



**September
2023**

St. Joseph Regional School

A BIG welcome to everyone and in particular to the families of our new Pre-K students, kindergarteners and our transfer students. We are so excited to be back in our classrooms with your children and are excited about the year ahead.

We were busy over the summer vacation cleaning the school and making repairs and improvements in the building. We installed new locks on all of our classroom doors and also had safety film placed on our first floor windows as added safety measures for our school.

Our upstairs hallway contains a few more pieces of some of our student's art work from our Art Show in May. Be sure to take a look as you walk by them.

Thanks to our SOS Committee and their fundraising efforts, we were

able to purchase religion workbooks, art supplies, and some new supplies for our teachers to use in the year ahead. We appreciate all of the hard work and dedication of our parents who oversee this organization and chair our events and fundraisers.

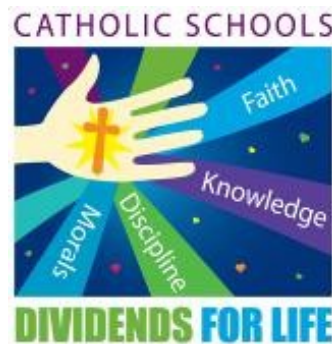
We ask that you please take the time to carefully read our Parent/Student handbook located on our website and return the Parent/Student Signature Page that will be included in our first family envelope by September 15, 2023. A copy of our school calendar with all of our events is also available on our website.

We are refreshed and excited about the year ahead and hope all of you are too! As always, we thank you for choosing St. Joseph Regional School.

Blessings, Mrs. Green

A Prayer for our School

Dear God,
Thank you for looking after our School.
Thank you that you love each and everyone of us here.
Help us to learn, play and share together,
So that the wonderful world you have
made becomes more beautiful everyday.
Amen.



**St. Joseph Regional
School**

**2 Summit Street
Batavia, NY 14020**

585-343-6154

585-343-8911(fax)

www.sjsbatavia.org

Dates to Remember in

September:

5th: First Day of School

Backpack Blessing

6th: Pre-School & Pre-K

Orientations @

10:00 and 1:00

7th: Pre-School & Pre-K Begins

8th: Opening Mass @

9:00 AM

12th: SOS Meeting @

7:00 PM

15th: Mass @ 9:00 AM

**Confessions for
grades 3-6**

22nd: Mass @ 9:00 AM

**26th: Meet the
Teacher Night**

6:30 PM

29th: Mass @ 9:00 AM

Subway Day

Oct. 6th: NO SCHOOL

Staff Development

Absences and Appointments

When your child is absent from school, please follow this procedure:

1. Call the school office between 7:30- 8:30 a.m. on the day your child is absent.
2. On the day your child returns, send in a written excuse signed

by a parent or guardian.

3. When your child will need to be released early from school, please send in with them a written explanation of the nature of the appointment to the classroom teacher. The teacher will forward this note to the office. Please

let the office know you are at the front door and we will send your child (ren) down to you.



Lunch

The lunch menu for September is posted on our website.

Lunch tickets can be purchased for \$77 (20 lunches). Milk is \$0.65 for those that do not order a lunch. Milk tickets can be purchased for \$13 (20 milk cartons).

Checks for lunch and milk should be made out to "Notre Dame Nutritional Services".

Lunch Schedule

10:45: Grade K

10:50: Grade 1

11:25: Grade 2

11:30: Grade 3

12:15: Grades 4-6



A variety of snacks and ice cream will be sold in the cafeteria on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Snack tickets can be purchased in \$5 increments and checks should be made out to St. Joseph Regional School.

Alternate lunches are still available each day:

- *hot dogs *salads *yogurt fun pack
- *peanut butter & jelly *tuna sandwich
- *egg salad sandwich
- *turkey deli sandwiches
- *chicken finger wraps

SOS Dues

Our SOS (Supporters of St. Joseph School) Parent Group is asking each family to send in \$10.00 for SOS dues. This can be sent in anytime during the month of September or brought to Meet the Teacher Night on September 26th.



Ties

We have navy blue ties available in the main office for the boys in grades K-3. These may be purchased for \$9.00 each.



