



St. John Catholic School

Educational Ministry of St. John The Baptist Parish

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(510) 276-6632 | Fax: (510) 276-5645 | www.StJohnCatholicSchool.org

April 20, 2016

Letter from the Principal

As I mentioned here last week, there will be many ways for parents to engage in the WCEA accreditation process. Be sure to complete the **Catholic Identity Survey** ... the deadline is this **Friday, April 22** to qualify for the special class prize with 100% class participation. Information from this survey will be used to celebrate our successes and set goals for the future.

Thank you to everyone who came out to support our wonderful parish school here at St. John last Saturday at our Family Dance and Mini Auction! There were SO many superheroes who came out to share laughs, good food, and great prizes. A very special thank you to Daisy Visitacion and Rowena Reyes and everyone who helped for their incredible efforts to make this night possible. Thank you for sharing your gifts of time and talent with our community.

Thank you all for sharing in the excitement last Wednesday that we “dubbed” Warrior Wednesday! Even Fr. Mike commented how cool it was to see a sea of blue and gold at mass last week! Let’s continue to root for our team as they play their way to another championship!

This past week has been very difficult for many of our community members around the world. Please continue to pray for the healing and faith of those affected by earthquakes in Ecuador and Japan.

Blessings,
Mrs. Rachel Gonsalves



Now Accepting Applications for the 2016-2017 School Year

Please share the good news about St. John Catholic School with your friends and family! We are accepting applications now for grades PreK-7 for the 2016-2017 school year. Applications are available in the office.

There are very few spots remaining in our high-quality Pre-Kindergarten program! Spread the good news about the great things happening at SJCS!

WANTED: School Board Members

Share your gifts and talents with the SJCS community! The SJCS School Board is still recruiting new members to join this very important advisory board for our school. If you would like to get involved and help steer the strategic direction of SJCS, this opportunity is for you.

We are still looking for more dedicated folks to serve as committee members for Catholic Identity, Cultural & Community Outreach, and Enrollment. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Mrs. Gonsalves at rgonsalves@csdo.org or School Board President Lehua Lee at leekidsonly@gmail.com.

Young Author's Fair

Each year, St. John Catholic School participates in the diocesan Young Authors Fair, and we're very excited about our achievement and recognition this year! Thirty-five schools participated and entered more than 525 books to be evaluated by 40 judges from schools throughout the diocese. However, we are proud that so many St. John books stood out to the judges, and we celebrate the following students for their achievement!

First Place, Graphic Novel, 5th Grade

- Ana Paredes, *Quinn*

Honorable Mention, Special Genre, 5th Grade

- Natalia Gutierrez and Christine Lai, *Constellations*
- Sophia Thompson, Caitlyn Nguyen, and Angelina Ornelas, *The Life of a Jellyfish*

Second Place, Poetry, 5th Grade

- Joshua Hoffmann, Christian Alfonzo-Yumul, and Waileia Lee, *Poetry Around the World*

Honorable Mention, Fiction, 2nd Grade

- Ayana Wilmot, *If You Give a Cat a Cat Party*

Second Place, Class Book, 2nd Grade

- 2nd Grade Class, *The Best Part of Me*

Honorable Mention, Class Book, 1st Grade

- 1st Grade Class, *Happiness is ...*

Honorable Mention, Class Book, Kindergarten

- Kindergarten Class, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*

Thank you to all of our students and teachers for their efforts to showcase the talents of our young authors. We also thank our school's YAF Coordinator, Ms. Bianca Gentry. And it's not too early to start thinking about your entry for next year's competition!

Student of the Month

This month, we celebrated our students who exemplify our Student Learning Expectation of a **Healthy, Well-Rounded Individual**. These students:

- Recognize and utilize unique skills and talents in meaningful ways, and appreciate and value the skills and talents of others
- Pursue physical fitness and incorporate good health habits into an everyday routine
- Maintain a balance between school, social and person time

We congratulate the following students for their achievement:

8 – Christine Villanueva

7- Jake Hoffmann

6- Dominic Wolfe

5- Natalia Gutierrez

4- Aleiyah Prim

3- Annalyn Boac

2- Shyla Sales

1-Calvin Lacsamana

K- Aubrey Reyes

PK- Liam Sustiguer

FACE and BASIC Financial Aid Decisions

Thank you to those who completed applications for FACE and BASIC tuition assistance. Both of these generous organizations are working to announce assistance awards earlier this year than they have in the past. We are not able to make promises or predict financial aid awards from these independent organizations, and considerations for school aid will be done after FACE and BASIC awards have been determined.

We thank you for your patience and your commitment to providing a quality Catholic education for your children.

Reminder to those who applied to BASIC, please don't miss your deadline to turn in your "School Commitment Form."

