

What an amazing week we had this week! From a beautiful mass....to "beach day"....to "Switcheroo"....to appreciating our volunteers...to showing our school spirit and of course our superb talent show under the direction of Mrs. Nancy Matter. Catholic Schools Week was a lot of fun and a great way to celebrate our blessings at St. Joan of Arc School. As February rolls in, we realize that we are halfway through the school year, which means that students, teachers, staff and administration are heavily saturated with the curriculum. It is important that parents be reminded of simple homework suggestions that will keep you involved and connected with the curriculum that is being taught at all grade levels.

- Check your child/children's planners daily/weekly.
- Ask your child to show you completed assignments before turning them into their teacher.
- Communicate with classroom teachers via email/or writing a note.
- Check RVS gradebook for students progress weekly.



**Calendar of Events:**

- Mon. Feb. 8 – Sarris Candy sale begins!
- Tues. Feb. 10 – 7:00 p.m. Second Grade Parent Meeting
- Thur. Feb. 11 – LOVE Carnival
- Fri. Feb. 12 – Red/White Day for Valentine's Day
- Mon. Feb. 15 – No School, President's Day
- Wed. Feb. 17 – 9:00a.m. Parish Mass (Ash Wednesday)
- Fri. Feb. 19 – 10:30 Stations of the Cross
- Fri. Feb. 19 - \$1.00 Dress Down for Sister's Place
- Sun. April 11- Fashion Show (Save the date!)
- Fri. April 23 - SJA Jamboree (Raindate, April 27)

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**Registration!** We started our Catholic Schools Week with a kindergarten and preschool preview. It was wonderful to meet new people and to share our school with them. Please get all registration packets back to the school office for the 2010-2011 school year as soon as possible. For the convenience of our current families and new registrants, order forms for gym t-shirts are available in the school office. These orders will be available for pick-up at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year. Please return orders with money by Friday, March 12, 2010. Reminder: gyms t-shirts are gray only. Thank you!

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**Summer Clothing Drive for Haiti** – Our dress down day plus extra monetary donations were overwhelming in January when we collected for the Haitians. Our total monetary donation to Catholic Relief Mission was \$314.58. We are not finished yet! During the first few weeks of lent we are underway with a summer clothing drive to benefit the many people in Haiti. We are collecting summer clothing for any age, infant through adults. A box will be in the main hall of the school entrance. Clothing should be gently used and cleaned. Our donations will be picked up on Tuesday, Feb. 23 to be flow to Haiti on the 25<sup>th</sup>. What a great way to clean out those drawers and see what the children have outgrown while helping others. Isn't this what we are all about? Thank you for giving.

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**Thank You** – Our spaghetti dinner for our school was a success! Thank you to the many parents, students, H.O.P.S. club members and our parishoners for supporting our dinner. Special thank you to Mona Musser for coordinating the kitchen and her helpers as well as cooking the delicious spaghetti and meatballs. **THANK YOU!**

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**LOVE Carnival** – Our SJA annual LOVE Carnival will be held on Thursday, February 11, 2010. We are in need of any small prize items, stuffed animals, and small individually wrapped candy. Any donations can be sent to the school office and we will get all donations to the H.O.P.S. group and Miss Tarasovic.

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**SPIRIT AND PRIDE ORDER FORMS** – There will be Spirit and Pride order forms coming to the office next week for anyone who would like to order more shirts. This company is having a spring discount. Please return the forms to the office c/o Pat Jess. Deadline for additional orders is February 15. Orders should come in before Easter.

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**Attention all Shutterbugs!** – Please make sure to take pictures at you child's school events and send those pictures along with description of the event (i.e. basketball, bowling, etc) to [pjess@comcast.net](mailto:pjess@comcast.net) so that we can get them in the local papers.



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**Bowling** - SJA Bowling will start on February 13, 2010 and run for 8 consecutive weeks. Village Lanes in Whitehall will continue to host us on Saturday mornings at 9:30. Bowling will now be on a “pay as you go” basis with the cost being \$3.00 per week per bowler and includes 2 games and shoe rental. (Please try to bring the fee each time your child bowls. Pay only for the times that your bowler can make it. It is not too late to sign up. Contact Bart Carletto ([bartcarletto@netzero.com](mailto:bartcarletto@netzero.com)) if interested.



**BOXTOPS** – As a quick reminder we are submitting all of our boxtops at the end of this month. Please get your BOXTOPS in during the next few weeks. There is an area for collection at the entrance of the school. We always receive nice gifts for our school with this easy way of saving BOXTOPS.

**Forensics Update** – The SJA Forensics team finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place at the January 23<sup>rd</sup> tournament held at Peters Twp. Middle School. We were awarded 13 First place awards, 12 Second place awards and 3 third place awards. The final tournament of the year will be held on February 20 at Bishop Canevin High School. Good luck to our team! We are proud of you.

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**Sarris Easter Candy Sale** – Easter will soon be upon us, so why not help out the Easter Bunny by buying Sarris candy during our annual Easter candy drive. The sale will start on Monday, February 8. All orders forms will need to be turned in by February 25 to ensure our delivery date of Thursday, March 18. We have some new surprises in store for the students and we are hoping that this sale will be our best yet! All details will come on Monday, Feb. 8 with the order forms. Any questions, please contact Jolienne Battistone at 724-348-7121.



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**Spring Soccer** – Spring soccer will start in March, but registration with the diocese takes place in February. We would like to register both JV and Varsity teams, but to do so, we need to be sure that there will be enough players on the field and in reserve for each team prior to the registration date. Students in grades 4 through 8 are eligible to play. Fourth through sixth grade will be on the JV team while 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> will be on the varsity team. Both squads practice once a week and most games are on Saturdays. No experience is necessary. Please contact Tom Despres (c/o Gabriel, Grade 8) or Kevin Lewis (c/o Kiersten Lewis, Grade 6) for more information and to register your child.

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**Market Day** – Please support our school with making a purchase from Market Day. Order forms are available in the office. Pick-up is Saturday, February 23. This month they are promoting a variety of cookie dough along with a great selection of seafood for Lent. Thank you to Mrs. Donovan and her crew for her faithfulness in coordinating Market Day monthly.

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Look for our next school newsletter on February 19, 2010.

*St. Joan of Arc.....pray for us!*

