-7:30pm

**Tuesday 9/13** – Middle School Back-to-School Night

**Wednesday 9/14** – Elementary School Back-to-School Night

**Friday 9/23** – Golf Tournament at Bretwood

**[CLICK HERE](#) for the complete updated 2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

## **PRE-K, KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE**

The Pre-K/Kindergarten Open House will be **9:00-9:30am tomorrow, Friday, August 26**. Families should be aware that the school parking lot is being re-sealed, so there will likely be a lot of work happening when you arrive. **Please keep an eye out for faculty members to direct you and park as close as possible to the main front door entrance (where the buzzer is located) of the school.** Please enter the school at the main front door where you will be greeted by faculty members.

## **ARRIVAL**

**On the first day of school**, SJRS Childcare will be available for PreK-Grade 8 from 7:30-8:10am. At 8:10am, the students in Childcare will go outside to the playground. All families of Grades K-8 may begin dropping off students at 8:10am at the playground. All teachers will be meeting their students on the playground. At 8:25am homeroom teachers will begin bringing their classes into the building to meet in the gym for an 8:35am assembly. This assembly takes about 10 minutes and honors our entering 8th grade class. All 8th grade parents and any other parents are welcome to join all of the students in the gym for this traditional event. At 8:45am, all students will be dismissed with their teachers to their homerooms, and the first day of school will begin.

**Preschool** has a different set of procedures for the first day, and any PreK questions should be sent directly to Mrs. Smith at [msmith@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:msmith@stjosephkeene.org).

### **Morning drop-off procedures at SJRS every day except the first day**

Childcare is available for Grades PreK-8 from 7:30-8:10am.

Middle Schoolers may be dropped off at the main front door entrance (where the buzzer is located) between 8:10-8:25am for an 8:30am start time. Please note that we will **NOT** be using the Wilson Street door this year.

Elementary Schoolers may be dropped off at the playground beginning at 8:10am when the Childcare group goes out, *or* at the main front door entrance (where the buzzer is located) between 8:25-8:40am for an 8:45am start time.

## **DEPARTURE/RIDES LINE**

Due to our parking lot being updated and re-striped over the next few days, we do not have an accurate portrait of what it will look like when it is finished for our first day of school rides line. Faculty and staff members will be positioned in the parking lot to direct traffic. We ask that you please be patient as we all work together during the first few days of school.

### **SJRS students may be picked up in several ways beginning at 2:50.**

1. You may park along Wilson Street and pick up your students from the rides line. You must walk over and get them directly from the teacher **before** rides line begins to move. Your child's teacher must know that you are taking them before you do.
2. You may park in the school/church parking lot and walk over and get them directly from the teacher **before** rides line begins to move. Your child's teacher must know that you are taking them before you do.
3. You may join the rides line and pick up directly from the teacher at your car. When in the rides line, you should be ready to get out of your vehicle and stand next to it so that the teachers can see you clearly.
4. If you have a Mercy Academy student, the Mercy student may pick up their siblings at the playground door and walk the students to your parked car in the parking lot near the flagpole.

## COVID INFORMATION

Below are a few key points from the Diocese of Manchester's COVID guidance for the 2022-2023 school year.

- Employees and students need to **stay home and not report to school if they are sick with any illness** or not feeling well.
- Mask use will remain the option of the individual employee and visitor, and the decision of parents for their children.
- COVID vaccines will not be required for employees, students, or visitors, and school employees will respect that a person's vaccination status is personal medical information.
- Students and employees will frequently wash or sanitize their hands throughout the day.
- Disinfecting desk areas and shared supplies on a regular basis will remain the norm.

To read the full document with all details from the Diocese Superintendent's office, **[CLICK HERE](#)**.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING

The following list of books is the Summer reading required of the Middle School students in preparation for Fall 2022. Reading must be completed **by the first day of school**

**Grade 5** – *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan

**Grade 6** – *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls

**Grade 7** – *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle

**Grade 8** – *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens

## SUPPLY LIST FOR 2022-2023

Please **[CLICK HERE](#)** for the Supply List for the 2022-2023 school year.

