



VOLUME VI ISSUE XVII

November 22, 2024

A Friendsgiving Thank You

Today was our annual Friendsgiving Feast where the school provides a traditional turkey dinner for students and staff. First of all, thank you to Mrs. Kim McNab, our Director of Student Life extraordinaire, for coordinating this event. As we have grown, putting on a meal for 460 becomes much more challenging. Also, thank you to our families who contributed either cash or a dessert for the event. We appreciate each and every one of you. If you would like to make a donation to help defray the cost of this event there is still time. You can either send in a check made out to John Paul II Catholic School or email Mrs. Sauls at anissa.sauls@johnpaul2school.org and she can simply charge your FACTS account. We are so fortunate to be able to continue this longstanding JP II tradition despite our growing size.

As part of this tradition, the annual Powderpuff football championship was played. Despite cold and windy conditions, the teams from Kolbe House and Savio House put on a fierce, high-scoring battle, with Kolbe prevailing by the score of 31-24. Congratulations to all players and coaches for a game well played.

It's Time to Reenroll

Reenrollment season has begun and its never been more critical than it is this year. With JP II currently near capacity, and new student applications already running well ahead of last year, we will not have room for all those who wish to attend next year. Current 6th – 11th graders must reenroll by February 1 to secure their spot. To date, 50 students out of 352 eligible have already reenrolled (14%). New student applications are already at 43 in process as compared to 27 at this point last year. Once February 1st rolls around these new students will be accepted. At that point, it will be first deposit first enrolled until the school is full. Don't delay, enroll today. A reenrollment was sent out earlier this month with instructions. A \$500 non-refundable deposit is required. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to our Admissions Coordinator, Mrs. Anne McClure, at anne.mcclure@johnpaul2school.org.

Catholic Partner Schools Visit JP II

JP II recently welcomed 53 students from our Catholic feeder schools to campus. Sixth-grade students from St. Gregory the Great Catholic School and St. Peter's Catholic School, along with eighth-grade students from St. Francis by the Sea Catholic School, along with their teachers, joined us for a wonderful visit.

The day began with a special opportunity for the students visiting to attend Mass, where they were seated alongside our JP II student ambassadors. Following the service, our ambassadors led the students on guided tours, showcasing classrooms, the commons/cafeteria, the Marian Center, Guidance Office, and other learning areas JP II has to offer. Along the way, the students asked thoughtful questions and learned more about the exciting opportunities awaiting them as future Golden Warriors. Some were even brave and bold enough to hold the JP II resident snakes!!

To cap off the visit, the students enjoyed a pizza lunch in the athletic center lobby, where they had the chance to relax and socialize. The day concluded around noon, leaving the students excited about the possibilities that lie ahead at JP II.

"We are truly blessed to partner with St. Gregory the Great, St. Peter's, and St. Francis in nurturing the next generation of Warrior leaders," said JP II President John McCarthy. "This annual event is always a highlight of our year, and we look forward to welcoming these young minds as part of the Golden Warrior family!"

Admission season for the 2025-26 school year is underway, and applications are already exceeding previous years. With JP II expected to reach full capacity for the first time, we encourage families to submit school and financial aid applications by Friday, January 31, 2025, to secure their spot. To learn more about JP II, visit the admissions section of our website at johnpaul2school.org or contact Admissions Coordinator Anne McClure at 843.645.3838 for a private tour.



Why Sharing Our "Good News" Matters During JP II Admissions Season

At John Paul II Catholic School, we have so much to celebrate! From academic achievements and athletic victories to service initiatives and faith-filled moments, there are plenty of opportunities to showcase the incredible experiences happening at JP II. Sharing the "good news" about our school on social media is vital to building awareness and enhancing our reputation in the local community and beyond. Each time you share a post, you amplify the message of excellence, faith, and community that JP II represents. This collective effort not only attracts prospective families and supporters but also reinforces the value of your own investment in

your child's education. By extending our reach, we can secure resources and partnerships that will make the Golden Warrior experience even better for current and future students.

When you share JPIL content, you're not just spreading information—you're spreading inspiration. As a private Catholic school, word-of-mouth and community advocacy are powerful tools. Together, we can ensure that more families and community members recognize the transformative opportunities JPIL provides, helping us continue to thrive as a community of faith and learning. Your participation in this shared-marketing effort strengthens the Warrior network and brings even greater opportunities for your children to grow academically, spiritually, and socially.

