

# St. John's Parish Day School Parent Newsletter

(410) 465-7644

9130 Frederick Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042

www.stjohnspds.org

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ST. JOHN'S

PARISH DAY SCHOOL

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Please call or email when your child is absent.

Absentee Phone and Email

(410) 465-6935

absent@stjohnsec.org

## All School News

### Transportation Fair

Friday, March 26th is the first annual Kindergarten Transportation Fair! Ever wondered how a truck can be fueled by something other than gas? Excited to see a fast car? Have you ever seen a helicopter on St. John's field? These, and more, will all be a part of the fair! Kindergarten classes will be guided through from 10:00 until 11:15, and the fair will continue to be open until 1 pm to allow for students from the rest of the school to attend.

### Financial Seminar: The Benefits & Details of Planned Giving

In service to our families St. John's Parish Day School invites you to THE LAST FINANCIAL SEMINAR THIS YEAR - Generous Living: The Surprise Benefits of Planned Charitable Giving on Thursday, March 25th at 7 p.m. in Clark House. Come and meet our affable and astute Presenter, **Brian Avrunin** CRPC, Financial Advisor of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. and learn more in a congenial setting with fellow St. John's parents. Though the seminar is free, please call Anne Hanchett, Director of Development, at 410 465-7644, ext. 400 to register that you are coming. Thursday afternoon is not too late to call. Even without registering, please come. *Delectable refreshments will be served.*

### A few notes from Mr. Harrison

Spring is definitely in the air, and our children are all breathing huge doses of it. This often causes wild cases of frolic-some behavior and giddiness in children - behavior which some discourage. While this type of behavior is both normal and beneficial, I do want to caution parents about a couple of areas and ask for your cooperation. Children running wildly in the lobbies/commons areas or playing on the lobby railings can be a little dangerous. Please encourage this type of behavior on the playgrounds instead - outside air is preferable anyway. I also want to ask that children not be allowed to play on the hill with round tiles outside of the main entrance (near the flagpole). This tile display and the plantings on this hill were put in place as a Legacy Project by the Class of 2009, and we want to keep it in good condition out of respect for these graduates - plus the hill is steep and a little dangerous. Also the patio above this hill, directly behind Clark House, does not have railings around much of its perimeter, so children (especially young children) should be closely supervised if they are in this area. Thanks and have a wonderful spring!

## Early Childhood

### Thank you!

Special thanks to the **families of our full day 4's and kindergarten classes** for the fabulous luncheon last Thursday. The food was delicious, weather perfect, which allowed us to visit together outside while we enjoyed each and every bite! Thank you for giving so much of yourselves to the Staff. Three cheers for our Parents!!!

Thank you to **Isabella Dutra, Joe Dutra (Isabella's grandfather) and Lisa Rice** for helping to set up the EC Art Show. What a joy to see so many varied projects from all the EC children who have art with Mrs. Dutra.

### Easter Parades are just around the corner!

Please plan to join us on Thursday, April 1st at 10:45 for the 2 & 5-day morning classes, and 2:30 for the afternoon and full day classes. We are hoping for a beautiful spring day. In that case, our parades will be outside on the field next to the Auditorium.

Our 3-day friends will parade inside on March 31st at 11:15 and 2:45.

Dismissal will be from the classrooms, following the parades. Aftercare is available for afternoon and full day classes.

### Lunch & Learn Update

- Science – Monday & Wednesday class - FULL
- Literature – Thursday class – openings remain
- Art – Friday class – FULL

## Lower School Early Childhood

### Easter Parades

Mark your calendars now for our Easter parades on April 1st!

### K/1<sup>st</sup> Grade Spring Music Program

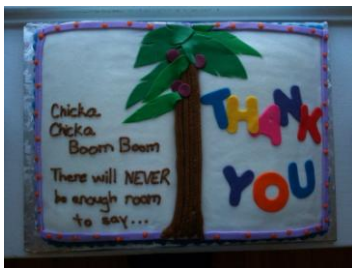
Mark your calendars for the Kindergarten/1st grade Spring Music Program on Wednesday, April 28th at 2:00 p.m. Our young singers and actors are working diligently on this program titled "Friends." They are learning songs about how to be a good friend. Please have them wear clothes that they would wear for a free dress day or a play day, depending on the weather. Come enjoy this program that is sure to bring a smile to your face!

