



# WILDCAT WIRE



November 8, 2022

*I pray that the image and likeness of God in each person will enable us to acknowledge one another as sacred gifts endowed with immense dignity.*

*May charity and nonviolence govern how we treat each other as individuals, within society and in international life. —Pope Francis*

## The Scoop



*This notification was sent to families today at 12:06 p.m.*

Dear Parents,

All students and staff are safe at St. John Regional Catholic School. As a follow up to our email this morning, students and staff returned to the building at 10:30, resuming their normal school day. We are grateful for our Catholic community and the responsiveness of our teachers, staff, and students. Responsive behavior and collaborative action during this situation resulted in swift evacuation and ensured the safety of all of the children.

In these situations, there are certain protocols and safety measures that are initiated. In this case, the fire department and gas company were notified, AOB leadership was consulted, and teachers and staff were notified to evacuate the building for an early dismissal. Initially, AOB leadership provided guidance to evacuate and close school due the possibility of a gas leak. When the fire department and gas company determined that the building was clear and safe to re-enter, AOB leadership revised their guidance and directed that school remain in session for the day. The gas company determined the source of the odor was a local construction site and the school building is safe for students and staff. We thank you for your flexibility and patience. Your children and the SJRCS staff did an excellent job in this situation.

### Key Dates

(Note: dates are subject to change)

#### November

11 (Fri)	Veteran's Day
14 (Mon)	Story Time for Tots (8:30 - 9:30 AM)
16 (Wed)	Financial Aid Webcast (8:00 PM)
17 (Thurs)	Mass (10:00 AM)
18 (Fri)	Reconciliation; grades 3-8
18 (Fri)	7th & 8th Grade Dance (7 - 9 PM)
22 (Wed)	T1 Ends
23-25 (W-F)	<b>School Closed</b> <b>Thanksgiving Break</b>
28-Dec 9	<b>No Wildcat Care</b> Secret Santa Shop

#### December

01	Staff Meeting <b>No Wildcat Care</b>
03 (Sat)	Breakfast with St. Nick Cafeteria (8:00 AM)
05 (Mon)	Christmas Program Grades 1-3 (7:00-8:00)
06 (Tue)	Christmas Program Grades 4-8 Band, Bells and Chorus (7:00 -8:00 PM)
08 (Thu)	Mass (10:00 AM)
09 (Fri)	Christmas Program PK3, PK4 & K (9:00-10:00 AM)
12 (Mon)	Story Time for Tots (8:30 – 9:30)
6 Fri)	Race for Recreation Out of Uniform Day (only for those who raised money)
19 (Mon)	Christmas Parties PK3 & PK4 (10:15 -11:15 AM); K & Grades 1-8 (1:30 - 2:30)
20 (Tue)	<b>Noon Dismissal</b> (No Wildcat Care)
21–Jan 2	<b>School Closed</b> <b>Christmas Break</b> <b>No Wildcat Care</b>

Please contact Mrs. Eash in the school office with any questions (301-662-6722 jeash@sjrcs.org).

Blessings,

*Dr. Annette Jones, Principal*

*Mrs. Christina Dabulskis, Assistant Principal*

*Mrs. Kelly Weeks, Assistant Principal*

## New Items

### Financial Aid Information Night Webcast - Date Change

The Financial Aid Webcast has been rescheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM. The webcast is for anyone interested in applying for tuition assistance and receiving more information about the Parents in Partnership Volunteer program. The following topics will be covered in this webcast:

1. FACTS Grant & Aid
2. Archdiocesan Financial Assistance (AOB)
3. Parish Assistance - Frederick County Parish Tuition Assistance Fund (FCPTAF)
4. Friends of Catholic Education
5. SJRCS Tuition Assistance
6. Welcome Grant
7. Active Military and 100% disabled veteran discount
8. Knott Scholarship
9. BOOST Scholarship Program
10. Parents in Partnership Volunteer Program
11. New Student Referral Program
12. Raise Right (Formerly SCRIP)
13. FOCE - Grocery Store Certificates

The webcast link will be posted on the SJRCS website under section Admission – Grant & Aid.



Congratulations to Nyran Naylin, (7C). He competed for the Catholic Daughters of America, Div II Essay “Where is God in my Life?” After winning 1<sup>st</sup> place in both school and Regional levels, his essay went on to win third place in the State Level Division! Great job Nyran! Way to represent SJRCS!!

## PowerSchool

The end of the first trimester is quickly approaching. Please be sure to check PowerSchool to stay updated with your child’s progress. Trimester 1 Progress Reports will be sent home electronically on December 2.

