

Parent Newsletter

February 2024

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

I read recently that Leonardo DeVincin was known to be a procrastinator. The reason this is notable is that DaVinci has a long list of accomplishments. He is considered a Renaissance man and an impact in a variety of fields: art, astronomy, science, geography. So for those of us who might put things off, there is hope.

As we start February, it can allow us to look to projects that are on our to do lists. It may be that we need to re-examine our new year resolutions. Perhaps we haven't finished putting away all the Christmas decor or have items that we need to return at a store.

Usually, our to do list has more than three or four items. I know mine does. I have a new desk pad that allows me to list items that need to be done by the day and by the week. I am hoping it will help me organize my to do list in a way that will allow me to prioritize and keep me focused.

It is usually around this time we get our W-2's in the mail and as of the end of January we can begin filing our income taxes for 2023. For some this is an area of procrastination. I would ask that before you file your taxes this year, you consider making a donation to the Saint John Scholarship Granting Organization. By making this donation, you qualify for a State of Ohio tax credit. This is a win-win situation. You receive a dollar for dollar tax credit and Saint John receives the same amount as a donation. There is additional information in the newsletter. The gift must be made before you file your taxes. This gift allows you to re-direct your taxes from the state to Saint John.

Even if you procrastinate, this can be a win.

I See The Leader In You!

Winter break

We will have an extended break from February 16-February 20. This is President's Day weekend. On Friday the faculty will participate in a Diocesan in-service with teachers from throughout the Diocese. Monday is the federal holiday and Tuesday is a free day.

Saint Patrick's Day Raffle

Our annual Saint Patrick's Day raffle will be held on March 16 and it will be both digital and **IN Person**. Once again we are asking families to donate gift cards or a cash donation that the committee can use to provide raffle items. Students who make a donation of \$10 or more in February will be eligible for a dress down day. More information on the raffle will be in the weekly enews.

Valentine's Day Parties

This year we will combine St Valentine's Day and Marci Gras on Tuesday February 13. Students in grades PK-6 may dress down in red, pink or Mardi Gras colors. Homeroom parents will be in touch with parents to plan the details for Grades PK-6 parties.

Students in grades 7-12 may dress down in red or Mardi Gras attire for a donation of \$2.00

Parent Conferences

Second semester conferences will be held remotely on Thursday, February 8th from 2:45-7:45. There will be a link in the weekly enews for parents to sign up.

State Scholarships

The opportunity to re-apply or apply for a state of Ohio scholarship opens on February 1st. An individual letter specific to your scholarship will be sent via US mail the week of February 5th. We encourage families to send in applications and a current full page utility bill. Please fill out your forms as soon as possible. Applications and renewals can take time to be approved sometimes for no apparent reasons. Our staff is more than happy to assist, but we need families to start the application process.

This is not a time to procrastinate!

PTO

The next PTO meeting will be Tuesday, February 13 at 6:00 pm.

Lottery Dress Down

February's lottery dress down day will be Friday, February 23.

Parent Ambassadors Meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 13 from 8:00—9:00 am or 3:00—4:00 pm in the school cafeteria.

Welcome

Please help us welcome Mrs. Kristen Kitchen to the Saint John staff. She will be working with the Advancement team to secure support for our mission. Mrs. Kitchen comes with a great deal of experience in the Advancement field having most recently served as the Executive Director of United Way for Ashtabula County. She also has experience in the school setting having worked in Advancement at Grand River Academy and Urban Community School in Cleveland. Mrs. Kitchen and her husband, Matt, have a daughter, Caroline, in our preschool. During her beginning weeks at Saint John she will be reaching out to parents to discuss your ideas for Saint John and how we can all play a role in advancing our wonderful mission.

Easter Candy Sale

We will be selling Daffin's Chocolates again this year. Order forms went home with students. White order forms are due by Thursday, February 8. Candy will be delivered to students homerooms on Thursday, March 14. You may also order online at <https://daffinsfundraising.com>. Group number: STJS.

New Opportunity to

Ohioans can now receive a 100% **TAX CREDIT** of up to \$750 (\$1500 if filing jointly) for cash donations to the Saint John Scholarship Granting Organization.

Donor Wins: You Save On Your Taxes!

