



S⁺ Joseph

Catholic School

Newsletter



Thursday, August 27, 2015

Families and Friends of Saint Joseph School,

Saint Joseph School will begin its 92nd year on August 31, 2015. I am personally excited to begin the school year. It has been a busy and productive summer, but it can get quiet in the school without lively classrooms full of energetic students.



A number of changes have taken place this summer. The first and most obvious is the **new roof**. When you visit SJS make sure to look up. In addition to the roof, **new energy efficient lighting** was installed throughout the building and along its perimeter. The asbestos siding was safely removed and **replaced with vinyl siding**. Be sure to thank Fr. Bob, who took the lead and made this happen. Without the new roof I cringe when I imagine how the April Newsletter might read. Lastly, new mulch was donated by D'Ambra Construction for the playground area.

This concludes part one of our capital project. Part two involves the replacement of the Church roof. To support these two huge and necessary repair projects, we are embarking on **a 36 month Capital Campaign. Alone, very few of us could pay for the roof; together we can. If each family donated \$1.00 a day for three years, we could raise nearly \$150,000! THIS IS THE POWER OF COMMUNITY!** For more information, visit our "[Capital Campaign](http://www.sjsww.org/capital-campaign.html)" page under the "Giving" section <http://www.sjsww.org/capital-campaign.html> or call the rectory at 401.821.4072.

In addition to the Capital Campaign we are embarking on a **Science Initiative**. This is a threefold program. For details visit our "<http://www.sjsww.org/science-initiative.html>" page under the "Giving" section <http://www.sjsww.org/science-initiative.html>. **We are fortunate and thankful for Mr. Roger Bertrand, a local business owner, generous philanthropist, and supporter of Catholic Education who has agreed to match the funds we raise for this project. To kick start this initiative he has donated \$20,000 towards the project.** Mr. Bertrand is a humble, hardworking, honorable man, who did not ask for anything in return. We ask that you consider stopping by "Roger's Paint Service Store" located on 199 Washington St. in West Warwick, RI to express your gratitude next time you need paint and wallpaper supplies.



In addition to physical changes, there have been a few staff changes as well. **Mrs. Melinda O'Dea is our new pre-Kindergarten teacher; Mrs. Rebecca Graham has moved to 4th grade; Mrs. Ann Graham is our new middle school science teacher; Mrs. Konnerth is our new 8th grade homeroom teacher, middle school writing/grammar and the computer teacher for grades 3-8; Mrs. Racca is our new K-2 computer teacher; and Mr. Siciliano continues as our gym teacher while also teaching health classes and coordinating the CAL program.**

Mission Statement

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Another big area of change is the SJS Family Handbook. You should have received an email with two handbooks attached: pre-K and K-8. A decision was made to separate the pre-Kindergarten from the K-8 section to reduce the size of the document and not overwhelm anyone. In the future they may be re-united. I encourage everyone to download the appropriate handbook and read through it. **We will follow the handbook when making decisions.** It is important that guidelines be articulated and communicated. For your convenience, the sections of the handbook that were changed have been highlighted. The handbook can be found on our redesigned website under the "Student Life" section (<http://www.sjsww.org/family-handbook.html>).



A special thanks to Mr. Tom Noret for all of his volunteer work this summer fixing and updating our facility. In addition to this, he along with Mr. Saulino assisted us by transporting a large amount of teaching, cleaning, and office supplies from the now closed Fr. Holland School. Without them, I might still be carrying the supplies.



An email survey about income information for the Title I program was sent out a week ago. I cannot stress enough how important this is to our school. The data collected from this survey will be used to determine the amount of Title I Federal funds Saint Joseph School will be eligible to receive. You can access the form through this link (<https://goo.gl/eMqvo8>).