## Reminders

### Homework

Essential home study is an outgrowth of class work that is assigned as reinforcement or extension of what has already been taught in class. Students are expected to complete all assigned homework on time and in a careful manner. At all grade levels, homework may be included in determining the subject area grade on the progress report. Teachers update homework assignments using Google classroom.

- Assignments missed because of excused absences must be completed in the same amount of days that the student was absent.

- Students who do not turn in missed assignments within a reasonable amount of time (per the teacher/administrators) after the due date may receive a zero for the missed assignment. When a teacher notices that a student is consistently missing assignments, he/she will notify the parents and offer appropriate suggestions to remedy the situation.
- If home assignments cannot be completed because of home conditions, e.g., sickness in the family, death of a relative, etc., students may be permitted to defer doing the assigned work. A written explanation should be provided to the teacher in order to obtain this permission.
- Suggested time allotments for homework (written work, study work, review work, long-range papers or projects) per day range from 30 minutes at the primary level to 2-2.5 hours in the middle school.

**Raise Right** - Reminder: the last day to order gift cards to ensure delivery before our Christmas break is on **Monday, Dec 12 by 8 am**. After this date, your gift cards may not arrive on time. There are special bonus points for some gift cards during the holidays so please check it out! [www.raiseright.com](http://www.raiseright.com)

- **'TIS THE SEASON FOR EXTRA EARNINGS** - Mark your calendar for these important dates. In addition to weekly and flash bonuses, take advantage of these large, multi-brand promotions to increase your holiday earnings.
- **November 17 - 18 | Raise Days (formerly ThankScripting Day)** - 2 days of big bonuses on eGift cards and reloaded cards only
- **Nov 26 - Dec 9 | Dazzle Days Holiday Bonuses** - Special 2-week bonuses and 1-day surprise bonuses on popular gifting brands, including eGift and physical gift cards
- **Dec 10 - 19 | eGift Card Bonuses** - Wrap up your holiday shopping with more bonuses on eGift cards—the perfect last-minute gift
- **Limited-time \$5 & \$10 gift cards | Now through Dec 31** (or while supplies last). Great stocking stuffers and small gifts for friends, teachers, bus drivers, mail carriers, and more.

### Veterans Day

- We would like to honor all the veterans in our school community and their families with a slide show to be displayed on social media. Please email .jpeg photos of your military veterans to Mrs. Lara Schumacher at [LSchumacher@sjrcs.org](mailto:LSchumacher@sjrcs.org) by **Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you!
- Another way to show appreciation to our veterans is by decorating a star in their honor that will be displayed in our lobby. If you would like to participate, please see the attached flier and template at the end of this document.

### Newsletter Library

There is a new section on our SJRCS website called, *Wildcat Wire - Weekly Newsletter*. You can readily access all newsletters going forward from the *Parent* tab at <https://www.sjrcs.org/parents>. Emails announcing the weekly newsletter will continue to go out; however, they will now be linked to this location which should promote easier viewing access.

**Dismissal** - Please remember early dismissal ends at 2:20 PM. If you would like to sign your student out early, you must do it by 2:20 PM.

**Lost and Found** - The lost & found is overflowing! Please be sure to label your student's outer wear with their name so we can give items back when they come to the lost & found. All unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity on Nov. 18th.

**Groundhog Relocation** - Please be sure to remind your students not to enter the taped off area in the front of the school. We are trying to catch a few groundhogs in that area.

**New Prayer** - Below is a new prayer which is being taught to our students through our morning prayer. It will be used between now and Advent.

### Prayer to St. John the Apostle

O God, who through the blessed Apostle John  
have unlocked for us the secrets of your Word,  
grant, we pray,  
that we may grasp with proper understanding  
what he has so marvelously brought to our ears.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.



We would like to highlight a few of our faculty/staff each week to allow you to get to know a little about our awesome SJRCS team. This week we are featuring our 1st grade team:

**Mrs. Kathy Hirsch** This is Mrs. Hirsch's first year at SJRCS, and her third year teaching overall. She is originally from the Lutherville area and recently moved to Frederick. She is in her final year of graduate school at Loyola University for an MAT in Elementary Education. When not teaching or in class, Mrs. Hirsch enjoys spending time with family and friends!

**Mrs. Jenna Layden** is originally from Hoopston, Illinois; but moved to Maryland 4 years ago! Her favorite things to do are spend time with her family and friends and go for walks with her dog, Boudreaux!

