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For all Early Childhood Families



Halloween Parades

Thursday, October 29th at 11:15, Mrs. Rudnicki's 2-day class will parade through the school. If you'd like to view the parade, please gather in the Upper Commons (2nd floor) at 11:15.

For all other classes, please join us Friday, October 30th at 10:45 or 2:30 on the lawn, by the Pumpkin Patch, as the children parade in their costumes and sing. The Full Day 4's and Transitional Kindergarten will parade at 2:30. In case of inclement weather, please go to All Saints Hall on the 2nd floor.

NOTE: Extended Day 3's will parade with their morning classes.

Dismissal will be from the classrooms immediately following the parades, at approximately 11:30 and 3:00.

Please send your child's costume in a bag with his/her name clearly labeled. Parents helping with class parties will assist the children with costumes. Please have the children wear appropriate shoes as they will be going up and down the stairs. Accessories such as swords and guns are not permitted at school.

Dress

Please remember, as the days get cooler, that we do go outside daily. We ask that children have coats, hats and mittens. It is helpful to put your child's name in the clothes.

For all Lower School Families

Picture Make-Up Day

If your child was absent for his/her school picture or was out of uniform, the make-up day is Tuesday, Oct. 27th.

Halloween Parades

The Lower School Halloween parade will be at 10:15 on Friday, October 30th. Parents are welcome to join us for the parade by meeting us in the Upper Field around 10:15. Please have children bring their costumes to school in a bag to change into before the parade. Costumes may not include swords or guns. Thank you for your help.

Where Do We Go From Here?

Thursday, October 22nd, is a date change for our *Where Do We Go From Here?* meeting. At 6:40 P.M. alumni will be joining us to share information about their current middle school. Becky Reynolds, a school consultant from School Search, will be giving her presentation again this year at 7:00 P.M. Following Becky Reynolds' presentation, Summit Educational Group, our Independent School Entrance Exam (ISEE) review class tutors, will present the results of each 5th grade student's diagnostic test to his/her family.

Pizza with Pop

Don't forget *Pizza with Pop* is tomorrow, Friday Oct 23rd. Fathers, grandfathers, uncles or special friends are welcome to join children for their lunch times.

Lunch times:

K - 11:15 - 11:45

1st - 11:45 - 12:15

2nd and 3rd - 12:15 - 12:45

4th and 5th - 12:45 - 1:15



Student Council

The student council is holding its annual elections next week. Parents, if your child is running for a student council office, please join us for his/her election speech on Wednesday, October 28th in the afternoon (time TBA). Parents interested in volunteering with our student council, please contact Mrs. Bates (rbates@stjohnsec.org). All Lower School students and staff will vote the following day on Thursday, Oct. 29th. We welcome all parents to reinforce the election process at home by discussing what characteristics a good candidate would possess.

Celebrating Reading

Kindergarten and First grade children are invited to Story Night on Tuesday, Nov. 3rd from 6:30 - 7:30 Come see many exciting mystery readers!! All students are invited to wear their pajamas!!



Second and Third grade children are invited to our Folk Tales and Legends evening on Thursday, Nov 5th at 6:30 - 7:30. Come hear Native American legends and tales from around the world! Second and Third grade students are invited to wear pajamas! *The title of this evening has changed from the Fiction Fantasy Night.

Dress

Please remember as the weather gets colder that children will often need a sweater or sweatshirt to wear in the classroom as the weather changes. Sweaters and sweat shirts worn in the classrooms should follow the uniform guidelines and be green or white. Children are not to wear jackets, sweaters or sweatshirts out of uniform in the classroom. We will continue to let the children appreciate the outdoors even as the weather gets colder. Please be certain all children are dressed to go outside for recess.

Have a wonderful week.
Tiffany Rath
trath@stjohnsec.org

Parents' Association



MR. HARRISON'S HALLOWEEN HULLABALOO: Thank you to all our families, and especially to our students, who emptied their piggy banks to vote for Mr. Harrison's costume! We raised \$379.69!! All of this money will go toward supporting this year's Parents' Association goals of updating our playground and PE equipment. Mr. Harrison will be a mummy for Halloween this year!

FALL FAMILY FUN DAY: Fall Family Fun Day is Saturday, October 31st from 1-4 pm. We are still looking for volunteers! Please visit our signup sheets posted in the school lobby or contact Sue Holinsky (theholinskys@comcast.net) or Karen Clark (kccphoto@gmail.com) for further information. Hope to

see you there!

