

January 11, 2024

From the Principal

We are settling back into the routine of school after our long Christmas break, but also gearing up for a few busy upcoming weeks. Below are some dates that we want to make sure you are aware of:

- There will be No school tomorrow, Friday, January 12th for a staff workday and on Monday, January 15th for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- We will host our 5th grade Faith, Family and Fellowship Morning next Wednesday, January 17th. We invite our 5th grade families to Mass at 8:30am followed by a short presentation by the students and fellowship in St. Joseph Hall. If you haven't sent in your rsvp, please do so [HERE](#).
- The Preschool and Kindergarten Information and Registration Night will be held on Thursday, January 18th from 6-7:30pm. Invite families interested in SJB to attend and learn more about our Preschool and/or Kindergarten and to show them why St. John's is the perfect fit for their family! Share the flyer with them: [2024 Information Night Flyer](#)
- There will be NO BUSSING for the MV district buses on Thursday, January 25th and Friday, January 26th. Morning drop off for K-8 students will be at the gym doors by way of 2nd Ave NW from 7:30-7:50am. Blaine buses will run normally on these two days. Afternoon pickup will be from the main Church parking lot at 2:30pm. Preschool drop off and pick up will be the same as normal on these two days.
- We will kick off Catholic Schools Week with the CSW Mass on Sunday, January 28th at 10:30am. The following week will be filled with special activities and dress days for our students. The week will wrap up with Wines to Wishes on Saturday, February 3rd. Look for more information on CSW below.

Re-enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year will open next Friday, January 19th. Current SJB families will receive an email from TADS with information on how to enroll your student(s). Tuition for the 2024-2025 school year will see a \$140 increase per student (2.5%) to help cover the increasing costs of supplies, services, and utilities. For students in grades K-8, Tuition for the 2024-2025 school year will be \$5725 and the Technology Fee will remain at \$225 per student. For information on preschool tuition along with fundraiser requirements for the 2024-2025 school year, please see the [Tuition, Fees and Agreement](#) information on the SJB website. Please be on the lookout for these emails from TADS next Friday. If you have any questions, please contact [Michelle Barsness](#).

As we approach the winter testing period for students, we want to inform you of some adjustments to our assessment plan. This season, we will be using DORA (Diagnostic Online Reading Assessment) and ADAM (Adaptive Diagnostic Assessment of Mathematics) instead of NWEA tests. These two assessments provide us with valuable insights into your child's reading proficiency and overall academic growth. We believe this change will enhance our ability to tailor educational strategies to better meet individual student needs. As always, we appreciate your continued partnership in supporting your child's academic journey.

Our Wines to Wishes event is just three weeks away! We are looking forward to this night, but it doesn't happen without help from all of our families. Please see below for information on how you can help - with donations for the silent and live auctions, sponsorship or just simply registering to attend. Contact our chairperson, Michelle Barsness, at barsnessm@stjohnnyb.org with any questions.

Upcoming Events:

No School - Staff Workday
Jan 12
No School - MLK Day
Jan 15
Grade 5 FFF Morning
Jan 17
Reconciliation Retreat
Jan 21
No Busing
Jan 25 & 26
First Reconciliation
Jan 27; 9-11:00am
CSW Sunday Mass
Jan 28 @ 10:30am

Finally, it is with sadness that we announce that Mrs. Elizabeth Lenz passed away this weekend. Mrs. Lenz has worked at St. John the Baptist School since 2019 as a second-grade teacher and most recently in Student Resources assisting students individually and in small groups. We are looking at a way to come together as a community of faith to honor Mrs. Lenz and remember the impact she had on all of us here at St. John's over the last four years. As these plans are finalized, we will communicate them to our families. We ask that you join us in praying for Mrs. Lenz as well as all her family and friends that mourn her loss. Thank you.

Have a wonderful long weekend. School resumes on Tuesday, January 16th.

Ms. Ann Laird, Principal

Restore to Gather – Capital Campaign for St. John the Baptist

As the New Year begins, could you imagine... new plumbing in our school bathrooms, no more wood chips in your child/children's clothes when they come home from school, and classroom carpeting that doesn't have stains or tears!

These improvements will be completed with your help through the ***Restore to Gather*** Capital Campaign. This campaign will also fund a School Operations Endowment for future needs of our school and necessary repairs to our 50+ year old church building.

We are currently over 77% of our way to our \$5 million goal!

Matching Gift Challenge!

You now have the opportunity to double your pledge with our matching gift challenge! A group of parish-ioners and friends are matching any pledge through the month of January up to **\$200,000**. This means that for every \$1 given to the campaign, the donors will give \$1. If you pledge a gift of \$3,000 (\$1,000 per year for three years), the donors will give a matching gift of \$3,000, making your total gift \$6,000!

