



St. Joseph School, Fullerton

8416 Belair Road Baltimore, MD 21236 Phone: 410-256-8026 Fax: 410-529-7234

Monthly Newsletter



March, 2018

GREETINGS FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

*“Holy Spirit, make my heart open to the word of God,
make my heart open to goodness,
make my heart open to the beauty of God every day.”*

- Pope Francis

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As the second trimester comes to a close, we look forward to the coming of Spring and the Easter season. With this comes new hope and joy within our lives. Considering the recent events and issues occurring throughout our nation it has given the St. Joseph School community cause to take a moment and reflect. Providing a safe, caring and secure environment for our school family is an essential part of our mission, vision and the future success of our children. I want to assure you that we meet on a regular basis to review policies and procedures as it relates to the safety in our school. Attached to the newsletter is a letter from the Chancellor of the Archdiocese showing the commitment we have for all of our students' safety and steps that are in place to evaluate and update procedures throughout the Archdiocese.

As a leadership team we have decided to host our First, “State of the School Address,” on Tuesday, April 17th in the Parish Center. The Administrative Team, Fr. Jesse and the H.A.S.A. President Mrs. Streckfus will all be available to share the current path of the school, answer questions and seek your input for what went well this year and recommendations for next year. A flyer will be sent home soon with a reminder of the date and time.

Lastly, I want to take a moment to congratulate our 8th grade students for being accepted into so many amazing high schools. 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.

Thank you as always for your continued care and support for your children and the school.

“To change the world we must be good to those who cannot repay us.”

-Pope Francis

Blessing and Peace,

Kenneth J. Pipkin

Kenneth J. Pipkin

Principal

St. Joseph School Fullerton

kpipkin@stjoeschool.org

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

2018 – 2019 SCHOOL YEAR APPLICATIONS

We are still accepting applications for the 2018 – 2019 school year for Kindergarten and 3rd Grade. If you know someone who is considering a Catholic education for their child, please have them call Mrs. Troiano to set up a private tour and get information about the 2018-2019 school year. Remember if your name is listed as a referral source then you will be entered into a \$500 tuition drawing. The drawing will take place on June 1, 2018.

Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl Project Continues

The **Student Awareness Committee (SAC)** of St. Joseph School distributed collection boxes for the CRS Rice Bowl Project on February 14th. Students were given individual boxes and were asked to fill them with their spare change. Students are welcome to return their collection box before or after Easter. These are to be given to the Homeroom teacher. Thank you all ahead of time for helping to make this SAC Lenten Project a successful one!

Tuition Raffle

St. Joseph School is introducing its first ever tuition raffle. The raffle starts on March 12th and the winner will be drawn on Tuesday, April 17th at the ***State of the School Address***. Tickets are \$10 each and we are asking each student to sell three. The winner will have the option of a year's free tuition at St. Joseph School for the 2018 – 2019 school year or \$5,000. Thank you as always for your support of St. Joseph School. The flyer for this fundraiser is attached to the newsletter.

The Wearing of the Green on St. Patrick's Day

On Friday, March 16th, the SAC will be sponsoring the **Wearing of the Green**. Students will be able to share their **St. Patrick's Day** spirit as well as help out those in need. We are asking a \$1.00 donation be brought in to homeroom. Show your spirit by wearing green or a St. Patrick's Day themed shirt over your uniform or gym pants. Girls you may wear your shirt over your skirt or gym pants. In addition, students may wear accessories such as the following: headbands, hats, socks, hair ribbons, ties, bow ties, necklaces, pins, buttons, etc. Please keep in mind that nail polish, hair dye, wigs, or any makeup is not permitted. If you have questions, please ask Mrs. Diggs.

