



THE WEEKLY

Warrior

THE PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

VOLUME IV ISSUE XXIV

February 3, 2023

Celebrating Catholic Schools

We concluded another successful Catholic Schools Week with our pep rally today. Throughout the week our students celebrated with a mix of fun dress up days, reflective spiritual opportunities, and a community spirit of giving back. Catholic Schools Week is not only a time to celebrate, but a time to reflect and give praise for all that we have been blessed with.

Over the past several weeks I have been meeting in neighborhoods such as Palmetto Bluff, Spring Island and Belfair to share the JPPII story with potential leadership donors to the upcoming capital campaign. Since I am often meeting people for the first time, I spend time connecting them with our purpose and reason for being. As part of that presentation I share why Catholic schools are needed now more than ever. For our JPPII community, these reasons can often be taken for granted, so let me share that same message with all of you.

1. In this time of mixed messaging coming at students from all different types of media, Catholic schools provide absolute truths according to scripture. We are clear on our beliefs and where they come from. Those truths bring a sense of comfort. It is because of those truths that Catholic schools can seamlessly integrate faith with reason, an almost impossible task absent the reliance on scripture.
2. Catholic schools reinforce the values that are taught at home. Parents know what they can expect when their child enrolls, and while students can stray from those values at times, the constant reinforcement allows us to develop character over time. The consistency from home to school is what often sets us apart.
3. Catholic schools can educate the whole person...mind, body and soul. While many schools might claim to educate the whole child, there is one missing critical element. As a public school educator of 29 years and a Catholic educator of 9 years, I have firsthand knowledge of the difference between the two. While public schools, and some private schools, can address mental and physical development, they cannot touch the soul, the spiritual part of our being that allows students to grow into adulthood with a strong moral compass to guide them in decision-making.

4. In the age of individualism, where people often put their own needs above those of others, Catholic schools develop the mindset of giving back to those less fortunate. No matter where our students come from, the concept of giving back through community service is fully engrained in them by the time they leave us. Living in the image of Jesus are not just words on a wall. What they choose to do with their gifts in life will be influenced by the time spent in a Catholic school.
5. Students in Catholic schools are in an environment where rigorous academic standards are the norm, and they are amongst teachers and students who help motivate them to reach those standards. While not every student succeeds academically, the seed of striving for excellence is planted. Students in Catholic schools in the Diocese of Charleston outperform public schools by a wide margin, as well as outperform Catholic schools across the nation. Assessment data backs up this claim. Students are well prepared for the next step they take in life based on their time spent in Catholic schools.

While some will claim the purpose of Catholic schools is to promulgate the faith for the future of the church, and that is partly true, the actual purpose extends far beyond this simple goal. Not all of our students are Catholic, and while some have become Catholic because of time spent with us, our ultimate goal is to form disciples of Christ who will live in His image for the rest of their lives, and there is no higher purpose than that.

New Applications Continue to Roll In

Following a very successful Open House last Sunday, we continue to see a record number of new applications. As of today, 81 applications have been submitted compared to 59 at this same time last year. That's a 37% increase! While not every application will matriculate to enrollment, early indications are that we will approach 400 students by next August. We do expect to be at capacity in some grades next year.

Upcoming Admissions Events:

February 6 @ 9:00am – Student and Parent Visit Day (pre-registration required)

February 10 @ 9:00am – Student and Parent Visit Day (pre-registration required)

March 5 – St. Francis Fellowship Sunday after Mass

If you have any questions, or would like to register for a visit day, please contact Anne McClure, JPII's Admissions Coordinator at anne.mcclure@johnpaul2school.org

From Student Activities

Next Week

- Monday, February 6 (Blue Day) Regular schedule and uniform
- Tuesday, February 7 (Gold Day) Regular schedule and uniform except students who attended this week's home wrestling match – you have a dress down day
- Wednesday, February 8 (Blue Day) Mass schedule and uniform
- Thursday, February 9 (Gold Day) Regular schedule and uniform and 9th Grade Retreat
- Friday, February 10 (Blue Day) House schedule and House shirts/hoodies

Coming Attractions

February

- 6: Prospective Student Visit Day from 9:00-11:00am
7: Dr. Chen's Lunar New Year Student Presentations at 2:15pm
8: PTO Meeting at 4:00pm
9: 9th Grade Retreat
10: Prospective Student Visit Day from 9:00-11:00am
6-10: Student Leadership Rose Sale
20: President's Day-**No School**
21: Black History Month Presentation @11:00am (Tentative)
22: Ash Wednesday
23: Junior Career Day
24-26: DECA State Competition
25: Robotics State Championships in Greenville
27-1: Kairos Retreat

