



ST. JOHN SCHOOL

Dear St. John School Families,

Welcome back, SJS families! We are thrilled to have the families of 10 new students in kindergarten through the sixth grade, and a large number of new preschoolers join us for the 2024-2025 school year. We also welcome several new staff members to our St. John School family.

New Staff:

Ms. Kathleen (Kathy) Blanchard brings with her 24 years of Catholic School teaching experience ranging from 3-6 year-olds in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd to Juniors and Seniors at LC. Kathy has also taught in the Dioceses of Las Vegas, Nevada, and Arlington, Virginia. Franciscan University is her alma mater for her Bachelor's in Elementary Education, and Marymount University for her master's in School Leadership and Supervision. This year Kathy is partnering with Mrs. Betsy Saunders taking on 6th grade Theology and English Language Arts, and with Mrs. Tara Brady as Assistant Principal.

Ms. Amanda Parrish will be teaching 3rd grade this year with Mrs. Colleen Panici. She grew up in the Jackson area. She has 8 years of experience teaching and working as a paraprofessional in Battle Creek, Michigan, 4 of those years were teaching 3rd grade. She earned a Bachelor's of Arts from Spring Arbor University and received her teaching certification through the Teacher of Tomorrow program.

Mrs. Michelle Merwin is our new technology teacher. After working many years as a banker, she chose to go back to school and pursue a new career in teaching. She graduated from Western Governors University in 2021 and spent the last 3 years as a kindergarten teacher. As a SJS alum, she is very excited to join the staff at SJS!

Mrs. Annie Best will continue to support our teachers as a classroom aide. This year she will also take on an additional role of reading specialist aide. Together, Annie and I will design lessons together to support student learning and expand students' knowledge.

Mrs. Michelle Willett is a very familiar face here at SJS. She has been assisting in our cafeteria for many years, and was also an aide in our Kindergarten classroom. This year she will once again be a teacher aide for us. She will be working with various classroom teachers to support student learning.

Faculty and Staff 2024-2025

Preschool Teachers Aides	Mrs. Marla Krueger and Mrs. Dru Densmore Mrs. Mary Pat Brogan, Mrs. Wendy Risner, Ms. McKenzie Nees, Mrs. Amy Jones, Mrs. Karen Guerin
Latchkey Director Aides	Mrs. Dru Densmore Ms. Ann Marie Raehtz, Mrs. Tonya Clemons, Ms. McKenzie Nees, Mrs. Karen Guerin, Mrs. Wendy Risner
Kindergarten Aide	Ms. Anna Schultheis Mrs. Karen Barrett
First Grade	Mrs. Beckie Lampman
Second Grade	Mrs. Angela Fitzpatrick and Ms. Noelle Lathers
Third Grade	Mrs. Colleen Panici and Ms. Amanda Parrish
Fourth Grade	Mrs. Kristie Wasick
Fifth Grade	Mrs. Vicki James
Sixth Grade	Mrs. Betsy Saunders and Ms. Kathy Blanchard
Classroom Aide	Mrs. Annie Best and Mrs. Michelle Willett
Reading Specialist Aide	Mrs. Annie Best
Speech	Mrs. Mary Oesterle
Title 1 Services	Ms. Judy Smith
Music	
Technology	Mrs. Michelle Merwin
Art / STEM	Mrs. Lauren Russler
Physical Education	Mr. Shane Brogan
Spanish	Mrs. Jill Fletcher
Library	Mrs. Lou Rohrkemper
School Counselor	
Pastor	Fr. Chas Canoy
Principal	Mrs. Tara Brady
Assistant Principal	Ms. Kathleen Blanchard
Administrative/Office Assistant	Mrs. Pat Putra
Business Manager	Mrs. Melissa Jenkins
Cafeteria Manager	Mrs. Amy Kaiser
Cafeteria Assistants	Ms. Ann Marie Raehtz, Mrs. Michelle Willett, Ms. Sarah Hoop, Mrs. Susan Sauter
TRIP Coordinator	Mrs. Erin McArthur
Senior Saints	Mrs. Chris Olds
Maintenance	Mr. Paul Putra, Mr. Dennis Mullen

Reminders for the first few weeks of school...

Upcoming Events	
August 5, 2024	School Office Opens ~ 7-3:30
August 15, 2024	Preschool & Kindergarten Parent Only Info Night from 6:00-7:00pm
August 18, 2024	Back to School Open House ~ 11:00-12:00 Families come in to school to show their children their classroom, locker, meet their teachers, and drop off school supplies
August 20, 2024	Back to School for K-6 ~ ½ Day Half Day Schedule is 8:15-11:30 - Drop off begins at 8:00 NO JPS BUSES! There will be LC buses. Out of uniform day! Please follow guidelines in the parent handbook or on our website at www.jcsstjohn.org for dress-down days.
August 21, 2024	First Full Day of School (K-6 only) School Mass @ 9AM ~ Please join us! AM JPS Bus ONLY! NO PM JPS Bus First Day to Wear Uniforms Latchkey Begins ~ AM and PM Cafeteria opens - Hot lunch available
August 26, 2024	First day of school for our preschool children!
August 30, 2024	No School
September 2, 2024	Labor Day~ No School!

