



St. Joseph School, Fullerton

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

Monthly Newsletter



October, 2017

GREETINGS FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It is hard to believe that it has been one year since we received the Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Recognition. So many amazing things have transpired at St. Joseph's since that day and so many more are ahead of us. We had a great September which was topped off by a wonderful Grandparents Day. I would like to thank our entire H.A.S.A. parent committee, spearheaded by Mrs. Streckfus, for all of their hard work and dedication to make this wonderful day possible.

This month brings fall and all the fun that goes with the changing of the seasons. We want to continue to encourage you to support your children daily as they have all settled into school and are working towards a successful academic year. I look forward to seeing over 100 smiling faces at the Principal's Scholars Dinner this week. It shows all of the wonderful success our students have from year to year.

I want to thank everyone for your feedback in the parking lot in the mornings. For two weeks we have had all the cars empty between 8:00 and 8:02 and the whole lot is clear of all cars at 8:03. Please continue to be patient and follow all of the parking etiquette expected on a daily basis at drop-off and pick-up. Our goal is the safety of all of our kids.

Please mark your calendars for two big events that are coming up. Trunk or Treating which is Saturday, October 28th and the "80's Casino Night" Saturday, November 4th. Trunk or Treating is a Family event to enjoy Halloween together as a community. The 80's Casino Night is a Parent Only Bull Roast to have a lot of fun and win some amazing prizes. Trunk or Treating information will be coming home soon. The 80's Casino Night tickets are on sale now and are going fast, so don't miss out on being a big winner. The link and flyer are below.

Please know how humbled we are to be a part of each of your families. We encourage you to reach out to us with any needs, concerns or suggestions this year.

"Let us remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm, and look forward to the future with confidence." – Saint Pope John Paul II

Blessing and Peace,

Kenneth J. Pipkin

Kenneth J. Pipkin
Principal
St. Joseph School Fullerton
kpipkin@stjoeschool.org

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Weekly Liturgy

We are so blessed to be able to celebrate in the Eucharist every week. During the course of the school year each grade level plans and serves one special Mass. Please join us for one of our Liturgies this school year to worship with us. Again this year our children will be attending Mass every **Wednesday at 8:15**.

It's A Totally Awesome 80's Casino and Bull Roast Dance Event!!

The Adult Only Casino, Dance Party and Bull Roast is scheduled for Saturday, November 4th. Tickets are on sale now. It is guaranteed to be the event of the year! Prizes include gift cards, jewelry, autographed sport memorabilia and more. More information, including prize details will be sent home soon! Go to the link below for tickets! Tickets are going fast so don't miss out! (A flyer is below to share with your friends.)

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ecl850s6821e2c66&llr=uknn6aeab>

HASA Information

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

St. Joseph School is Racing for Education!

Your child was given their RACE FOR EDUCATION information packet on September 22. Please help and turn your mailing labels by Monday, October 2. For those new to our school, on Friday, November 3, our students and staff will be jogging/walking laps on our campus to raise money for our school. All the information is included in the packet. Please take a moment to read over the information and supply us with names and addresses of family members and friends who might want to sponsor your child.

We raised over \$52,000 last year to help fund our state-of-the-art Science Lab. This year we hope to purchase additional Chromebooks for our students.

There are some NEW and GREAT prizes this year, including iFly certificates, National Aquarium annual passes, Ravens and Oriole tickets, and much more. Three members of our faculty anonymously donated Ravens tickets, a school family anonymously donated a set of Oriole tickets, and the Family Fun Pack tickets to iFly (or annual passes to the National Aquarium, whichever the winning student chooses) were donated by Michael Barlow Well Driving Service, Inc. Mrs. Isom's husband, an employee of this company, secured this donation! WOW!

8th Grade Information

This is a friendly reminder to our 8th grade parents to sign your students up for the HSPT on December 2nd or 9th as well as plan out all shadow days. Please let Mrs. Ashby and I know if we can be of any assistance as your children pick a new school to call home.

High School Regional Fair @ St. Joseph School

The FAIR is here at St. Joseph School. We had the greatest turnout as a school last year! Now that it is at home we can have an even bigger turnout. Representatives from all the local Catholic high schools will make presentations and be available to answer your questions at the annual Regional High School Fair. This year's fair is Monday, October 9th from 6:30 to 8:30 in the Parish Center. All parents and students in the 6th, 7th and 8th grade are encouraged to attend.