Conferences

Our parent/teacher conference day is scheduled for Monday, November 20th. **If you would like a conference before this date, please make an appointment with the teacher.**



Protecting God's Children Workshop

St. Joseph Regional School will be hosting a "Protecting God's Children" workshop on Tuesday, October 16th beginning at 6:00 PM. It is a Diocesan policy that anyone who works with children in any capacity must attend one of these workshops. If you plan to volunteer in your child's classroom, work in the

cafeteria, coach basketball, or even accompany your child's class on a field trip, **this workshop is mandatory.** Those who participated in the workshop previously need not attend again, however, you need to update your status by reading the monthly bulletins online. Pre-registration is

required. You can register online at www.virtus.org or by calling 716-847-5532.

If you are unavailable to attend the October 16th workshop, Notre Dame High School is hosting one on Tuesday, September 12th at 6:00 PM.

A PROGRAM PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC RISK RETENTION GROUP, INC.

Parking Lot

Please do not drive up to the school building to leave children or pick them up during school hours. Please share this with anyone else that you may ask to drive your children to and from school so that everyone is aware of this policy.

Please do not park west of the annex building, as this area is part of the morning bus drop-off route. Park in the rows near Summit Street or in the Richmond Library parking lot. Thank you for helping to keep our children safe each day.



Morning Attendance

Each morning students should be in their homerooms by 8:00 a.m. Teachers in grades K-6 will officially take attendance at 8:10 a.m. **Any student not in their homeroom by 8:10 will be marked "tardy."** This must be followed by a signed written excuse by the parent as to the reason for being late. Late students must first report to the office.

**Being on time
is a sign of self-discipline
as well as respect for others!**

School Safety Plan

St. Joseph Regional School's Safety Plan has been updated for the 2023-2024 school year. Copies of this plan are kept in the main office and are available for review.



Arrival and Dismissal



Students should arrive between 7:45-8:00 AM each day. Please note: The main entrance doors are not unlocked until 7:30 AM each day and there is no one to supervise your child(ren) until this time.

Please adhere to our dismissal procedure which will allow us to make this very hectic time of

the day as safe and efficient as possible:

1. Bus students are released as their buses arrive beginning at 2:20 p.m.
2. Students in grades K-6 who are being picked up are escorted by their teacher or classroom aide to the parking lot at approximately 2:35 p.m.

3. For the safety of the children, please do not request walkers/riders be dismissed prior to 2:35 p.m. when buses are entering and leaving the parking lot.

Mass

Children in grades K-6 will attend the 9:00AM school Mass on Fridays. Families are welcome to join us. For the safety of our students, please remember that the doors to the church are locked at 9:00 AM until mass is finished.



SCRIPS Program

Our Srips Program will continue again this year. According to NY State non-profit tax code, fundraising must benefit the organization and not an individual. This means Srips sold may not reduce tuition for one student or family, but for the entire student population. Please realize that those who purchase Srips cards will be benefitting the school which will equally reduce all students'

tuition.

Please send in orders by noon on Monday for pick-up on Friday. We currently have Tops, Walmart, Target, Tim Hortons, Dunkin Donuts, Subway, Wendy's, and many more in stock. Order forms are available in the main office.



Report Cards/Trimesters

St. Joseph Regional School follows the guidelines established by the Diocese of Buffalo. Grades K-2 use letter grades (A, B, C...) in all subject areas. A numerical grade is calculated in all subject areas for grades 3-6. The passing grade for students in these grades is 70%. Our school will be utilizing trimesters again this year. Trimester averages are calculated using a weighted formula based on the number of days a student spends on a subject per week. First trimester interim reports will be distributed on October 20th. Report cards will be distributed on December 8th.

Envelope Policy



Monthly information will be sent home in a family envelope with the youngest child of each

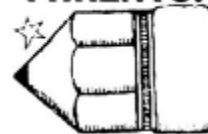
family. Please **return the envelope** to the homeroom teacher the next day.

If any family needs more than 1 copy of our monthly envelope, please let the office know. We can either send home a duplicate envelope or mail one.

Information Sheet

Enclosed in our first family envelope will be a family contact sheet. Please fill it out completely and return it to the school office by September 15th. Thank you for your cooperation!

PARENTS:



**PLEASE SIGN
& RETURN**

Asbestos Notification

We are notifying you that according to AHERA regulations, we are in compliance of all laws regarding asbestos. The asbestos management report for our school is always on file in our office.



