



St. Joseph School, Fullerton

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

Monthly Newsletter

February, 2018



GREETINGS FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

“Faith, Hope and Love, The Greatest is Love”

1 Corinthians 13:13

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The month of February is the beginning of various events in the academic year as well as the liturgical calendar. In February we will reach the first 100 days of school, we will celebrate Valentine's Day and our 8th graders will be receiving acceptances from their selected high schools. We will also welcome new students to the St. Joseph's school family and we will also begin the season of Lent. These events only touch on a few of the many wonderful things that go on at St. Joseph's every day.

We start the month of February in the middle of the Celebration of Catholic Schools Week. This is truly the one time of year where we celebrate the amazing gift of a Catholic Education. On behalf of the entire Faculty and Staff we would like to thank each and every one of you for choosing St. Joseph School as your home for your child's education. We appreciate and acknowledge all of the sacrifices that it often takes to provide your child with a Catholic Education. We love every moment we have to be able to educate your children. Our hope as always is that your children are able to “Live in such a way that those who know them but don't know God will come to know God because they know them.” We are blessed to see them live this message every day. We look forward to seeing everyone during Catholic Schools Week and help us celebrate all of the great things that happen here at St. Joseph School.

Thank you as always for your continued care and support for your children and the school. We truly are a family that works together collaboratively in the presence of Christ.

Blessing and Peace,

Kenneth J. Pipkin

Kenneth J. Pipkin

Principal

St. Joseph School Fullerton

kpipkin@stjoeschool.org



Catholic Schools
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Re-Registration Reminder

Re-registration is now open for the 2018-2019 school year. You should have received an email with a link to the School Admin registration portal along with a follow up email on Tuesday, January 30th. If you did not receive an email, please contact the school office immediately.

Re-registration is due by Friday, February 9th. After February 9th, the registration fee increases from \$100 to \$150 per child and we will begin accepting new students for any remaining openings.

As a reminder, the Not Active Participating Catholic tuition will be listed on the contract in School Admin. The tuition will be adjusted in your FACTS account once we receive verification of your parishioner status. If you are a parishioner at a parish other than St. Joseph, you must have the Parish Verification form signed with the parish seal in order to receive the Active Participating Catholic discount. The form can be found in your checklist in School Admin.

TUITION ASSISTANCE/FAMILY GRANT (FINANCIAL AID)

All applications for tuition assistance/family grants are filed through the FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment website (www.factsmgmt.com). Additional information and direct links can be found on our website (www.stjoeschool.org) under Admissions – Grant/Aid. Deadline for all applications is February 28th. If you have any questions or need any help with the application process please contact Mrs. Biggerman at the school office (410-256-8026) on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

HASA Information

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

Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl Project

The **Student Awareness Committee (SAC)** of St. Joseph School will be conducting the CRS Rice Bowl Project that will begin on February 14th, Ash Wednesday, and last for the forty days of Lent.

Students will be given their individual Rice Bowl collection box in their homerooms on Ash Wednesday. They are asked to fill them with their spare change.

A letter will be sent home to families with additional information on activities that families may participate in to make this project more meaningful at home. Additional activities will be shared with the children in the classrooms.

When students are ready to return their box before or after Easter, they are to return them to their homeroom teacher.

Thank you all ahead of time for helping to make this SAC project a successful one!!

PRIVATE TOURS STILL AVAILABLE

Although our Annual Catholic Schools Week Open House was Sunday, January 28th, 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.

WE NEED DATA ENTRY HELP!

We want to send a thank you postcard to everyone who donated to our Race for Education. This year, we are doing things a little differently, and could use some data entry help to get the mailing list together. If you are able to help, please contact Mrs. Beres. This data entry can be done from ANYWHERE on a shared Google document. You can do as little or as much as you would like. Thank you in advance for your help with this!

IT'S READING CATS AND DOGS!

Our school's PAWS FOR BOOKS Book Fair will be held February 26-March 2 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 that week! 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!) and setting up and breaking down the fair. Thank you!

SHOW ME THE MONEY.....AND HOW TO SPEND IT!

Our 8th grade students are learning about financial literacy in Library class by way of the Junior Achievement Program. Students learn about taxes, checkbooks, credit cards, leasing vs. owning, stocks, bonds, bank accounts, and working within a budget. After six sessions in the classroom, the students move to our school's Chromebooks for a 4-session virtual simulation experience. They are given an identity, job, and salary, and are "placed" in a virtual town where they have to find a way to live within their means. It's an eye-opening experience for them as they realize the Mercedes and beach house are.....not always possible.

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 3). It's a fun way to learn the proper way to do research, and find out who will "win the buckle".

KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS SET TO GET FIRST LIBRARY CARDS

On February 15, our kindergarten students will receive their very FIRST LIBRARY CARDS from the Baltimore County Public Library during their regular Library Class. Applications have already been sent home. If your child already has a library card, they will receive a certificate instead (we celebrate EVERYONE!).

Mrs. Jennifer Riley from the Baltimore County Public Library, Perry Hall Branch, will visit and award the library cards or certificates to the students. Our kindergarten students will be surprised to find their fifth grade reading buddies waiting for them to help celebrate the day with a small reception.

Scholarships

The Xavia Kieran Borys Pirozzi Tuition Grant is currently available; the Grant guidelines are attached.

