



Parent Newsletter August 2021

MISSION STATEMENT

As Heralds of the Gospel, Saint John School seeks to bring light and truth to PK-12 students in Ashtabula County and beyond through its commitment to educating the whole person by developing scholarship, deepening faith and inspiring leadership in the Catholic tradition.

A Note from the President

Power-up can refer to environmental issues that seek to create sustainable models of living. It also is defined as to activate something, especially a computer or computer system, by connecting or prompting it to connect to a **power** source. Another reference to powering up comes from the gaming world where to power-up is an object that adds temporary benefits or extra abilities to the player's character as a **game** mechanic. I am sure there are other definitions and usages of the term.

During the last 18 months, it was difficult to power up. The Covid19 pandemic caused us to isolate and shut down many of our usual activities. For us a school, it meant limiting parent access, canceling some student activities, and providing ways to protect our students by social distancing.

Thus as we start the 2021-2022 school year, we definitely need to power-up, to recharge our batteries. But it is not enough to merely have additional energy or to look forward to the resumption of activities. What we need to do in addition to powering up is to reconnect with one another. This does not refer to physically reconnecting by shaking hands or hugging. To reconnect implies connecting on a deeper level, to connect through our minds, hearts and soul.

Thus, our theme of the 2021-2022 school year is "Power-Up, Re-Connect."

The pandemic of the last 18 months has drained us. Our batteries need to be recharged. There is a need to renew ourselves. The pandemic has also led to a great deal of loneliness. I am currently reading a study about the spirituality and religious lives of young people. I am still in the midst of unpacking all of the data in the report and will probably share more with you throughout the year. The report indicated that although there are more opportunities for connectivity, young people feel less connected than other generations. Yet, there is a need among young people to feel a sense of belonging. One fact that struck me so far is the observation in the report that young people will listen when they feel cared about. They need adults in their lives who let them know they are loved.

Our role as parents and teachers is to be people who can help our students recharge their batteries and learn to find connections in their lives. We want to help all within the Saint John community to know a sense of belonging. The 2021-2022 will provide different challenges and opportunities than last year. Together, let us Power-Up and Re-Connect o take advantage of all that comes along this year's journey.

Weekly Communications

In addition to the monthly printed newsletters, the school issues a weekly email and also text messages. If you are not receiving these, please contact Mrs. Hartwell so we can check the information we have on file; i.e. email address and phone number.

We are also trying to reduce the number of inserts in the monthly newsletter and post flyers etc. on the school website. Sometimes it can be overwhelming to get all of this in the monthly packet.

We also gave families a form to sign-up on Final Forms if they prefer not to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, since it is posted on line each month. If you would like to receive only the digital copy of the monthly newsletter, please check the form on the final forms site.

We are aware that the speed of mail delivery varies. We post the monthly newsletter and the monthly cafeteria menu on our website when it is mailed. If you do not receive yours, please check the website.

New Student Orientation

Friday, August 13 students in grades 7 will meet from 9:00– 11:30 am. Students in grades 8-12 that are **NEW** to Saint John School will meet from 1:00-2:00 pm for a new student orientation. This will allow us to help new students to become better acquainted with the building and our procedures. For any questions, please contact Mr. Keith Corlew at kcw@sjheralds.org. Students will be receiving an invitation in the mail with specific details.

Back-to-School Night

On Thursday, August 19, teachers of students in grades 1-6 will be in their classrooms at 5:30-6:00 pm to address beginning of the year questions. They will also give you a brief overview of their expectations and guidelines for the year. We have a number of new teachers so this is an opportunity to meet them.

At 6:30 pm that evening we will have a back-to-school picnic. All teachers will be at the picnic. We encourage all families to attend.

Students in grades PreK-2 are asked to bring a dessert.
Students in grades 3-6 are asked to bring side dishes.
Students in grades 7-9 are asked to bring chips/pretzels.
Students in grades 10-12 are asked to bring bottled water.
We will provide hot dogs and the paper products.

Uniform Resale

We will be having an used uniform sale on Monday, August 9 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm in the school atrium. There will be slightly used jumpers, skirts, pants and polo's for sale.

Picture Day

Tuesday, August 31 school pictures will be taken for grades K-12. **This day is either dress up or school uniforms.** Forms will be coming home with the students.

PTO Mum Sale

Kick-off for the Mumkin Sale will be August 29. Flyers will be coming home with the students.

Student Leadership Training

Student Council officers in grades 7-12 are strongly encouraged to attend our leadership training session on August 18 at 1:00-3:00 pm. Mr. Kelly Croy, national speaker on student leadership, will be facilitator of the program.

The first day of school we will have a staggered start.

The first day of school is Wednesday, August 25. Students are required to be in uniform. We will have a split day-students in grades K-6 will be at school from 7:50-10:50 am and students in grades 7-12 will be at school from 11:20-2:20 pm.

Thursday, August 26 will be a full day of school.

Back to School Liturgy

We will have our back to school liturgy the beginning of September. More information will follow.

Cafeteria

We will once again be able to provide free breakfast and lunch for the entire Saint John student body. If a student chooses other a la carte items or orders a hungryman lunch, these are not included. If you know your son/daughter will need extra food items, we encourage you to put money on his/her cafeteria account through FACTS.

If you need instructions on how to pay online through FACTS, please contact Mrs. Hartwell at mhartwell@sjheralds.org.

Please do not have foods from outside restaurants brought to school. This is against the regulations for school food programs.