How You Can Share the Good News:

- Click "Share" and "Repost" on Facebook/LinkedIn: When you see a post from JPIL, share it directly to your timeline. Add a personal comment about why it resonates with you or why you love JPIL.
- Tag Friends or Groups: Share posts in local groups, with friends considering a Catholic education, or with your extended family to showcase what makes JPIL special.
- Repost on Instagram: Use Instagram to reshare our school and athletic posts, tagging your own followers and encouraging them to learn more about JPIL.
- Share Links from Our Website or Newsletters: Forward school news to your email contacts or share links on your social media platforms.
- Engage with Posts: Like, comment, and interact with our content. This boosts visibility, helping more people in your network see the posts.
- Use Your Network: Share our posts with co-workers, neighbors, and community members. Word-of-mouth combined with social media is an unbeatable duo.
- Create a Testimonial: Post a picture of your student at JPIL or a school event with a heartfelt note about why you or your student loves being part of the Warrior family. Also, please send those testimonials to the JPIL communications office so we can use them in our marketing and advancement materials.

Your voice matters! By engaging with and sharing our social media content, you help ensure that JPIL continues to "Transform the Future of Education in the Lowcountry" as the premier choice for private Catholic education. Thank you for being a vital part of the Golden Warrior community!

Chess Club Makes a Successful Competitive Debut

While JPIL has had a chess club in the past, it was relegated to an in-school activity. Well, that's no longer the case. It was an exciting day at the Sumter Civic Center for the SCISA High School Chess Competition with 33 schools represented. The 231 players each participated in 8 rounds of chess with a new opponent matched based on their win record. The JPIL Team score of 17 is attributed to Jonah Mast, Jack Hanagan, and Jase Reynolds placing us tied for 7th place with Augusta Christian School. Both Jonah and Jack finished in the top 20 with 6 wins each. Jase Reynolds and Nate Moore both earned 5 wins each while Aadi Patel ended the day with 4 wins. Quinn Doran won 3 games and had a fourth end in a draw while his brother Gavin won 2 games and had a third end in a draw. For our first experience at the SCISA Chess Competition, we are very proud of our players and their accomplishments!



DONATE BLOOD

John Paul II Catholic School
Monday, December 2
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

All donors receive*:

- **Refreshments**
- **OneBlood Six Reusable Cups**
- **Wellness Checkup** including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

Fact: Only 3% of those who are eligible actually donate blood.



Appointments are encouraged, please visit oneblood.org/donate-now and use **sponsor code 34723**

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From the Sports Desk

Middle School Boys Basketball got their first win of the season in the home opener against St. Francis. After a slow start, the boys were able to build up a 15-point lead with 3 minutes to go in the game. They then withstood a courageous comeback by the Wolves and won by 5. Matt Termini showed great leadership with 6 points, 5 rebounds, 2 steals and 1 assist. Russ Spencer led all scorers with 7 points while also pulling in 7 rebounds. Every player on the team gave great effort and we look forward to getting better as a team. Our next game will be at HHP today at 5:00pm.

Middle School Girls Basketball started their season with a dominating defensive effort leading the team to a 23-9 victory over the Seawolves of St. Francis. The girls sent a message that their defense could be a force to be reckoned with, by limiting St Francis to only 5 total points for the last three quarters of the game. On the offensive side of the ball, our leading scorer was Roxy Remigio with a total of 8 points and Destiny Godsun with 5 points. Taryn McKamey, Eileen O'Sullivan and Eden Leonard rounded out the rest of the scoring showing this is a well-rounded and balanced team. The next game will be away at Hilton Head Prep today at 4:00pm. Come support your Lady Warriors!!

Come to the First JP II Parent Seminar of the School Year



NCAA Eligibility & Recruitment Seminar

Tuesday, December 10, @ 8 - 9am
JP II Athletic Center

Join USCB Director of Athletic Compliance
Shawn Becker and USCB coaches as we discuss the
exciting and complicated world of collegiate athletics.

**All families and high school student-athletes
are encouraged to attend.**



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

Christmas Strings Concert Featuring Emily Oldham, JPII Class of 2019

Christmas S T R I N G S



Celebrate the joy of the season with a festive string quintet performance! Yuriy Bekker, Emily Oldham, Tomas Jakubek, Jan-Marie Joyce and Benjamin Mekinulov will be joined by special guest vocalist Amanda Castellone for an evening of holiday favorites and carol sing-alongs.

WED | DEC | 7PM
11


St. Francis by the Sea Catholic Church
45 Beach City Road, Hilton Head Island, SC 29926

A Thanksgiving Blessing and Thank You

Next week, there will be no Weekly Warrior, but I couldn't let this moment pass without expressing my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you. To our incredible students, families, faculty, staff, and loyal supporters—thank you for being the heart and soul of JPIL. From our humble beginnings to the steady progress we've made, and now standing as the very best school in the Lowcountry, none of this would have been possible without you.

I am truly blessed to be a part of this extraordinary Catholic school journey. As you gather around your Thanksgiving tables, may your hearts be filled with love, warmth, and the joy of family and friends. As we approach the Advent Season, let us take time to reflect on all the blessings God has given us in the short history of JPIL. Together, we are transforming lives, and there is no greater mission we could embrace.

Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!



John E McCarthy
President