Our school hours are 8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Students are expected to enter through the gym doors in the appropriate uniform by 8:15 a.m. A faculty member will direct all vehicles to form two lines in front of the gym at morning drop-off. We begin every day with community prayer in the gym at 8:16 a.m. Any student arriving after 8:15 a.m. must enter through the Main Entrance and report to the school secretary. Parents should say their goodbyes before children enter the building. To encourage our student's independence, we will discourage calls home for forgotten items. If it's necessary for an adult to come to SJS during the day, it is expected that they first report to the secretary to sign in.

Our Open House will begin at 6:30 p.m. in St. Joseph Church on Thursday, August 27, 2015. In addition to this Open House special session will be held during the day for pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten parents.

- Pre-Kindergarten (Last names A-L) – Wednesday, August 26 at 9:00 a.m.
- Pre-Kindergarten (Last names M-Z) – Wednesday, August 26 at 10:30 a.m.
- Kindergarten – Wednesday, August 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Early morning care is available beginning at 7:00 a.m., and after school care is available until 5:45 p.m. There is an additional cost for these services, payable every two weeks. See the handbook for more information.

The after school dismissal procedure has changed. An email was sent home describing the new procedure. If you did not have a chance to read it, please take some time to review the email and map. The same information is available on the [School News section of our website](http://www.sjsww.org/news) (<http://www.sjsww.org/news>). This change is the culmination of a series of discussions with the West Warwick Police Department. It will be practiced during the day at SJS so that at 3:15 p.m. all students will be in place and ready. **The first two weeks are always busy, please be patient with us as we will be checking ID's of each driver before calling your child's name.** We will try this dismissal procedure, perhaps modify it along the way, and evaluate its effectiveness.





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All walkers (students in grades 4-8) who are leaving through the Intervale St. doors **MUST** have a signed permission slip. These are included as an attachment to the email. I encourage you to download, print, and sign them so that your child can be dismissed as a walker on the first day of school. Without this permission slip, they must leave by bus or motor vehicle.



We are proud to announce that SJS will have its first Robotics Club. This group will meet weekly after school on Fridays. For more information see the attached flyer.



Our uniform closet was recently reorganized by Mrs. Bowie (Aleena Lopez's grandmother). When you see her, please thank her for devoting a few hours in a hot room to rearrange the clothes.



Wednesday, September 16, at 6:00 p.m. we will have our first coaches meeting. All coaches and those interested in coaching, assisting, and volunteering at weekend events **MUST** attend this meeting. Please contact Mr. Siciliano at fsiciliano@sjsww.org prior to the meeting. Our sports program runs on volunteers. If you are capable, able, and interested, please join us.



Also on **Wednesday, September 16, at 7:00 p.m. we will have our annual Safe Environment and BCI (background check).** All volunteers and those with plans to do so **MUST** participate in the training and have a BCI check. These are updated every two years. Call the office at 401.821.3540 to see if you need to renew your paperwork.



Our hot lunch program begins on Tuesday, September 8, 2015. Information regarding the Sodexo Lunch program will be provided later. Lunches will be \$3.50.

On **Tuesday September 15, at 6:00 p.m., the Parent Federation will hold its first meeting.** This is a group of Catholic School Parents who advocate for Catholic Education at the public policy level. Currently, SJS does not have any parents representing our school at this level. If you are interested in participating, please contact [Mr. Woodmansee](#).

Safety and health are a deep concern. **It is important that you make sure that allergies and medical issues have been noted on the Emergency Treatment section of your child's school registration form.** Please remember that a doctor's note is required for your child to self-carry an Epi-Pen or asthma medication.



Basketball is open to all students in Grades 3 – 8 practice begins in October and CAL games begin mid-November running through March. Students interested in playing on the basketball team are encouraged to sign up early. **Registration and ALL additional forms needed are available for download in the "Student Life" section on the "Athletic Forms Page" (<http://www.sjsww.org/athletic-forms.html>) of the school website. ALL completed forms and a registration fee of \$65.00 per child is due by October 1, 2015.**

The First Communion program for Grade 2 is organized by the Religious Education Office at St. Joseph Church. There will be a parent meeting on October 7th, 2015 at 6:30pm in the church. If you need any information prior to the meeting, please contact Matthew Silva at 401-821-4072 or via e-mail at religionseducation.stjoseph854@gmail.com.