Preschool & Kindergarten Info Night is scheduled for Thursday, August 15th from 6:00-7:00. **This is for parents of PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN students only.** Teachers will discuss the upcoming school year and answer any questions. Please enter at the main entrance. Students will have a chance to meet teachers and see their classroom at our back to school open house-this is only for parents.

Our **Back to School Open House** meet and greet is scheduled for Sunday, August 18th, from 11-12. This event provides an opportunity for old and new friends to gather, to check out the classrooms and school areas, to meet the teachers and school staff, to bring in school supplies, and to enjoy some time together.

The **school office “opens”** August 5th from 7:00 - 3:30. Please note that the office will be closed Monday, August 12th from 12:30-2:30 as the office staff will be attending CPR training.

Recess Volunteers - We are in need of volunteers to assist with our **Kindergarten thru 6th grade** recess. Please look at the sign up genius below and volunteer if you are available. More details to follow once you are signed up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084DA4AA2CA0F94-50282121-sjsrecesslunch>

Virtus Training - All volunteers need to complete the virtus online training and complete a background check form. If you have already done this you do not need to do it again. Please let me know if you have any questions about this.

School Hours - Drop off is from 8:00-8:15. The bell rings at 8:15 for students to enter their classrooms. Dismissal is at 11:30 for half days and 3:20 for full days. There is only one dismissal time. A separate email with drop off/ pick up procedures to follow.

Parking Lot Supervision – To ensure the safety of our children, students must have adult supervision on our parking lot. The morning parking lot supervisors will be on duty beginning at 8:00 each morning. If you need to drop your student(s) off before 8AM please contact Dru Densmore, our Latch Key director. **Please have children remain in your vehicle until a parking lot supervisor is visible.** Children who are not picked up by 3:40 will be taken to Latch Key and charged a fee.

Latch Key News – Latchkey will begin with both the morning and afternoon session, on the first full day of school, Wednesday, August 21. A separate email with all the pertinent details will be going out to all registered Latchkey families the first week of August. If you do not receive this email or need to register your child for Latchkey, please contact Dru Densmore at ddensmore@myjacs.org.

Transportation – The JPS bus route schedule will be posted on their website. Contact JPS Transportation at 517-841-2180 for more information. Lumen Christi buses are also available for a fee. For LC busing information go to the LC website and click on Transportation under the Click Links Tab.

<https://www.jcslumenchristi.org/>

School Supplies – You may view the supply list at <https://www.jcsstjohn.org/programs>

School Masses will be on WEDNESDAYS at 9:00am this year. Please join us!

Dress Code – You may view the dress code at <https://www.jcsstjohn.org/parents>. Preschoolers do not wear uniforms; students in kindergarten through sixth grade do follow this dress code. Schoolbelles carries the SJS plaid skirts and jumpers at <http://www.schoolbelles.com/register>. St. John School code is S0672. Our St. John PTO will offer the opportunity to order St. John shirts, sweatshirts and zippered fleece early in the school year. Clothing with the school logo are optional. Please label all clothing with child's name.

Help Needed Recess/Lunch Supervisor – one 5-day position - Please contact Mrs. Brady at tarabrad@myjacs.org, for more information. If you know of anyone who might be a good fit for this **paid position**, please pass along the info:

FACTS - We are using FACTS as our Student Information System for student grades, lunch payment, and other student data. Sign in with the username and password you used to sign into the portal when you completed the enrollment packet- FamilyPortal.renweb.com. If you have not completed the enrollment packet please do this ASAP. If you need assistance with this please contact me or Mrs. Melissa Jenkins - mjenkins@myjacs.org or call the school office.

FACTS Parent Alert is a communications system used by SJS to send email, voice, and text message blasts to all parents. An email with the attached weekly newsletter is sent out at 4:00 on Thursdays. This weekly communication contains important school information. A 4:00 Sunday afternoon email is sent most weeks with reminders for the upcoming week. Please make sure to scroll all the way down for newsletters because there are typically flyers to view.

Class Lists for grades with two classes - 2nd, 3rd and 6th will be sent to parents via email in the near future.

Parent & Teacher Organization- The PTO at St. John's is a group of parents committed to enhancing St. John's School. They invite everyone to attend their meetings, which are held the second Tuesday of the month beginning at 5:30 pm and last 30-45 minutes (we will also continue to offer a Zoom option if you would like to attend that way). Below is the PTO Meeting Date flyer, which has the QR code to join the PTO, along with the zoom meeting link.

