



VOLUME V ISSUE XXVII

February 16, 2024

March 1 is the Deadline to Enroll for Next Year

A friendly reminder that March 1 is an important date in the Admissions calendar as this marks the date students will need to complete enrollment to secure their spot for the 2024-25 school year. There are a couple of reasons for this. One, we must finalize our 24-25 Budget by March 21. Knowing how many students we will have helps to identify the number of sections of each course we need as well as the staffing required. The second reason is to ensure we have enough classroom space to meet the demand. We currently have 324 students eligible to return next year. This is a number JP II has never seen before. Even if we have some students not return, its quite likely we will return 300 plus. If you add another 125 new students (our average for the past two years since we added grade 6) we could be over 420 students. We may not have room for that many students. Scheduling begins soon for all enrolled students.

One interesting statistic to keep in mind is that in the 2019-20 school year, JP II enrolled 209 students. If we hit 418, which is quite possible, we will have achieved a growth of 100% over a 5-year period. To say this would be an amazing accomplishment would understate the magnitude of this achievement. It's almost unheard of in today's Catholic school world. Let's make it happen!

Most families should have received their tuition assistance letters by now. There are a few awards still under review, however we expect to complete all by this week. Your letter will reflect the total amount of assistance your family will receive. This is inclusive of JP II Aid and school issued scholarships (Daughters of Charity, St. Anthony Hardeeville, Promise, Bishop's Grant, etc.). What's not included is the Catholic parish discount and any scholarships from outside sources that may be applied to lower your final tuition amount. It's important for families to enroll by March 1 to claim your tuition assistance. We already have a waiting list forming for aid so any funds that go unclaimed will be transferred to someone else.

Tuition for next year is \$16,500 for high school and \$14,500 for middle school, before any awards or discounts are applied. While we certainly have gone up in cost over the past five years, we still remain lower than Hilton Head Christian, Hilton Head Prep, and most of the other Catholic high schools in the diocese. We remain the

best value in private education in South Carolina. Don't delay, enroll today, and experience the difference of a JPII education.

From the Sports Desk

SCISA State Basketball Playoff Schedule

Both the girls and Boys Basketball Teams have qualified for the SCISA 3A Playoffs.

Girls Varsity Basketball earned a #2 seed and received a bye. They will face the winner of Shannon Forest v. Florence Christian on Monday at 6:30pm at the Sumter Civic Center.

Boys Varsity Basketball is a #5 seed and will travel to Wilson Hall on Saturday, 2/17 at 3:30pm to face Orangeburg Prep.

Congratulations Coach Floyd Inducted into the Coker College Hall of Fame

Mrs. Karen Floyd, a native of Okatie, S.C., was a four-year member of the Cobra women's basketball team where she racked up 1,372 career points, making her Coker's all-time scoring leader from 1996 to 2006. She is currently number two all-time in scoring. In addition to her career scoring total, Floyd set the single season record for three-point field goals made with 76 during the 1993-1994 season. She was an All-Conference selection, was named to the Mars Hill College Tournament All-Tournament Team, and was a four-time Dean's List honoree. After earning her Bachelor of Arts in Education, Floyd began a successful teaching and coaching career spending 13 years at St. Gregory the Great Catholic School in Bluffton, S.C. She was named Athletic Director at St. Gregory in 2009 and founded the school's athletic programs. She was inducted into the Hilton Head High School Hall of Fame in 2007 and in addition to teaching and coaching, she is the founder/co-owner of Play Hard Event Timing. In 2015, she began coaching the John Paul II Catholic School varsity girls' basketball team where she is currently a Theology teacher in addition to basketball coach. She was named region Coach of the Year for the 2022-23 season. Mrs. Floyd and her husband Larry, also a Coker alum, have two children Katie Leigh and Austin, both JPII alumni. *(excerpt from the website of Coker College Athletics)*

Girls Varsity Basketball lost, despite a great effort, 62-35 to Northwood, the best team we've seen this season. Brady Mahoney led the Golden Warriors with 12 points and 6 rebounds. Lily Termini scored 10 points and pulled down 8 rebounds while Lauren Majorkiewicz added 6 points.

Varsity Girls lost a tough battle to HHCA 49-35. We played them evenly in the 2nd half, but costly turnovers in the 2nd quarter put us in a hole we couldn't dig out of. Even after getting down, our girls fought the whole time and never gave up. Big performances tonight from Brady Mahoney and Lily Termini. Brady had 10 points and 12 rebounds. Lily had 10 points and 8 rebounds. Freshman Lauren Majorkiewicz gave us a much-needed spark on both ends of the floor.