CLICK HERE to learn more about our *Restore to Gather* campaign, our goals, our progress and how to make your pledge. You may also contact Mary May, Director of Development, at 651-633-8333, ext. 1253, or email maym@stjohnnyb.org with questions.



Wines to Wishes 2024

Event Website: www.winestowishes.com

Wines to Wishes is just over **three weeks away!** Please take note of the following reminders from Michelle Barsness, our event chair.

- We are currently seeking donations for the silent auction. We do not have an auction without the generous donations of our families - thank you so much to those who have already donated!! **We have tried to make this extremely easy as you can shop from your home and have items shipped to school!** Please visit the Donation page on our event website to learn more about ways in which you can donate. We have an Amazon Wish List, a Target Wish List, and a Gift Card Wish List. We also have an option for donating money online if you would rather that we do the shopping for you.

- We are continuing our tradition of a separate **8th grade donation** of wine and beer, which will be used for the live auction. An email was sent to all 8th grade families with details. The letter may be found on the Donation page of our event website.

- All families who donate will receive a non-uniform pass for their child(ren) after the event takes place. Once you have donated, please fill out a short Google Form, so we can ensure your child(ren) get their pass. The form may be found on the Donation page of our event website.

- We are looking for **event sponsors**. Information is available on the Sponsor Page of our event website.

- If you work for a business or know someone who might be interested in donating an item for the auction or becoming a sponsor, please share our event website with them!

- Invitations went home with the oldest student from each family before Christmas break. All registration takes place online. You can find the registration link through on the Event Registration page of our event website. As a reminder, K-8 families are asked to purchase two tickets as part of the tuition agreement.

- Volunteer opportunities will be coming soon, so stay tuned.

Please reach out to Michelle (barsnessm@stjohnnyb.org) with questions.

Thank you for helping to make our 19th Wines to Wishes a success!



Catholic Schools Week 2024

Sunday, January 28th - Celebrating with the SJB Parish Community

Catholic Schools Week Mass at 10:30am

Students should wear their school uniforms and sit with their class during Mass. All K-8 students will sit in the middle sections of the Church - the front rows will be reserved. The front pews to the left of the altar will be reserved for preschool students and their parents/families

*School Open House following Mass until 12:00pm. KC Waffle Breakfast in St. Joseph Hall.

*Used Uniform Sale in the school cafeteria following Mass until 12:30pm

Monday, January 29th – Celebrating our Community / Circle the Wagons

Dress Day: Stay in your covered wagons - dress cozy – Wear something comfortable - sweats, sweatshirts, jeans - no pajamas, pajama pants or leggings.*
Movie and snack in the afternoon.

*Middle School students will be attending the CSCOE Mass of the Holy Spirit at Xcel Energy Center.
MS students should come in uniform today.



Tuesday, January 30th – Celebrating Vocations / Hear the Call

Dress Day: Dynamic Duos or Terrific Trios - Find your partner(s) and dress alike.



Wednesday, January 31st – Celebrating our Nation / From Sea to Shining Sea

Dress Day: Dress your best – Students should dress up, not down today. Please wear nice pants, shirts, dresses, skirts, etc. Students can also wear their school uniform if that is most comfortable.



Thursday, February 1st– Celebrating our Volunteers / Community Hoedown!

Dress Day: Dress for the Variety Show Act (information will come from individual teachers)

Thanking our volunteers - come to our Variety Show in St. Joseph Hall in the afternoon at 12:50pm!



Friday, February 2nd – Celebrating our Students / Back to the Ranch

Dress Day: School Spirit and hat day

Teacher Raffle Basket Drawing (information coming next week on raffle baskets!)

Student Activities: Top Golf (gr. 6-8), Zero Gravity (gr. 3-5) and Bowling (gr. K-2)



Saturday, February 3rd – Wines to Wishes

Register to attend at www.winestowishes.com



SJB Parish News

Mass Activity Bags!

Please borrow an activity bag for your child to use during Mass!



PLEASE RETURN TO THE DISPLAY RACK AFTER MASS!

 **Knights of Columbus**
Council #14250

WAFFLE BREAKFAST

Join us on January 28
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

 

All you can eat: waffles, sausages, regular and sugar-free syrup, fruit for the waffles, orange juice, coffee, milk, and water. A gluten-free option is available on request. Come and enjoy some breakfast and some fellowship, and support the Knights!

 **Rally for Life!**

What: Join thousands for the MN March for Life

When: January 22

Where: Bus from St. John's to the St. Paul Cathedral and then over to the MN State Capital (Bus leaves SJB at 9:15 am, returns at 1:30 pm)

Will you make a stand for Life?!



Sponsored by St. John's Respect Life group and St. John's Knights of Columbus.

SAVE THE DATE!

Ice Fishing with Father Tournament

 

When: February 17, 2024
11 am-2 pm

Where: Long Lake Beach

Who: 75 parishioners and friends of SJB!

Register by scanning the QR code or on our parish website: stjohnnb.com