SPIRIT WEAR: Spirit Wear is coming! Please look for the Spirit Wear display at Fall Family Fun Day. Spirit Wear will make a great holiday gift! Please come and check out fun and exciting items to show your school spirit! If you have questions or would like to place an order, please contact Amy Auman at amyaman@gmail.com, Jennifer Walker at jlwalker9320@comcast.net, or Pat Weibking at clapton824@aol.com.

BOXTOP REMINDER: Please return your BoxTop collection sheets &/or collection baggies by Friday October 23rd. Every participant will receive a prize.

GROCERY CARD REMINDER: Please register or renew your GIANT, SAFEWAY, TARGET and HARRIS TEETER cards by Nov. 1, 2009. Contact Amy Paulino with any questions or concerns: leettle1ames@yahoo.com

RECYCLE DRINK POUCHES AND RAISE FUNDS: Every year billions of drink pouches end up in dumpsters and landfills across America. TerraCycle, an eco-friendly innovator, has teamed up with Capri Sun and Honest Kids to collect used pouches and "upcycle" them into messenger bags, pencil cases and tote bags. SJPDS has registered as a collection brigade. TerraCycle will donate \$.02 for each pouch collected. Check out terracycle.net for details, start saving pouches and look for more details coming home and for collection bins at school. Contact Amy Paulino with any questions or concerns: leettle1ames@yahoo.com

SALLY FOSTER DELIVERY DAY VOLUNTEERS: Sally Foster orders will be delivered on Monday, October 26 around 4:00 pm. Please contact Kathy Chappell at chappellfamily@comcast.net if you are able to help sort the orders. Children are welcome to help!

UPCOMING PARENTS' ASSOCIATION EVENTS:

- Monday, October 26 - Sally Foster Delivery (Volunteers needed at 4 pm)
- Saturday, October 31 - Fall Family Fun Day from 1 - 4 pm (Volunteers and bakers needed)
- Thursday, November 5 - Dining Out at Mamma Lucia's from 5 - 10 pm

Update from the Nurse

To be proactive for the coming cold season Lisa Morgan would like to share the cough drop policy for our Lower School students. This procedure is comparable to policies used in Howard County.

School Nurses



1. Lower School children may have non-medicated cough drops without a physician's note. Two brands of non-medicated cough drops are Luden's and Ricola. Cough drops must be kept in the nurse's office.
2. Younger children may need supervision with cough drops to prevent choking. Parents should consider if younger children are able to properly use a cough drop.
3. The cough drops are stored in the medicine cabinet in a bag with the child's name on it. Children simply have to request a cough drop and it can be brought to class. Children needing cough drops should have parents leave labeled cough drops in the Lower School, nurse's office, or the classroom.
4. No more than 3 cough drops a day for 5 days in a row.
5. Cough drops with medicine in them (Vicks is an example) require a physician's note.

Lisa
lmorgan@stjohnsec.org

Thank you



The entire St. John's staff gives a warm thank you to the Board of Trustee's for a fabulous time at Wine and Cheese Social. The staff truly enjoyed the music, wonderful food, and time to enjoy one another's company. We particularly thank Melissa Newsome for her hard work and creativity this year.

Last week's cold, rainy weather did nothing to deter Grandparents' Days. The smiling, proud visitors brought sunshine into our buildings and hearts as they spent time in Chapel and in the classrooms with their special grandchildren. Thank you to our fabulous parent volunteers,

many of whom worked behind the scenes setting tables, clearing and cleaning up. You did an amazing job helping to make the days so happy! It is easy to see why we have such dedicated, enthusiastic parents after greeting over 400 loving, caring grandparents. The St. John's Community is blessed in having so many outstanding families.

Gala Meeting

There will be a Gala planning meeting Tuesday, October 27th at 8:45 in Clark House. The focus will be on decorating ideas. All interested parents are invited to attend!

Inclement Weather Policy

If Howard County schools are closed because of inclement weather, St. John's will be closed. If Howard County schools open late (regardless of one hour or two), the Lower School will begin at 10:00 AM and morning Early Childhood



will be closed. Student drop-off for Lower School will be from 9:45-10:00 AM. Full day Early Childhood student drop-off will be from 10:00-10:15 AM. Extended day 3's will go to Mrs. Rudnicki's classroom.

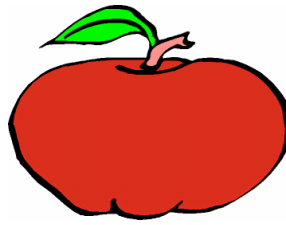
In addition:

1. No *Before School Care* will be available.
2. Late morning openings will not affect afternoon classes.
3. If Howard County should make an announcement by Noon to close early due to snow or inclement weather:
 - a. AM classes will dismiss at the regular time.
 - b. Full day classes will dismiss at noon.
 - c. There will be NO afternoon Early Childhood.
 - d. *After School Care* will be canceled.
 - e. A phone tree will be activated to notify families.
4. If the decision to close early is made later than noon:
 - a. We will follow the same decision as Howard County.
 - b. *After School Care* will be canceled.
5. In all other irregular situations that may affect the safety or usefulness of the school environment, we will make the decision to close the school on a case-by-case basis and will contact parents by all the methods listed below. Irregularities include, but are not limited to: electrical disruption, heating/air-conditioning problems, plumbing issues, etc.

