

**POPE JOHN XXIII**  
**Regional High School**

**Club & Activity Booklet**



**2024 - 2025**

## Academic Team

Mission: The Academic Team is a group of students that enjoy trivia and facts! We meet weekly to practice for competitions with other local high schools. Trivia subjects include English, History, Math, Science, Geography, Music, Art, etc. The main event each year is a multi day competition in Feb/March with other Sussex County high schools. Pope John has won the Sussex County competition for the past two seasons!

Grades: 9th - 12th  
Meetings: Fridays at 7:15am - 7:45, meetings weekly  
Location: 251  
Requirements: An interest in trivia and an enthusiasm for competition.

Advisors: Mrs. Kathleen Piwko & Christopher Kappelmeier

[kathleenpiwko@popejohn.org](mailto:kathleenpiwko@popejohn.org)

[christopherkappelmeir@popejohn.org](mailto:christopherkappelmeir@popejohn.org)

## ACE Program

Mission: The ACE Program is a partnership between the high school and middle school. Student volunteers from the high school help to run middle school clubs and extra-help sessions on a weekly basis. These volunteers also serve as mentors: providing peer-to-peer advice, developing positive relationships, and showing support to younger students.

Grades: 10th - 12th  
Meetings: 1st & 2nd advisory periods  
Location: Middle School

Advisors: Mr. George Mihalik

[georgemihalik@popejohn.org](mailto:georgemihalik@popejohn.org)

## Ambassador Club

Mission: Student ambassadors serve as representatives of Pope John High School during various on campus events and recruitment programs. Student ambassadors help with the "Lion for a Day" shadow program, assist with on campus events, and are invited to support recruitment related tasks and programs.

Grades: 8th - 12th  
Meetings: TBD  
Location: Admission Suite

Advisors: Mr. George Mihalik & Mrs. Anne Kaiser     [georgemihalik@popejohn.org](mailto:georgemihalik@popejohn.org)  
[annekaiser@popejohn.org](mailto:annekaiser@popejohn.org)

## Artificial Intelligence (AI) Club

Mission:

Grades:                  8th - 12th

Meetings:                Once per week during 1st Advisory

Location:                Room 214

Requirements:         None

Advisor: Mr. William Myers                                 [wmyers@popejohn.org](mailto:wmyers@popejohn.org)

## Book Club

Mission: To ignite an interest in reading and to encourage students to share their love of reading with one another.

Grades:                  8th - 12th

Meetings:                Announced on Google Classroom

Location:                107

Requirements:         The desire to read.

Advisor: Mrs. Joyce Cluess                                     [joycecluess@popejohn.org](mailto:joycecluess@popejohn.org)

## Business Club

Mission: To create a forum for students interested in business as a major and career path. The club will provide information on the many different business majors and host special speakers that can provide industry expertise and insights to help students better understand those majors & fields. Club members are also tasked with helping to manage the operations of the “Lions Den” school store.

Grades:                  8th - 12th

Meetings:                Announced on Google Classroom | B Day 1st advisory period

Location:                Room 224

Requirements:         None

Advisor: Mrs. Grace Halevy                                     [gracehalevy@popejohn.org](mailto:gracehalevy@popejohn.org)

## Catholic Athletes for Christ

Mission: Catholic Athletes for Christ is a national organization whose mission is to serve Catholic athletes and share the Gospel of Christ in and through athletics.

Grades: 8th - 12th  
Meetings: TBD  
Location: Campus Ministry Room  
Requirements: None

Advisor: Fr. John Calabro

[frcalabro@popejohn.org](mailto:frcalabro@popejohn.org)

## Chess Team

Mission: To compete with other high schools in chess matches. Players compete in state as well as national chess tournaments, culminating in the High School National Tournament. We practice on a weekly basis.

Grades: 8th - 12th  
Meetings: Every Monday after school (2:45-4:00)  
Location: Biondo Research Center  
Requirements: The desire to play chess competitively and a commitment to practice in order to improve.