March

- 3: Professional Development-**No School**
8: PTO Meeting
15: Choir at SGG for Notre Dame Glee Club Concert
17: Grade Check
18: *Diamonds and Denim* 10th Anniversary Gala at 6:00pm
20-24: Tech Week for Fiddler on the Roof
22: SAT Testing (Juniors Only) and No Mass
23: Feeder School Performance of *Fiddler on the Roof*
24-25: *Fiddler on the Roof*
27-29: IQ Vex Robotics National Competition in Iowa
29-31: Model UN

Congratulations Robotics

Last Saturday we managed to fit 15 IQ teams into the Commons and first floor hallway for our 2023 JP II IQ Warrior Challenge (we had a wrestling match that same day in the Athletic Center).

After 53 qualifying matches, JP II SHIELD Robotics teams were all ranked near the top with Team 61317X in 2nd place, Team 61317W in 3rd, and Team 61317M in 4th. WOW! In individual skills, Team 61317M placed 2nd with a total of 57 points. Team 61317X placed 3rd with 47 points. Team 61317W, not far behind, in 5th, with 39 points.

Teams 61317M and 61317W were paired in the finals scoring 53 points ending in 2nd place. Team 61317X was paired with Team 98999G from River Ridge and finished the day winning the Teamwork Champions Award with 63 points. Team 61317W was the recipient of the Excellence Award for their top performance in all areas including notebook and interview.

Teams 61317X and 61317W will join 61317M at the State Championship Feb 25 in Greenville.

61317D – Austin O’Quinn, William Rooney, Michael Fitzgibbons, and Jack Hannagan

61317C – Jason Cohen, Matthew Yanachik, and Quinn Doran

61317M – Marie Alvarez, Aubrey Porada, Aanya Patel, Mitchell Ramos, and Megan Fox

61317S – Tai Le, Russell Townes, KP Santos, and Will Patrick

61317W – Antonella Ciotti, Patrick Merrick and Griffin Spencer

61317X – Dominic Aiken, Gavin Doran, Tripp Thiesen, and Sam Marcinkoski



10th Anniversary Gala Tickets on Sale Now!

The JP II social event of the decade is coming March 18th and we are providing our parents and staff the first opportunity to purchase tickets. Invitations are about to go out to our entire community. This event is sure to be a sellout so buy your tickets now before invitations are sent to the public. Click on the link below to purchase tickets.

<https://johnpaul2school.hometownticketing.com/embed/event/250>



You are invited to celebrate with us
AT OUR
10th Anniversary Gala

T H E M E
Denim and Diamonds | The Number "10"

E V E N T D A T E
March 18 at 6:00pm

L O C A T I O N
Athletic Center at John Paul II Catholic School

A C T I V I T I E S
Dinner, Dancing and Donating to the Capital Campaign (no auction)

C O S T
\$110 per person / \$1,110 for a reserved table of 8 plus sponsorship (15)

S P O N S O R S H I P
Event (1) - \$10,000 | Entertainment (1) - \$5,000
Alumni Table (1) - \$1,010 (Invite a teacher or two to your table)

T I C K E T S
Scan QR code for link
to purchase tickets



*Welcome by President John McCarthy followed by a cocktail hour and seated dinner.
After dinner, we will have an introduction of the **Where Faith and Innovation Meet**
capital campaign that will include brief testimonials from alumni, a video,
and a campaign pledge request. Dancing to follow.*

JPII Choir to Appear with the Notre Dame Glee Club

On March 15, at St. Gregory the Great Church, the JPII Choir under the direction of Mrs. Leslie Gereghy will open for the University of Notre Dame Glee Club. The Notre Dame Glee Club is an all-male choral ensemble. Founded in 1915 in the tradition of English and American glee clubs, it is the oldest Glee Club at a Catholic university in the United States. Sponsored by the Notre Dame Club, all proceeds from this event will go towards supporting the JPII music program. Tickets for this event may be purchased using the link below. We hope to see you there!

<https://johnpaul2school.hometownticketing.com/embed/event/251>



From the Sports Desk

Girls Varsity Basketball: Our game was a little messy at times, but the girls fought to pull out a win against a gritty Patrick Henry team. Brady Mahoney finished with 12 points and 10 rebounds. Gracie Henderson was on fire from 3 with 11 points and made some big defensive plays. Emily O'Sullivan also came up big on defense with 9 boards and 3 blocks. Final 41-36.

