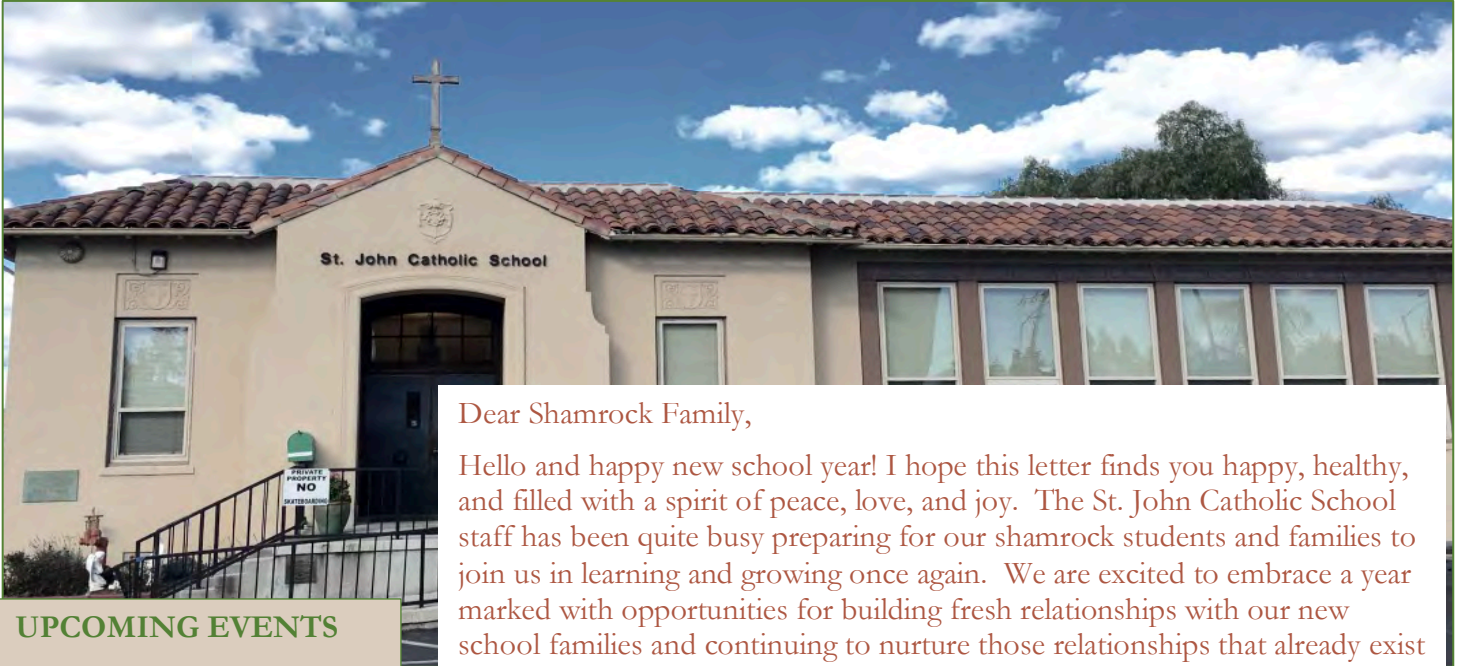


AUGUST 07, 2019



St. John Catholic School

Educational Ministry of St. John The Baptist Parish



Dear Shamrock Family,

Hello and happy new school year! I hope this letter finds you happy, healthy, and filled with a spirit of peace, love, and joy. The St. John Catholic School staff has been quite busy preparing for our shamrock students and families to join us in learning and growing once again. We are excited to embrace a year marked with opportunities for building fresh relationships with our new school families and continuing to nurture those relationships that already exist with our returning families. On behalf of our new and returning staff members, we excitedly anticipate meeting and collaborating with our school families during the upcoming school year.