Advisor: Mr. Joseph Giovannone

[josephgiovannone@popejohn.org](mailto:josephgiovannone@popejohn.org)

## Debate Club

Mission: To give students a social, fun, and challenging way of developing their oratory skills. The participants will learn to analyze arguments and evidence from various perspectives. Students will learn to evaluate information critically, identify logical fallacies, and construct well reasoned arguments.

Grades: 9th - 12th  
Meetings: Announced on Google Classroom | Tuesday/Thursday 1st advisory  
Location: TBA  
Requirements: Attend 80% of meetings to go to the competitions.

Advisor: Mr. Michael Grace

[michaelgrace@popejohn.org](mailto:michaelgrace@popejohn.org)

## Fashion Club

Mission: This club is perfect for people who are interested in fashion, design, creativity, different cultures or anyone eager to learn about how the art of fashion can connect people.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Announced on Google Classroom | B Day 1st advisory period

Location: Room 224

Requirements: None

Advisor: Mrs. Grace Halevy

[gracehalevy@popejohn.org](mailto:gracehalevy@popejohn.org)

## FIERCE Athlete Club

Mission: We envision a world in which every female athlete knows her identity in Christ and lives a full, integrated life. To realize this vision, our mission is to promote true and authentic identity and femininity within female athletics. Based on the teachings of the Catholic Church, we aim to radically influence the culture of female athletics and address the serious issues women face by teaching, leading, and mentoring women toward integration.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: TBD

Location: Campus Ministry Room

Requirements: None

Advisor: Fr. John Calabro

[frcalabro@popejohn.org](mailto:frcalabro@popejohn.org)

## Follow Your Faith Club

Mission:

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: TBD

Location: Campus Ministry Room

Requirements: None

Advisor: Mrs. Shannon Jones

[shannonjones@popejohn.org](mailto:shannonjones@popejohn.org)

Fr. John Calabro

[frcalabro@popejohn.org](mailto:frcalabro@popejohn.org)

## French Club

Mission: This club will provide members an the opportunity to speak French, learn about French culture and eat French food.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Announced on Google Classroom | 1st & 2nd advisory period

Location: Room 226  
Requirements: None

Advisor: Ms. Katherine Benfante

[katherinebenfante@popejohn.org](mailto:katherinebenfante@popejohn.org)

## FTC Robotics

Mission: Sport of the mind: Competitive robotics teams for high school students. Beginning our 17th year, Pope John's two FTC teams compete at the state and international levels where students strategize best game play options, design with CAD, build from the ground up, design and manage an electrical system, program using JAVA, document processes and drive a robot that fits in an 18" cube. The robots compete against other teams from across NJ during the regular season; the game changes each season, which runs September through April. Students participate in community and professional outreach, keep an engineering portfolio and give judged presentations on their robot, outreach and team. A varsity letter in robotics is awarded for top team members each year.

Grades: 9th - 12th

Meetings: Tuesday and Thursdays from 3:30 - 5:30 and Saturdays from 9:30 - 12; may vary based on competition schedule

Location: Rectory Basement

Requirements: No prior robotics experience necessary

Advisor: Mrs. Katherine Rizzo

[katherinerizzo@popejohn.org](mailto:katherinerizzo@popejohn.org)

## French Honor Society

Mission: The French National Honor Society for High School Students recognizes students who have demonstrated a proficiency and propensity for the French language and culture. With this distinction comes responsibility. Students are required to tutor their peers as necessary and support the work of the French Club.

Grades: 11th - 12th

Meetings: N/A

Location: N/A

Requirements: Students who are enrolled in the third level of study, having completed each year with a final grade of 90 or above are eligible for consideration.

Additionally, students must maintain a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 and receive administrative approval for admission.

Advisor: Ms. Katherine Benfante

[katherinebenfante@popejohn.org](mailto:katherinebenfante@popejohn.org)

## Golden Years Elderly Support Club

Mission: The purpose of this club is to improve the quality of life for senior citizens in our community. Student volunteers spend time with seniors at local homes for the elderly and engage in various activities, including but not limited to board games, arts & crafts, story telling, singing, and light physical activities.