Girls JV Basketball completed an undefeated season tonight, defeating Northwood Academy 30-13. Once again, it was a dominating defensive performance by the Warriors, holding Northwood scoreless in the 1st half. Offensively, the Warriors were led by Gabby Heathcott, Rachael Brenneman and Hollis Melnick each with 6 points, Ellie Heathcott with 5 points, Millie Cornejo with 3 points, and Megan Fox and Madison Burke each with 2 points. Awesome job ladies!! Congratulations to the entire JVG team on a fabulous season!!!

The JV Girls defeated HHCA Friday night by the score of 37-2, holding HHCA without a basket. The only score for them were free throws in the 2nd and 4th quarters. Great job defensively Warriors!! Offensively, the Warriors were led in scoring by Ellie Heathcott with 11 points, Gabby Heathcott and Hollis Melnick with 10 points, and Bella Del Mazo, Rachael Brenneman and Madison Burke, each with 2.

Girls Middle School Basketball had an uphill battle during Thursday night's Dolphin Jam Tournament game against Cross. At the end of the first quarter the Warriors were down 2-9. The Warriors stepped up their offense, but the Stingrays were still ahead at the half, 13-19. Strong Warrior defense in the third quarter held the Stingrays to only 4 points, but the Warriors were still down 20-23. The game came down to solid scoring by Alivia Ogden with 26 points (6/12 from the foul line), Destiny Godsun added one 3-pointer, bringing the Warriors to beat the Stingrays with a score of 29-24. The Warriors take on Riverview tonight, Friday, at 6:00 for the Championship.

Girls Middle School started off the Dolphin Jam Tournament Monday night beating the host team, Hilton Head Prep, by a score of 23-22. Consistency from the free throw line was the determining factor. Alivia Ogden scored 9 points, going 7/9 from the free throw line. Destiny Godsun had 5 points, Emma Karrh had 3 and went 1/2 from the free throw line. Luciana Hahn, Grace Buckland and Annalise Litchfield added 2 points apiece.

Middle School Girls defeated Hilton Head Christian Friday night by a score of 26-12. Strong team defense led by Emma Karrh helped keep the Eagles from scoring. At the end of the first quarter the Warriors were up 4-2. At half time the Warriors extended their lead to a score of 12-4. The end of the third brought the Warriors up 19-6. The Eagles tried to fight back, but the consistent scoring by the Warriors was too much for the Eagles to handle. Alivia Ogden was the high scorer with 14 points, Grace Buckland had 7. Destiny Godsun and Luciana Hahn each had 2 points, while Emma Karrh added 1.

Boys Varsity Basketball capped off regular season play by spoiling Senior Night at Northwood, defeating the Chargers 57-49. Junior Nicholai Atkinson led the way with 15 points and senior co-captains James Keefer and Christian Tilton guided the team down the stretch with quality play. JP2 finished the regular season with a record of 14-10 and we await tournament seeding and schedule information from SCISA before the playoffs begin this weekend.

Boys Varsity played some of their best basketball of the year enroute to leads of 24-16 at the half and 36-32 after three quarters before ultimately losing to crosstown rival Hilton Head Christian 56-45 Friday evening. Seniors Christian Tilton and James Keefer, alongside junior Dante Aiken, each had double-figure scoring games for JP2 as we enter the final week of the regular season with a 13-10 record.

Boys Middle School Basketball defeated Low Country Montessori by a score of 54-6. All 11 players hit the scoring column led by Leiland Fripp with 13. Sam Marcinkoski and Isaiah Hahn led the team with 7 and 5 rebounds respectively. James del Mazo had a season high in points to assist the cause. The Warriors will play in the semifinals against Hilton Head Prep later this week.

Boys Middle School ran their record to 20-2 with a 59-35 victory over Hilton Head Christian last Friday. Russell Spencer and Leiland Fripp led the team with 6 rebounds each. The Warriors had 3 players reach double figures in points with Chase Cotter scoring 20, Leiland Fripp 16, and Zachary Moulton with 10. The team will wrap up their season with 2 tournaments in the upcoming weeks.

Varsity Wrestling competed in the SCISA Individual State Championship Tournament this past Saturday at Cardinal Newman High School. Eight of the 11 Warrior wrestlers placed in the top 4 in the state, finishing with three runner-up finishers and five 4th place winners. Placing 4th were Jase Reynolds (106 lbs.), Jude Witkowski (120 lbs.), Brandyn Horton (165 lbs.), Chris Orta (175 lbs.), and Renzo Cedeno (215 lbs.). Runner-ups were Daniel Snyder (132 lbs.), Brian Orta (138 lbs.), and Jack Hannagan (150 lbs.).

