

October 10, 2021

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Community,

Items in this newsletter: Thoughts for the week; 2:00 Dismissal; iPads; School Pictures; MAP Scores; Scholastic Book Fair; Service Project; and PTO Update.

Thoughts for the week: “God gives the nuts, but He does not crack them.” German Proverb

If only the right opportunity were to come along, we think to ourselves, we could make a real success of things. We look with envy at others we see as being more successful. They must have gotten a big break somewhere along the way. Chances are that we already have more opportunities than we realize. It’s up to us to start recognizing these opportunities and take advantage of them. This means actually working hard to turn opportunities into success. Ultimately, the responsibility for my success is on me, no matter what circumstances I face or what difficulties I have to overcome. [The Daily Book of Positive Quotations](#) by Linda Picone.

This week talk with your children about the power of making the most of the opportunities they are given.

2:00 Dismissal: We will have a 2:00 dismissal tomorrow, Monday, October 11th. Extended Care will be open until 6:00 pm.

iPads: The school is excited to start distributing the iPads this coming week. On Thursday, October 7th each family was emailed the SJCS iPad user agreement. This form must be returned before your child will be issued an iPad. The agreement can also be found [HERE](#). Starting next week, students may not bring personal devices to school. A big thank you to Mrs. Nancy Sexton and the office staff for their help getting all the devices set up and distributed to students and teachers. Additionally, thank you to the school technology committee for their work on the user agreement. Please contact our Technology teacher, Mrs. Christie Cook ccook@stjosdevine.com, with questions, concerns, or issues with the iPads.

Student Pictures: All students will have individual pictures taken on Friday, October 15th. This is a dress uniform day.

MAP Scores: Your child’s MAP scores will be in a sealed envelope in tomorrow's Monday Folder. The goal of this assessment is to help teachers know what each student is ready to learn. They can target their instruction and strategies to fill in gaps in learning and know when a student is ready to move forward. We take MAP three times a year (fall, winter, and spring) to monitor academic growth. Here is an explanation from NWEA, the developers of MAP. <https://www.nwea.org/content/uploads/2017/08/Parent-Guide.pdf> The report you received shows your child’s score (blue bar) compared to those currently in Diocese of Charleston schools (orange bar) and compared to a national normed grade level group (yellow bar). It also shows a

breakdown of areas within math and language arts. Your teachers will go over these scores during your parent-teacher conferences and if you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at leonard@stjosdevine.com.

Scholastic Book Fair Oct 4-17: We can't wait to bring the joy of reading to St. Joseph's with the Virtual Scholastic Book Fair on October 4-17! You'll get to enjoy the magic of a Book Fair from the comfort of your home with our Virtual Fair experience. Kids can shop thousands of books online to discover new favorites and stock their shelves with this season's most popular reads! Plus, check out these special virtual shopping perks:

- Access to over 5,000 products
- Direct shipping to your home and FREE shipping on book-only orders over \$25*
- eWallet digital payment system that friends, and family can contribute to
- 25% in rewards earned for our school with all purchases!

Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with virtual shopping: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/stjosephsch55>

Service Project: Our first schoolwide service project this year benefits the Catholic Charities Clean of Heart ministries. We will be collecting new men's socks and new or gently worn men's shoes now through the month of "Socktober". Please help us support this ministry to help bring comfort and clean clothing to the poor and homeless of our city. The collection will run until October 28th.

PTO Update: The PTO is excited to host pizza lunches for each grade level and their parents during October and November! PTO will be providing pizza and drinks for the students and their parents during the students' normal lunchtime. Parents will have the opportunity to eat lunch with their children and meet other families outside during recess. The schedule will be as follows October 12: 1st grade; October 14: 2nd grade; October 19 3rd grade; October 21: 4th grade; October 26: 5th grade; November 2: 6th grade.

It is the little things we do that show how God is in us, with us, and working through us - "Blessed are we". Have a great week!

Sincerely,

Donavan F. Yarnall, Ed. S

Principal

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