

SCHOOL NEWS



St. John the Baptist Catholic School Newsletter



Mark Your Calendar!

- Dec. 1: Breakfast with Santa at 9 AM and 10:30 AM
- Dec. 1 - 7: Scholastic Book Fair
- Dec. 2: Family Advent Experience, 2 PM – 4 PM in the Social Hall
- Dec. 6: Sons of Sicily Spirit Day
- Dec. 8/9: Church Cookie Sale after all Masses to benefit Haiti
- Dec. 10: Band Concert for Instrumental Students at 7 PM in the Social Hall
- Dec. 13: Mission Day - Donation for Casual Dress
- Dec. 15/16: Poinsettia Sale after all the Masses
- Dec. 17: Christmas Concert for all Students at 7 PM - Main Church
- Dec. 21: Last day of School before Christmas Vacation
- Dec. 24- Jan 1: No School, Christmas vacation
- Jan 2: School Resumes



From the Principal's Desk...

The days are coming, says the Lord... (Jeremiah) Everyone knows what a busy time of year this is for us as we plan gatherings with friends and family. No matter how much work is involved, it's always a pleasure to plan these events. We do the same with the coming of our Lord. We embrace with joy and anticipation the birth of Jesus and look forward to celebrating His great love for us.



From all of our school staff, we wish you a happy and joy filled Christmas season.

Development Director

As you all know, Mrs. Terry Shaub has been our development director for the last three years. Miss Terry has decided to retire but fortunately we will continue to see her around the school. She will be volunteering in our school library. We want to thank Terry for the incredible job she did while here at our school. She helped to increase our enrollment, handled all of our publicity and did just outstanding in fund raising activities. It will be extremely hard to find a replacement as efficient as Terry! So, having said that, we will be looking to hire a new development director for our school. If you or anyone you know would be interested in applying for this position, please send a resume and cover letter to: smareck@sjbnf.org

Poinsettia Sale

Our school will be selling Poinsettias in the atrium of the church on Dec. 15th and 16th after all Masses. These traditional holiday plants now come in several colors and varieties.

Upcoming Events

Scholastic Book Fair

Our Scholastic Book Fair will be open during Breakfast with Santa and continue through Dec. 7th. The fair will open for business at the start of school each day and also during the Religious Education classes on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Please stop by to check out the many books that will be on sale. They make great Christmas and birthday gifts!



Gingerbread Houses

Mrs. O'Byrne's class will be building gingerbread houses in December. Students may again bring in their pennies to vote on their favorite gingerbread house. The proceeds will benefit our local food pantry.

School Christmas Concerts

Our school Christmas Concert is on Dec. 17th at 7 PM in the Main Church, with the entire school participating. Every grade, which includes every student, performs some of the songs that they have been learning this fall. Our band will be performing on Dec. 10th at 7:00 PM in the Social Hall. This is for our band students but all families are welcome to come out and hear our band perform. They do an amazing job! You are welcome to join us at both events – the children have worked very hard for these presentations. Please feel free to invite as many friends and family as you wish to come and see their performances. We also ask each family to donate a small plate of cookies to share after the concert on **Dec. 17th**.



Christmas Eve Masses



Our Christmas Eve Masses are at 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 and 10:00 in the Main Church. The 4:00 Mass is a Children's liturgy and our Children's choir is singing. If you are attending any of these Masses and would like to help as a family, please contact Sr. Jane: srjkeller@sibnf.org. She has a variety of opportunities in which your family can help out.

School Open House

Our first school Open House of the new year will be held on Sunday, January 13th from 12:30 PM – 2 PM. Please tell your friends and families to come and check out what a great school we have here. There will be just a PRESCHOOL Open House on Feb. 24th from 12:30 PM – 2 PM, should you know anyone with young children.

Catholic Schools Week

We have lots of fun activities planned for Catholic Schools Week and more info will come home in January. But to begin our Catholic Schools Week, all the families in our deanery are invited to participate in Mass at York Catholic on Jan. 26th, followed by a competition between the teachers of all of our schools in a Minute to Win It style competition. Food will be available for purchase between Mass and the competition. Plan on coming out to cheer our school to victory! More information will follow, including the chance to buy some spirit wear so we can show our unity. Additionally, St. John's PTO will again sponsor a special assembly on January 30th, Movie Night on February 1st and lunch for the staff during Catholic Schools Week. Be sure to mark your calendar for the activities during Catholic Schools Week!





NEWSWORTHY!

OCTOBER VIRTUE AWARD WINNERS FOR SHOWING GREAT RESPONSIBILITY

K: Tori Hoffman 1: Gabe Wooden 2: Asher Corbin 3: Genni McLain



4: Jaelynn Cromedy 5: Morgan Campbell 6: Jacob Kelchaw



Pennsylvania Cyber Robotics Coding Competition (CRCC) Finals

Our school has qualified for the Pennsylvania Cyber Robotics Coding Competition Finals to be held at Harrisburg University, Harrisburg, PA. CRCC is an innovative robotics tournament which engages students through gaming and competition in STEM, coding and tech literacy. CRCC is cloud based, can be accessed from any computer and uses simulation of virtual 3D Robots that perform complex tasks and missions. This is a unique opportunity to involve all students, of all levels, in STEM and to introduce them to career directions in the fields of technology and engineering. Four (4) students from our school have qualified for this competition after investing time and effort in this exciting competition. It is an honor for them and a tribute to our school for having qualified!



Spirit Night

Our next spirit night is at Sons of Sicily on Thursday, Dec. 6th. This event is all day. Please tell them you're there for the St. Johns fundraiser.

Save the Date for the 2018 Auction and Dinner Dance on Saturday, April 27th!

Please plan on joining us for a fun evening of dining and dancing. The theme this year is the 80's!

October/November Mission Days

Our school collected and donated 891 pairs of socks to the clothing bank. Thank you for such generosity! We also collected \$829 in cash and shopping cards that were sent to St. Mary's school in Wilmington, NC. Besides all the food collected for November we gave the food pantry a check for \$154.61. What beautiful and generous families we have here at St. Johns.

Bingo Night

St. John's School held a CASH Bingo on October 18th at the New Freedom Community Center and it was a huge success again this year! St John's school received proceeds of over \$7,100. Thanks to all parents and parishioners who came out to have a fun night and to support our school!

Claire's Gourmet

The school made proceeds of \$2151! Thanks to all who purchased items for this fundraiser.