**Mrs. Kristie Lofland** This is Mrs. Lofland's first year at SJRCS. She says she is happy to be teaching first grade this year and has received a warm welcome by the administration, colleagues, and her many wonderful 1C families. While new to SJRCS, this is her 17th year in Catholic education and says she loves being able to share her faith and devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe with her students. She is married to Larry, a career MCFRS Captain, and together they have 3 daughters, Gabby (23), Peytyn (22) and Adrianna (21). Mrs. Lofland says it has been a wonderful start to the school year and is looking forward to many more years here at SJRCS.

**Miss Olivia Davis** is new to St. John's but not new to Catholic School. She has attended Catholic School from first grade through graduating from Catholic University. While working as an Instructional Assistant, she is beginning graduate school with the intention of becoming a full-time teacher.

**Mrs. Christine Henry** is in her second year working at St. John's and she says, "I love working here!" She and her husband have four grown children. Her son got married this past June and her daughter is getting married in September, 2023. In her free time she enjoys crocheting, reading and traveling to see different parts of the



United States. Three of her four kids live in Florida and she plans on joining them there in a few years when her husband retires!

**Mrs. Sharon Weddle** is in her 7th year at St. John. She worked in the 3rd grade as an assistant for 6 years, and is now an Instructional Assistant in 1st grade this year. She says she is looking forward to a great year with the “little ones” and watching them grow and learn. Mrs. Weddle has lived in Maryland her entire life and has been married to her wonderful husband for 36 years. She enjoys relaxing on the weekend with her husband and spending time with her mother.

## Admissions Office

### New Student

A special welcome to our new Wildcat, Raynelle Olajire, who started last week and is in PK4B with Mrs. Study!

## Advancement Corner

### Seventh & Eighth Grade Dance

We are pleased to be returning our school dances back to the calendar. On Friday, November 18th, we will be hosting our first dance in McElroy Hall from 7 PM until 9 PM.

Each student that attends needs to have a permission slip returned to the office. Please send it back to the office by Wednesday, November 16th. It is going home with your students tomorrow in paper form and is available electronically here, [Dance Permission Slip](#).

There is a \$10 ticket fee to attend the dance. The link to pay through MySchoolBucks is here: [My School Bucks](#).

We will need parent chaperones to attend the dance as well. All volunteers must be Virtus trained. Please sign up through the Sign Up Genius; [Signup Genius](#).

Additionally, please review the rules pertaining to Middle School Dances in the handbook, listed here: [SJRCs Dress Code](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Lara Schumacher at [LSchumacher@sjrcs.org](mailto:LSchumacher@sjrcs.org).

### Gala Planning Meeting

Save the date! We will be holding our annual Gala on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> in McElroy Hall. The Gala Committee will be holding its first meeting on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> after drop-off in the conference room. If you would like to join the committee please contact the Chair, Mrs. Allison Dunn at [Allison.Newhouse@gmail.com](mailto:Allison.Newhouse@gmail.com).

### SJRCs Golf Hat



All previously ordered hats have gone home with students. The Advancement Office still has hats available! Purchase your own for \$35. [Purchase Golf Hats Link](#)

### Become a Sponsor

Please consider becoming a School Sponsor! Sponsors receive many recognitions and tickets to our many events throughout the year. All of these donations are put directly into The Fund for St. John. It is our annual fund that bridges the gap between our tuition and the actual cost of educating our students! Learn more about

your sponsorship opportunities here: <https://www.sjracs.org/makeagifttoday>. For any additional questions, please contact our Advancement Director, Lara Schumacher at [LSchumacher@sjracs.org](mailto:LSchumacher@sjracs.org)

## H.S.A. Happenings



### Christmas Poinsettias

The deadline to order Poinsettias has been extended until Monday, November 14. Please use the link below to order. Note: The wreaths orders have been closed. Only poinsettias can be ordered at this time.

Please see the following link for order form:

<https://content.myconnectsuite.com/api/documents/008da6604d7b4783ab6cc09e83c9aea3.pdf>

### Breakfast with Santa – December 3rd

Tickets are on sale now for Breakfast with Santa, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Don't miss the opportunity to kick off the Holiday season with a delicious breakfast, crafts, games, and lots of Christmas fun! Doors open at 8am, breakfast starts at 8:30, and if the kids are good, Santa will stop by for a visit and pictures from 9-10:30. *Thank you to Whelan Photography and Knights of Columbus #14011 for supporting this event!* Order forms will be sent in the Friday Folder and posted online. Please return your form and check payable to "SJRCs HSA" to the front office or student's teacher by November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Space is limited so get your ticket ASAP! We have many volunteer opportunities for this magical event (volunteers earn tuition credit). To volunteer or for questions please contact Lori Salvatore, [loribsalvatore@gmail.com](mailto:loribsalvatore@gmail.com).