

ROMANS 12:2

TRANSFORMED

SJLS 2017

Do not be conformed to this world,
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind



St. John's Lutheran School News November 9, 2017

We give thanks to all of our SJLS family who joined together for an outstanding “**A Bountiful Affair**” event last weekend. All aspects of this year's event once again marked this as a “uniquely better” event at St. John's. We thank the dedicated and talented team of Pattie Yee and Amanda Mojibi for their leadership and a host of hundreds who worked to make it so successful! We thank Mike Grigg and Elite Auctions for their guidance and leadership prior to and during the night. We were honored to have in attendance Pastor Joel Malaki and Mrs. Alice Nanyaro from our Makumira Kilala School in Tanzania. What a privilege it was to use our “Fund-A-Need” opportunity to raise funds for them to buy a bus that was desperately needed! Thank you, thank you, thank you! You just never know how God will use this event to bless so many children near and far to SJLS! It was another example of what a special place SJLS is! To God be the Glory!

Mrs. Brehmer, our art teacher for grades 1-8, recently announced that she will be embarking on a new journey—teaching art at Bakersfield College. Her last day teaching with us will be November 17. While we are excited for her and this opportunity for her to share her gifts, we are very sad to see her go. She will be greatly missed; her ability to bring art alive has touched many students. At the same time, we are pleased to announce that Mrs. Baraibar, one of our faithful substitutes (and mom to Andres and Alejandro, in 5th and 6th grade, respectively), will be filling that position for the remainder of the year. Please keep both Mrs. Brehmer and Mrs. Baraibar in your prayers as they make these transitions.

Our annual “**Boxes for the Brave**” service project will take place through November 16. This project sends care packages of requested items to service personnel stationed away from their families during the holidays. Each grade level has specific items to supply and box up for the shipment. Please see your class newsletter for the items that your class will need to provide for the project.

School Picture Make-ups are scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, for those who were absent on the days of individual and/or class pictures. If you are not satisfied with your student's picture, please notify the school office to have them retaken on that day as well.



Christmas Tree pre-sales are happening now through November 17. This is an important fundraiser for our 7th and 8th graders going on the 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C. If you plan on purchasing a Christmas tree for your home or business, please consider buying one from one of our students. The office has more details – Thank you!

St. John's Great Givers Day at Houchin Hey, St. John's parents! Come give blood at the Houchin "Bolthouse" location across from St. John's on Friday, November 17! Call Houchin at 616-2505 to your time. What better way to show thankfulness than to give life!



Sign up Now
Give Friday, Nov 17
9:00-6:00

Across the Street at
HOUCHIN
COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK
"People Love When People Give"

Upcoming Calendar Events

November 10	Veteran's Day – No School
November 14	School Picture Make-up Day
November 20-21	Teacher Conference – No School
November 22-24	Thanksgiving Break – No School

The next SJLS STEM Class for grades 3-8, taught by Graphics Being, will be on **Coding and Programming** and will run November 15 through December 15, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. Watch for information with class newsletters .

Congratulations to all of our students who participated in the School **Oral Language Festival**. It was a wonderful day where students were allowed to display their talent, hard work, and creativity. We have an abundance of gifted, as well as skilled, kids at this school. It is always a joy to watch them perform! Thank you to all of the parents, teachers, siblings, and others who invested time in watching and coaching these students.

No event can be successful without wonderful people supporting it. A huge thank you to our amazing team of volunteers: Kelly Fortnum, Lisa Holle, Ann Prieto, Cynthia Spiva, Kelly Pudiwitr, Trisha Theodore, and Mary Anne Mueller. Thank you, **Mrs. Johnsen** for your amazing leadership!

Kudos to those students who placed in the competition. We look forward to you doing even more wonderful things!

Grades 4-6

Serious Solo:	1st: Harjaisal Brar	2nd: Marissa Nugent
Humorous Solo:	1st: Danny Puga	2nd: Lauren Trinh
Serious Duo:	1st: Aubrie Douglas/Grace Simpson	2nd: Jad Shawwa/Kyle Oluoch
Humorous Duo:	1st: Lucie Khuu/Ashley Dreyer	2nd: Joelle Jouda/Samya Sharma
Verse Choir:	1st: Sam Bozarth, Charley Gless, Eugene Mokri, Christyano Tamer, Andrew Yacoub, Max Wisnoff	
	2nd: Bryce Bickford, Nate Kitchen, Adrian Nieto, Luke Salvo	

Grades 7-8

Serious Solo:	1st: Ashley Ha	2nd: Michael Cassidy	3rd: Vee Aggarwal
Humorous Solo:	1st: Brianna Bowyer	2nd: Colin Walker	3rd: Devon Shah
Serious Duo:	1st: Emily Bishop/Erica Nassar	2nd: Addison Tobin/Ella Shaw	
Humorous Duo:	1st: Sophie Khuu/Cayelyn Smith	2nd: David Meshreky/Andrew Mueller	
	3rd: Anahat Birdi/Sydney Wegis		
Verse Choir:	1st: Tori Anderson, Maggie Gless, Alex Puga, Jon Wisnoff, Sam Wisnoff, Jacob Young		