A great game on both ends of the floor from start to finish to defeat BA 60-51 on Monday night. The girls came out fighting and determined to win the boards and play tough defense. They looked confident and energetic all night. Brady Mahoney had 16 points, 20 rebounds, 3 steals, and 6 blocks. Lily Termini had 12 points and 14 rebounds. Cayce Graves had 10 points, 8

rebounds, and 5 assists. Savannah Trott was money from 3 and added 9 points. So proud of the girls and their maturity and growth!

We didn't look like ourselves in the first half against HHCA (45-10) but we came out fighting in the second and outscored them by 13 points to end the game a respectable 70-48. Brady Mahoney provided a much needed spark with 19 pts and 13 rebounds, Lauren Majorkiewicz had a strong performance with 7 pts and 6 boards, while Savannah Trott brought much needed energy throughout the game.

Girls JV Basketball: The JV girls' basketball team defeated Patrick Henry in Estill 33-13. After a tight first half, the girls played very aggressive defense to pull out the win. The team was led by Hollis Melnick with 12 points and Evelyn Melnick with 8 points. Trice McClure and Emma McKamey each scored 4 points and Madison Burke had 3 points. Great win Warriors!!!

The JV Girls' lost a heartbreaker at HHCA last Friday night 19-16. HHCA scored a 3 pointer w/ 10 seconds left to defeat our Warriors. JP II was led in scoring by Isabella Perez and Hollis Melnick each w/ 4 points, Evelyn Melnick and Emma McKamey each w/ 3 points and Rachel Brenneman w/ 2 points. Great defensive effort Warriors!

Girls Middle School Basketball: After a close loss to HHCA Friday, the middle school girls bounced backed Monday night with a convincing 28-10 win against Beaufort Academy. A stout defensive effort led the way for Warriors. Offensively, Ellie Heathcott had a monster night with 15 points. Gabby Heathcott and Calleigh Geregthy each tallied 4 points, with Alivia Ogden adding 3 and Sofie Hannagan 2.

Boys Varsity Basketball: Early foul trouble and a hot-shooting Patrick Henry team put the Golden Warriors in an early hole that the Boys Varsity was not able to get out of in route to a 76-53 loss on the road Tuesday night.

16 points from Christian Tilton and the return of senior guard Jackson Ogden, who netted 4 points in limited action, were not enough to knock off Beaufort Academy, who claimed the road victory 52-39.

Boys JV Basketball: The JV Boys took on Patrick Henry on the road and jumped out to a quick lead. They picked up with full court pressure and ended the first quarter with a 12-2 lead. Seven of the 10 players scored, including a season high 13 points from Sebastian Frickel. Ayden Kollstedt chipped in with 6 points off the bench. The JV boys cruised to victory 45-7.

Boys Middle School Basketball: Your MSB basketball pulled off a close one against Beaufort Academy. Final score 44-40. Leading scorers were Adrian Spencer-Simmons and Deuce Kerschbaum with 8 points each.

The MSB loss to HHCA 37-26 last Friday. The leading scorers were Chase Cotter with 6 points and Alan Wolf with 4 points.

Wrestling: The Golden Warriors fell to Cardinal Newman in the state semifinal match 63-15. The team finishes 3rd in the state overall with a record of 22-12. The coaches are very proud of the team! Next up for the wrestlers is the individual state tournament Saturday, February 11.

On Tuesday The Golden Warrior wrestling team defeated Northwood Academy 60-21 in a quarterfinals match in the state duals. Winning for the team were: Daniel Snyder, Aiden Winslow, Archer Dewig, Brian Orta, Brandyn Horton, Matei Porcelli, Jack Brock, William Rooney, Kohl Woodham, and Renzo Cedeno.

The JPII wrestling team defeated Colleton Prep in a dual meet on Saturday making our regular season record 20-11, another record for this team. Our top 3 ranking in SCISA, winning 20 matches, hosting the first round of playoffs, finishing 3rd in the Hammond tournament and 5th in the Battery Creek tournament are all significant milestones for the wrestling program! Thank you to all of the parents and fans that have made this season memorable for our team, we have enjoyed your support.

Have you checked out the new website? Same old address, www.johnpaul2school.org, but a much more attractive and easier to navigate website. You can click on the “Future Campus Plans” for a simulated walking tour of the future Innovation Center.

Have a great weekend y’all.



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