St. John Catholic School 2016-2017

Tuition

How is a tuition increase determined?

First, we analyze our fixed costs given to us by the diocese, such as salaries and benefits, diocesan assessments, insurance, permits and licensing fees. Those costs have increased 7-10% for next year. Next, we look at our current expenses and trends, and project capital purchases such as technology, textbooks and curriculum, etc. We analyze utilities, property taxes, and county fees. A lot goes in to balancing a \$1.2 million operating budget!

How does SJCS remain competitive?

Quality Catholic education **must** remain affordable and attainable for our families. With that in mind, we have made a modest increase of \$30/month per student, equivalent to \$300/year.

With this increase, we believe a quality education at St. John Catholic School is still within reach. Our tuition is still below the diocesan average, and we continue to be competitive compared to other Catholic elementary schools in our Southern Alameda County area.

How does SJCS achieve academic excellence with technology?

We will assess a \$50 technology fee to begin paying for the technology hardware improvements and expected costs for licensing as we continue to be a leader in educational technology at St. John Catholic School.

How is placement on tuition scales determined?

Based on information from two separate audits with our parish offices (November 2015 and April 2016), families have now been placed in the correct tuition scale. If you have any questions about your status as an active parishioner, please contact the rectory at 510-351-5050 or our school office at 510-276-6632.

2016-2017 Registration Packets

It's time to register your students at St. John Catholic School for the 2016-2017 school year.

- Registration Dates: April 13 – May 1, 2016
- Late Registration Fee of \$50 will be assessed for registration after May 30, 2016.
- If you did not receive a registration packet, please contact our office at 510-276-6632.

Service Hour and Fundraising

Statements

Each family is required to complete 20 service hours and raise \$300 in fundraising through eScrip, fall fundraiser, See's Easter Candy Sale, and the FunRun. Service hours must be completed by May 1, 2016. Hours completed after May 1 are credited to the 2016-2017 school year.

Updated statements will be distributed as soon as we receive the totals from our Fun Run.

Lost and Found is Overflowing!

Our Lost and Found bin in the hallway outside the science lab is overflowing! Please claim your lost items before THIS Friday, April 22 – at that time all items will either be donated to Uniform Exchange or to St. Vincent de Paul. Thank you!

If you still need to complete service hours, we will accept donations of **\$25 Lakeshore Learning** gift cards. Each \$25 donation is equivalent to one service hour.

These donations will help us offset the cost of classroom materials.

Lakeshore Learning
1144 Montague Ave.
San Leandro, CA 94577

Wednesday Newsletter Going GREEN

You can check out the Wednesday Newsletter, flyers, and attachment archives for **this** year on our website:

<http://www.stjohncatholicsschool.org> under the "Communications" tab.

Summer School

Summer school is available at some of our neighboring Catholic elementary schools. St. Leander, St. Joachim, Our Lady of Grace, and St. Clement will offer programs this summer. Applications for St. Leander and St. Joachim and program information are in the school office.

Flores de Mayo

You are invited to the Filipino-American Community's Celebration of Flores de Mayo on Saturday, May 21, 2016. The procession starts at 4 p.m. in the parking lot, followed by mass at 4:30 p.m. and reception in the gym after mass. If you can donate food (sliced fresh fruits and desserts) contact Rory Alquillera at (510) 481-5097.

We are looking for young girls ages 14 and younger to participate in the procession. Boys are also welcome to join as escorts. For further details if you wish to participate, please contact Olive Evangelista olivedce@yahoo.com, Vicky Herrera mari_bhec@yahoo.com, or Naomi Galang naomi_galang@sbcglobal.net

SJCS Car Show Donations Needed

SJCS will be hosting our 13th Annual Hot Rod, Custom & Motorcycle Show on May 21. We are collecting donations for Car Show gifts and raffle prizes. If you're willing to make a donation or know someone who is, please contact us at sjscarshow@gmail.com. Thank you for your generosity!



2016-2017 School Year Registration

April 13 – May 1, 2016

Late fee of \$50 assessed after May 30

7th gr. Nacho Sale

Thursday, April 21

Parent Club Meeting

Thursday, April 21, 6:30 p.m.

Catholic Identity Survey Deadline

Friday, April 22

Progress Reports Go Home

Friday, April 22

St. Vincent de Paul Hot Dog Lunch

For ALL students on Tuesday, April 26
Hot dog and chips will be provided

St. John Catholic School

Spring Music Concert

Wednesday, April 27, 6 p.m. in the church

5th gr. Bake Sale

Thursday, April 28

Registration Fees and Paperwork Due

May 1, 2016

St. John Catholic School 13th Annual Hot Rod, Custom & Motorcycle Show

Saturday, May 21

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.