For those of you who do not yet know me, I am Paige Child, Principal of St. John Catholic School. I have had the privilege of serving at our fantastic school, in various capacities, for the past twelve years. I began my career at St. John, teaching kindergarten for six years, third grade for three, served as vice principal, and have led St. John as principal for the past three years. I am eager to venture into my fourth year as the leader of our outstanding school community!

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve our students and provide support to our faculty and school families alike. The values associated with Catholic education are at the core of who I am, and the St. John school community is one that truly has my heart. Thank you for choosing to sacrifice to send your child(ren) to our warm and welcoming school. I am committed to leading St. John Catholic School, so to ensure that our students are provided with a learning environment that inspires imagination, encourages creative thinking, promotes perseverance and the pursuit of life-long learning, and fosters faith-filled school experiences that strengthen their relationship with God. I look very forward to partnering with our school families this upcoming school year. Thank you for entrusting your child(ren) to the St. John Catholic School staff.

Much love and many blessings,

Ms. Paige Child

Principal

pchild@csdo.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Parent/Volunteer
Fingerprinting at School:
Thursday, August 22nd
from 5-7:30pm in the
school**

ALL parents and volunteers
MUST receive fingerprint
clearance before being
cleared to enter the school
and/or volunteer around
school children

**Parent Cyber Safety
Presentation in the Gym:
Thursday, August 22nd @
7:30pm**

One parent from each NEW
school family is required to
attend

**Labor Day: NO School on
Monday, September 2nd**

**Back-to-School Night:
Thursday, September 5th,
at 6 p.m. in the church**

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FAMILY SOCIAL

Join us on August 19th for a parent social at 8:30am in the gym. Renew friendships, make new ones, and sign up for the many volunteer opportunities that will be available this school year. We hope to have a well-engaged community of partners working together to improve student learning and maintain a positive social environment among our community.

FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

The 2019-2020 school year begins on Monday, August 19th @ 7:55am. SEP (School Extended Care Program) will be available before school, beginning at 7:00am in the **gym**. Students who arrive before 7:40am must sign in to SEP, so to be properly supervised. Regular school supervision will begin at 7:40am in the **gym**. Monday, August 19th is a NOON dismissal day. SEP will be available until 6:00pm.

Tuesday, August 20th and Wednesday, August 21st are also NOON dismissal days with SEP available until 6:00pm.

Thursday, August 22nd and Friday, August 23rd are regular 2:50pm dismissal days with SEP available until 6:00pm.

Please visit our school website to access the school calendar:
<http://www.stjohncatholicsschool.org/calendar.html>

NEW PARENT INFORMATION HOUR & WELCOME BACK BBQ

On Saturday, August 17th, we will welcome new families to join us for a New Parent Information Hour to obtain information about our what to expect the first few weeks of school. Questions new parents may have regarding our school will happily be answered. We will meet at 10:30am in the Community Meeting Room, to the left of the gym stairs. Also on Saturday, August 17th, we will host our 5th annual Welcome Back BBQ @ 11:30am in the school play yard area. We welcome new and returning families to enjoy time for family, friends, and food. To RSVP and sign up to share a dish, please visit the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094faba629a1fd0-sjcs>

Morning Drop Off/School Assembly Procedures

All students, TK-8th grade (including those signing in early to SEP), will gather in the **GYM** before school. Beginning at 7:00am, SEP students may be dropped off at the left side entrance of the gym (entrance farthest from the school). Starting at 7:40am all students are welcome to enter the gym for student supervision included in regular tuition. The gym is where morning prayer, flag salute, and announcements will be held. Parents are welcomed to join us for morning assembly!

Afternoon Dismissal Procedures

All students, TK-8th grade (including those staying after school in SEP), will gather in the **GYM** for dismissal. Once the first, official school dismissal has concluded, remaining students will then be “signed” into SEP. Any student not picked up 15 minutes after dismissal will be signed into SEP for proper after school supervision.

School Drop Off/Pick Up Car Route Map

Please see the included map that outlines proper driving routes for before school drop off and after school pick up procedures.