IDITAROD STARTS SATURDAY, MARCH 3

The **Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race** is an annual 1000-mile sled dog race run in early March from Willow to Nome, entirely within the US state of Alaska. Mushers and a team of 16 dogs, of which at least 5 must be on the towline at the finish line, cover the distance in 8–15 days or more. Our 6th grade Library students have been doing research on the race and the musher they chose to follow (and cheer on!). Soon, each student will choose a sub-topic to research. Each day during the race, they will arrive in school to see if their musher is in the lead!

HASA INFORMATION

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

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT VIRTUAL SIMULATION TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK!

Over the past six weeks, our eighth grade Library students have learned about credit cards, checkbooks, and staying within a budget by way of the Junior Achievement program. Next week, they get “dumped” into a virtual town for four weeks with a middle class salary and must make their way through purchasing needed items without overspending. It’s a great way to learn about finances and how dangerous money can be!

TALENT SHOW

Make sure to save the date for the Schoolwide Talent Show that is taking place on Thursday, March 22nd in the Parish Center at 7:00pm. It is guaranteed to be blast! Ticket information and a flyer will be coming home soon.

ARCHDIOCESE PRAYER SERVICE

The Archdiocese of Baltimore is hosting an Ecumenical and Interfaith Prayer Service at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen on Thursday, April 12th at 7:00pm. The Prayer Service is to Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the assassination of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. An invitation from the Archbishop and a copy of the flyer are attached to the newsletter.

STUDENT TESTING

IOWA testing for grades 2 through 8 will be taking place April 11th – 20th. As you may remember the IOWA took the place of the Stanford test given in the past. Teachers will be sending home reminders in the coming weeks.

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 at kloraditch@stjoeschool.org or Mrs. Veise at cveise@stjoeschool.org if you are interested in more information.

HOMEWORK CONNECTION FOR GRADES 1 – 3

Our school’s Homework Connection has expanded to Grades 1 – 3. Please read the attached flyer for information and details.

SCHOOL BAND

The St. Joseph School Band will be performing in the Forty-First Annual Instrumental Music Program Festival held at Notre Dame Preparatory School on Sunday, March 25th. Our band performs at 12:30, so please come out to support our wonderful music program on their continued success.

THANKS TO...

BOOK FAIR WAS “PAWSATIVELY PURRRRFECTION”

Our “Paws for Books” Book Fair ends on March 5th and Mrs. Beres would like to thank all the wonderful volunteers and parents who helped support the Fair by either staffing the event, meeting their child in the Library to do a little shopping, or putting some cash in an envelope so your child could purchase a book or two. Special thanks go to Mrs. Hudson, Mrs. Brown, Mary Beres, Mrs. Stecco, Mrs. Rosenberger, Mrs. Roane, Mrs. Haffer, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Deitrich, Mrs. Boze, Mrs. Sipes, Mrs. Troiano, and Mrs. Hoer. There was also a group of parents who helped an extra hour or two here and there after their child went back to class. We thank you! A percentage of the sales goes right back to our school and Mrs. Beres cannot WAIT to purchase new books for the English Language Arts classes and the school Library! Thank you again for your help and support!

CONGRATULATIONS

Egg Drop Competition

Mrs. Garing and the school would like to congratulate the group of 5th grade girls who participated in the Annual NDP Egg Drop Competition on Saturday February 3rd. This was the first time fifth grade participated in this event. We had several teams participate who represented St. Joseph and we placed both second and third out of about 50 teams. Good job girls! You ALL did an “egg”cellent job!

Carly Altman

Abigail Ament

Arianna Banas

Livia Beckner

Kaylee Castle

Mackenzie Dain

Maeve Daly

Emily Hausler

Emily Kane

Sophie Lanham

Michele Petrosino

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 Boxtops for Education and Coca Cola caps!

Programs include:

Boxtops for Education

Giant

Coca Cola

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CUSTODIAN NEEDED

St. Joseph School is looking for a full-time custodian. The job is posted on the Archdiocese of Baltimore website. All interested individuals can forward their resumes to Mr. Pipkin via the main office, the mail, or email to kpipkin@stjoeschool.org.

