



WILDCAT WIRE



December 13, 2022

Advent Prayer

*Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.
We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day,
We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.*

Here's the Scoop!



Dear Parents,

Inclement Weather

For inclement weather, SJRCS follows the decisions of Frederick County Public Schools. Any changes in our school day, such as two-hour delay or early dismissal, will be communicated via our Swift Alert system and via text. Additionally, we will post the information on the SJRCS website www.sjracs.org. As our school families are traveling from numerous areas, please use your best judgment concerning your family's safety. SJRCS has three snow days planned in the school calendar, which are "free" days from school. On the fourth snow day, the students and staff will participate in online learning via Google Meet.

Healthy Habits: A Message from Nurse

Please continue to remain vigilant and monitor the health of the members of your household. We have had cases of COVID, RSV, and Flu reported throughout the school. If a child is exhibiting symptoms of COVID, RSV, or Flu, they should remain home to avoid exposing the school community to illness. Students should also stay home for 24 hours after having a temperature over 100 degrees Fahrenheit, vomiting, and/or diarrhea. Please report any positive COVID, RSV, or Flu tests to the school nurse at kfroude@sjracs.org or call the front office. Together we can reinforce hand washing and covering coughs

Key Dates

December

- 16 (Fri) Race for Recreation
Out of Uniform Day for Students
- 19 (Mon) Christmas Parties
PK3 & PK4 (10:15 -11:15 AM);
Kindergarten & Grades 1-8 (1:30 - 2:30)
- 20 (Tue) **Half-day Dismissal; No Wildcat Care**
- 21 - Jan. 2 **School Closed – Christmas Break;
No Aftercare**

--- MERRY CHRISTMAS ---

January

- 03 (Tue) School Resumes
- 06 (Fri) Mass (10:00 AM)
- 09 (Mon) Story Time for Tots (8:30 – 9:30 AM)
- 09-27 MapGROWTH Testing
- 11 (Wed) H.S.A. Meeting/Children's Bingo –
Cafeteria (6:00 PM)
- 16 (Mon) **School Closed - Dr. Martin Luther
King, Jr. Day (No Wildcat Care)**
- 19 (Thu) Mass (10:00 AM)
- 29 – Feb. 3 Catholic Schools Week

to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Our school will continue to have high-touch surfaces cleaned and disinfected.

If you would like any rapid COVID tests to use at home, please contact Mrs. Froude via email (kfroude@sjrcs.org). We will send these tests home in your child's backpack if requested.

Early Christmas Gift to our School!

Fr. Patrick Carrion, Pastor of St. Ignatius of Loyola sent a very special Christmas gift to our Wildcats this week from Kenya! Fr. Carrion, through the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, has adopted a 1-year-old giraffe Twiggy for the school. Students can expect updates monthly on Twiggy. Please see our attached adoption papers. Many thanks to Fr. Carrion for thinking of our school community while on vacation and for gifting us such a thoughtful present! See Twiggy below.

Blessings,*Dr. Annette Jones, Principal*

Mrs. Christina Dabulskis, Assistant Principal

*Mrs. Kelly Weeks, Assistant
Principal*

Meet Twiggy!



Giraffe Adoption Certificate

Twiggy



Adoption Period: 08/12/2022 - 07/12/2023

Dear Saint John Regional Catholic School,

You have been given a unique and wonderful gift by St Ignatius. You are now the proud foster parent of an orphaned giraffe named Twiggy. This in turn is a gift of life, which will help support the care of Twiggy in Kenya.

Twiggy was rescued by the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust and you can read the latest entries in our online Keepers' Diaries to stay in touch with your orphan. You will also receive monthly updates once you've activated your adoption and have access to photographs and a rescue map showing the location where your chosen orphan was rescued.

We are excited to welcome you to our wild family.

Most gratefully,
Angela Sheldrick



NEW ITEMS

7th & 8th Grade Dance



In our first 7th and 8th grade Huddle last week, we shared with the students how proud we were of their behavior at their first dance. Because of this, we are pleased to host another dance for 7th and 8th grade on Friday, January 13th from 7 PM until 9 PM. A permission slip will be sent home later this week. Please return it to school by Wednesday, January 11th, and head to [MySchoolBucks](https://www.myschoolbucks.com) to purchase your ticket.