A few things to remember:

- Please drive slowly through the parking lot
- Parents, please ONLY park in the gym parking lot (lot away from the school)
- Parents are NOT to park in the church parking lot- the lot closest to the school
- Please look carefully for students crossing through parking lot
- Please do not park in first few parking spots closest to the gym
- Please pull all the way up toward gym to unload student(s) before school
- Please pay attention to and follow directions from any parking lot safety support member who is helping students arrive or depart from school
- **TK parents-** you are asked to please PARK and get out of your vehicle to pick up your **TK student** at the end of the day. There is a space for parents to wait on foot for their child at pick-up. The pick up area is in the first four parking spaces closest to the gym.
- All other parents of K-8th grade students may choose to park and wait on foot for their child **or** may proceed through the pick up car line

BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER

God of wisdom and might,
we praise you for the wonder
of our being,
for mind, body and spirit.
Be with our children as they
begin
a new school year.
Bless them and their teachers
and staff.
Give the strength and grace
as their bodies grow;
wisdom and knowledge to
their minds
as they search for
understanding;
and peace and zeal to their
hearts.
We ask this through Jesus
Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FACILITY REPAIR AND RENOVATION:

This summer has been a busy one in the gym, as many renovations have taken place. The roof was repaired and all new insulation installed. Additionally, the gym has been completely stripped and re-painted from top to bottom. In the upcoming months, we anticipate new gym bleachers, a re-coated gym floor, and a refresh of the school-side gym bathrooms. We thank CYO for their generous dedication and commitment to this gym renovation. We thank the Valley Foundation for donating the new gym scoreboards and bleachers. Our parish gym renovation should be complete in the upcoming months.

2019 – 2020 SJCS STAFF

We are very happy to welcome new and familiar faculty members for the 2019-2020 school year!

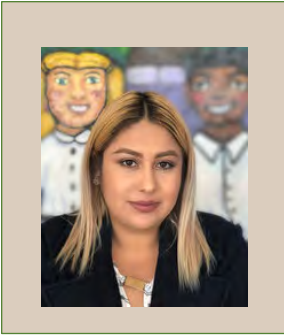
TK Teacher- Mrs. Emily Martinez
TK Instructional Assistant- Ms. Everlina Dancy
Kindergarten Teacher- Ms. Shelby O'Neill
1st Grade Teacher- Ms. Adriana DeVost
Kindergarten & 1st Grade Instructional Assistant- Mrs. Caitlin Gardner
2nd Grade Teacher- Mrs. Azenith Ramirez
2nd Grade Instructional Assistant & SEP Teacher- Ms. Devony Cota
3rd Grade Teacher- Ms. Stephanie Pires
4th Grade Teacher- Mrs. Ashley Able
5th Grade Teacher- Mr. Zachary Sherman
3rd -5th Grade Instructional Assistant & SEP Teacher- Mr. Derek Hull-
Jenkins
6th Grade Homeroom & JR High Math & Science Teacher- Mr. Jim Hay
7th Grade Homeroom & JR High Literature & Social Studies Teacher- Ms.
Dominique Thomasson
8th Grade Homeroom & JR High ELA/Writing & Literature Teacher- Ms.
Melissa Pasion
TK-8th Grade Art & Junior High Religion Teacher- Mrs. Emily Babcock
TK-8th Grade PE Teacher- Mr. Joe Thomas
TK-8th Grade Music Teacher- Mr. Gregory Rathje
Junior High Spanish Teacher- Mrs. Viviana Green
Learning Support Coordinator and Teacher Coach- Mrs. Kristen Elliott
Counselor- Ms. Amy Bucker
Mission Advancement & Director of Technology- Mr. Daniel Enos
Office Manager & Bookkeeper- Ms. Aimee Sire
Secretary & Lead SEP Teacher- Ms. Marlene Gutierrez
Custodian- Mr. Martin Lara
Parochial Vicar- Father Joseph Le
Pastor- Father Sergio Lopez
Principal- Ms. Paige Child

