



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL

- *Christian Virtues*
- *21st Century Learning*
- *Service*

25 January 2018

Our essential purpose is to become the best version of ourselves.

-Matthew Kelly, popular Catholic speaker and author

News & Announcement

There will be NO SCHOOL tomorrow (Friday, January 26).

We will celebrate **Catholic Schools Week** from January 28 through February 3. Please see the Special Events section of the school website (www.sjb-school.org) for details. We kick off with all-school Mass at St. John's Church this Sunday (January 28). Please have your children wear blue school spirit tops and assemble at the school at 9:45 AM. Please join us after Mass for the book fair and pancake/French toast breakfast sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. If you have not done so already, please complete and return the roller skating permission form and payment, and the family picnic sign-up form and payment. A new activity this year is a "Grandfriends" event on Monday, January 29 from 2:30-3:30 PM. The intent is to welcome some of the older adults in our community to the school to engage with our students. This year we'll play bingo together. Please contact the school office (651-437-2644) if your child's grandparent or other older adult would like to participate, or just ask them to stop by the school on Monday at 2:30 PM.

The **Catholic Schools Raffle** sponsored by Catholic United Financial is off and running. This is one of the most important fundraisers for our school and one of the easiest to sell (due to the great prizes). 100% of the proceeds go to our school. In addition to selling to family and friends, we are asking families to sell raffle tickets at local churches and events. A SignUpGenius link was emailed to each family and is posted on the school website (www.sjb-school.org). Also, back by popular demand is "Lunch with Mr. Strommen". For every 10 raffle tickets a student sells, they will get an entry in a drawing for a weekly lunch with Mr. Strommen. Four students will be drawn each Monday (except on snow days!). They will be able to choose from the Stein Haus menu for lunch on Wednesday or Thursday. All entries will stay in the drawing throughout the raffle period (January 12 - February 25), so sell early and sell often! Additional raffle tickets are available from Deb in the office.

The students will participate in **ice skating and boot hockey** during PE classes starting on January 25. If you haven't done so, please return the permission slip that was sent home on January 11.

Our school **science fair** is just around the corner (March 9th). Grade 2-6 students are required to complete a science project as part of their science curriculum. Grades 3-6 students may advance to two regional science fairs. Participation is optional but encouraged for Grades PreK-1 students. Information was sent last week to help get you up and running. This information is also posted in the Special Events section of the school website.

Thank-you for everyone who submitted your **admission applications** for next year. Confirmations are being sent today. The next set of confirmations will be sent on March 23. If you haven't done so already, I encourage you to submit a **financial assistance assessment** through TADS

(www.mytads.com) by February 15. This information is used to distribute need-based financial assistance. This assessment must be completed in order to receive assistance. Details of our admission and financial assistance processes (including dates) is posted in the Admissions section of the school website.

Our **enrollment** season is in full swing. Please encourage your friends/family and their children to visit the school. Ask them to contact the office (651-437-2644, office@sjb-school.org) to schedule the best time. We are also sponsoring several open house events. These are listed on the attached flyer and are posted in the Special Events section of the school website.

Thank-you to everyone who provided input to our **parent survey**. A summary of the results is attached. Your candid and thorough input will be used to guide the direction of the school. Of particular note is the interest in after-school activities. Please contact the school if you or someone you know would be willing to help lead an activity. Please contact me if you'd like to discuss these results.

The **season of Lent** is not far away. Please bring in your palms from last year, so we can burn them on Ash Wednesday (February 14).

Since **Valentine's Day** falls on Ash Wednesday this year, we've scheduled the classroom Valentine's Day parties on February 12 (PreK) and February 13 (PreK-6).

The second quarter ended this week. **Report cards** will be send home next Thursday.

Upcoming Events

- January 26, NO SCHOOL.
- January 28 – February 3. Catholic Schools Week. Various events during the week. See the schedule in the Special Events section of the school website (www.sjb-school.org).
- Sunday, January 28. All School Mass at St. John's Church, 10:00 AM. Open house, book fair, and KC's pancake & French toast breakfast at the school, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM.
- Thursday, February 1. Report cards sent home.
- Friday, February 2. School open house 9:00 AM, Mass 11:00 AM, family picnic 12:00 PM.
- Tuesday, February 6. PreK open house, 6:30-8:30 PM.
- Wednesday, February 7. Kindergarten open house, 6:30-8:30 PM.
- Saturday, February 10, Feed My Starving Children "Vermillion MobilePack" at the school. Sign up at give.fmssc.org/vermillion. If the time slot that you would like is not available, contact the school office (651-437-2644, office@sjb-school.org) and we'll contact you if the slot opens up.
- February 19, NO SCHOOL, President's Day.
- February 23, Science Museum of Minnesota field trip.
- February 28, March 1, Parent/teacher conferences.
- March 9, Science Fair at the school, 12:30-3:30 PM.

Please see the calendar posted on the school website (www.sjb-school.org) for information on events.

Blessings,



Mike Strommen, Lead Learner (Principal)
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