



SJB News & Notes

Christian Virtues. 21st Century Learning. Service.

April 16, 2020

Principal's Corner

Sometimes it is hard to believe that we have already been apart for over four weeks. We thank you for your continued partnership and support of St. John's and catholic education!

"Dress up days" are usually reserved for Catholic Schools Week, but we thought we should be able to have a little fun while working from home. Each day next week there will be a Facebook post where you can add photos of your child dressed up for the day.

Blessings,
Dawn Biren

PIP Program

At the last SAC meeting, we discussed the Parent Involvement Program (volunteer hours) for this school year. We know that there may need to be some adjustments, given the fact that we are going to miss at least seven weeks of school.

TO DO: The Volunteer Log form is being mailed with report cards to all families. We need each family, who has not already submitted their log, to complete the form and send it to school. You can either scan and email to dbiren@sjb-school.org, or mail the completed form to school at: 111 W. Main Street, Vermillion, MN 55085. Held checks will be returned for completed hours.

Each K-4 family is to complete 30 hours and each Pre-K (only) family 15 hours. Even if you have not finished your hours, please complete the form with the hours that are done and send it to the office. Mrs. Biren will then be in contact with the families who still have volunteer hours to complete for this school year.

For the 2020-2021 school year, families will not send in a \$200 check to be held in the office. Instead, families with incomplete hours will be billed the \$200 through their TADS account.

Distance Learning Updates

Feedback Survey

We love hearing from our parents and students! Please let us know how distance learning is going at home for you, now that we are completing week three of distance learning. We use the feedback you provide us to inform our instruction and to make any needed changes to our current process.

[Week 3 Feedback Survey](#)

SJB Student Dress Up Week

- Mon. 4/20 - Super Hero Day** (in honor of the hospital workers, first responders, & other essential workers)
- Tues. 4/21 - Jersey Day** (in honor of our favorite sports/activities that we aren't able to be a part of right now)
- Wed. 4/22 - Earth Day** (wear blue/green in honor of the beauty that is God's Creation)
- Thurs. 4/23 - School Spirit Day** (in honor of the school friends and teachers that we miss everyday)
- Fri. 4/24 - Pajama Day** (let's admit it, this is probably the best part of distance learning)

Yearbooks for 2019-2020

We are finalizing this year's school yearbook. Being that our school closure due to COVID-19 is an event to note, we would like to have a section in our yearbook about distance learning.

PHOTOS: If you have pictures of your child in distance learning from home, please email them to Aaron Rother at aaronrother@yahoo.com. We want to remember what it was like during the last few months of this school year.

ORDER: It is time to order a yearbook! Once again, the cost will be \$15 per yearbook. Please order through [this link](#), and your TADS account will be billed for your order. Please contact Dawn Biren if you have any questions.



Strategic Plan Update

Throughout the school year, we have been providing you with updates on this year's initiatives as they relate to our strategic plan. The SAC chose to focus on updating policy manuals and handbooks, and then also implementing a curriculum review cycle.

Policy Handbooks- This year we have updated four of our policy handbooks. Three were done by the school: Faculty/Staff, Volunteer, and Parent/Student. The fourth handbook was updated for all catholic parishes and schools in the dioceses, and this new Employee Handbook was at their direction.

Curriculum Cycle- We are happy to announce that we have purchased the Math Expressions curriculum series to begin with next fall in K-4 classrooms.

Happy Birthday!

April 20 - April South
April 21 - Sr. Noel



Blessing at Parishes During Closure

Since there are no public Masses at this time, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, you are invited and encouraged to come to church to receive a greeting and blessing this weekend and future weekends while there are no public Masses. This opportunity will be available to people in a drive through/curbside stop format where you will receive a greeting, blessing, and parish bulletin, in a way that maintains social distancing. You are also welcome and encouraged to drop off your Sunday contribution envelope at the same time. Greeting and blessings will be given at:

- St. Mathias – Saturday – 5-6 pm, entering the driveway at Highways 47 and 50.
- St. Mary – Sunday – 8-9 am, entering the horseshoe to the church nearest the cemetery.
- St. John the Baptist – 10-11 am, along the curbside nearest the front steps of the church.

Each of the three churches will be open on Sunday afternoon for a time of personal prayer. If you are stopping on Sunday afternoon please maintain appropriate social distancing.

A recorded Sunday Mass will be available again this weekend on Facebook and Youtube, as well as broadcast on KDWA Radio 1460 AM/97.7 FM at 4:30 pm on Saturday and Sunday at 8:05 am and 12:05 pm.

Also beginning on April 18, the Sacrament of Penance will be available for the tri-parish community every Saturday, 9:00-9:30 am in a drive-through format in front of the Parish Center in Hampton. People are asked to enter from Highway 50 and exit on Highway 47.