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St. Joseph's Children's Choir welcomes all students in Grades 3 through 8 to join us as we begin our year praising the Lord in Song. Rehearsals will be held every Wednesday from 3:15-4:15pm, beginning September 14th. The Children's Choir sings weekly at the 5:00pm Mass on Saturdays. For more information, please email Mrs. Santo at asanto@sjsww.org, or call Mrs. A at 401.828.0216 or 401.573.0140.



Our first Dress Down Day (\$1.00) is scheduled for September 11. The eighth grade will have the honor and responsibility of designating the charity for this month's donation. **The first Eagle Pass Dress Down Day (\$5.00) is scheduled for September 25.** We will continue the tradition of two dress down days each month; one for charity and one for PTP fundraising. Please see the school calendar for the full schedule of days.



Invite your friends and family to dine with us at UNO Pizzeria & Grill on September 23 AND November 19. I cannot think of an easier fundraiser, you will be supporting SJS programs while eating a meal with your family. Details and coupon will be sent home at a later date.

The St. Joseph Youth Group will be starting up again. Teens in grades 6-12 from any parish are invited to join. The Youth Group involves monthly meetings, volunteer work, social events, and much more. **To join, contact the rectory at 821-4072, or just come to the meeting on Sunday, September 13 at 5:30 p.m. at the church.**

Visit Schoolstore.com! Schoolstore.com has partnered with many nationally known retailers and magazines to help schools raise funds. We have already raised over \$1,000 since using this site plus our teachers have added some great items to their classroom through the donation site. A percentage of your purchase goes to our school from stores like: Kohl's, Target, disneystore.com, and Barnes & Noble. There's also 50% off Magazines subscriptions. Each purchase through this website makes money for our school. A package will be going home with your child soon with more information. Please remember to take advantage of this website. Our school ID is #113211. Please share this link - <https://www.schoolstore.com/cgi/SSCHomePage> - with your family and friends.



Grades 7 and 8 will be hosting a Yard Sale this fall! When it is time to clear out the closets/basement/bookcase/toy box/under the bed/etc., please consider donating your gently used cast-offs. **Contact Kellie Capobianco at kelliecap3@gmail.com or 255-2627 and she will store all donations until it is time for the sale.** Donations Needed! We are gladly taking clothing, shoes, household items, sports gear, tools, decorations, kitchenware, old DVDs, CDs, small furniture, small working appliance, books, gently used toys, electronics, etc. Thank you for helping to make our fundraiser a success!

PTP News

The new committee members have been hard at work this summer planning to bring you exciting events for the upcoming school year. A warm thank you to all the parents who have already reached out to us about volunteering for events or to become an event chair!



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Our first big event of the year is the **Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, September 19th! Come enjoy a day on the greens and a steak fry dinner at night! Registration forms will be sent home during Open House. Please reach out to the event chair, Tom Noret with questions at tnoret@cox.net.**

We are seeking a chairperson or two for our Annual Jingle Bell Bazaar happening November 14 & 15. This is one of our biggest events of the year and we would like to get planning as quickly as possible. If you are interested, please contact the PTP committee at sjsptp@sjsww.org.

Peace,

Mr. Jim Woodmansee

Mr. Jim Woodmansee,
Principal

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR ONGOING & NO-COST FUNDRAISERS



You can use [this link to access and print money saving coupons on participating products](#).



ARTS • ATHLETICS • ACADEMICS

Labels for Education is similar to the Box Tops program. Please cut these labels along with the product bar code and deliver them to your child's teacher. For a complete list of [participating "Labels for Education" products use this link](#). "Labels for Education" also publishes coupons, use [this link to access and print these money saving coupons](#)



also 50% off Magazines

A percentage of your purchase through [Schoolstore.com](#) goes to our school from stores like: Kohl's, Target, disneystore.com, and Barnes & Noble. There's



your card, each shopping trip at Stop & Shop using your Stop & Shop earns CA\$H for our school! Last year St. Joseph School raised \$1,470.02

Registration begins 9/14/15.

