



Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy

January 6, 2022



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

Dear SJRS Families,

Happy 2022! I hope that all of you enjoyed a great relaxing and healthy Christmas break with family and friends.

As we get back to school, the COVID situation in our region is obviously very concerning and a major focus for us right now. We will be continuing to be masked during the school day for the foreseeable future until case counts come down in Cheshire County. If your child is showing any kind of symptoms at all, we ask that you please keep them at home. All teachers will be working closely with students who miss class days to keep everyone on track.

Unfortunately a few events that were on the calendar later this month for **Catholic Schools Week (Jan 31-Feb 4)** will not be happening. We will not be doing the Knights of Columbus pasta dinner/talent show in the evening on February 1, and we will not be celebrating our traditional Grandparents Day on February 4. (BUT February 4 will still be a half day!) However, we will be doing a talent show within the school day that week, similar to what we did last year. And the students will be recognizing their grandparents in a special way that we have planned. There will also be lots of other fun activities happening during Catholic Schools Week, so we look forward to the students having a celebratory spirit week filled with joy. Much more to come on this!

For Middle School parents, please be aware that **students' class schedules** will be changing a bit at the start of the 3rd quarter (January 26). We had to make these changes because of the permanent change to our Mass schedule. Both SJRS and OLMA will be attending Mass every Wednesday at 9:30am going forward, so we needed to adjust Middle School schedules to accommodate that change. Each Middle School student will receive a new printout of their individual schedule.

Speaking of the 3rd quarter, now would be a good time for everyone to log into RenWeb to check out how your students are progressing. The end of the 2nd quarter is approaching (Tuesday, January 25). As always, there should be no surprises on report cards as grades are available to be viewed anytime. If you have any questions or concerns at all, please do not hesitate to reach out directly to your child's teachers. They are always happy to answer your questions.

May Your Spirit Be Lifted,

Christopher Smith
Principal



IMPORTANT DATES

- Friday 1/7 – Alpine Club at Crotched Mountain
- Wednesday 1/12 – SJRS/OLMA School Mass – 9:30am
- Monday 1/17/22–Martin Luther King Day – **NO SCHOOL**
- Tuesday 1/25 – End of the 2nd Quarter
- Mon 1/31 - Fri 2/4 – Catholic Schools Week
- Friday 2/4 – **HALF DAY**
- Mon-Fri 2/14-2/18 – NHDI Residency (PK-Grade 4)
- Mon-Fri 2/21-2/25 – Winter Break – **NO SCHOOL**

Matthew 2:1-2

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.”



SJRS SUPER BOWL SQUARES 2022



Super Bowl Squares are back this year! It's a fun and popular game of chance that makes watching the Super Bowl a little more interesting. This is a traditional squares fundraiser with a 50/50 split -- half to SJRS and half to the winners. Get your squares before they're gone! And please share this with your family and friends. All are welcome to participate. GET YOUR SQUARES!

<https://www.stjosephkeene.org/squares>



PRIZES

1st quarter - \$150
Halftime - \$325
3rd quarter - \$150
Final score - \$625

\$25
per square

PARTICIPATION IS A TWO-STEP PROCESS:

1. Create your account

here: https://www.runyourpool.com/join/pool_info.cfm?id=144768&p=wwdvep

(OR log into your existing account here if you played last year! <https://www.runyourpool.com/>) Simply pick your square(s) by clicking on the grid. There is no limit to the number of squares that you may choose to purchase.

2. Pay for your square(s). **PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE BY TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2022, or your square(s) will go back up for sale.** Please note that payments are NOT made through the squares website (runyourpool.com). You may make your payment of **\$25 per square** by:

Cash/check (payable to SJRS) given to the Main Office
OR

Venmo Saint Joseph Regional School
(@stjosephregionalschool)
OR

Credit card on the SJRS web site:

<https://www.stjosephkeene.org/squares>



ALPINE CLUB

Tomorrow (Friday, January 7) is our first day at the mountain! **Early release by 2:25pm so a 2:30-2:35pm DEPARTURE** from St. Joe's will ensure we get to Crotched Mountain in time for those needing to get their lift tickets, rental equipment and get dressed for mountain fun! It takes 35-40 minutes to get to the mountain. The St. Joe's office **will release the Alpine Club to the "Mercy Door" (playground door) at 2:25pm** and children will meet their parents in the parking lot outside the playground. Please park as close to the playground as possible so you do not get caught in rides line. Some of the children will be riding with other parents or in the SJRS van to the mountain, but **REMEMBER YOU MUST PICK YOUR CHILD UP at the mountain** unless you have made a prior arrangement with another parent or me to ride back in the van. If you have any questions about Alpine Club, please contact Wendy Petschik wpetschik@stjosephkeene.org.



*In December, the Middle School students participated in a special poster contest in Miss Fletcher's art classes titled "Keep Christ in Christmas," sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 819. The winners, who received Toadstool gift cards: Lily Sanderson (gr 6); Andreea Rusu (gr 8); Lily Fitzpatrick (gr 8); Alyvia Singleton (gr 8); and Taylor Edstrom (gr 8). **CONGRATULATIONS to all!***

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING FOR OUR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Later this month, we will begin a Social Emotional Learning program with our Middle School students. Ashleigh Mondoux, a local licensed clinical social worker, will be leading this program. Ashleigh brings excellent credentials and experience in working with children of all ages. We are very excited that she will be helping us with what we believe will address some important topics with our Middle School students on an ongoing basis.

Social Emotional Learning: What Is It and Why Is It Important?

Social emotional learning (SEL) is gaining more and more attention in schools recently. It helps students and educators to learn and integrate the skills needed to regulate emotions, solve problems, set and achieve goals, develop healthy relationships and make responsible decisions across their lifespan. There is strong research around the effectiveness of SEL in schools, with studies demonstrating positive short and long term outcomes.

Social Emotional Skills Group

In a small group format, students will be engaged in a variety of activities designed to promote the five core competencies of social emotional learning: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making. Topics will include identifying and expressing feelings, social skills practice, learning coping skills, communication and self expression. Students will have an opportunity to have fun and make meaningful connections with peers as they learn and practice new skills.

SAY YES! COVID TEST

KEEP OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE

If you are interested in getting free at-home COVID test kits mailed to you, check out:

<https://sayyescovidhometest.org/>

SAINT JOSEPH'S REGIONAL SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL POSTPONED

5th-8th Grade

WE ARE POSTPONING THE BASKETBALL SEASON UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO COVID.

WE WILL UPDATE BEGINNING OF NEXT WEEK!



SJRS students were part of a group that performed with Recycled Percussion at The Palace Theatre in Manchester during the break!



As we returned back to school this week, Madame Dutton celebrated the French tradition of the Epiphany in the 2nd grade. They shared two galettes des rois -- Kings' Cakes. Danny Toscano and Izzie Gray each found la fève - the bean - in their cake. They were crowned le Roi et la Reine - King and Queen - of the Day!



Student Council will be selling
Hot Chocolate

every Thursday in January

during lunch time!

The cost is **\$1.00** and it includes:
hot chocolate, whipped topping
and a candy cane!

Proceeds will benefit
Catholic School's Week activities!