Academic Honors

Congratulations to all of our students on a successful first term. A very special congratulation to our Principal and Second Honors students!

Principal's Honors

Grade 8

Bailey Mummey
Michael Schaecher
Jessica Stevens
Jose Feliz
Veronica Hinesley
Cecily Obreiter
Olivia Palermo
Katherine Stevens
Calvin Volker
William Adams
Kennedy Holler
Gabriel Landreth
Jackson Skaare

Grade 7

Tillman Benna
Florence Binfon
Ronald Dermady
Reid Workman

Siobhan Belmar
Nicholas Hallowitz
Lindsay Mankatah
DanCilla Appiah-Dankwah
Henry Brown
Jedidiah Juean
Nyrán Naylin
Brian Sheffler
Annie Tchetnia-Ngassa

Grade 6

Kelsey Kowalczyk
Dominic Studlo
Brielle Arvoy
Grayson Derr
Daniel Division
Brady Harrison
Addie Innocenti
Alana Krietz
Rebecca Pawlik
Ori Hailstone
Ava Jones
Keziah Kiratu
Peter Lewis
Anaya Lukama

Second Honors

Grade 8

Annabel Clark
Geraldine Cline-Cole
Hollin Warner
Gianna Checchia
Julianna Gorsky
Brian Hauser
Pandora Nah
Eve Schumacher
Isabella Wolfe

Grade 7

Lorren Elliott
David LeDuc
Cornelius O'Shea
Larissa Azane
Emily Cancino
Steven Guilday
Kymani Minlo
Hayden Brown

Grade 6

Sena Azoumaro
Gabriella Feliz
Madeline McTavish
Aria Piermarini
Natalie Towe
Braden Ahalt
Lila Clark
Ryan Roebuck
Ama Fosu
Avery Koenig
Kelsey Robertson

REMINDERS

Grade-Level Huddles

As a continued effort to know your child and his or her classmates, the administrators, Dr. Jones, Mrs. Dabulskis, and Mrs. Weeks, will be meeting with each grade level on a rotational basis about once every 4-6 weeks. The purpose of the Huddles is to reinforce the Heart of Leadership program's virtues and leadership skills, to share information and reminders, and to listen to the children. These positive, encouraging, and age-appropriate Huddles will take about 15-20 minutes. We look forward to engaging with your children in this new format.

Spelling Bee

We are very excited to announce that SJRCS students in grades 4-8 will be participating in the Scripps National Spelling Bee this school year! We will start with Class Bees for each ELA class. The two top spellers in each ELA class will move on to our School Bee. The champion of the School Bee will have the opportunity to compete at the Regional Bee for Frederick County. Be on the lookout this week for more information!

Wildcat Fellowship

In continuing our school theme of One Body in Christ, we are introducing Wildcat Fellowship! On Tuesdays, parents, grandparents, prospective parents, and friends of SJRCS are invited to fellowship and Mass. Following morning drop-off, please park in front of the church. Let's gather in the church entry for informal conversation with fellow members of the school community, including members of the administrative team. We look forward to speaking with you and praying together for our school community.

School Folders Advertisers

J.M. Gaske, Inc. prints our school folders for free, but we cannot do it without your help. They are looking for advertisers for these folders. Please see the attached flier for information about becoming a sponsor. Thank you.

Used Uniform Sale

Please remember to donate any of your gently used uniforms to our next used uniform sale! We desperately need more uniforms so we can have another sale in the spring. As you go through your closets this holiday season, please consider donating your outgrown uniforms. We collect all year round. Bring your uniforms in a bag to the front office and let them know it is for the Spring Used Uniform Sale. Thank you in advance!



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 three more of our Administrative team members:

Mrs. Katharine Galvas Katharine lives in Frederick with her husband Jake and their two 2 daughters who attend SJRCS. Scout is a 1st grader who has a passion for creating her own inventions and playing ice hockey. Wren (Zuzu) is in PK4, loves every kind of animal and is constantly dancing. Growing up in Savannah, Katharine developed a love for the water and feels at home once the salty marsh air hits her lungs. She loves staying active by practicing yoga, going to the gym, or taking a family walk through the neighborhood. Other interests include cooking, baking, reading and a love for Michigan football (a love adopted from her husband being a Michigander- GO BLUE!).