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

- WBAL 1090AM radio
- Our website, www.stjohnspds.org
- 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

Apple Sale Friday Oct 23rd



The fifth graders will have their final apple and bake sale tomorrow, Friday, Oct. 23rd during lunch times. Children and special friends visiting us for *Pizza with Pop* are welcome to buy a special treat!

Upcoming Church Events

Invitation to St. John's Pasta Supper
Sunday, November 1st, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm in ASH

Love lasagna? Savor spaghetti?
Then YAC (our youth group for high school juniors and seniors) invites you to join a dinner out with family and friends at our annual Pasta Supper in All Saints Hall.
And all for a good cause!



Adults - \$9
Children under 12 - \$5
Families - \$25

Proceeds will support the YAC mission trip work camp in June 2010.

Looking for Open House Tour Guide Volunteers



Have you ever wondered who provides tours for prospective families at St. John's? We have many wonderful parents who have volunteered as tour guides! Forty-five minutes before each



open house we will review how to give a great tour of the school with easy talking points provided. Having parents give our open house tours has given families interested in the school another helpful perspective. The open house dates and times are:

Tuesday, Nov. 3rd 6:00 - 7:30 PM (Tour guides arrive at 5:15)

If you are able to volunteer for one or more open house tours, please call or email Tiffany Rath. 410.465.7644 x 222
trath@stjohnsec.org

Mistletoe Village

We are happy to announce our 1st annual Mistletoe Village- "A Gift Boutique", your one-stop shopping for holiday gifts. A collection of vendors will be on hand with a wide variety of specialty items. This event will be held in All Saints Hall on Thursday, Dec 3 from 6-10 PM that evening. Admission is free, and a portion of the proceeds go to SJPDS. Come out and support the school as well as local small businesses while getting your shopping done. Fliers with more information will be coming home soon.



Do you have a home-based business or provide a service? Sign up today to participate as a vendor. SJPDS families will have priority registration from now until 10/14, when outside vendors may begin to register until 11/16. Only one rep per company, first come, or - first served. To take part as a vendor or for more information, please contact Lisa Hermodsson at Hermodsson@verizon.net or (410) 696-2797 or Tracie Feron at tracie.feron@verizon.net (410) 750-3191.

Upcoming Events

Thurs. Oct 22nd - Where Do We Go From Here? meeting for 3rd through 5th grade parents at 7:00 PM in the All Saints Hall. Please arrive at 6:40 to chat with graduates about their middle school experience.



Thurs. and Fri. Oct. 22nd and 23rd - Early Childhood closed for conferences

*Please sign up outside your child's classroom for a convenient time. Childcare will be offered during your 15-minute conference time. On Thursday, please take your children to Mrs. Baumann's classroom (outside Early Childhood office). Friday, please go to Mrs. Grosso's classroom (first floor second classroom on left.)

Fri. Oct 23rd - Lower School Pizza with Pop

Tues., Oct. 27 - Picture Make-up Day

Fri. Oct. 30th - Halloween parades

10:15 - LS parade

10:45 and 2:00 - EC parade

Sun. Nov. 1st - SJEC Youth Mission pasta supper

Fri. Oct. 30th - Lower School Early Dismissal

Sat. Oct. 31st - Fall Family Fun Day

Mon. Nov. 2nd - Nov. 6th - Book Fair

Tues. Nov. 3rd - Lower School Open House 6:00 PM

- Kindergarten and First Grade Story Night 6:30 PM

Wed., Nov. 4 - Staff Development Day for Early Childhood

Morning classes dismiss at 11:15

Afternoon students arrive 1:00-1:10

No change to full day and extended day schedules

Thurs. Nov. 5th - PA Dining Night Out - Mamma Lucia's

- Second and Third Folk Tales and Legions Night 6:30 PM

Note: The Adult Forum with Steve Harrison on the 8th has been changed to the 15th.

Mon. Nov. 9th - Lower School Closed for AIMS conference

Sun. Nov. 15th - SJPDS Sunday at 9:00 AM

- Adult Forum with Steve Harrison at 10:15 at SJEC

Wed. Nov. 18th - Nov. 20th - 5th grade Echo Hill Outdoor

Education trip

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