## Parents' Association

### Staff Hospitality

 by Kristen Conord & Pam Warburton

We would like to thank the Kindergarten and all day four families for sponsoring the Teacher Appreciation Lunch for all of our wonderful SJPDS staff! We received many compliments on the delicious food and the cake made by Kindergarten mom Amy Abell that was almost too beautiful to eat. The weather was perfect allowing the teachers to eat, relax & recharge in the sunshine before heading back to care for our children. We would also like to thank local business Tutti Frutti for helping us to be able to give the teachers a free frozen yogurt treat! Many thanks to everyone who volunteered their time & talents to show our teachers how much we appreciate them! The next Hospitality event for Staff will be held on Tuesday, April 20.



### Favorite Stories – Barnes and Noble Night

Save the date! Join your friends and some of your favorite teachers at Barnes and Noble Night, Wed., April 14 from 6:00-8:00 pm. This year's event will be for both Early Childhood and Lower School students and their families. A percentage of our sales will be contributed to SJPDS. New this year - online orders will also be accepted from 4/14-4/19. Teachers are being asked to provide Wish Lists for families who would like to add to the classroom libraries. Vouchers will be sent home after Spring Break. Please see the attached Save the Date flier for detailed information.

#### Evening schedule:

**6:00 - 6:45** - Special "Favorite Stories" Storytime! Come see your teachers share their favorite stories. Perfect for our Early Childhood families.

**7:00 - 7:30** - Join us for some fun Diary of a Wimpy Kid inspired games.

## Dates to remember



### Thursday, March 25

- Financial Seminar: Planned Giving, 7:00 pm

### Friday, March 26

- PA Author Visit by Carole Boston Weatherford
- Kindergarten Transportation Fair

### Wednesday, March 31

- EC Easter Parades (3-day 3's at 11:15 and 2:45)

### Thursday, April 1

- EC Easter Parades (2-day AM & 5-day AM at 10:45 & 2-day PM, 5-day PM and full day at 2:30)
- LS Easter Parades

### Friday, April 2 – Friday, April 9

- School Closed for Spring Break

### Monday, April 12

- School resumes

### Wednesday, April 14

- EC Staff Development; AM classes dismiss at 11:15 and PM classes arrive 1:00 – 1:10; No change to full day classes

### Monday, April 19

- PA Dining Out at La Palapa

### Tuesday, April 20

- PA Dining Out at La Palapa
- EC Tea with Moms (2-day 3's & AM 4's), 11:00
- Staff Hospitality Event sponsored by the PA

### Wednesday, April 21

- EC Tea with Moms (AM 3 & 5-day 3's), 11:00
- EC Tea with Moms (Full day 4's & TK), 2:15
- EC Tea with Moms (PM 3-day 3's & PM 4s), 2:30

### Friday, April 23

- PA Mother Son Lego Event, 6:00 pm

### Wednesday, April 28

- K/ 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Spring Music Program, 2:00 pm

### Saturday, May 1

- Spring Carnival Sponsored by the Parents' Association, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

### Tuesday, May 4

- EC Spring Sings, 10:45 am (see schedule in 3/11 newsletter for classes performing)

### Wednesday, May 5

- EC Spring Sings, 10:45 am and 2:15 pm (see schedule in 3/11 newsletter for classes performing)

*Archived copies of the newsletter can be found at [www.stjohnspds.org](http://www.stjohnspds.org) in the For Our Families section.*

**7:30 - 8:00** - Participate in a scavenger hunt with the chance to win a B&N gift card!

Stop by the craft table anytime during the event and take a craft home!

### **Father/Daughter Dance**

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with the dance! More than 100 girls and their "dates" were in attendance and we hope they had a lot of fun! Many thanks to the bakers of the delicious treats, the moms who assisted the night of the event and especially those who helped in the planning, set-up and clean-up!