It was a historic season for the Warrior Wrestling team as they finished as the SCISA State Dual Tourney Runner-up for the first time in JPll history, a team runner-up finish at the Northwoods Academy Tournament along with a 3rd place finish at the Academic Magnet Raptor Rumble Duals. On the season, the squad was 18-9 in dual meets. Individually, 12 wrestlers finished with at least 10 wins and a .500 or better record: Jase Reynolds (18-11), Bailey Homer (10-7), Chase LaFountain (10-10), Jude Witkowski (16-14), Daniel Snyder (25-8), Jackson Reilley (12-8), Brian Orta (24-12), Jack Hannagan (22-12), Brandyn Horton (16-7), Renzo Cedeno (15-9), Chris Orta (20-10), Gavin Byrne (15-14).

Outstanding job to all the wrestlers who accepted the challenge and made the commitment to the team! You are a special group who bonded together in the wrestling brotherhood – we are proud of you. Thank you to our seniors for your leadership and commitment to the program – you will be missed!



The Latest Rendering of the Future Commons

The Innovation Center will feature a two-story, light-filled Commons that will serve both as the main entrance and a place for students to gather. Four glass cubes will allow students to collaborate in small groups. A grand stair at one end provides seating for performances, lectures and class or House meetings. At the top of the stairs, you will find a café that will provide drinks, snacks and breakfast items throughout the day. The visual theme for the new building is colors of the Lowcountry, featuring shades of blues, greens, golds, and tans, along with natural wood tones, to represent the beauty of our coastal location.



If you are still considering a pledge to the ***Where Faith and Innovation Meet Campaign***, we are in the process of soliciting donations of any amount. If you would like to make a leadership gift (\$25,000 or more) or a naming opportunity (\$100,000 or more), please contact Brian Quinty or John McCarthy. For more information or to donate go to www.johnpaul2school.org/support-jpii/where-faith-innovation-meet .

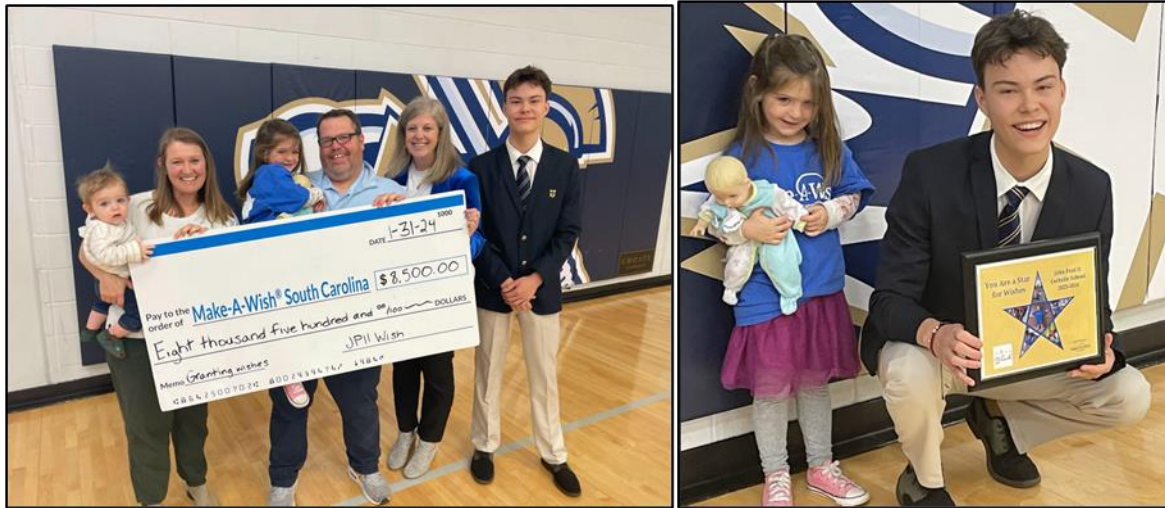
This beautiful and much needed building needs your **HELP** to get out of the ground. It will take the entire community to make our **VISION** become a **REALITY**. We can do this! Thank you for supporting JP II.