Save the Date!

Our second annual school-wide Christmas Show will be Wednesday, December 20. There will be both an afternoon and evening performance. All St. Joseph School students (Pre-K through 8th grade) will have an important role in putting on this show. Please mark your calendars now for this spectacular event that will be sure to fill you with joy and hope this upcoming Christmas season!

Library Books

If your child forgets his/her library book on Library Day, they will bring home a reminder slip with the title of the book, and will be unable to check out another book until that book is returned. Please encourage your child to keep their book in their school backpack when they are not reading it. It's the best way to have it ready on Library Day! Thank you for your cooperation.

Principal's Scholars Recognized at Awards Dinner

On Thursday, **October 5th**, 110 students will be honored as Principal Scholars for their academic achievement during the 2016-2017 schoolyear. A 'Principal Scholar' is a student who, in 4th through 8th grade, achieved either First or Second Honors on each of their trimester report cards. All these students and their families, about 500 people in all, gather in the Parish Center (in their "Sunday Best"!)) for a dinner and awards presentation. It is also a homecoming for our more recent freshmen as they are acknowledged for their work in 8th grade. In addition, we induct the 8th grade graduates who earned recognition into the National Junior Honor Society during the award portion of the evening. An advance 'Thank you' goes out to Mrs. Karen Ellis, our chairperson who spent her summer coordinating this wonderful event.

Individual Picture Day

Our Home and School Association will sponsor Individual Picture Day on Wednesday, October 4th. All children will have their personal picture taken here at school. Children may wear their school uniform or they may wear nice clothing to school. It is the parent's choice. Please do not dress your child in shoes that might cause them to slip (no backless shoes, slippery dress shoes, heels or boots). Children should wear tennis shoes. The picture will not show the shoes. Tennis shoes are required if your child has P.E. that day.

These pictures make great gifts and will be ready in time for Christmas.

8TH Grade Composite Picture Day

Our 8th graders will have their picture taken for the composite picture for the alumni wall in the hall on Wednesday, October 18th. They must wear full winter uniform for their portrait.

Cross Country Team

Attention ALL runners. The St. Joseph School Fall Cross Country Team is in full swing. We want to congratulate all of our runners on a great Cross Country Event at St. James this past Wednesday. We look forward to a great season. Please contact Mr. D'Adamo, Mrs. Sosnowski or Mr. Ripley if you have any questions.

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@stjoeschool.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPEN HOUSE

You are our most valuable source in spreading the good news about St. Joseph School! Please let all of your family and friends know about our upcoming Open House on Friday, November 10th from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Appointments are required so please let them know to contact the school office – 410-256-8026.

Referral Appreciation Program

This year, in appreciation for referring new families to St. Joseph School, we will be offering a referral appreciation program to current families. If a new family inquiring with our school lists your name on the inquiry form or application, you are eligible for a drawing for a \$500 tuition credit. More details about this program will be coming home soon.

BOOK DONATIONS ALWAYS WELCOME!

Remember the St. Joseph School Library if you have books your children have outgrown! Our library can always use them! You can send them in with your child, or give Mrs. Beres a call and she can meet you at the door!

Genevieve Wrapping Paper Reward Day

Thanks to our families for their support of the Genevieve fundraiser this year. Any student that participated in the fundraiser won an out of uniform day prize for Thursday, October 12th. These students may wear modest, appropriate school clothing. Please make sure that the clothing does not have words, symbols or pictures that are offensive, violent or critical. Children should wear tennis shoes (required if they have P.E). Make-up, jewelry, unusual hair, etc. are not allowed on out of uniform days.

Scrip

Three years ago, our HASA began a new fundraiser with a new slant. The Scrip Program allows families to fundraise for themselves in order to pay down their tuition bill.

Here is how it works. Scrip is simply a word that means “substitute money” – in other words, scrip is gift certificates from national and local retailers. They are the same gift cards that you buy at the store. Many popular retailers participate in our scrip program including Target, Safeway, Shell, Home Depot, Outback Steakhouse and many, many others. Scrip participating retailers agree to sell gift certificates to our school at a discount. Member families buy the certificates for full face value, they redeem them for the full face value, and our school and your tuition account keeps the difference as revenue.

