



SJB News & Notes

Christian Virtues. 21st Century Learning. Service.

September 19, 2019

Principal's Corner

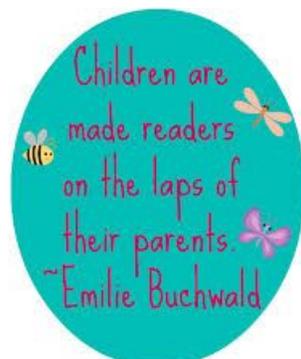
We are now over halfway through our Marathon Fundraiser for 2019. I am happy to report that we have raised \$11,610.95 towards our \$20,000 goal! This fundraising goal is part of our overall school budget for the 2019-2020 school year. It is vitally important that we meet or exceed this fundraising goal.

We have two more weeks to turn in pledges for our Marathon. Next week's prize will be extra recess for \$50 or more in new pledges, and for Oct. 3rd the prize will be a Papa Murphy's pizza certificate.

We have some exciting news to share with our families. We have received an anonymous \$10,000 grant to start a STEM Lab at our school! Over the next few months, we will be meeting as a staff to decide how we want our STEM Lab to look and what tools and manipulatives we want available to use in our lab. It is our hope that the lab will be up and running shortly after the first of the new year. Look for more updates over the coming months.

We have all heard that reading to children at a young age lays the foundation of reading skills: letter recognition, letter sounds, and beginning comprehension skills. It is just as important to keep up the practice of reading to and with your child even when they are reading on their own. I really like an article from the [Scholastic website](#) about the benefits of reading with children ages 6-12. These are benefits that will transfer into the classroom and help your child find success in reading in school as well as at home.

Blessings,
Dawn Biren



Parish Mass Help Needed

This year, we would like our students and school to have a presence at each of the three parishes. As part of this initiative, we have selected two masses at each parish this year when we would like SJB students to be the reader, greeter, and gift bearers.

If your children and family can help represent our school at a parish mass, please click the link below to sign up for a mass. Parents are also invited to fulfill one of these mass roles and represent our school. Below are the mass dates:

- Oct. 12 - 5pm in Hampton
- Nov. 10 - 10am Vermillion
- Dec. 15 - 8am New Trier
- Mar. 7 - 5pm Hampton
- Apr. 19 - 10am Vermillion
- May 10 - 8am New Trier

[Sign Up for a Mass](#)

St. John's Parish Festival

Thank you to everyone who has sent in donations for our parish festival. We truly appreciate your support!

The 10am mass on Sunday, September 29 for the festival is a school mass. All students and parents are encouraged to attend mass at St. John's before heading over to the festival. Please wear your Red Faith T-shirts to mass and the festival.

All K-4 students should meet in the school at 9:45am. We will walk over to church together that morning, and we will sit as a school group in church. Parents, you should pick up your children in church right after mass.

Volunteers Needed

Many hands make light work! Use the Signup Genius link below to register to volunteer.

[St. John's Parish Festival 2019](#)

Bus Safety

We are very grateful to the Hastings Bus Company for transporting our students to and from school. Their number one concern is the safety of your child. This safety happens because our students know how to be good bus riders..

On Friday this week, the bus drivers will be at school to go through bus safety rules and drills with our students. Please take a few minutes to go through the bus safety rules with your child:

1. Students will obey all school bus safety procedures.
2. Students will follow directions of the bus driver at all times.
3. Students will remain seated when the bus is in motion.
4. Windows may not be opened more than half way.
5. No screaming, swearing, loud noises, distractions or nuisance articles are permitted on the buses.
6. Students will treat one another with respect and dignity.

Family Movie Night

Thank you to everyone who came to our Family Movie night last Friday. It was great to see the community of St. John's spending time together!



Silent Fundraisers

We will continue to collect Box Tops and Coke Caps for our school this year. These items can be sent to school at anytime. The collection bin is located in the School Commons area.

Beginning next week, we will send home a monthly sheet for students to collect Box Tops and send them to school. This is a fun and creative way for the students to support their school!



Fall Conferences

It is hard to believe that we are already starting to plan for our Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences. New this year, you will sign up for a time with your child's teacher through the Signup Genius website. Please use the link below.

Our conference schedule:

Monday, October 14: Pre-K - 4th from 4:20-8pm
Tuesday, October 15: Pre-K from 9am-8pm
Tuesday, October 15: K-4 from 4:20-8pm

***Please note that there will be no Pre-K classes on Tuesday, October 15. Mrs. Allen has conferences scheduled for the entire day.

If you have any questions relating to conferences, please contact your child's teacher or Mrs. Biren.

[Sign Up for Conferences](#)



Sunday School

St. John the Baptist parish community offers a Sunday School Program for children ages 3-5 years old during the Sunday morning Mass at 10am.

Children are dropped off in the gathering area before mass and return to their parents during the offertory time. The children will bring up the gifts to the priest, receive a blessing, and then return to their parents. The Sunday School Program will begin on Sunday, October 13. All children are welcome! See the registration form attached to the Blue Folder email.

HSA Volunteers Needed

Our Home & School Association (HSA) is in need of volunteers for some of our events throughout the school year. Please use the link below to let them know that you are able to help. Remember, all hours count towards your family's required volunteer hours.

[HSA Volunteer Form](#)

Do not fear, for I am with you. I will bless you.

Genesis 26:24