*Let us remember the past with gratitude,
Live the present with enthusiasm, and
Look forward to the future with confidence*

St. John Paul II

J P I I Wish

"Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves." -Romans 12:10. Serving others is one of the greatest things a person can do, and the John Paul II community has done just this. Back in September of 2023, I created JP II Wish, the first school-based charity in the state of South Carolina that donates to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. After months of organizing and participating in fundraisers, last week, our community's efforts culminated when JP II presented a check for \$8,500 to a young five-year-old cancer patient and her family. This could not have been possible without the help of everyone who donated their time, money, and efforts to the cause. I would like to recognize and thank the following people, as well as all the anonymous heroes who helped to make this happen. A Wish is an incredibly impactful experience for a critically ill child and their family. A Wish provides the child with the childhood that they deserve and replaces fear with hope. As a community, we have demonstrated that we have the power to change lives through JP II Wish, and it is my sincere hope that this was the first of many Wishes that we will grant for children in need. Thank you to the JP II community! Sincerely, Brad Campbell Class of 24



Please Consider Donating!

https://secure2.wish.org/site/TR/WishYourWay/Make-A-WishSouthCarolina?team_id=47103&pg=team&fr_id=5632

Join JP II Wish as a Student! Remind Code: @jpiiwish

Thank You To Our Donors and Supporters! Weniger Family, Sister Mary Beth, Gerard Frey, the Hill Family, Mr. Pastore, The Knights of Columbus, Amanda Keefer, Kelon Reynolds, Delilah Green, Keannen Hill, Nathaniel Prado, Shamyia Jenkins, Barbara Brienza, the Del Mazo family, Mrs. Buckland, Dr. Andrea Williamson, Ethan Davadi, Marshall Griffin, Alex Herndon, Dave and Kathie Hannagan, the McCray Family, Stephen Tiley, the Prewitt's, the Tilton Family, the Smith Family, Marty and Becky Baroni, Mrs. McNab, Paul and Kimberly Brown, Mr. McCarthy, and Mrs. Rembold

All-School Project for St. Clare's Home

JPII has taken on a project to support St. Clare's Home in Greenville County. The St. Clare's Home is a maternity home for women who find themselves in a crisis pregnancy with no place to go and seemingly no other options. It is open to women ages 18 and up, and also will accommodate their already-born children under the age of 5. Through research, it is women in this age group who have the most need of assistance. The home provides pregnant women, who are in desperate situations, a real alternative to abortion by reaching out in love to both expectant mothers and their unborn children. Although crisis pregnancy centers are doing great work, there are few safety nets in place for pregnant women who find themselves without a place to live.

So, what will JPII do about this? Today at the Warrior Way-In we launched the drive for St. Clare's Home. Each class, along with the faculty, have been assigned a task.

- 6th Grade Kitchen and large trash bags
- 7th Grade Walmart gift cards for groceries
- 8th Grade CVS Pharmacy card for personal items, medicines, etc.
- 9th Grade Diapers (sizes newborn, one, and two)
- 10th Grade Diapers (sizes three, four, and five)
- 11th Grade Scent-free, sensitive baby wipes, Clorox Wipes, Kleenex, and toilet paper
- 12th Grade Scent free, sensitive clothes washing detergent plus dishwashing soap
- Faculty Gift card for Quick Trip

All items are due no later than Friday, February 23 at 8:30am!

Each class will make a creative display in the gym using all the products, cards, items, etc. Think pink and blue and let your creativity take over. Judges will determine which class brought in the most items and had the most creative display. The prize is ice cream bars for the winning class.

Theology teachers will keep track of student participation. Judges will determine the class with the greatest percentage of participation. The prize is a dress down day for the class.

Students may ask for outside assistance from individuals and/or groups. Judges will determine which class had the most outreach. The prize is a pizza lunch for the class.

To learn more about St. Clare's Home click on the link below. Thank you for supporting our project.

<https://stclareshomesc.org/the-home>



Two Important JP II Parent Events on the Calendar for February



Getting Ahead of the College Admissions Process

Starting the college admissions process early not only reduces stress but also provides families the opportunity to make well-informed decisions and maximize their chances of gaining admission to their desired colleges. By understanding the process, researching options, preparing academically, and planning financially, parents can help set their children up for success in this journey.

Wednesday, February 21, 8:30am

Presented by Cara Buckland
JP II Director of Counseling & Student Support Services



John Paul II Catholic School
4211 N. Okatie Hwy, Ridgeland, SC 29936
843-645-3838*johnpaul2school.org

JP II – TCL DUAL ENROLLMENT PARENT NIGHT

All John Paul II Catholic School students and families are invited to TCL's New River Campus to learn about our new Dual Enrollment program. Reduce the cost of college education, lighten your college load, learn to handle college-level work, and explore career paths and majors! Qualifying high school students in Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, and Jasper counties, whether attending public, private, or home education school, may receive college credit and high school credit for designated courses. JP II will use this partnership to introduce it's new business and entrepreneurship program. This is a fantastic opportunity for students interested in business.

Monday, February 26, 2024, 6–7pm

TCL New River Campus, Room 106

100 Community College Drive, Bluffton, SC 29909

In His Purpose,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John E. McCarthy".

President