Log in to you "[my Stop & Shop Card](#)" account to designate SJS as the recipient of the A+ School Rewards, St. Joseph School's is ID# 05784. You may also call S&S at 1-877-275-2758 to register your card over the phone After you register



automatic.

Take Charge of Education (TCOE).

The program lets guests designate 1 percent of their REDcard purchases to a K-12 school of their choice to fund whatever the school needs most. Once you set this up, you can forget about it because it is



Warwick RI".

The Shoparoo App ([iTunes](#) & [Google Play](#)) allows you to earn money for SJS by taking pictures of your grocery receipts. It doesn't matter where you shop or what you buy - every receipt submitted results in a donation to our school. When searching for SJS, make sure to type in "St Joseph School West



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CALENDAR

Thursday, August 27

6:30pm - SJS OPEN HOUSE

Monday, August 31

First Day of School

Wednesday, September 2

Morning Rosary

Monday, September 7

Labor Day - No School

Tuesday, September 8

Hot Lunch Begins

Friday, September 11

Dress Down Day (\$1), Gr. 8

Monday, September 14

Schoolstore.com Kick Off

Tuesday, September 15

6:00pm - Parent Federation Advisory Board

Wednesday, September 16

6:00pm - Mandatory Coaches Meeting

7:00pm - BCI/Safe Environment Training

Thursday, September 17

Grade 8 Plant Sale

Friday, September 18

Grade 8 Plant Sale

2:15pm - Opening School Mass grade 8

Saturday, September 19

Grade 8 Plant Sale

Sunday, September 20

Grade 8 Plant Sale

11:00am - Catechetical Sunday

Wednesday, September 23

St. Joe's Night at Uno Pizzeria & Grill

Friday, September 25

Boy Scout Informational Meeting (Grades 5-8)

Eagle Pass (\$5), PTP

Saturday, September 26

Yard Sale

Thursday, October 1

Morning Rosary

4:00pm - Flu Clinic

Saturday, October 3

Yard Sale (Rain Date)

*For the most up-to-date calendar of events visit our calendar in the school website
<http://www.sjsww.org/calendar.html>*



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850 Wakefield St., West Warwick, RI 02893 • [O] 401.821.3450 • [F] 401.821.3516 • SJSWW.org



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Dismissal: Permission to leave the premises for grades 4-8 only

Please fill in the information on the form below, checking the appropriate box, signing and returning to the homeroom teacher ASAP. Thank you for your cooperation.

My child: _____ **Grade:** _____

has my permission to leave the premises by foot to meet their parent/guardian/or adult designated on the school resignation form at a predetermined location.

**Please note: your child will be escorted across Intervale Street to then proceed on their own.*

DOES NOT have my permission to leave the premises after school without a parent/guardian or adult designated on the school registration form.

Parent/Guardian

Date

Mission Statement

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St. Joseph School Dismissal Traffic Pattern



St. Joseph School FIRST Lego League Robotics Club

Interested in building robots and solving real-world challenges?
Join the St. Joseph School Lego First League Robotics Club!

Purpose: The St. Joseph School First Lego League (FLL) Robotics Club is a club composed of one or two FIRST Lego League (FLL) Robotics teams. Each FLL team will have at least one parent coach and up to ten girls and boys, ages 9 to 14.

Each team will participate in the First Lego League (FLL) yearly science and technology competition.

- Teams will build, test, and program an autonomous robot using the LEGO MINDSTORMS® EV3 robot to solve a set of missions on an obstacle course.
- Students will also research a real world problem and present a solution..
- Throughout their experience, our teams will operate under FLL's signature set of core values of friendly sportsmanship, teamwork, and community involvement.