Look for pictures from the evening to be sent home in the next two to three weeks. Thank you to Karen Clark for donating her time to take the photographs at the event.

### **Reminder: 2010-2011 PA Officer Recruitment Form**

The Recruitment Form for PA Officers for the 2010 - 2011 school year is due April 1st. Copies are available on the PA table in the Lower School Commons. Please return the form to the Lower School Office or via email to Colleen Rives. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Recruiting Committee.

Colleen Rives (colleen\_rives@comcast.net)

Sharon Blessing (slbless@verizon.net)

Melane Bovard (mbovard1@verizon.net)

Kathy Chappell (chappellfamily@comcast.net)

Jennifer Hurley (ten497@verizon.net)

### **Mother/Son Event**

Come build a ship, a tower, a car... and your mother-son bond! Our Mother-Son event will be held April 23rd, 6:00-7:30pm and will feature a unique Lego / Duplo experience and refreshments. Flyers will be sent home next week with more detailed information. Volunteers (especially Dads) and a photographer will be needed. If you are interested please contact Amy Abell at amyandjason@comcast.net or Sandy Kastantin at smkastantin@verizon.net.

## **In Our Community**

**The St. John's Labyrinth** by Chaplain Jenni  
The snows outside of Rose Hill have melted to reveal a new path and pattern in our garden! What is that shape? It is an 11-circuit labyrinth, based on the labyrinth on the floor of Chartres Cathedral. Walking the ancient path of the labyrinth has been a way of prayer in the Christian tradition for thousands of years. Pilgrims from Europe in the Middle Ages, unable to travel to distant Jerusalem, instead traveled to cathedrals to walk labyrinths like ours as a symbol of their desire to walk the Way of the Cross. Today, walking the labyrinth is a means of prayer used for quiet reflection and opening to God.

We encourage St. John's School families to spend time in the labyrinth. There is only one way in and one way out-unlike a maze, you can't get lost. Our labyrinth is also a place our community is welcome to sit, to play, and to picnic. We only ask that you respect the sacred

space from extra markings (walk, don't chalk), and be mindful of other pilgrims walking the way of prayer.

### **Palm Sunday Services**

Saturday, March 27 at 5:00 pm (Historic Church);  
Sunday, March 28 at 7:45 am (Historic Church), 9:00 am (Historic Church), 9:00 am (All Saints' Hall), 11:15 am (Historic Church)

### **Maundy Thursday, April 1**

Holy Eucharist, 7:00 am (Resurrection Chapel, lower level of the Parish Life Center)  
Liturgy and Holy Eucharist, 7:30 pm (Historic Church)  
Prayer Vigil, 9:00 pm to 7:00 am (Resurrection Chapel, lower level of the Parish Life Center)

### **Good Friday, April 2**

Interactive Stations of the Cross, 10:00 am, 10:45 am, and 11:15 am (Center for Ministry and Education)  
Good Friday Worship, 12 noon (First Lutheran Church, 3604 Chatham Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042)  
Solemn Stations of the Cross, 7:30 pm (Historic Church)

### **Holy Saturday, April 3**

Holy Saturday Liturgy, 8:30 am (The Memorial Garden at Alda's Chapel)  
Holy Eucharist, 4:00 pm (Historic Church)  
The Great Vigil of Easter, 8:00 pm (Historic Church)

### **Easter Day, April 4**

7:00 am (Historic Church)  
9:00 am (Historic Church)  
9:00 am (All Saints' Hall)  
11:15 am (Historic Church)

### **Inclement Weather Policy**

Please be advised that we will NOT be following Howard County's lead the rest of this school year as far as delayed openings or closings. Please check your email, the school website, school telephone, and schoolsout.com.

### **Information about school closures will be provided via the following media sources:**

- WBAL 1090AM radio
- Our website, [www.stjohnspds.org](http://www.stjohnspds.org)
- [www.schoolsout.com](http://www.schoolsout.com)
- Information will also be placed on the school's answering machine. You may call 410-465-7644 to listen to our messages.
- Email notification to families