Mr. Serge Homma is of Dutch origin and came as an expat in 2013 to the US. He served in the Dutch marines and army for 26 years, and his last assignment was as an Assistant Finance Attaché at the Dutch Embassy. In November 2016, he retired from the service. During his time as a diplomat, he met his wife Gretchen together; they have a five-year-old daughter Arden, who attends St. John. Besides Arden he has two sons, Pascal (17) and Marvin (19), from his previous marriage, and they live near Hamburg, Germany.

With over 22 years of finance and human resource experience, he can rely on a comprehensive knowledge base and solid HRM administration. His expertise is in finance, employee relations, and benefits. Over the last few years, he has significantly contributed to financial planning and workforce engagement.

In his free time, he likes to spend time with friends and family. One of his hobbies is being outdoors and doing DIY projects in and around the house. A fun fact about Serge is he is probably the only employee who rides his bicycle to work.

Mrs. Schumacher has been a major fan of St. John Regional Catholic School since she took a tour one chilly evening during Catholic Schools Week in 2013. While she has been a member almost a decade, she recently became the Advancement Director in November 2021. In her role, she works with various committees that organize and execute fun events like the Golf Tournament, the Race for Recreation, and the Annual Auction and Gala. The goal of each of these events is to build a strong community that also helps our school reaching its funding goals each year. Additionally, Mrs. Schumacher writes grants to help improve the school's technology, security and grounds. Along with the Administration, she has her sights set on a new and improved playground.



Mrs. Schumacher is also an active member of her parish community at St. Ignatius of Loyola. She is currently the President of the Ladies Auxiliary - a small charitable organization committed to helping individuals here in the Frederick Community. She loves to travel with her husband (Andy) and her three Wildcats (Eve, Josephine and Bobby).

Admissions News

Volunteer Hours Opportunity! We are currently planning our Spring Open House (can you believe it?!) and we always love our parents to participate by leading tours and helping answer questions from prospective families. There will be training opportunities prior to the Open House so we can cover all of the talking points. If you are interested, please reach out to our Admissions Director, Katharine Galvas at kgalvas@sjrcs.org. The Open House is scheduled for February 2nd 9-11AM and 4-6:30PM. Thank you for considering. Go Wildcats!

Advancement News

Gala Planning Meeting

The Gala Committee will be holding a meeting this Friday, December 16th after drop-off in the conference room. Please join us if you would like to join the committee! Please contact the Chair, Mrs. Allison Dunn at Allison.Newhouse@gmail.com with any questions.

Auction Committee Meeting

Please join Auction Chair Allison Giampapa as she hosts a Christmas Kickoff for the Auction Committee. Please join us for our first meeting on Tuesday, December 20th after drop off in the conference room at 8:20AM. We welcome all parents, grandparents, and volunteers to be a part of this critical committee!

Eighth Grade Semi-Formal Dance Committee

The Advancement Office is creating a committee to help with the executing and planning of the Eighth Grade Semi-Formal on Friday, May 12th. Any parents interested in participating in the event, should please email Mrs. Schumacher at LSchumacher@sjrcs.org. The committee will host a planning a meeting in the new year.

Pop-Up Shop Delivery

The pop-up shop orders have been to be delivered. As these might be Christmas gifts for our students, we do not just want to send them home. Anyone who chose to have their items delivered to the school will receive an email regarding their order. Please email Mrs. Schumacher regarding how you would like delivery/pickup to happen. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Schumacher at LSchumacher@sjrcs.org or call her at the office, 301-662-6722.

SJRCS Golf Hat



Last minute SJRCS Christmas gift? These Sweet Callaway SJRCS hat in Navy are available for purchase. [Purchase Golf Hats Link](#)

Thank you to our Sponsors!

If you would like to become a sponsor of the school, please contact our Advancement Director, Lara Schumacher at LSchumacher@sjrcs.org.

Thank you to our sponsors!

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Help Our School...

Attention Parents!

Sponsor An Ad!

We are looking for businesses to help underwrite the cost of our school book cover, folder, communication envelope, & handbook.

If you would like to participate in the ad program, please fill out the bottom portion of this page and return it to the school office, or call our printer directly.

Our children receive these items FREE from the advertisements.

If we are unable to utilize you as a sponsor at this time, we will contact you with the next available advertising space.

Thank you!

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