



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

26 April 2018

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

-Matthew Kelly, popular Catholic speaker and author

News & Announcement

Congratulations to Jack Sieben, Hope Reinardy, and Jackson Hanson who competed in the **regional religion bee** sponsored by St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School. Students, you represented yourselves and your school very well.

Congratulations to Annika Ries, Mary Strommen, Clara Wilson, Jack Sieben, and Isaac Nauer for qualifying and participating in the first annual archdiocese **Big Bang Science & Engineering Fair** sponsored by the Catholic Schools Center of Excellence (CSCOE). A special congratulations goes out to Clara who won the 3-5th Grade competition (Yes, she had the top project among over sixty Grade 3-5 projects in our archdiocese!).

Good luck to our students who will compete in the **Southern Minnesota Regional Science & Engineering Fair** in Mankato on Saturday.

We are nearing the end of another year of memories at St. John's! We have captured many of them in our new upcoming **yearbook**. It will be 28 pages and completely full-color for the first time! Orders are now being taken. Please complete and return the order form (included in last week's blue folder) and payment **by tomorrow** (April 27) to reserve your copy.

Students will complete spring **NWEA MAP Growth standardized tests** between now and May 6. As you know, these tests are one of several methods that we use to gauge growth and personalize learning in math, reading, and language arts. Please contact your child's teacher if you would like to discuss the tests.

Do you want to connect with parents in a welcoming and supportive environment? Do you want to learn the best in child development and how to teach the Catholic Faith? Do you want to deepen your relationship with your child? Then join us for **ECFL (Early Catholic Family Life)**. Our first four spring sessions are for families and their children 0-5 years old. Siblings are welcome at this time, and expectant parents are also welcome! At ECFL we believe that a child's first and most important teachers are his or her parents. During our sessions there will be parent-child interaction time, parent discussion time, and children's enrichment time. We are excited to bring ECFL to our faith community.

- Cost: \$25 per family (for all four sessions)
- Dates: May 2, 9, 16, and 23 (Wednesdays)
- Time: 5:30 – 7:00 PM
- Location: St John the Baptist School
- Leaders: Shannon Allen, Teresa Huneke, Brandy Wentzler
- Sign up using the SignUpGenius link posted in the Special Events section of the school website: <https://sjb-school.org/special-event/>.

- Contact Brandy Wentzler for additional information: bwentzler@sjb-school.org, 507-429-6434.

We are planning to hold a K-6th grade field trip to **Leonard's Basement** in Minneapolis on May 3 (leonardosbasement.org). Leonardo's Basement is a learning center where children use their imagination to build things. Their vision is "Helping people build their imaginations so that they can reinvent the world." This is part of our efforts to foster creativity, collaboration, and grit through our maker programs. Please **complete and return the permission form** that was sent home previously **by tomorrow** (April 27). Also, please indicate whether you can chaperone this event.

The staff of Leonardo's Basement will follow this up with two events at St. John's School:

- May 8, "making" activities in the classrooms
- May 11, "Family Maker Night with Leonardo's Basement", 6:00-8:00 PM. Families come to participate in "making" projects. Please plan to join us.

The **All Saints Music Festival**, hosted at the Little Log House Pioneer Village (six miles south of Hastings), will be held on Friday, May 18. This is a collaborative party thrown by our five local Catholic parishes to promote our various ministries and to celebrate our rural heritage. Get more information and purchase tickets on the All Saints Music Festival website (www.allsaintsmusicfestival.com). There are also many opportunities to volunteer at the event, including band/stage setup, event setup, serving beverages, admissions, and event cleanup. Since much of the money raised at the festival is directed to the school (and because it's a lot of fun), we'd like to encourage our school families to volunteer. A link to a SignUpGenius is posted in the Special Events section of the school website. These volunteer hours can be included in your annual volunteer commitment to the school. Many volunteers are still needed, so please sign up.

Upcoming Events

- April 25 – May 6, NWEA MAP Growth tests.
- April 27, yearbook orders and payments due.
- April 27, Leonardo's Basement K-6 field trip permission forms and payment due.
- May 2, 9, 16, 23, Early Catholic Family Life (ECFL) at the school, 5:30-7:00 PM.
- May 3, K-6 field trip to Leonardo's Basement.
- May 7, 16, 21, 30. Rosary at St. John's Church (except May 30 at school), 3:00-3:25 PM.
- May 11, Step-up Day. Students visit next year's classroom.
- May 11, "Family Maker Night with Leonardo's Basement" at the school, 6:00-8:00 PM.
- May 14, Spring Musical, 2:30 PM and 7:00 PM.
- May 18, All Saints Music Festival at the Little Log House Pioneer Village. Gates open at 6:00 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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