Grades: 8th - 12th  
Meetings: Every other week; check Google Classroom  
Location: TBD  
Requirements: None

Advisor: Mrs. Shannon Jones

[shannonjones@popejohn.org](mailto:shannonjones@popejohn.org)

## Green Team

Mission: To promote a sustainable home, school, and community through activities and projects. Students also maintain our school garden in the springtime.

Grades: 8th - 12th  
Meetings: Monday AM and after school every other week in the spring  
Location: Room 250  
Requirements: None

Advisor: Mrs. Judith Loff

[judithloff@popejohn.org](mailto:judithloff@popejohn.org)

## Holy Rosary Club

Mission: Inspired by the life of our Heavenly Queen mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary, we seek to love God with all our heart, mind and soul. We promise to honor her selfless devotion to all humanity by praying the Rosary and spreading the Gospel message of her love through our discipleship of works of charity for the sick, the poor and the forgotten in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The Holy Rosary Club is dedicated to the memory of Father Patrick Bonner, OSB.

Grades: 8th - 12th  
Meetings: 1st Advisory  
Location: 201  
Requirements: A sincere desire to be kind, charitable and loving to all.

Advisor: Ms. Katherine Stehr

[katherinestehr@popejohn.org](mailto:katherinestehr@popejohn.org)

## Investment Club

Mission: To analyze trends in the market and invest in stocks using a mock-investment game online.

Grades: 8th - 12th  
Meetings: Announced on Google Classroom, once-per-month  
Location: TBD  
Requirements: None

Advisor: Mr. George Becker

[georgebecker@popejohn.org](mailto:georgebecker@popejohn.org)

## Key Club

Mission: An international student-led organization with opportunities to perform character, and develop leadership.

Grades: 8th - 12th  
Meetings: Thursdays at 7:30am  
Location: Room 250  
Requirements: 2 service-hours Key Club activity & membership dues of \$20/year.

Advisors: Mrs. Judith Loff

[judithloff@popejohn.org](mailto:judithloff@popejohn.org)

## Mock Trial

Mission: To educate students with regards to the fundamentals of the American court system. Through role-playing, the students will have the opportunity to develop skills in critical thinking and public speaking, while experiencing the setting of a real courtroom. Mock Trial is an excellent opportunity for students interested in pursuing a career in law as well as other related fields.

Grades: 9th - 12th  
Meetings: Posted to Google Classroom, after school, advisory and on the weekends based on competition schedule  
Location: Room 202 and Mike Hanifan's Law Office  
Requirements: None

Advisor: Mrs. Laurie Lynch

[laurielynch@popejohn.org](mailto:laurielynch@popejohn.org)

## Mu Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society)



Mission: To recognize academic excellence in mathematics and encourage students to enjoy and build confidence in math. The society helps to provide math tutoring to students in the Academy and participates in math contests throughout the year.

Grades: 10th - 12th

Meetings: Announced through Schoology

Location: Room 111

Requirements: Have a MATH GPA that equates to 85 or above in all honors level math courses and a 93 or above in all accelerated level math courses. Also, must have been enrolled in at least one honors level or higher math course. In addition, maintain an overall GPA  $> \pi$ , and have completed or be currently enrolled in a Pre-Calculus course.

Advisor: Mr. Joseph Giovannone

[josephgiovannone@popejohn.org](mailto:josephgiovannone@popejohn.org)

## Multicultural Club

Mission: Multicultural Club serves as an opportunity for students at Pope John to become more aware and accepting of cultural diversity and to help build a sense of community among students. The Multicultural Club builds knowledge of various cultures in a safe space, sharing ideas on how to improve cultural attitudes and awareness at Pope John while reinforcing Catholic Social Teaching on human dignity for all of God's children.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Every other Wednesday at 7:25 am

Location: Room 213

Requirements: None

Advisor: Mrs. Shannon Jones

[shannonjones@popejohn.org](mailto:shannonjones@popejohn.org)

## National Honor Society

Mission: To demonstrate leadership, scholarship, service and character in the students' community, school and church.