Counselor's Corner

March Highlight: The Organizers

Since late November, a group of five eighth-graders have been helping students for whom staying organized can be a daily challenge. The Organizers work one on one with students during Lunch or Recess, helping them to organize their desks, binders, and offering tips around homework issues.

In the process of monitoring students working with The Organizers, the feedback I have received has been overwhelmingly positive. Students enjoy the support and feel they have learned new strategies to help them manage their school materials more effectively.

If you feel your child would benefit from this service, please contact me either by phone 410-256-8026 Ext. 133 or by email at gvernick@stjoeschool.org.

On another note, Spring is just around the corner, thankfully, and this is a good time to start exploring summer activities and programs for your child. I am happy to assist you with this process and can recommend resources to reinforce academic skills or to nurture interests and talents.

As always, I am grateful to work with your wonderful children each and every day.

My best,

Gail Vernick, LCSW-C

A Note from The Wellness Command Center:

Flu season is upon us and I am sure you have been following the news regarding alarming rates of flu outbreaks. Our absentee rates have been relatively low. Continue to practice good/frequent hand washing, cover your mouth/nose when you have to cough or sneeze. If a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your elbow or sleeve, NOT your hands! Remember not to share personal items like drinks, food, or unwashed utensils. And lastly, be vigilant with monitoring your children for signs of illness (fever-100 degrees or higher, sore throat, a runny/stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and fatigue). And keep them home if they are exhibiting symptoms of illness. The likelihood of them picking up a secondary illness is higher if they are already compromised. Students may return after being **symptom free for 24hours** without the use of fever reducing medications.

Please remember to **ALWAYS** report your child's absence to the main office and School Nurse via telephone or website. 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.

St. Joseph Lenten Seafood Sale

When: Friday March 30, 2018

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.



320 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
P: 410-547-5515
F: 410-547-5566

February 28, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In the wake of the recent tragic shooting at a school in Florida, I write to assure you that officials at every level of the Catholic school system of the Archdiocese of Baltimore are focused on ensuring that our schools are as safe as they can possibly be for your children and for faculty and staff.

Though we routinely review and strengthen safety protocols, we have initiated some important additional steps since the recent school shooting, including:

- *Issuing a reminder from our Office of Risk Management to the heads of all Catholic schools reminding them of the emphasis we place on creating a culture within each school that takes every threat seriously, and the responsibility of everyone in the school community to say something if they see or know something of concern;*
- *My calling for a system-wide review of every Archdiocesan school's safety procedures by the heads of our Facilities and Risk Management divisions, in conjunction with the Department of Catholic Education; and*
- *Working closely with the Maryland Center for School Safety on both school safety and emergency preparedness.*

I hope this information reassures you of the high priority we place on the safety and well-being of your children. I greatly appreciate you entrusting us with not only the education of your child, but also their safety.

Thank you,

*James B. Sellinger, Sr.
Chancellor of Education
Archdiocese of Baltimore*

ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION
OF REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

featuring
The Reverend Raphael Gamaliel Warnock, Ph. D.



Senior Pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church
Atlanta, Georgia

ALL ARE WELCOME

CATHEDRAL OF MARY OUR QUEEN
5200 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018 AT 7PM

The Rev. Dr. Raphael Gamaliel Warnock serves as Senior Pastor of the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church, spiritual home of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

WWW.ARCHBALT.ORG/MLK-50



ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE

320 CATHEDRAL STREET • BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201 • 410-547-5437

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

February 10, 2018

Dear Friend,

Fifty years after the death of one of the greatest civil rights leaders of any time, society continues to suffer from the violence and injustice that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. sought to eradicate through prayerful, just and peaceful means. Amidst the struggles and social ills that continue to plague our Nation, including our own beloved City of Baltimore, we look to Dr. King's teachings and faithful witness for the wisdom and courage to lead in his example. One way we seek to do this is by coming together as people of all faiths to reflect on Dr. King's words and teachings and to do so in a prayerful and peaceful setting.