A Bountiful Affair 2017 was both vivacious and wildly successful thanks to our wonderful school and church families, our teachers and staff, and overwhelming community support at large. The Fiesta vibe was alive and well with the help of our amazing volunteers and donors who supplied their talents, time, and resources. The decorations were festive, the auction items exciting and the live music donated by St. John's father, Leo Ruiz and his band, La Revancha, made for an especially upbeat, fun ambiance. Our sincere gratitude also goes out to our amazing event and table sponsors, as well as to our faithful families who both donate and attend this premier event year after year. Our goal is that ABA would continue to be a fun evening of fellowship while also serving to grow St. John's as an outstanding school in all ways. We are excited to announce that this very special evening of meaning brought in almost \$250,000!

If that wasn't exciting enough, yet another very special segment of the evening coincided with our top-secret, outside-of-the-box Fund-A-Need. This year we opted to take a different direction and raise funds for a cause beyond our school, beyond our campus. With visitors in attendance from our sister school in Tanzania (Makumira-Kilala English Medium School), God provided the perfect opportunity for us to acknowledge just how blessed we have been and how we are called to reach beyond ourselves - in this case, across borders and an expansive body of saltwater! We have been faithfully supplied an abundance of blessings here on our campus and, according to this year's school theme, we are called to be Transformed in Christ. Our campus has had the distinct privilege of both *becoming transformed* through giving, as well as simultaneously *transforming* an entire community in Tanzania by supplying an English-speaking school to those who cannot otherwise afford such an educational opportunity that has the potential to advance their family, their community and their country. As you may know, St. John's funded the building of a private Christian, English-speaking school, and our school and church families sponsor the tuition of more than 200 students who attend that school. In directing our Fund-A-Need upward and outward, our attendees at ABA opened their hearts wide and

responded to a very specific call for action. Collectively, of the \$250,000 raised at ABA, \$77,000 was raised to meet a dire need our brothers and sisters in Tanzania have confronted since opening in 2014 – the issue of transportation. Many students and staff walk long distances on perilous dirt roads laden with traffic, or pile unsafely into taxi cars or onto motor bikes in an alarmingly dangerous manner. With the money raised, Makumira-Kilala can buy not one, but TWO BUSES to address this need. The surplus raised serves a critical role in ensuring the ongoing viability of such a gift in that they will also have funds set aside to pay for drivers, maintenance, and other related costs. If you were unable to join us last Saturday, you can only imagine the reaction of our visitors from Tanzania. It was an electric evening - most abundant in blessings. We thank all of you for being a part of it.

We'd like to extend special acknowledgement and gratitude, once again, to our generous event sponsors:

Magnanimous

Robert Grimm Family Foundation

Bountiful

Barber Honda

Abundant

Radian Group

Rodriguez & Associates/Joel Andreesen & Connie Perez Andreesen

The Srivastava Family

Plentiful

Central Park Antique Mall

Infiniti of Bakersfield

Mission Bank

Jasleen Duggal, MD, FACP/Kern Endocrine Center

Sarbjee Singh, MD, FACC/Central Cardiology Medical Clinic

Valley Republic Bank/Bruce & Linda Jay

Grimmway Enterprises



Prayer Box – We are pleased to announce that we have begun a prayer ministry for our school and families. There is a prayer box located on the counter in the school office that you can submit personal requests. A team will take that request and pray throughout the week. All requests are kept confidential. “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4: 6-7.



Tanzania student sponsors. We praise God that we have found sponsors for all of the new children. We will need sponsors again next year. Please consider sponsoring a child when the opportunity arises. Please contact Patrice at pappold@sjlschool.org for more information.

Library – Battle of the Books (BOB) information is being passed out during library times in November. Forms and information are also available on Sycamore links and the school website.

November birthday book forms and Box Tops are due November 10 for the November 17 assembly.

Book donations... Due to our amazing birthday book program, we are not in need of any book donations at this time. If you have any new or gently used hardcover books that you want to donate, please email Mrs. Pudiwitr about the titles before bringing them to the office. Thank you!

Sports – On Saturday, November 4th, the Junior High Black team represented St. John’s in the Kern County Volleyball Tournament. The girls did a great job. The team finished second in pool play which put them in Bracket Play. Then our girls made it to the finals. They came a bit short in the championship game against Rosedale Middle School, and we took 2nd place. Great job, Saints! The volleyball/football seasons are wrapping up and we are getting ready for basketball. Please look for that information on Monday to come home and return. Go Saints!



We have **scrip** right here at the school office (and also available on Sunday mornings in between services in the lobby). Purchasing scrip gift cards at face value for your regular shopping, travel (including gas), and gift-giving needs supports our school as a percentage of each purchase goes directly to the school. Order forms are available in the school office or on the website at www.sjlschool.org. Thank you for supporting our school while you shop!