Grades: 11th - 12th

Meetings: As needed; announced on Google Classroom

Location: Room 115

Requirements: Open to Juniors and Seniors with a 3.75 GPA or higher. 60+ service hours for Juniors and 75+ service hours for Seniors. Students must also demonstrate leadership and character. Eligible students will be invited to apply.

Advisors: TBD

TBD

## Photography Club

Mission: The purpose of the Photography Club is to enhance students' appreciation of photography as an art form and develop basic skills with a digital camera. Students will have an opportunity to photograph school events and have their photos published on social media, the school website and print publications.

Meetings: Every Monday during Advisory  
Location: Biondo Research Center  
Requirements: None

Advisor: Mr. Austin Braun

[austinbraun@popejohn.org](mailto:austinbraun@popejohn.org)

## Pope John Players

Mission: To provide students with exciting opportunities to audition for, stage and perform two productions annually for Pope John and the greater community at large. These productions are run at the professional level in accord with commonly accepted theatrical principles in order to offer experiences in acting, singing, dance, stagecraft, instrumental pit music, lighting, makeup, choreography, directing and producing. Licensing from professional vendors insures production quality. Select performance numbers then travel to various competitions throughout the county and state. Students have various enjoyable experiences including laser tag, family dinners, cast brunches and service opportunities including the Senior Citizen performance. Past productions include "Les Miserables", "Hairspray", "Twelve Angry Men", "Pippin", "Fiddler on the Roof", "Aida", "The Crucible", "A Few Good Men" and "Steel Magnolias", "Newsies", "Miss Saigon", "Phantom of the Opera", "Little Shop of Horrors" and "Cats".

Meetings: Following open information meetings the Common Casting week for both the fall drama and the spring musical begins the third week of September.

Rehearsals for both shows start shortly thereafter.

Location: Music Room and the Stage

Requirements: Grades 9-12. No experience necessary.

Advisor: Mrs. Madison Washer

[madisonwasher@popejohn.org](mailto:madisonwasher@popejohn.org)

## Rocketry Club

Mission: The Rocketry Club introduces students to an environment of safe and fun learning about rockets. We build, test, and launch rockets on a scheduled basis where everyone has a chance to partake in the fun.

Grades: 8th - 12th grade

Meetings: TBD  
Location: Room 251  
Requirements: None

Advisor: Mr. Chris Kappelmeier

[christopherkappelmeir@popejohn.org](mailto:christopherkappelmeir@popejohn.org)

## Science National Honor Society

Mission: The purpose of this organization shall be to encourage participation in and recognition of scientific and intellectual thought. It is to advance the students' knowledge of classical and modern science, to communicate with the scientific community, and to aid the civic community with its comprehension of science. It is to encourage students to participate in community service and, in turn, encourage a dedication to the pursuit of scientific knowledge that benefits all mankind.

Grades: 11th and 12th grade students

Meetings: 7:15 am as needed; after school based service project

Location: Room 251

Requirements: A member must have and maintain a 3.75 overall grade point average across all classes and a 3.75 GPA across all sciences. A member must be enrolled in at least one AP or Honors level science class during or prior to the eleventh-grade year. A member must be enrolled in at least one second-year AP or Honors level science class during or prior to the twelfth-grade year. A member must be enrolled in at least one AP or Honors level science class during the twelfth-grade year. If second year AP or Honors level science courses are not offered by the school, then the student must be enrolled in a second first year AP or Honors level science class.