Introducing Newly Hired Staff

Ms. Marlene Gutierrez

Bilingual School Secretary/Administrative Assistant & Lead SEP Teacher

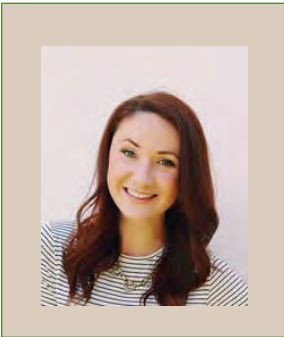
Ms. Marlene Gutierrez started her college education at Berkeley Community College and then transferred to San Francisco State University where she is currently working on an Accelerated Bachelors and Master Degree in Human Development, with a minor in Education. Marlene has worked in the education field for over 5 years- serving in different roles, from that of an After School Lead Teacher to an Educational Program Manager. Her most recent role was an Administrative and Extended Care Coordinator for Galileo Summer Camps. In her personal time, Marlene enjoys being the coordinator of a youth group in her local parish and reading her favorite books in the Harry Potter series. Marlene has a passion for education and is passionate about trying to make a difference in the world. She is extremely excited to be joining the St. John Catholic School staff, as she knows that she will be part of delivering the school's mission.



Mrs. Caitlin Gardner

Kindergarten & 1st grade Instructional Assistant

Mrs. Caitlin Gardner is an Oakland Diocese alumna with shamrock roots planted here at our very own St. John Catholic School. After attending St. John and St. Joseph Notre Dame High School, she graduated from California State University East Bay with her bachelor's degree in Theater Arts. Mrs. Gardner spent four years directing and choreographing children's theater productions for an East Bay nonprofit organization— Tomorrow Youth Repertory. This last year, however, she spent at home with her firstborn daughter, Jamie. Mrs. Gardner loves being outdoors with her dogs, taking yoga and dance classes and supporting the Bay Area's plentiful performance offerings. Mrs. Gardner is so excited to be joining us as the kindergarten and first grade instructional assistant, and to bring her enthusiasm for helping students learn and grow to the St. John community, which she calls home.



Mr. Jim Hay

6th grade Homeroom/junior high Math & Science Teacher

Mr. Jim Hay studied engineering and economics at UC Davis. He continued his education, earning a Masters of Science in Electrical Engineering at Santa Clara University, a Masters of Arts in Economics at UC Santa Cruz, and finally pursued a Teaching Credential at Santa Clara University. Prior to entering the field of education, Mr. Hay worked in the nuclear, aerospace, and semiconductor industries as a design, development, and new products engineer. Desiring a change of pace and wanting to give back and work with students, Mr. Hay veered from his prior occupational track and began his teaching career. He has spent the last six years teaching sixth through eleventh grade students in mathematics, science, and robotics, as well as moderating after school robotics and speech & debate programs. In his personal time, he enjoys reading, hiking, and taking nature trips. Additionally, he has been working on a multi-year project developing a piece of property in the Sierra foothills, which has involved much landscaping. Mr. Hay looks very forward to teaching in a Catholic school where developing students as people is as important as their academic work.



Ms. Melissa Pasion

8th grade Homeroom/junior high ELA/Writing & 8th grade Reading/Literature Teacher

Ms. Melissa Pasion received her bachelor's degree from UC Davis and later completed graduate programs at Penn State Harrisburg and John F. Kennedy University. She has been working in the field of education for over a decade and has worked with students in all K-12 grades. Although Ms. Pasion has taught various subjects, she most enjoys teaching different writing styles, including essays, scripts, research papers, timed writes, and personal statements for high school and college admissions. In her free time, Ms. Pasion likes to take on the occasional craft or DIY project; catch live stage performances; and let her slightly competitive nature come out when playing board games, computer games, and fantasy football. She is excited to join the St. John staff and community and is honored to return to the Oakland Diocese, where she started her own educational journey years ago.