Baltimore Blast Archdiocese Night

On **Saturday, February 24, 2018** the Baltimore Blast will be hosting an Archdiocese Family Night for all schools and parishes in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. There will be a meet and greet with Blast players before the game, along with a parade of parishes and schools in attendance. Archbishop Lori will also be there to do the “first kick.” **(Please see the attached flyer with details and ticket information.)**

LOOKING FOR HOMEWORK HELP?

Our school’s **Homework Connection (HWC)** is here to help your child with their homework! The **PRIMARY** level is registering now for upcoming sessions. Homework Connection is an after school program which runs **Monday through Thursday from Dismissal (2:50pm) until 4:00pm.** Students have the opportunity to learn good work habits and complete their homework with the support of a teacher. **(Please see the attached flyer for more details.)**

STAND (Virtus) 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 STAND (Virtus) Training. Please contact Mrs. Brooks or Mrs. Christy 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.

INCLEMENT WEATHER – Hear about closings or delays on TV or Radio

This is a reminder that if St. Joseph School Fullerton is closed because of inclement weather, please listen to WBAL television or radio to learn the status of Baltimore County Public Schools. If they are closed, opening late, or dismissing early due to inclement weather or other natural disaster, we will do likewise. There will not be a separate announcement for St. Joseph School unless there is something specific and different that needs to be announced. In addition, we will not be sending a direct message to your phone or email unless Baltimore County Public School is already closed that day. **Please note that SJS is NOT part of the Hereford Zone.**

CONGRATULATIONS

BGE CONTEST

Congratulations to Connor Bravo and the St. Joseph School community. On Tuesday, January 30th, Mrs. Ingrid Woods and CAPTAIN MERCAPTAN from the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company visited our school to present us with a check for \$5,000 for winning the fifth grade award in the Baltimore Gas and Electric Natural Gas Safety Hero Challenge! Our school will use the money to purchase energy efficient water fountains. Thank you to all who voted online and to our fifth grade student whose entry was voted the Grade 5 winner!

ROBOTICS TOURNAMENT

We would like to congratulate the following students for their outstanding work at the Robotic Tournament on Saturday, January 20th at Boys Latin High School. The students did an amazing job representing our school.

Aquabots: Ashton Esposito, Amelia Petr, Will Pipkin, Bernadette Ramoy, Jacob Solloway, Liam Turska, Timothy Villanueva, and Madison Villarba

Water Wizards: Jacob Brown, Michael Candia, Anna Christou, Ethan Floyd, Charlie Haffer, Marcella Jesionkeiwicz. Samantha Rugas, David Sanico, and Bryann Tenorio

THANKS TO...

...School Board member **Dr. Marvin Tan** for all of the new outdoor signage for St. Joseph School. Your thoughtfulness and support of the school is greatly appreciated.

...Everyone who assisted in making our Open House a great success. We had over 80 families tour the school this year. Thank you to our parents, students, HASA, and the school band for volunteering to make this an amazing day. Thanks especially to Mrs. Troiano and Mrs. Beres for spearheading this day!

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
Campbells

Giant
Coca Cola

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 24hrs** without the use of fever reducing medications.

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.

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.



ARCHDIOCESE
of BALTIMORE

FAMILY NIGHT



Saturday, February 24th @ 6:05 PM vs. Florida Tropics

YOUTH TICKETS, \$15 EACH (8th GRADE AND UNDER)
DISCOUNTED ADULT TICKETS, \$23 EACH



• "FIRST KICK" AND OPENING PRAYER BY
ARCHBISHOP LORI

• MEET AND GREET WITH BLAST PLAYERS PRIOR
TO THE GAME

• PARADE OF CHAMPIONS FOR ALL YOUTH DURING
OPENING CEREMONIES



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL MIKE CONWAY @ 410-558-4292

OFFER NOT AVAILABLE AT THE ARENA BOX OFFICE OR TICKETMASTER
DEADLINE TO ORDER TICKETS IS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2018 @ 5PM

_____ # OF YOUTH TICKETS @ \$15 EACH

_____ # OF ADULT TICKETS @ \$23 EACH

+ \$1.00 Shipping and Handling

\$ _____ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BALTIMORE BLAST

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
PREGAME ACTIVITIES WILL BE
SENT WITH TICKETS

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PARISH NAME: _____

PHONE: DAY _____ EVENING _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

CREDIT CARD: _____ VISA _____ MC _____ AmEx _____ DISCOVER

CARD #: _____ EXP _____ V#: _____ (LAST 3 DIGETS ON BACK OF CARD)

SIGNATURE: _____



TO ORDER SCAN AND EMAIL TO: MCONWAY@BALTIMOREBLAST.COM OR
FAX TO 410-732-1737

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:

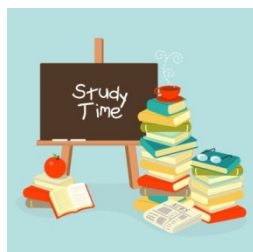
- Be on hand to aid students with any difficulties they might encounter with their work.
- Review homework and offer corrections.
- Actively study with students by quizzing, reviewing (i.e. math facts-flash cards), and asking questions.

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:

Ms. James: kjames@stjoeschool.org