



# St. Joseph School, Fullerton

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Monthly Newsletter

March, 2017



## ***GREETINGS FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK***

*He is waiting for you, He is close to you, He loves you,*

*He is merciful, He forgives you,*

*He gives you the strength to begin again from scratch!*

*Everybody!*

*- Pope Francis*

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As the second trimester comes to a close and the Lenten season begins it is the perfect time to reflect on where we are in our lives and our openness to God's plan for each of us. It is also a time to recognize how fast the school year has gone and how the end is near. As a parent of three it is hard to believe how quickly our kids grow up and are becoming more and more independent. It is at these times when we need to hold on even tighter to give them the love and guidance they need to become amazing people in our school, church and community. They truly do appreciate all of the love and guidance we provide even though they may not always show it.

I want to take a moment to congratulate our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students for being accepted into so many amazing high schools. They will be in our thoughts and prayers as they make their final selections. We know that wherever your children go they will take a piece of St. Joseph School Fullerton with them and change the world for good.

I am happy to share with you that when Archbishop Lori celebrated Mass with us on February 1<sup>st</sup> he gave the school an extra day off this year. The day selected is **Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**. I wanted to give you as much notice as possible to prepare for students being out of school this day.

Thank you as always for your continued care and support for your children and the school and have a blessed Lent. Below is a quote I found that I feel fits the Lenten season.

*“We are not blessed so we can have; we are blessed so we can give!”*

Blessing and Peace,

*Kenneth J. Pipkin*

Kenneth J. Pipkin

Principal

St. Joseph School Fullerton

[kipkin@stjoefullerton.org](mailto:kipkin@stjoefullerton.org)

## ***UPCOMING ACTIVITIES***

### **REGISTRATION**

We are still accepting applications for the 2017 – 2018 school year. Please contact Mrs. Troiano to get information and set up a tour. As we all know, there is nothing better than word of mouth advertising. Share your good experience with friends and family. Our website is also full of information for prospective parents, [www.stjoeschool.org](http://www.stjoeschool.org). We are also on Facebook!

### **FACTS**

Saint Joseph School will be transitioning to the use of the online tuition program called FACTS. Information regarding this program was sent home at the beginning of January.

### **2017-2018 TUITION REMINDER**

All 2017-2018 tuition payments must be paid through FACTS Tuition Management. Payments will not be accepted by the school office. The link to set up your account is on the school website and is provided here for your convenience: <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3QPFY>. The payment plan options are explained when you set up your account. Also listed are your payment source choices. All accounts must be set up by April 12, 2017. Contact Ann Biggerman (410-256-8026) or [abiggerman@stjoefullerton.org](mailto:abiggerman@stjoefullerton.org) with any questions.

### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> is Ash Wednesday this year. It begins the season of Lent – a time for us to do a bit of ‘spring cleaning’ of the soul. Christians are asked to focus on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Students will attend 8:15 Mass and receive ashes. Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence for Catholics according to their age. Again this year, the HASA will sponsor the Seafood Sale at Bill’s Seafood located 9016 Belair Road. A portion of all the sales that day will go to our HASA for school support. A flyer is attached.

### **HASA INFORMATION**

Please keep a look out for HASA information in the weekly blast.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

Grades 7 & 8 will be performing in the 2017 Spring Musical “Princess Whatsername”!! The Musical performance will take place on Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. There will be two performances one at 1:00pm and 7:00pm. Ticket information and flyers will be coming home soon.

### **ARE YOU A HAPPY CAMPER?**

Our school's Happy Camper Book Fair will be held February 27-March 3 during your child's regular Library Class. Reminder flyers will come home as the month rolls on, but please remember to place money for your child in a CLEARLY MARKED envelope or baggie with their name and homeroom. Parents and/or grandparents are invited to shop with our students during their Library class. Just sign in at the office and meet your child/grandchild in the Library during their class time.

Parents and/or grandparents can also "secret shop" anytime during the school day! It's a great time to find some cool books for Easter! Stop in after drop off or pull up a little early for pick up any day that week. If you are available to volunteer for our Book Fair, please send a note with the day(s) and time(s) you are available to Mrs. Beres. Students need help in deciding if they have enough money for their choices, and we always need help at the cash registers (it's easy!). Thank you!

### **SIXTH GRADE MARCH MADNESS INVOLVES DOGS AND SNOW**

Our sixth grade Library students are ready to learn all about the Iditarod, the annual Alaskan dog sled race. During February, they learn all about the race and adopt a musher. We then follow the race from beginning to end (start date: March 4). It's a fun way to learn the proper way to do research, and find out who will "win the buckle".