The beauty of Scrip is that you put your regular household shopping dollars to work. You earn money for our school without spending a single additional penny. Just spend your regular shopping dollars with scrip at the stores that participate in the scrip program! Scrip can be used for just about any household purchase including food, clothing, entertainment, gasoline and even dining out.

Information about our scrip program will be listed in the weekly Constant Contact emails you receive from the HASA. In it you will find all the facts about scrip, enrollment forms, and answers to your questions. If you have any additional questions, please call our HASA chairs listed below. They will be happy to fill you in!

Kelly Smith
kellyklein@hotmail.com
443-564-9296

Sue Murray
billsusanmurray@comcast.net
443-413-5489

Archdiocese of Baltimore Learning Differences High School Fair

Families with middle school students are invited to attend the Learning Differences High School Fair. It is a great opportunity to meet representatives from our Catholic high schools, and learn about the programs and resources available for students with learning differences. The fair is Wednesday, October 18th from 6:30 – 8:30 at the St. Mark Parish Center, 26 Melvin Avenue, Catonsville, MD 21228.

School Closed and Parent Conferences

St. Joseph School will be closed to students on Friday, October 6th for Teacher Parent Conferences. Parents are reminded to sign up for conferences via the school website.

Winter Uniforms Begin

School winter uniforms begin on Monday, October 16th. Please check your uniform inventory now so the clothing will be ready in mid-October. See your handbook (pages 7 to 9) for details. Mr. D’Adamo will determine when PE uniform needs to switch to only sweat clothes and he will inform the students.

Red Ribbon Week & Anti-Drug Parade

During the week of October 23rd, children will be presented with anti-drug and anti-tobacco education. During this week, teachers offer information and advice on drug, alcohol and tobacco prevention as appropriate to each grade level. At 1:00 on Friday, October 27th, we will have a great time spreading anti-drug ideas through our annual Red Ribbon Week Parade. Look for details on the flyer that came home with your child.

2nd Annual HASA Trunk or Treating

The 2nd Annual Trunk or Treat will take place on Saturday, October 28th. A flyer will be going home soon. There will be music, food, fun, prizes for the best decorated car and oh yes CANDY!! Please get in your response as soon as possible, spaces are limited. We look forward to seeing everyone out on the LOT!

Student Awareness Committee (SAC) Purple Friday's

The SAC (Student Awareness Committee) will be sponsoring PURPLE FRIDAYS for all Ravens' home games again this year. Each week that there is a home game, students will have the opportunity to show their purple spirit. They are invited to wear a Ravens jersey, shirt, or purple shirt over their St. Joe's uniform bottom. Participants are asked to donate \$1.00. The SAC will be sending the donations to various charities decided upon by the student members. This is a great way to show purple spirit and also help those less fortunate. Go RAVENS!!! Our first Purple Friday raised over \$350. It has been donated to victims of Hurricane Harvey.

SAC Canned Food Drive Contest

Can we do it again? Last year the SAC (Student Awareness Committee) and Mr. Pipkin challenged several schools in the community to the **We CAN Do IT!** canned food drive. Yes, we won and St. Joseph's School wants to do it again. The dates for the food drive are October 30th to November 21st.

These schools in our community will be joining forces in an effort to serve the less fortunate with a canned food drive. This event will include the following schools: St. Stephen's Bradshaw, St. Michael/St. Clement, Immaculate Heart of Mary, and St. Ursula.

The challenge: what school will bring in the most canned food items?

The **We Can DO It!** Trophy will be awarded to the school with the highest percentage of canned goods. As mentioned the **SAC (Student Awareness Committee)** will be overseeing this collection and the count of cans will be tallied daily. Our collection will be distributed to the St. Clement Catholic Church Food Pantry.

Let's do it St. Joe's...remember...

WE Can Do IT AGAIN!

DO YOU HAVE AN....INTERESTING JOB?????

