SJB News & Notes

Be Known. Be True. Be You.

651-437-2644 www.sjb-school.org

Principal's Corner

This week, I had the pleasure of spending two days at St. Anne's Catholic School in Le Sueur, MN, as part of a Catholic school accreditation team. As a rural PreK–5th grade school with enrollment and demographics very similar to ours, St. Anne's reminded me so much of our own community. One of the strongest themes that stood out during my time there was how deeply the teachers, staff, students, and parents love their school and value its role in the community. I know that same spirit is alive and well here at St. John's, and I am truly grateful to everyone who supports our students, staff, and mission. We will have the opportunity to showcase everything that makes our school so special next fall when we host an Archdiocese-led team for our own accreditation visit.

Last Friday, our students and staff visited the University of Minnesota campus for a matinee performance by the UMN Marching Band. Thanks to the university offering the event for free and subsidizing a portion of our busing, students had a wonderful opportunity to experience live music across a variety of genres, learn about the different band instruments, and see firsthand the value of music education. Fun fact: the 320-piece band represents 90 different academic majors, most of which aren't even music-related!

We still are in need of chaperones for our annual Christmas Caroling around Vermillion on Friday, Dec. 18. Please sign up using this link. This is a K - 4 student event only.

School Attendance

Important Reminders for Families

Regular, on-time attendance helps every student succeed and minimizes classroom interruptions. Please review these important attendance guidelines:

- Reporting Absences or Tardies: **Families must notify the school office by 9:00 a.m. on or before the day of the absence or tardy**. Notification may be made by phone, email, or voicemail. Please include your child's name, grade, and reason for the absence.

- Excused and Unexcused Absences: Excused absences include illness, funerals, medical or dental appointments, and family emergencies. Vacations and family emergencies require at least 48 hours' advance notice when possible, as outlined in school policy. Unexcused absences include oversleeping, missing the bus, refusing to attend school, or missing school to participate in sporting events or activities. School administration makes the final determination regarding excused and unexcused absences. Excessive absences and tardies may be reported to the county truancy office.

- Illness and Make-Up Work: For a one-day illness, students will receive missed assignments when they return. For absences lasting longer than one day, families should contact the teacher to discuss make-up work.

- Family Vacations: Vacations during the school year are strongly discouraged. If a vacation is necessary, please notify the school office at least 48 hours in advance. Teachers are not required to prepare assignments ahead of time. Missed work will be provided when the student returns, along with a completion deadline.

Thank you for partnering with us to support consistent attendance and student success!

Virtue of the Month: Respect

Speaking and acting according to our own and others' rights, status, and circumstances.

WINTER GEAR

With winter weather right around the corner, please make sure your child has appropriate winter clothing at school each day. Winter coats, snow pants, boots, hats, and mittens are essential as temperatures drop and snow arrives. Please take a few minutes to check that your child's winter gear is at school and ready for the season!



Volunteer Opportunities

K - 4 Lunch/Recess Volunteer Sign Up

Remember to keep a tally of your volunteer hours as these will go toward the yearly family requirement. Due to safety and liability concerns, volunteers may not bring younger children when volunteering.

🎂 Happy Birthday! 🎂

Brooklyn W.	K	11/1
Wayne	PreK	11/2
Berkeley B.	PS3	11/3
Grayson	Pre K	11/11
Eleanor	2nd	11/16
Maggie	K	11/20
Weston	Pre K	11/20
Owen	1st	11/26
Max	3rd	11/30

What's Coming Up?

11/19	Final Fall Clubs 3:30 - 4:40
11/22	St. Mary's Sausage Supper
11/25	No School - Thanksgiving Break
11/26	No School - Thanksgiving Break
11/27	No School - Thanksgiving Break
11/29	First Week of Advent
11/30	No Busing - Parent Drive Day

🎄 Holiday Craft Club Reminder! 🎄

Holiday Craft Club sign-up forms will be sent home on Thursday! Be sure to keep an eye out for them if your child would like to join in on the holiday fun! ✂️🎨

St. John the Baptist Catholic School is an enduring community welcoming students to be known and loved, to excel academically, thrive spiritually, and lead with generosity and joy.