On behalf of Baltimore's many communities of faith, I am pleased to invite you to attend a special interfaith and ecumenical prayer service commemorating the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on April 12, 2018 at 7pm at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in North Baltimore. Reverend Dr. Raphael G. Warnock, Senior Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, will preach. As you know, Ebenezer Baptist Church was the spiritual home of Dr. King who, along with his father, served as Ebenezer Baptist's co-pastor from 1960 until his death in 1968.

With gratitude for your continued collaboration, I am

Sincerely,

Most Reverend William E. Lori
Archbishop of Baltimore

Tired of struggling with your child to get their homework done?

Homework

Connection Primary!

Dear Parents,

We would like to introduce you to the **Homework Connection Primary (HWCP)** at St. Joseph's! Homework Connection Primary is an after school program which runs for an hour, **Monday through Thursday from Dismissal (3:00PM) until 4:05PM. It is held in Room 2. Students will be dismissed from the Library's back door.** Our purpose is for students to have the opportunity to learn good work habits and complete their homework with the support of a teacher.

Students (Gr. 1-3 only) can:

- Work on written and study homework with the support of Homework Connection staff.
- Enjoy a small snack to get energy to tackle their work.
- Work on their homework after school in a quiet, safe environment so that you can enjoy more family time at home.

Teachers (Ms. James, Mrs. Berg, Mrs. Visalli) will:

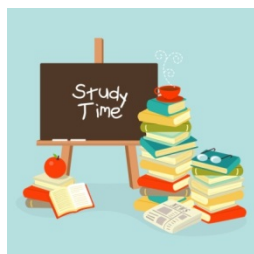
- Be on hand to aid students with any difficulties they might encounter with their work.
- Review homework and offer corrections.
- Actively study with students by quizzing, reviewing (i.e. math facts-flash cards), and asking questions.

NOTE: This is a group setting; therefore teachers cannot be tutoring individuals.

The cost of the Homework Connection would be \$9 per day with a minimum commitment of two days/week per session. Anyone coming less than two days/week per session will be considered as a drop-in and charged \$12 per day. Payment is due by Thursday of the first week of the session. Any payments received after will be assessed a late fee of \$15. Staffing is based on number of students enrolled on any given day of a session. No refunds for students who are absent or don't attend. **Make checks payable to Kathy James.**

Enrollment is open each session. If you would like to drop in, you need to email the teacher as soon as possible to make sure there is enough room for your child. *Unless you have teacher confirmation via email or phone call that there is space available, your child CANNOT drop in.*

Please send in the attached slip c/o HWCP - Ms. James and you will receive confirmation from the Homework Connection Primary staff.



Homework Connection Primary!

Upcoming Sessions:

Session #5	02/05-02/08	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
	02/12-02/15	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
	02/20-02/22	Tues, Wed, Thurs
	02/26-03/01	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
Session #6	03/05-03/08	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
	03/12-03/15	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
	03/19-03/22	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
	03/26-03/28	Mon, Tues, Wed
Session #7	04/09-04/12	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
	04/17-04/19	Tues, Wed, Thurs
	04/23-04/26	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
	04/30-05/03	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
Session #8	05/08-05/10	Tues, Wed, Thurs
	05/14-05/17	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
	05/21-05/24	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
	05/29-05/31	Tues, Wed, Thurs

Child's name: _____ Homeroom: _____

I am registering for session # _____ My child will attend (circle): Mon Tues Wed Thurs

I would like drop-in services only: _____ Any specific day/dates? _____

My child will be picked up by: _____

Parent's name(s): _____

Parent's email: _____ Parent's phone: _____

Is there anything you would like us to know about your child? Is there a particular subject or type of homework (written/study) that you'd like us to have your child focus on while at HWCP?