### **SSCHOLARSHIPS**

Scholarship opportunities and programs are posted on the new bulletin board, presented to students in class and sent home on a weekly basis. Please keep a look out for all new opportunities as they become available. (FLYERS AT THE END)

### **LOOKING FOR HOMEWORK HELP?**

Our school's **Homework Connection (HWC)** is here to help your child with their homework! Homework Connection is an after school program which runs **Monday through Thursday from Dismissal (2:50pm) until 4:00pm, and is located in our school library. Students will be dismissed from the Library's back door.** Students have the opportunity to learn good work habits and complete their homework with the support of a teacher. There is a fee involved. Please email Mrs. Loraditch or Mrs. Veise if you are interested in more information.

kloraditch @stjoefullerton.org

cveise@stjoefullerton.org

### **SHIELD THE VULNERABLE TRAINING REMINDER**

We are very excited to have many volunteers take part in any and all activities that we host here at St. Joseph School. We just need to make sure that anyone who wants to volunteer to work with or around children has completed the Archdiocesan Shield the Vulnerable Training. Please contact Mrs. Brooks in the school office. The process involves online training and confirmation that it is complete before you are allowed to attend and/or volunteer around the children. [mkbrooks@stjoefullerton.org](mailto:mkbrooks@stjoefullerton.org)

## ***CONGRATULATIONS***

### **8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

We would like to congratulate the 8<sup>th</sup> graders for being accepted into all of the prestigious public and private schools they applied to this year. We wish you the best of luck on making your selection.

## ***THANKS TO...***

### **PURPLE FRIDAYS**

The Student Awareness Committee (SAC) sponsored a number of Purple Fridays this past year prior to some of the Ravens' home games. Participants were asked to send in a \$1.00 donation and wear their Ravens' jersey or another purple shirt. The Purple Friday dates, amounts, and charities are listed below. The SAC members would like to thank you all for your generosity and support. **You are the best!**

- September 30<sup>th</sup> - Preservation Society: Ellicott City-\$385
- October 7<sup>th</sup> - Baltimore Humane Society-\$344
- November 4<sup>th</sup> -Archdiocese of Baton Rouge, Louisiana-\$304
- November 10<sup>th</sup> - Little Sisters of the Poor-\$300
- December 2<sup>nd</sup> - The Malone Family-\$290
- January 27<sup>th</sup>-Fundraiser for the Malone Family (not a Purple Friday)-\$1,014

## ***BONUS PROGRAMS***

During the year, through the efforts of the Home and School Association, funds are raised using a variety of bonus programs. Some of these programs are on-going; others have a beginning and ending point. But in all cases they raise money for our school by points you accrue through purchasing their products. We continue to do the following programs with great success and encourage you to send in your Campbell Labels and Boxtops for Education!!

Programs include:

***Boxtops for Education***

***Giant***

***Campbells***

***Coca Cola***

# ***ANNOUNCEMENTS***

## **STUDENT TESTING**

This year students in Grades 2 – 8 will be taking part in the IOWA testing. The IOWA will take the place of the Stanford test given previously. A letter will be sent home with students this week to provide more information about the new test. The testing window opens March 27<sup>th</sup> and all testing will be completed by April 5<sup>th</sup>.

## **A Note from The Wellness Command Center**

Please remember to ALWAYS report your child's absence to the main office and School Nurse. Specify the student's symptoms as well. This helps to track the number of similar ailments within the classes.

Please check your child's folders or binders for Visit Notes from the School Nurse, sign and return them to school. These allow the School Nurse to know that there has been communication to the parents/guardians about an illness or injury.

Remember the Health Care Policies: A child may not come into school until they are 24 hours symptom free without medication (vomiting/diarrhea/fever) or if prescribed antibiotics, they should have at least 3 doses before returning to school. This is very important to the health and wellness of all the students, faculty, and staff.

Feel free to contact the School Nurse with any questions or concerns at any time via email or phone.

## **2A News**

95% of the 2A students are staying after school! Why, you ask? They wanted to start their own book clubs. Currently, they have picked 4 different books to review and discuss. Our first meeting is February 28<sup>th</sup>. Reading, snacks and great conversation! What more could a teacher ask for?

# *St. Joseph Lenten Seafood Sale*

When: Wednesday March 1, 2017

Time: 9am – 8pm

Where: Bill's Seafood  
9016 Belair Road

Stop in Bill's Seafood for the Lenten Seafood Sale and let them know you are with St. Joseph's School. With each purchase, 10% will come back to St. Joseph.

**The Knott Scholarship Funds** announce the availability of full tuition scholarships for the 2017/2018 academic year. These scholarships are for four years, beginning in 5th grade or in 9th grade, and are awarded based on exceptional academic achievement.

Catholic students currently in grades 4 or 8 living in Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford or Howard County may apply.

Scholarships may be used to attend a Catholic elementary school or a Catholic high school located in these geographic areas of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.



**All application materials are due on April 7, 2017.  
Please see the website for additional details.**

Complete qualification requirements and application forms can be found on the web at [www.knottscholar.org](http://www.knottscholar.org).