School Calendar -Here is the link to our school calendar that is on our SJS website. You can find the JCS 2024-2025 calendar and our SJS calendar with current events. Our website will also have all current events listed under the events tab. <https://www.jcsstjohn.org/copy-of-parents>

TRIP (Tuition Reduction Incentive Program)-On hand or local TRIP orders will be filled every Thursday: as long as orders are in by 9:00am that Monday. All orders not on hand will be ordered every other week. A schedule will be published in the next newsletter. TRIP program is the Tuition Reduction Incentive Program that SJS offers where you purchase gift cards for places that you most likely shop at such as Meijer, Polly's, Target, Hunt Club, Knights and the list goes on. Families last year earned over \$9,000 back toward tuition. Friends and family can also use this as well to help you earn. To learn more or sign up please visit this link <https://www.jcsstjohn.org/trip> or contact Erin McCann McArthur at stjohntrip@myjacs.org For new families that sign up on their first order by the end of September we will be offering a small incentive. Please reach out to learn more about this!

Facebook – St. John School is on Facebook. Check us out!

SJS website - <https://www.jcsstjohn.org/>

St. John the Evangelist Parish Website - <https://saintjohnjackson.org/>

Free and Reduced Lunch Assistance Benefits Our School! – The federal government provides assistance to families who qualify for free or reduced lunch. Application forms will be available at the Family Open House, are on hand in our school office and available for download on our website at <https://www.jcsstjohn.org/parents>. The application process and all information is completely confidential and qualifying students use the same process for lunch purchase as everyone else so it's all very discreetly handled. Mrs. Kaiser receives federal money for each student who qualifies, to help supplement our hot lunch program. In addition to this, Title 1 funding, which provides reading and math assistance for some of our students, is also affected by the number of students who qualify for free or reduced lunch. I encourage you to take advantage of this beneficial program.

Hot Lunch Program – This year we are going from Powerschool to FACTS for our online needs. With the new system it makes it possible for you to pay your child's lunch account online. More information to come on how to make lunch payments. See below for the hot lunch menu.

St. John's Lunch Menu



In addition to our daily entrée we also offer PB&J Crustable w/string cheese or Bagel w/Cream Cheese & String Cheese or Peanut Butter.

Condiments offered with lunch are Ketchup, Mustard, Taco Sauce and Salad Dressings.



Must have 3 of the 5 to be a Complete nutritional lunch

Water or Milk Choice of 1% White or Chocolate are included with Lunch

LUNCH PRICES	
Elementary	\$3.20
Reduced	\$0.50
Additional Milk	\$0.60
Additional Entrée	\$1.00

MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

Free & Reduced-Meal forms can be obtained online or from both school offices at anytime throughout the school year.

To check the balance in your account and for additional information contact:
Amy Kaiser at 517-784-1714 or Email: akaiser@myjacs.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
29	30	31	1	2
Second Choice	Second Choice		Second Choice	Second Choice
5	6	7	8	9
Second Choice	Second Choice		Second Choice	Second Choice
12	13	14	15	16
Second Choice	Second Choice		Second Choice	Second Choice
19	20	21	22	23
	1/2 Day No Lunch	PIZZA DAY! a variety of fruits and vegetables offered daily from the salad bar	Breakfast Sandwich Hashbrown a variety of fruits and vegetables offered daily from the salad bar	Chicken Wrap Cheetos a variety of fruits and vegetables offered daily from the salad bar
Second Choice	Second Choice		Second Choice French Toast Sticks	Second Choice Bosco Stick
26	27	28	29	30
Pretzel Bites w/ Cheese Coleslaw a variety of fruits and vegetables offered daily from the salad bar	Rotini w/ Meatballs Garlic Bread a variety of fruits and vegetables offered daily from the salad bar	PIZZA DAY! a variety of fruits and vegetables offered daily from the salad bar	Cheeseburger Tater Tots a variety of fruits and vegetables offered daily from the salad bar	No School
Second Choice Hotdogs	Second Choice Chicken Tenders		Second Choice French Toast Sticks	Second Choice

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Scan the QR
code to sign up
to join the PTO



2024 ~ 2025 PTO MEETING DATES

Sept. 10

5:30- 6:30

St. John Elementary School

Oct. 8

5:30- 6:30

St. John Elementary School

Nov. 12

5:30- 6:30

St. John Elementary School

December

NO MEETING

Happy Birthday Jesus!

Jan. 14

5:30- 6:30

St. John Elementary School

Feb. 11

5:30- 6:30

St. John Elementary School

March 11

5:30- 6:30

St. John Elementary School

April 8

5:30- 6:30

St. John Elementary School

Zoom link to join meeting- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82260017181?pwd=e5AQytQ6mqMgX4Uj2YHPFzid2GQbDI.1>

BACK TO SCHOOL

**KINDERGARTEN
& PRESCHOOL
PARENTS INFO
NIGHT**

Join us to meet our teachers and learn
about your child's upcoming year.

August 15, 6:00pm



BACK TO SCHOOL



OPEN HOUSE

AUGUST 18, 11-12



ST. JOHN SCHOOL