



**VOLUME IV      ISSUE XIII**

**October 28, 2022**

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## **SAFETY DRILLS AND SEARCH HELD THIS WEEK**

Our efforts to make John Paul II Catholic School a safe and drug free school this week continued in cooperation with law enforcement from Jasper County. On Thursday we conducted a routine fire drill and on Friday a “hold in place” drill, while law enforcement searched the school with canines for any possible illegal substances. This included routine searches of locker areas, most students in grades 8-12, as well as the parking lot. Classes continued while the search was conducted. We do not announce these drills in advance as that would defeat the purpose. Earlier in the year we demonstrated the effectiveness of the dogs and informed our student body that we would conduct random searches throughout the year in cooperation with law enforcement. The Jasper County Sherriff very much appreciates the opportunity to be able to practice with their dogs.

The purpose of these searches is to ensure that illegal drugs are not brought onto the JP II campus. The proliferation and access of illegal substances in our area has been of growing concern to the school and our parent community. We will continue to educate our students on the dangers of these substances, be clear about the policies related to bringing them to school in the student handbook, and address any violation of the policies with both consequences and support.

You will be pleased to hear that Jasper County Sherriff deputies reported this was the “cleanest” and “most orderly” search they have ever done. They routinely conduct these searches in public schools. While a few cars were “hit on” by the dogs, no drugs were found on campus. Thank you for your understanding and support in keeping JP II a drug free school for your children.

## **JP II ANNOUNCES TOYS-FOR-TOTS CAMPAIGN**

In collaboration with WSAV, 4M Metals, and the United States Marines, JP II is launching a Toys-for-Tots Campaign beginning October 31 through December 12. A box will be placed in

the main lobby of the school for collection of new, unwrapped toys. Each week we will be reporting out on the success of the campaign.

On **December 12, from 4:00 – 6:00pm**, WSAV along with the Marines will be on campus for the final toy collection of the season. Our cheerleaders, choir and other student groups will be involved in this event. WSAV will be doing live cut-ins to their newscasts from our campus. The public will be encouraged to drop off toys that day as well. All toys collected will be donated locally through Bluffton Self-Help, so this is an opportunity for our school to demonstrate service to the local community and get a little publicity in doing so. Hopefully all JPPII families will get behind this effort. A special thank you to 4M Metals and the Michaels' family for making this happen.

## WHY RE-ENROLL EARLY FOR NEXT YEAR

Each year, our current students must re-enroll to secure their spot for the next school year. Last week I shared enrollment projections that will likely put our school over 400 students next year. While reaching capacity in some grades, it is critical that our parents follow our revised procedures for re-enrollment. We are already running ahead of last year's record pace for new applications by 75% at this same point last year. If this trend continues, we will fill some grades by February 1. Already over 10% of our current families have re-enrolled. Here are the key dates.

- New applications priority admission deadline is **December 1**
- Apply for tuition assistance by **January 1** – You only need to submit 2021 tax returns
- Re-enrollment is due by **February 1** - \$500 per student deposit required to reserve spot

Please contact [anne.mcclure@johnpaul2school.org](mailto:anne.mcclure@johnpaul2school.org) if you have any questions or need assistance with re-enrollment. Also, if you have a sibling of a current student that will be new to us, that's a separate application process which you must complete by December 1 for priority admissions.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OUTPACE PUBLIC ON NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS

(From NCEA)

The Nation's Report Card confirms that Catholic schools consistently achieve academic excellence.

Arlington, VA – On May 25, the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), also known as the Nation's Report Card, released its findings from 2019 for science for grades four, eight and twelve. NAEP is considered the most consistent measure of U.S. student achievement over time. National education experts are working to address a decrease in assessment scores for public schools, **but Catholic school scores continue to remain high, outperforming public schools**. Results for private and non-Catholic/other private schools were not reportable.

“Among the many contributions to society of a Catholic school education is the confidence that students receive an academically rigorous education. Year after year, the NAEP results validate this commitment to academic excellence,” said Kathy Mears, NCEA Interim President/CEO. “Dedicated teachers, staff and administrators ensure that educating the whole person in the light of Catholic faith knows no bounds.”