Advisor: Mr. Chris Kappelmeier

[christopherkappelmeir@popejohn.org](mailto:christopherkappelmeir@popejohn.org)

## Ski & Snowboard Club

Mission: To provide students the ability to ski and snowboard in a non-competitive environment at Mountain Creek, Vernon NJ. The club helps to coordinate affordable transportation and lift tickets to all PJHS students.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: January & February 2025 (specific dates TBD)

Location: Mountain Creek, Vernon NJ

Requirements: Basic skiing and/or snowboarding skills

Advisor: Fr. John Calabro

[frcalabro@popejohn.org](mailto:frcalabro@popejohn.org)

## Stand Against Bullying (SAB)

Mission: To treat others with respect and kindness. To foster an environment where all students feel safe and have a sense of belonging. To work in collaboration to prevent all forms of bullying through education and outreach. To help those being bullied and foster an atmosphere of acceptance.

Grades: 8th - 12th  
Meetings: Announced through Google Classroom  
Location: Room 202  
Requirements: None

Advisors: Catherine Kiff-Vozza, Joe Giovannone, & Laurie Lynch

[catherinekiffvozza@popejohn.org](mailto:catherinekiffvozza@popejohn.org)  
[josephgiovannone@popejohn.org](mailto:josephgiovannone@popejohn.org)  
[laurielynch@popejohn.org](mailto:laurielynch@popejohn.org)

## SEARCH

Mission: To provide weekend retreats oriented to the SEARCH for Christian maturity.

Meetings: Team leaders meet weekly in preparation for the once-per-semester retreats; invitees attend the retreat only

Location: Fairview Lakes

Requirements: Students in 11th or 12th grade of exceptional character, able to contribute positively to the Faith element of our school community.

Advisors: Fr. John Calabro & Mr. Joe Giovannone

[frcalabro@popejohn.org](mailto:frcalabro@popejohn.org)  
[josephgiovannone@popejohn.org](mailto:josephgiovannone@popejohn.org)

## Spanish Club

Mission: To develop a respect, understanding, and appreciation for Hispanic cultures.

Grades: 8th - 12th

Meetings: Last Thursday or Friday of each month; 7:20 - 7:40

Location: Biondo Research Center

Requirements: Interest in Hispanic cultures; knowledge of Spanish is not required

Advisor: Dr. Susana Maiztegui

[susanamaiztegui@popejohn.org](mailto:susanamaiztegui@popejohn.org)

## Spanish Honor Society

Mission: Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica recognizes students who have

demonstrated a proficiency and propensity for the Spanish language and culture. With this distinction comes responsibility. Students are required to offer their support by tutoring their peers as necessary and support the work of the Spanish Club.

Grades: 11th - 12th

Meetings: N/A

Location: N/A

Requirements: Students who are enrolled in the third level of study, having completed each year with a final grade of 90 or above are eligible for consideration. Additionally, students must maintain a minimum overall GPA of 3.0, receive administrative approval for admission, and complete community service.

Advisor: Dr. Susana Maiztegui

[susanamaiztegui@popejohn.org](mailto:susanamaiztegui@popejohn.org)

Pope John XXIII High School  
New Club Proposal

**New Club Criteria**

To be eligible for consideration as a club sponsored by Pope John High School, a club must meet the following criteria:

1. Evidence of sufficient student interest (15 signatures)
2. Congruence with the Pope John Mission Statement
3. Availability of an appropriate faculty/adult sponsor
4. Inclusiveness
5. No significant duplication of purpose, goals, or activities of an existing School-sponsored club.

The following form must be filled out in order to start a new club or activity. The completed form should be presented to Mr. Emering. A meeting will follow to discuss the proposal.

Person presenting the proposal:

Name: _____
Email: _____
Phone #: _____

Name of proposed club/activity:

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General description of purpose of proposed club/activity:

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Goals of proposed club/activity:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

List at least four activities or events students will participate in:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

How will your club/activity benefit the students of Pope John High School?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

When and how often do you intend to meet?

\_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Sponsor/Advisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Sponsor/Advisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student petition (15 signatures from students who are interested in this club/activity - please include at least one student from every grade.)**

Printed Name	Signature	Grade
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