

October 3, 2021

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Community,

Items in this newsletter: Thoughts for the week; Military Families; Parish Basketball; Scholastic Book Fair; School Behavior Tracking; 2:00 Dismissal; Student Pictures; Student Council Service Project Donation; Service Project; and PTO Update.

Thoughts for the week: Praying with our children: Nurturing prayer time with our children is one of the many privileges of being a parent. There are so many ways to pray and inspire our children to grow closer to God. Here is a great article about praying with children: <https://www.focusonthefamily.ca/content/fun-ways-to-pray-with-your-children>

Military Families: If someone in your household, or Grandparents, is an active or retired member of the military, National Guard, or reserves, please fill out the survey that Mrs. Leonard recently sent out. Here is another copy of the link: <https://forms.office.com/r/xcM5xAukKC> Thank you for your service!

Parish Basketball: Saint Joseph Parish Basketball Registration is now OPEN. The parish youth basketball program for grades 2-12. Application is due back to the parish office no later than Oct 8th. To register: <https://www.stjosephcolumbia.org/basketballregistration>

To pay: https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=Fi1giPL8kwX_Oe1AO50jRvFNC8HOknOojFBlaHrwzVHHO3iVYxvvhHjRfLOeq662EvVVAEjqawDomKT1pboucMfRxcI080XR47Z3WtaDBU=

Questions: adrienne@stjosephcolumbia.org

Scholastic Book Fair Oct 4-17: We can't wait to bring the joy of reading to St. Joseph's with the Virtual Scholastic Book Fair on October 4-17! You'll get to enjoy the magic of a Book Fair from the comfort of your home with our Virtual Fair experience. Kids can shop thousands of books online to discover new favorites and stock their shelves with this season's most popular reads! Plus, check out these special virtual shopping perks:

- Access to over 5,000 products
- Direct shipping to your home and FREE shipping on book-only orders over \$25*
- eWallet digital payment system that friends and family can contribute to
- 25% in rewards earned for our school with all purchases!

Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with virtual shopping: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/stjosephsch55>

School Behavior Tracking: Our school utilizes the FACTS Family Portal for many of our daily tasks, grading, communication, attendance, and behavior tracking. When a student breaks a classroom or school rule, teachers will log the infraction in FACTS to track behavior. Some

behaviors will warrant a parent contact, but some are just logged in to keep track. Parents might be notified after too many infractions. You can see infractions that are logged into the system but please note that we consider discipline as part of teaching the whole child during the school day. Corrections of behavior will occur, but this does not necessarily indicate a problem, it is part of growing up. When teachers or administrators determine a behavior concern is more serious, parents will be notified. Also, the behavior logging system will not follow the student to the next grade or another school, this is designed as an in-house tracking system.

2:00 Dismissal: We will have a 2:00 dismissal Monday, October 11th. Extended Care will be open until 6:00 pm.

Student Pictures: All students will have individual pictures taken on Friday, October 15th. This is a dress uniform day.

Student Council Service Project Donation: Thank you for your generosity with Friday's donations for the dress-down day. The Student Council will be donating \$2,107 to Catholic Charities to help with hurricane relief due to the recent disasters in the gulf and northeast.

Service Project: Our first schoolwide service project this year benefits the Catholic Charities Clean of Heart ministries. We will be collecting new men's socks and new or gently worn men's shoes now through the month of "Socktober". Please help us support this ministry to help bring comfort and clean clothing to the poor and homeless of our city. The collection will run until October 28th.

PTO Update: The PTO is excited to host pizza lunches for each grade level and their parents during October and November! PTO will be providing pizza and drinks for the students and their parents during the students' normal lunchtime. Parents will have the opportunity to eat lunch with their children and meet other families outside during recess. The schedule will be as follows: October 5: K4 11:00-12:00; October 7: K5; October 12: 1st grade; October 14: 2nd grade; October 19 3rd grade; October 21: 4th grade; October 26: 5th grade; November 2: 6th grade.

It is the little things we do that show how God is in us, with us, and working through us - "Blessed are we". Have a great week!

Sincerely,

Donavan F. Yarnall, Ed. S

Principal

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