The details of the full report are available online.

## SPRING MUSICAL ANNOUNCED

The Fine Arts Department is pleased to announce that *Fiddler on the Roof* will make its JPPII debut this spring. We are also announcing the appointment of Grace Brown as our new theater director. Mrs. Brown is a native of Texas where she was an actress and musician through high school and college. She has performed locally with the May River Theater and sings in the choir at St. Peter’s Church. We are excited for her to make her imprint on our growing theater program and directing our students in *Fiddler on the Roof*! Look for auditions coming soon.

## EUROPE TRIP 2023

It’s now only 220 days until departure! There will be a brief fundraising meeting on 11/9, from 3:00-3:30 for any students interested or already enrolled in the Europe ‘23 trip. In addition, that evening at 6:00pm, Mrs. Woodham will host a virtual meeting for anyone with lingering questions. The price will increase on 11/10 so this will be a great opportunity to learn what this trip entails and how the travelers can help pay for it. Visit [Explorica.com/Woodham-4082](http://Explorica.com/Woodham-4082) to enroll at the lowest price of the year and email [kefrin.woodham@johnpaul2school.org](mailto:kefrin.woodham@johnpaul2school.org) for the link to join the virtual meeting on 11/9.

## FROM STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### Next Week Overview

Monday, October 31, 2022 (Blue Day)

- Regular Uniform and Schedule

Tuesday, November 1, 2022 (Gold Day)

- All Saints Day
- Mass Uniform and Schedule

Wednesday, November 2, 2022 (Blue Day)

- Regular uniform and Schedule
- NO MASS TODAY
- Senior Portraits

Thursday, November 3, 2022 (Gold Day)

- Regular uniform and Schedule
- Senior Portraits

Friday, November 4, 2022 (Blue Day)

- House Uniform and Schedule
- House Time Powder Puff Round 2 (Kolbe vs Savio)

### **Preview of Coming Attractions:**

#### **October:**

28: Home Football Game-Senior Night @ 6:45pm

29: Trunk or Treat at JPII 4:00 to 6:00pm

31: Toys-for-Tots Campaign Begins

#### **November:**

1: Mass-All Saints Day

2-3: Senior Portraits

4: Powder Puff Round 2 and Varsity Football Play-Offs

6: Fall Back One Hour/Out of the Darkness Walk at 1:00pm

8: Make-up Pictures/Prospective Student Visit-Non-Feeder Schools

11: Veterans Day Mass and Celebration

14: USC Field Trip (CSP, POE, AERO, CYBER)

18: Friendsgiving and Powder Puff Finals

23-25: Thanksgiving Break

29: MS FCA Huddle

30: HS FCA Huddle

## **FROM THE SPORTS DESK**

### **Cross Country**

Congratulations to our Cross Country teams at the Regional Championships held at Habersham.

Our boys high school team won the Regional Championships, and our girls high school team were runner up. Our teams saw consistent personal records and showed true teamwork during their races.

Brayden Frickel was 5<sup>th</sup> place, awarding him an All-Region title for the 4k middle school race.

Our High School All-Region runners were: Sebastian Frickel and Brady Mahoney as each won their respective races. Ayla Reynolds was 3<sup>rd</sup>, Zac Henderson 5<sup>th</sup>, Blake Hubik 6<sup>th</sup>, and Kelon Reynolds 7<sup>th</sup> to also earn All-Region.

Team times:

Middle School: Brayden Frickel: 5th- 15:34; Jonathan Yanachik: 16:50; Emma Karrh: 23:56; Sammy Cordero: 24:54

High School Boys: Sebastian Frickel: 1st- 17:03; Zac Henderson: 5th- 18:02; Blake Hubik: 6th- 18:17; Kelon Reynolds: 7th- 18:20; Jase Reynolds: 19:42; Matthew Yanachik: 20:12; James Hook: 20:21.87; Anderson Dewig: 20:21.88; Jude Witkowski: 21:19; Nick Rauch: 22:54

High School Girls: Brady Mahoney: 1st- 21:08; Ayla Reynolds: 3rd- 21:31; Abby Brock: 24:25; Hollis Melnick: 24:42; Rose Witkowski: 24:45; Gracie Henderson: 26:46

Our top varsity athletes will compete at the **SCISA State Championships on October 29th** at Heathwood Hall.