The theme for this year's 2015 FLL competition is **Trash Trek**. From collection, to sorting, to smart production and reuse, there is more to your trash than meets the eye. Join FIRST LEGO League teams on a Trash Trek to discover the hidden (or not so hidden) world of trash!

Who: SJS girls and boys ages 9 to 14 and their parents.

- Each FLL team needs a coach and a parent volunteer. No prior experience is necessary!.
- The FLL provides numerous resources to help Coaches and the Club Coordinator will provide support and mentorship for each team.
- Coaches are expected to guide but not direct the work performed by the FLL team members.

Commitment: The following meeting times are guidelines provided by experienced coaches but are not requirements. Team Coaches, parents and team members will determine how often and when to meet. In addition to the times listed below, team members may need to perform some project research at home.

Information Table: August 27th at (At the Parent/Student Orientation Night)

Registration Deadline: September 4th.

September – October: 2-3 hours club meetings each week for 8 - 10 weeks.

November: (Regional Tournament) Weekend all-day event – one day.

Cost: The registration fee for each member of a team will be between \$15 and \$25, depending on the number of teams and members. The registration fee is nonrefundable

and used to pay tournament registration fees. All equipment and practice tables will remain the property of St. Joseph School. FLL

Website: www.firstlegoleague.org

Club Coordinator: Nancy Breault at nbreault@sjsww.org

Coach Rob Bergantine rob@interopic.com

Coach Zandro Reyes-Cuerva zandro.reyescuerva@gmail.com

2015 Student Registration Form Registration Period: August 31 - September 4, 2015

Email as an attachment to the Club Coordinator at nbreault@sjsww.org.

Student's Name _____

Grade _____ Age _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

Student's Gender: Male Female

Does the student have any special needs? Yes No

If yes, please provide details _____

_____ Allergies?

Parent's Name _____

Parent's _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Parent interested in Coaching? Yes No

Parent interested in being an Assistant Coach? Yes No

Registration Fee: TBA (\$15-\$25 depending on number of team members) The

Registration fee is not due until the student is assigned to a team.

Forms can be submitted to the Club Coordinator at nbreault@sjsww.org.

Refund Policy: There are no refunds for this activity. Registration fees are used to purchase the team's equipment and pay for tournament registration fees.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Parents - **Please consider helping to coach a team!** If you have any questions about the registration process or coaching, please contact the Club Coordinator, Nancy Breault, at nbreault@sjsww.org



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Handbook Acknowledgment Sign-Off

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We believe that St. Joseph School (SJS) is a community. It is important for us to remember that as a community, each student, parent, guardian, teacher, staff member, volunteer, and priest share in the responsibility of providing for the religious formation, the physical well-being and the academic growth of each member of our student body. It is that partnership that allows us to grow in love and mutual respect for one another and to bring Christian values to our community.

The St. Joseph Catholic School Family Handbook identifies the responsibilities parents, guardians and students must accept in order for the faculty, priests and administration of SJS to provide for the needs of the children entrusted to our care. Parents are asked to read this handbook located on our website under the "Student Life" section (www.sjsww.org/family-handbook.html) with their children and discuss with them those sections relating directly to their daily lives at SJS.

IMPORTANT

Read over carefully all the sections in the handbook with your child(ren). After reading the handbook, parents/guardians and all students are to sign the form below and return it to your child's homeroom teacher by the second Friday of the school year.

The beginning of each new school year is filled with such hope and promise. Students, parents, teachers and priests look forward to an exciting year filled with prayer, learning and friendship. We thank you for your cooperation and support, and hope you have a wonderful year at SJS.

We have read and agree to abide by all the rules and regulations set forth in the Saint Joseph Catholic School Handbook, as well as with any amendments made to this handbook for as long as my child is in attendance at SJS. We understand that a community is an ever-evolving group, as new policies may be adopted and/or existing policies may be adapted to new situations. The current handbook will be available on the school website.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Student

Homeroom

Date

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