Saint John Wins: Donation is an Investment in Future Heralds! Here's how it works:

- ◆ Make a donation to the Saint John SGO
- ◆ Receive a tax credit receipt to use when filing your Ohio income tax.
- ◆ Your donation qualifies you for a 100% tax credit (\$750 for individuals or \$1,500 for filing jointly).

Saint John SGO will receive scholarship dollars equal to your donation



New ACT Dates...

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Regular Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Late Registration Deadline</u> (Late Registration Fee Required)
April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024	March 22, 2024
ACT (No Writing)	\$68.00	Standby Testing ADD \$68.00
ACT Plus Writing	\$93.00	Test Option Change ADD \$25.00
Late Registration	ADD \$36.00	Change Fee: ADD \$42.00

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

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

SAT TESTING DATES

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Regular Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Late Registration Deadline</u> (Late Registration Fee Required)
March 9, 2024	February 23, 2024	February 27, 2024
SAT Test	\$60.00	Cancel Registration ADD \$25.00
Late Registration	ADD \$30.00	Late Cancel Registration ADD: \$35.00
Change Registration	ADD \$30.00	

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

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

For all ACT & SAT dates, please check the website.

TESTING

IOWA Test of Basic Skills - All 9th Graders will be taking the IOWA Test of Basic Skills the week of February 5th - this test is a graduation requirement for Saint John School students. To graduate students must pass all sections of the test. If there are snow days, make-up days for testing will be given.

****Sophomores and Juniors who have not passed one or more sections of the IOWA test of basic skills will be contacted by the Guidance Department.**

Looking Ahead:

****Change for ACT Testing for Juniors will be given on March 12, 2024. More information will follow on specific test day instructions for students and accommodations.**

****Change for Pre-ACT Testing for Sophomores will be given on March 12, 2024.. More information will follow on specific test day instructions for students and accommodations.**

Scheduling for Grades 6-11

Students in Grades 6-11 will begin the process of course selections in early February. Students will have the opportunity to choose courses and receive information on the required courses for graduation in grades 9-11. .

Please note, students are not guaranteed to have the courses they select on the course selection sheets. Course placement may depend on the master schedule and the requirements needed for graduation. Please contact the Guidance Department with any questions.

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS (CCP)

Students in grades 7 - 11 who are interested in taking classes at Kent State University (Ashtabula) or other higher education institutions for the first time in the 2023 – 2024 school year please contact Melissa Nooney mnooney@sjheralds.org. This will enable you to meet deadlines for financial and entrance applications.

April 1st is when the applications open for the State of Ohio to award hours.

Seniors

Attention Seniors, local scholarships will start to trickle in to the Guidance office so make sure to check your email, Google classroom, and the Guidance Office for applications.

Also, please save and turn in a copy of all college acceptance letters and scholarship award letters even if you do not plan to attend the college or accept the scholarship offer.

Saint John School
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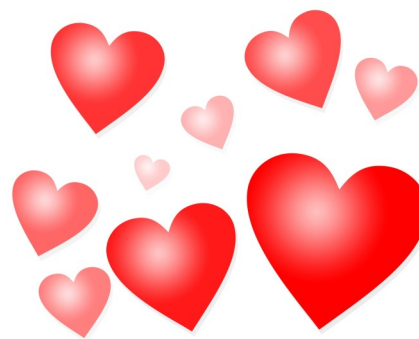
Join our LinkedIN:

Ashtabula/St.John/Sts.John & Paul High School

And keep up to date by visiting our website:

www.sjheralds.org

Monthly Newsletter can be viewed on website



CAMPUS MINISTRY CORNER

Friday, February 9th
Grade 11 Retreat

Wednesday, February 14th
Ash Wednesday, Mass for Grades K-5 at 9:30 am.
Prayer Service for Grades 6-12 at 1:45 pm.
This is a dress uniform day.

Friday, February 23rd
Grade 7 Retreat

Wednesday, February 28th
Dad's Night, Knights of Columbus meeting with Catholic fathers and guardians, 6:00 pm.

Lenten Service Project:
The school will again be participating in an International Service Project through Heifer International.
Details to come.

Needing Community Service Hours? Our Lady of Peace Parish is sponsoring a Lenten Fish Fry on Fridays, February 16 through March 22 from 4:00—7:00 pm in the Community Center. Please go to Mobile App to sign-up. Please note that service hours are required for Confirmation students.

JOURNEY
OF
Faith