### **Football**

The Varsity Football Team will finish the regular season tonight at 7:00pm against new region opponent Wilson Hall. It is also **SENIOR NIGHT** where we honor all fall athletes from the Class of 2023. The honoring begins promptly at 6:45 so please arrive early.

### **Volleyball**

The Varsity Volleyball team wrapped up their season this past weekend with a trip to the SCISA State Tournament in Myrtle Beach. The Warriors faced Christian Academy out of Myrtle Beach for their first match. The Saints and the Warriors were evenly matched, but the back and forth affair went to the Saints, defeating the Warriors 21-25, 22-25. The Warriors then drew Pee Dee Academy for their next match. Both the Warriors and the Golden Eagles came into the tournament as #2 seeds and the stage was set for a great battle. The Warriors came out fast and furious and matched the Eagles intensity, winning the first set 26-24. The Eagles however were not done, the second set went back and forth, point for point! Outstanding play on both sides ended up in Pee Dee taking the 2nd set 25-18. The third and final set went to the Golden Eagles and they won the match 2-1.

The Warriors end their season with the best record in JP2 history ( 24-9-1) and stats that will be in the record books for years to come! We say goodbye to three Seniors (Emily O'Sullivan, Emma Sauls and Sara Swanson). As we are sad to see the end of our season we look forward with great anticipation to all that's to come with this very young team.

### **Sailing**

JP2 Sailors traveled to Lake Jordan in North Carolina last weekend. The Regatta welcomed 14 teams. JP2 finished 8th in what would prove to be a difficult day on the water due to a lack of wind! Captains Danny Nester and Matei Pacelli with their crews, Ayden Kollstedt and Michael Fitzgibbons successfully completed 10 races. This Sunday, the Golden Warrior sailors will compete in the LOCO (low country schools) Championship being held at the South Carolina Yacht Club in Hilton Head.

### **Fan Gear Now Available**

As our Fall season is winding down and our Winter sports season is about to begin we have opened our Winter Fan Gear Store. The link is below or you can access it from the "Athletics" portion of the schools website and the "Fan Gear" tab. The store will be open until November 14<sup>th</sup> at noon and will be offering Basketball, Wrestling, Archery and Spirit Wear options for the whole family! We will be offering some new items as well as holding over some popular items. Please remember that a portion of the proceeds of every order goes directly towards helping our growing athletic department!

[https://www.johnpaul2school.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=367128&type=d](https://www.johnpaul2school.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=367128&type=d)

### **Strength and Conditioning**

Afterschool Strength and Conditioning will be starting back up next week (10/31). It will run on Mondays from 3:00-4:00 and Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30.

## **HEAVEN'S TREASURE THRIFT STORE**

Heaven's Treasure: We are looking for people with trucks that are available on Saturday mornings to pick up donations around Bluffton. The store receives a lot of requests for donation pick-ups that we are unable to fulfill. We are hoping this will be on a rotating basis, once we have enough people able to volunteer. If you are willing to help, please send an email to [manager@heavens-treasure.org](mailto:manager@heavens-treasure.org), and put **PICK UP** on the subject line. Your time and compassion are greatly appreciated.

## **CURRENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- Part-Time Custodian (4:00-10:00pm) \$16.50 per hour / 29 hours per week

Consider joining the BEST school in the Lowcountry. If interested, please email me at [john.mccarthy@johnpaul2school.org](mailto:john.mccarthy@johnpaul2school.org) or pass along to someone who might be.

See you at SENIOR NIGHT!

Sincerely,

*John E McCarthy*

President