## LUNCHES

Hot lunches will begin on **Tuesday, September 6**. You may start placing orders via Renweb/FACTS now and pay online. Payment may also be made by cash/check at the Main Office.

Mondays/Fridays -- Cheese Pizza (\$2.25/slice) (from Pizza Pi)

Tuesdays -- Hot dogs/veggie dogs with chips (\$2.00)

Wednesdays -- Ham/turkey/bologna/veggie sandwiches with chips (\$4.50) (from Gomarlo's)

If you have any questions, please contact Kate in the Main Office (**[kate@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:kate@stjosephkeene.org)**).

## SJRS CHILDCARE

SJRS offers Childcare before and after school each day for all students in all grades. The program is managed by our Kindergarten teacher, Rachel Reekie. All families utilizing Childcare must enroll. For all of the details and to enroll in the SJRS Childcare Program for the 2022-2023 school year, **[please CLICK HERE!](#)**

The dress code for students in grades K-8 was established to support a commitment to simplicity, neatness, and lack of competition in the area of dress. Uniforms fit properly and are worn appropriately each day. Students who are not in proper uniform will be asked to contact parents to acquire proper uniform clothing or borrow available uniform clothing from the Main Office. Please mark all clothing, sneakers, mittens, boots, and coats/sweatshirts with students' names.

#### **KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 4**

- Pants - Navy or khaki (Dockers style for boys)
- No leggings, yoga pants, or spandex without a skirt/dress/jumper over it (girls).
- Shirt - Oxford in white, navy, or light blue
- Polo shirts - Long/short sleeve with collar in white, navy, or light blue
- Turtlenecks - White or navy blue
- Sweater - V-neck cardigan/pullover in solid navy blue only
- Walking Shorts - Navy only
- Navy blue fleece vests w/ or without school letters/logo
- Plaid jumper (Girls Kindergarten through grade 2 only)
- Plaid jumper, skort, skirt – Plaid or Navy only (Girls grade 3 & 4 only)
- Blouse - Peter Pan collar in white or light blue (Girls grade 3 & 4 only)
- Navy blue or white tights or leggings may be worn with skirts/dresses/jumpers.
- No hooded sweatshirts.

#### **GRADE 5 - GRADE 8**

- Pants - Navy or khaki (Dockers style)
- No leggings, yoga pants, or spandex without a skirt/dress over it (girls).
- Skirts/Kilt – Khaki, navy or plaid (All girls) – Knee Length
- Shirts - Oxford in white, navy, or light blue
- Polo's - Long/short sleeve, with collar in white, navy, or light blue
- Turtlenecks - White or Navy
- Sweater - V-neck cardigan/pullover in solid Navy blue only
- Walking Shorts - Navy or khaki – Knee Length
- Navy blue fleece vests w/ or without school letters/logo
- No hooded sweatshirts.

#### **ALL GRADES**

- Shoes and sneakers in good condition. (See below for details.)
- Belts are to be worn with uniform pants and walking shorts in grades 3-8.
- Walking shorts are permitted for approximately the first six weeks of school and in the spring when announced as a result of the change in weather.

#### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION DRESS CODE**

- Navy sweatshirt and sweatpants
- Navy t-shirt
- Navy mesh shorts
- Sneakers

#### **SHOES**

Sneakers in good condition or leather shoes are appropriate for both boys and girls. Sandals and clogs are not allowed at any time. Shoes with medium/high heels are not permitted since they are unsafe. Crocs with the back strap up may be worn seasonally during the first six weeks of the school year and the last six weeks of the school year. For safety, all shoes must have closed fronts and backs with no "platform" style heels and soles.



#### **Don't forget to shop for SJRS through AmazonSmile!**

AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. For details go to:

[https://smile.amazon.com/charity/smile/about?ref\\_=smi\\_se\\_dshb\\_aas\\_saas](https://smile.amazon.com/charity/smile/about?ref_=smi_se_dshb_aas_saas)



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

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