We encourage you to provide any information in the space below that could help us when working with your child. If you have any additional questions or concerns please email either:

Ms. James: kjames@stjoeschool.org



St. Joseph School—Fullerton

Tuition Raffle

March 12, 2018—April 12, 2018

GRAND PRIZE

FREE TUITION

for the 2018-2019 school year

OR \$5,000 CASH OPTION

Drawing to be held on

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Winner need not be present to win

Seller of winning ticket will receive a \$50 Gift Card

- Tickets are **\$10.00** each
- Every student is asked to sell at least **3** tickets
- Homerooms with 100% participation will receive an out of uniform pass
- Only 3,000 tickets will be sold
- Proceeds to benefit St. Joseph School
- Extra tickets can be sent upon request



Need more tickets? How many?_____ Student name_____HR_____

THE XAVIA KIERAN BORYS PIROZZI TUITION GRANT GUIDELINES

With remaining funds from the Xavia Kieran Borys Pirozzi Fundraisers
and other donations in Xavia's name

By means of the contributions and donations from The Heart of St. Joseph Fundraiser (originally held in 2007) and the kindnesses of the Borys and Pirozzi families, Saint Joseph Parish will offer to a St. Joseph School family a one-time one year Grant each May. The Grant will be applied to the recipient family's tuition bill for the following school year. This Grant can only be applied to tuition/fees at St. Joseph School (8416 Belair Rd, Baltimore, MD 21236).

To qualify for the Grant, a family must have 3 or more children in grades K-8 attending St. Joseph School in the following year. The family must be active, registered St. Joseph Church parishioners.

The selection of the Grant recipient family will be based upon:

- number of students in the family attending St. Joseph School (at least 3 students in gr. K—8)
- progress reports of the those attending St. Joseph School with consideration of academic progress as well as effort and conduct indicators. (A parent or guardian responsible for the students must sign a release allowing the Grant Review Committee to obtain copies of the 2nd term progress reports for each of the students in the applicant's family.)
- applicant's family financial need

To be considered for the Grant, parents/guardians must write a brief letter (no longer than 200 words) to the Grant Review Committee by April 15th stating the total number of siblings in the family, the number which will be attending St. Joseph School in the following school year, and their current grade levels. The letter should explain how the Grant would help. All letters will remain confidential and are property of St. Joseph Parish.

The Grant Review Committee consisting of not less than 4 and not more than 5 members which shall be appointed by the pastor of St. Joseph Church and the

members shall serve at his pleasure. The names of the committee members will remain anonymous.

The Xavia Kieran Borys Pirozzi Grant will not affect any tuition assistance from St. Joseph Church. Also, awards by the St. Joseph School from the Sodality and Holy Name will not be affected by the awarding or receipt of the Grant. If; however, a student in the applicant's immediate family should win a Knott Scholarship to St. Joseph School, that student is not counted toward the minimum requirement of 3 students required for consideration of eligibility for this Grant.

The Grant will be in a one-time amount of \$1000.00 (one thousand dollars) to the family chosen. This money will be credited to their tuition account at the time of the last payment due in the upcoming school year, thus assuring the family is enrolled for the entire school year.

The pastor and the Grant Review Committee shall have the authority, in their sole discretion, to revise the amount of the Grant based on state of the economy, interest rates and the total principal of the Fund. Their decision to adjust the amount of the Grant must be made by February 1 of any year; otherwise the amount will remain as stated above. The Grant Review Committee shall also have the right not to make an award if there are no eligible families who apply (i.e. at least 3 students attending St. Joseph School in the following year).

The availability of the Xavia Kieran Borys Pirozzi Grant will be announced by the principal in the March newsletter. The amount of the Grant will be included as well as the details relating to eligibility and selection process. The recipient family will be notified in late May and the name of the recipient family will be announced in the June newsletter.

The Xavia Kieran Borys Pirozzi Grant is hereby established to honor Xavia, her faith and her determination as well as the love of her family who cherish her and their memories of her.