

Good afternoon SJS Community,

We had an awesome first full week of school at SJS. Our first AM Assembly on Monday included a visit from Fr. Jeremy and a game of Step to the Middle. On Tuesday, everyone brought their smiles for Picture Day. The rest of the week was filled with fun and learning. As I roam the halls of SJS, it is evident that there is an immense amount of learning and growth occurring in every classroom.

Back to School Night for Prekindergarten through Grade 5 families is Tuesday. The night will begin in the gym at 6:00 with a brief welcome and overview. Each teacher will then present information in their classrooms twice. The first session is 6:15-6:45. The second session is 6:45 – 7:15. Teachers will then remain in their classrooms until 7:30 if you have additional questions or need to get to a third teacher. We structure Back to School Night this way so families can visit multiple grades if needed.

It is time for basketball signups! All students in Grades 3 and above are eligible to play basketball for St. John School. We have both boys' and girls' teams at three levels (Grade 3/4, Grade 5/6, Grade 7/8). We play in the South Shore Parochial School League (SSPSL) against Catholic schools on South Shore, west of us, and into Boston. Teams will practice once a week and play around 10 games in the regular season. All teams qualify for the SSPSL playoffs, and we also enter most of our teams in the St. John School Tournament in Attleboro. Practices typically start in early November and the season goes until mid-March. Mrs. Novogratz is our Athletic Director and a great resource. She visited classrooms today to discuss basketball. Please see attached for a sign up. It is due on Monday, September 23. Also, if you are interested in coaching, please reach out to Mrs. Novogratz or me.

MAP testing will begin next week (Middle School) and will continue through the end of September. MAP is the standardized assessment that we give twice a year. It is an adaptive test that provides us a wealth of important information. We use the data for teaching and learning as well as curriculum development. After the MAP is complete, we will celebrate our students who scored in the 99th percentile for achievement or growth in either math, reading, or language usage. As

an FYI, we do retest some students if we feel their results are not representative – as we all know, sometimes we have off days. Families receive MAP results in the spring after the second testing and a full year of growth. We have also begun using an assessment called MAP Fluency with our kindergarten through Grade 2 students. This assessment gives us some quick data around phonemic awareness and the building blocks of reading.

Also, next week, all new families will be billed their \$250 work credit deposit. This deposit continues to roll forward if families perform their expected number of service hours and is reimbursed when your child graduates or leaves SJS.

And finally, as you saw in my email this morning, we are looking for an Art and STEM teachers. This can be one person or split. If you have any leads, please let me know.

SJS Calendar

Tuesday, September 17 (6:00 pm)– Back to School Night (Preschool – Grade 5)

Wednesday, September 18 – Half Day (No Aftercare)

Friday, September 20 – SJS Parent Group Social

Tuesday, September 24 (6:00 pm)– Back to School Night (Middle School)

Thursday, September 26 – First Day of Instrument Lessons

SJS Parent Group SJS Logo Opportunity - #DrivewayEagles

Show your school spirit by having an SJS logo painted on your driveway! For just \$50, you can display your pride and support for our school with the outline of an eagle and SJS written above it sprayed in maroon on your driveway. The painting will take place during the weekends of September 28th and October 5th. To participate, complete the attached form and return it by September 26th. Let's make our driveways a vibrant representation of our school spirit! #DrivewayEagles

October Lunches

Lunch ordering for October (including September 30 and November 1) is open through FACTS. Orders must be in by Thursday, September 25 at noon.

Second Notices

Fall Clubs

Fall afterschool clubs start on Monday and there is still time to sign up. [Click here](#) for details.

Instrument Lessons

St. John School will again use Paul Effman Music for instrument lessons this year. [Click here](#) for more information.

SJS Parent Group Fall Social

The SJS Parent Group will host a Fall Parent Social on Friday, September 20th from 7:00 – 10:00 pm in the SJS back parking lot. We hope to see you there! [Click here](#) for a flyer.

Spiritwear

The SJS Spiritwear Store through Arrow Sports is open through September 20. Visit <https://sjs202425.itemorder.com/shop/home/>.

VIRTUS

There will be a VIRTUS training session on Tuesday, September 24 at St. Oscar Romero Parish at 6:45 pm. For more information visit www.virtusonline.org.

Helpful Links

Ebackpack - [Click here](#)

2024-2025 Calendar - [Click here](#)

Chris