



# SJB News & Notes

*Christian Virtues. 21st Century Learning. Service.*

651-437-2644

sjb-school.org

## Principal's Corner

I have been writing to you about what Pope Francis calls small gestures of holiness. Last Friday, I experienced one of these gestures when I drove thru at Caribou Coffee. They handed me my coffee and told me it had been paid for by the car in front of me. It was a real gut check. Only two minutes before I was feeling impatient while in line. As I finished driving to the school, I started to think about all the small gestures in my life, positive or negative. I wondered how often I had felt something like impatience while the person on the opposite end was feeling generous.

This is the time for St. John's school to represent its ideals to the fullest. We have many families with long standing connections to our school. We have many new families as well. Both have gone through tough periods before and will do so again. The first value of our mission is Christian virtue. Those who continue to reach for this value are providing gestures of holiness that are beyond small.

One of my favorite things about Catholic elementary schools is the closeness of the community. I have visited so many Catholic schools and I always ask about each school's greatest strength. The answer is always our close community. Our success is in working together.

We believe that each child and each adult is made in the image of God. Let us remind ourselves of this belief on a regular basis. I know I need the reminder. Whether it is working to help each student achieve or waiting patiently in line for my coffee, those around me will benefit when I see them as made in God's image.

- Paul

**9/4 No school - sorry about the error on the calendar we sent home.**

## New Tads Fees

I received a few emails about new fees that Tads is charging on transactions. After consulting with Tads my understanding is the one way to avoid these fees is to mail a check or bring a check to the school.

Tads does advise that this can take up to 2 weeks to be received and processed through the mail. Should you choose this option, please include your TADS Account number on the memo line.

Please note, if your mailed payment is not received within 5 days of the payment due date, Tads charges you \$35.



## Coming Back to School by Third Grader John R.

My favorite things from this summer are Dad, going to the Kalahari Waterpark at Wisconsin Dells and going to Cedar Lake Speedway for sprint car racing! I have missed seeing friends at school because I miss playing with them. What I am excited about on the first day of school is saying "hello!" to my friends, teachers, and staff. I will also like to have communion with my classmates at Mass. It has been tough being away from school because I haven't seen my classmates. I hope Covid is over soon so I can go on field trips. Also I hope that All Saints Day goes well and starting Lego league is fun!

## Meet Ms. Angela Beissel - Physical Education Teacher

### Purpose Statement

I coach/teach to support the whole person in building a community in honor of service, impact, integrity and being authentic.

### What to Expect This Year:

Movement Skills, Physical Fitness, Team Building, Communication and Decision-Making Skills, Fun.

My background is in team building with families and corporations, also in publishing and marketing. Currently, I work for a publishing company, Coaching Company and I coach the Hastings High School Girls Tennis Team. I am a certified yoga instructor. I hold a Bachelor of Arts degree in communications and journalism.

I attended St. Mary's Catholic School in New Trier for grades 1-6 and have been an active member of St Mary's Church my whole life

- Ms. Beissel  
abeissel@sjb-school.org



## Bus stops sent out

We sent out bus stop information to all bus families on Wednesday. If you did not receive yours please contact the school office.

## Happy Birthday!

Jackson P - August 21  
Harper G - August 23  
Brooke S. - August 28



## Thank you!

I am so grateful to everyone as this year begins. I continue to be amazed at your commitment to our students. Our PPRP team of staff and parents committed extra time thinking this summer about our procedures. Teachers have changed how their rooms, schedules, and lessons look in order to enact policies that decrease risk. The maintenance team has made the school look amazing and adjusted our rooms time and time again. Families and donors have provided a variety of learning materials for students. Everyone has been flexible when sudden changes are announced. I am so grateful for all the work you are doing for our success. We are a strong community and I am seeing constant evidence of folks working to carry out our mission.

## Letter From Ms. Aslesen - Music

School will be starting soon. It is truly a busy time that will offer challenges and changes.

Music class will occur two times a week.. Based on scientific studies recently completed, the act of singing, especially in a confined space, spreads more little particles called aerosols than speaking, humming, whistling, shouting, and even coughing. Masks help reduce the spread, but not completely. Therefore, just as at Mass, classroom singing is restricted.

How will students have a musical EXperience? It will be possible, just different. Students will EXTend their musical and rhythmic abilities in new ways. Students will EXpand their understanding about music and the elements that put it together. The students will EXplore by listening, reading, and performing along with music from places outside of Minnesota. Students will also EXamine materials that make sound and EXperiment with sound production. I also plan to offer various ways to EXpress music without singing.

In unbelievable ways, 2020 is an EXceptional year. Let's make this school year an even more EXceptionally EXciting EXperience.

Best wishes to you all,

Mrs. Patty Aslesen

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