If you have a job or hobby that you would like to share with our students, we would love to know about it! Music? Science? Armed forces? Art? Fire/Police? Medicine? Newspaper/Television Reporting? Public Relations/Advertising? Mrs. Beres tries to fit these special guests into her Library curriculum, and she will also share this list with the rest of the faculty. Mrs. Beres is specifically looking for someone in the Advertising field for the month of October (for 8th grade) if you or someone you know could help! pberes@stjoeschool.org

ACRE Testing

8th Grade students will be taking part in the ACRE testing this week. A notice went home with students reminding them of this assessment.

LIST OF STUDENT CLUBS CONTINUES TO GROW

We are dedicated to forming well-rounded students, ready for high school and beyond! We offer the following student clubs to our student body:

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

- Art Club
- Cross Country (in progress – full)
- Language Club (grade 8 only)
- Robotics (grades 6-8)
- We Got You Covered – making blankets, homemade cards, and treats to school families who need a little love.
- Creative Writing

LOWER GRADES

- Art Club
- Cross County (grades 3-8 – in progress - full)
- Lego Club (grades 1-5 - full)

Keep an eye out for information! Some clubs are full or presently in progress, but some are just forming. Stay tuned!

CONGRATULATIONS

National Junior Honor Society

Congratulations to all of the students who were inducted into the St. Joseph School Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society. To qualify, these students earned all A's or above for the previous year end and demonstrated service, leadership, citizenship and character. Congratulations again!

THANKS TO...

I would like to send out a big “THANK YOU” to all the families who participated in the Genevieve’s Fundraiser this year. A special Thank You goes out to Mrs. Gina Bollino and Mrs. Michelle Smith for all of your hard work in making this event so successful and special for our students.

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

COUNSELORS CORNER

As we prepare to begin our Clubs Program again, your children have an array of fun and engaging options to choose from.

Though the Chess Club was on hiatus last year, there is a resurgence of interest in the middle school grades for us to have one again.

We were so fortunate to have had a parent leader for the club in the past, and were hoping for the same this year. So, if you can play chess (we are not looking for a Bobby Fischer level player) and can volunteer to work with the club, please let me know.

The club will meet twice monthly. We can be flexible with the time of day, either during Lunch/Recess or after school, depending on your scheduling needs.

Feel free to email me at gvernick@stjoeschool.org or just call me at 410-256-8026 x133.

Thanks so much and Happy Fall!!

Gail Vernick, LCSW-C

School Counselor

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

Just a few reminders from the nurse:

1. All medications need a physician's order, including *Over the Counter* medications. If you need the **Maryland State School Medication Administration Authorization form**, or the **Consent for Administration of Over the Counter Medications** form please click on the **Resources** tab then **Forms & Documents** on the School website, www.stjoeschool.org. All medications **MUST** be hand delivered **BY AN ADULT** to the nurse. Please **Do Not** send medications into school with your child.
2. All new students to St. Joseph School were supposed to turn in paperwork to the nurse by August 1st. If you have not turned in the required medical paperwork, please do so ASAP.
3. All incoming Kindergarten students must provide proof of 2nd dose MMR/VARICELLA vaccines. Please provide this to nurse if you have not done so.
4. All 6th grade students were to have a physical before the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year. If you have not done so, please do so ASAP. The physician may fill out the physical exam paperwork according to the most recent physical exam, within 1 year. The **Maryland Schools Record of Physical Examination** form can be found on the school website under **Resources/Forms& Documents**.
5. All incoming 7th grade students are to provide proof of vaccination for Meningococcal and Tdap. Please provide this to the nurse if you have not done so.
6. If any parents are Registered Nurses and would like to act as a substitute for the school nurse, please contact Mary Konopacki RN, BSN.

I hope everyone had a fabulous summer and I look forward to a happy and healthy school year. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Mary Konopacki RN, BSN

mkonopacki@stjoeschool.org

410-256-8026, ext: 134



"80's Casino Night"
Saturday- November 4th
7 - 11 pm
St. Joseph Parish Center



**It's a bull roast, a rockin' casino, a photo fun fest and a
jammin' 80's dance party all rolled into one!**

Over one hundred fabulous prizes to be won!

**Tickets are \$50 each
and are on sale now at www.stjoeschool.org!**



Help Support the St. Joseph School Technology Initiatives!