After school in the Concession Stand health snacks are available for purchase. These should be eaten in the atrium or in the cafeteria.

Athletic News

Athletic Pictures will be taken on Wednesday, August 4. Mr. Nick Iarocci will be in contact with coaches to assign times. Senior pictures will be taken first at 9:00 am.

The Athletic Department is sponsoring a monthly progressive raffle. Tickets are \$25. A winner will be drawn the first Tuesday of every month from October thru May with an early bird drawing in September. October prize is \$100; November prize is 150; December prize is \$200; January prize is \$250; February prize is \$300; March prize is \$350; April prize is \$400 and May prize is \$500. You can win more than once. Contact any Saint John athlete to purchase one or email [Nick Iarocci](mailto:NickIarocci@sjheralds.org) at niarocci@sjheralds.org.

The Athletic Department is also sponsoring a reverse raffle on Saturday, September 18. Tickets are \$100 which includes one chance on the main board and two dinners. Please contact Mr. Nick Iarocci for tickets. These are the two fundraisers that support the athletic program.

Flag football for students in grades K-6 will begin in September. The first practice will be on Saturday, September 11 at 9:00 am. Sign-up forms will be in the September newsletter.

New ACT Dates...

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Regular Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Late Registration Deadline</u> (Late Registration Fee Required)
September 11, 2021	August 8, 2021	August 9 - 20, 2021
October 23, 2021	September 17, 2021	Sept. 18 – Oct. 1, 2021
December 11, 2021	November 5, 2021	Nov. 6 - 19, 2021
February 12, 2022	January 7, 2022	Jan. 8 - 21, 2022
April 2, 2022	February 25, 2022	Feb. 26 – March 11, 2022
June 11, 2022	May 6, 2022	May 7- 20, 2022
July 16, 2022	June 17, 2022	June 18 - 24, 2022

FEES

ACT (No Writing)	\$60.00	Standby Testing	ADD \$57.00
ACT Plus Writing	\$85.00	Test Option Change	ADD \$25.00
Late Registration	ADD \$36.00	Change Fee:	ADD \$40.00

Visit www.actstudent.org for online registration and practice resources.

Students are required to upload a photo at time of registration.

Any student in grades 7 - 11 planning on taking classes at Kent State University (Ashtabula) through the College Credit Plus program for the first time in the 2022 - 2023 academic year, needs to take an ACT test on or before the February 12, 2022 testing date if he/she has not already taken the test or would like to improve his/her score. Please see a member of the Guidance Department with any questions.

SAT TESTING DATES

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Regular Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Late Registration Deadline</u> (Late Registration Fee Required)
October 2, 2021	September 2, 2021	Sept. 3 - 20, 2021
November 6, 2021	October 6, 2021	Oct. 7 - 24, 2021
December 4, 2021	November 4, 2021	Nov. 5 - 22, 2021
March 12, 2022	February 12, 2022	Feb. 13 – 23, 2022
May 7, 2022	April 8, 2022	Apr. 9 - 26, 2022
June 4, 2022	May 6, 2022	May 7 - 17, 2022

FEES

SAT Test	\$55.00	Cancel Registration	ADD \$25.00
Late Registration	ADD \$30.00	Late Cancel Registration	ADD: \$35.00
Change Registration	ADD \$25.00		

Students are required to upload a photo at time of registration.

Visit www.collegeboard.org for online registration and practice resources.

School Schedules for High School Students

Schedules for students in grades 7-12 are available by visiting FACTS. If a student has not completed Final Forms or paid their registration fee, they will not be able to access their schedule.

SAVE THE DATE

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA) WORKSHOP FOR SENIOR PARENTS

Thursday, October 21, 2021 – 6:30 pm

Room: TBD

Senior parent(s) and students are encouraged to attend the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) **interactive workshop** in which you will be completing the FAFSA form online. This will be the only college financial aid workshop scheduled at Saint John. Specific details regarding personal financial documents that need to be brought to this meeting will be listed in the September Newsletter.

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS (CCP) INFORMATION MEETING

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 – 6:30 pm

Room: TBD

This meeting is for parent(s) and students in grades 7-11 who are interested in taking classes at Kent State University (Ashtabula) for the first time in the 2022 – 2023 school year.

Saint John School
7911 Depot Road
Ashtabula, OH 44004

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And keep up to date by visiting our website:
www.sjheralds.org



Welcome

We have a number of new faculty and staff members, and I know you will welcome them to our family with your usual warmth and openness.

We welcome **Father Dan Finnerty**, Pastor of Assumption in Geneva, as our School Chaplain. Father Dan will be serving as our official Chaplain in addition his duties as Pastor. Priests from other parishes will also continue to assist with liturgies.

Sarah Reed will be the Campus Minister. Sarah is a graduate of Saint John and has taught and served as a Campus Minister in the Cleveland Diocese. We welcome Sarah home.

Renee Incorvati, who has taught 2nd grade, will now be the elementary catechist. She will teach religion classes on a number of grade levels and will help oversee the religion program in grades K-6.

Lindsay Lasher will be teaching Junior High Math and Algebra 1.

Kim Porter will be teaching Junior High English.

Shanna Aughinbaugh will be teaching first grade.

Stacie Sturm who has served as a classroom aide will now serve as a second grade classroom teacher.

Rachel Amend will be teaching third grade.

Amy Taggart and Jennifer Cook will be our new fourth grade teachers.

Christopher Bott will be teaching elementary and high school music. He also will be our band teacher.