May 3, 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Pause and Ponder

One Body in Christ

Care for God’s Creation

Christus resurrexit! (Christ is risen!) Resurrexit vere! (He is risen, indeed!) We begin the Easter season focused on the final theme of Catholic Social Teaching – Care for God’s Creation. What an appropriate theme to celebrate during the Easter season as we recall that all life – all creation – is a gift from God.

At Easter we are keenly aware that in Jesus Christ our eternal life has been restored as a result of His passion, death, and resurrection. We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God’s creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

Care for Our Common Home (Laudato Si’) is the new appeal from Pope Francis addressed to "every person living on this planet" for an inclusive dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. Pope Francis calls the Church and the world to acknowledge the urgency of our environmental challenges and to join him in embarking on a new path.

In Saint John the Beloved, Our Patron,

Mr. Richard D. Hart
Principal
Middle States Accreditation Update

In March of 2023, St. John the Beloved School welcomed to campus a team of educational professionals that serves the Middle States Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools. The purpose of the visit was to provide a peer evaluation of SJB's self-study that was completed in 2022 for the purpose of school accreditation. A thorough review of our objectives and action plan was completed during the team visit. At the conclusion of the three day visit, the chair of the visiting team supplied an oral report to the school staff to relay the findings. We are pleased to report that the visiting team has recommended that St. John the Beloved School be accredited by Middle States once again. This means that St. John the Beloved will be accredited by Middle States for the next seven years. A draft of the visiting team's review has been submitted to Middle States for a final review and consideration. Once the report is finalized, we will share it with the entire school community. We are deeply grateful to all members of our community, especially the students, teachers, and parents that made this possible.

Forms for 2023-2024 School Year

The following forms are required for the 2023-2024 School year. Please take a moment to read the tuition letter and complete and return the required forms no later than Monday, May 8th.

2023-24 TUITION LETTER FROM MR. HART

2023-24 TUITION/BAND AGREEMENT

2023-24 TEC AFTERCARE AGREEMENT

These forms must be returned no later than Monday, May 8, 2023.

Field Days 2023

- May 17 - ECP and Kindergarten
- May 19 - Grades 1 & 2
- May 22 - Grades 3, 4 and 5
- May 24 - Grades 6, 7 and 8
Faculty & Staff Appreciation Dinner

The SJB Home & School Association is once again coordinating the Faculty and Staff Appreciation Dinner, to be held on Friday, May 19, 2023.

To cover the cost of this dinner, we are asking for a monetary donation from each family. As in the past, the suggested amount is $5 per child or $20 per family; however, we are grateful for any amount your budget allows.

We realize that many families purchase their own end-of-year gifts or contribute to a class gift for their teachers and aides. Because of this, the contribution for this dinner is completely voluntary. We would like to note that in addition to teachers, this dinner also includes all specials teachers and administrative and support staff. This dinner is a way to recognize all of the wonderful people who work at SJB, and to thank them for their contributions to our children and school community.

All donations will go directly to the cost of the dinner. A card listing all of the families who contribute will be included as part of the night.

https://bngn.blackbaud.school/?id=qz15yywln0b

The H&SA thanks you in advance for contributing to this special event!

Congratulations

Congratulations to our 7th and 8th grade math league teams! During the course of the 2022-2023 school year, our teams competed in a series of four regular season competitions that asked students to solve difficult math problems. Christopher McKenna, Sophia Nowell, Chloe Sullivan, and Owen Vito represented the 7th grade team, while Alex Guarino, Mia Hussnatter, Eric Oliver, Kenney Prange, Tyler Protas, and Jacob Spence represented the 8th grade team.

On Tuesday, March 28th, four students competed in the Delaware Mathematics League State Invitational Meet in Dover as at large participants after qualifying from the regular season competitions: Sophia Nowell, Chloe Sullivan, Alex Guarino, and Kennedy Prange. These students were then honored at an awards banquet. In addition, Alex Guarino finished 2nd in the state for the 8th grade! We are very proud of our students and their efforts this year.

Many thanks to Mrs. Dunphy and Ms. O'Mara for moderating math league and supporting our students this year.
8th Grade Graduation

Graduation for the Class of 2023 will take place on Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

8th Grade Sports Banquet

The St. John's Athletic Association will be hosting the 2023 8th grade sports banquet on Tuesday, May 9, 2023. The banquet will be hosted in the SJB gym/hall beginning at 6:30 PM, doors open at 6:15 PM. The program, which will last about 2.5 hours, will include dinner, guest speakers, awards, and a year-in-review video. Each student athlete who participated in an SJB sport during their 8th grade year will be presented with a varsity letter and pin for each sport they played this year.

Please note that student athletes are expected to follow the dress code as noted below. No jeans, sneakers, or open collar shirts will be permitted.

Ladies: Dresses, skirt and blouse, or dress pants

Gentlemen: Shirt and tie and dress pants/khakis

If you have any questions about the banquet, please contact Todd Oliver at psu9296@yahoo.com or 302-276-5539.

SJB Carnival Kick-Off 5K

We are excited to announce that the 10th Annual Carnival Kick-Off 5K run/walk is back this year on Saturday, June 3rd! Come out and support the St. John the Beloved Parish and youth sports by participating, all family and friends are welcome. The race starts in the back parking lot of the school and ends with post-race refreshments and award ceremony under the Carnival tent. Please join us for a great time!

Register here by clicking the link:

https://raceroster.com/events/2023/71529/10th-annual-carnival-kick-off-5k-runwalk
**Calling All Carnival Volunteers**

The SJB Carnival is right around the corner! We’re all looking forward to lots of fun and memories, but as we all know this event cannot happen without a great deal of support from our amazing SJB Community. Please use the link below to sign up for open volunteer opportunities. We appreciate the continued support and look forward to seeing you at the Carnival!

Link for volunteer opportunities: [http://tinyurl.com/SJBCarnival2023](http://tinyurl.com/SJBCarnival2023)

Please send any questions to sjbcarnival@gmail.com.

**Second Grade Solar System Projects**