Not a Bad Idea??

It might be a good idea to put labels on all clothing, backpacks, lunchboxes, ties, etc... to avoid loss of any student's belongings.



Accident Insurance



St. Joseph Regional School students are covered by Commercial Travelers Mutual Insurance Company. Should it become necessary to submit a claim, we will give you the necessary information.

After School Program

It's not too late to sign up for our After School Program being run by LE3 Inc. The program runs from dismissal until 6:00 PM each day that school is in session. This program is intended to be flexible, so that your child can participate on a daily or weekly basis. Registration forms and a handbook are available on www.le3inc-inc.org.



Uniform Lending Closet

The school uniforms lending closet is located outside of the girls' restroom in the cafeteria. We encourage you to check them out, most are in good shape and are free for the taking. If anyone has used uniforms to donate, please drop them off in the containers outside of the girls' bathroom. Thank you to Nurse Dawn for all the time and effort she gives organizing our lending closet over the summer and during the school year!

School Nurse

Nurse Dawn will be in the school Monday-Friday from 7:30 -2:30.

Please review the school policy which incorporates the Health Laws of New York State that is found in the Handbook in regards to medication. Over-the-counter medicine is not allowed in school with the children unless they have a doctor's note.

PLEASE NOTE:

If your **child** is to receive **medication at school**, whether it is **prescribed** by your physician **or** is **over-the-counter** medicine, a **form is required** to be filled out completely and **signed by your physician** before the medication may be dispensed at school. The

parent/guardian must bring the physician order and the medication (labeled with the child's name) to the Health Office. All meds must be in their original containers. A note by a parent will not be accepted. Forms are available at your doctor's office or in the nurse's office.

Please remind your child that NO medication is allowed to be carried in school or taken on their own without a written order from their doctor.

Please contact Nurse Dawn with any questions at 343-6154.

Security System

All doors to the school will be locked at all times. Any visitor must press the intercom button and stand back away from the door to be "buzzed in" once a staff member has verified identity via security cameras. Please be patient with us and realize that there may be times when you may have a brief wait for admittance if the office staff are on the phone or otherwise occupied.

Anyone entering the school building must check in at the school office on the second floor so we know at all times who is in the building. Thank you for your cooperation!

Gym Reminders

Please remind your child of the importance of proper footwear required for their physical education class. St. Joseph Regional School rules require sneakers to be worn in all PE classes. The sneaker requirement serves two purposes. Most importantly, sneakers protect the student's feet and legs during the wide variety of activities they

participate in. Secondly, sneakers with non-marking rubber soles also protect the gym floor from unnecessary damage. Sandals, slip-on shoes and sneakers with elevated heels and midsoles are not appropriate.

Please remind your child to bring their sneakers on scheduled gym days. Students in all grades are not being required to change into gym

clothes again this year, so please try and utilize the gym uniform through T-Shirts. Etc. We wouldn't want your child to miss out on all the fun!



Daily Home Screening for Students

If your child has any of the following symptoms, that indicates a possible illness that may decrease the student's ability to learn and also put them at risk for spreading illness to others, please keep them home. Please monitor your child for these symptoms: each day:

- Temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth

- Sore throat
- **New** uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever


**STAY
HEALTHY
AND
THANK
YOU**

Our school uses a family-contact system called  SCHOOL MESSENGER®

This system allows us to send email, text and voice messages.

In order to receive these messages please pay particular attention to the section entitled

"Sending You Voice & E-mail Messages"

on the

"St. Joseph Regional School Family Contact Form"

coming home in the family envelopes.

Please note that not all messages are sent in all formats. That is, a time-sensitive message might be sent via text while a routine message might be sent via e-mail. For this reason we

encourage families to register all forms of contact with us. Once you have registered a cell phone number with us and that number is entered into our database you will "opt-in" or "subscribe" to begin receiving text messages by texting "subscribe" to 68453.

In order to make the best and most accurate use of School Messenger, we ask that you notify the office if you change your phone number or email address.

If you have any questions please contact Nora O'Neill at noneill@sjsbatavia.org.



We are always in need of some parents or grandparents that could volunteer some time in the cafeteria during our lunch times. Please call the main office if you would like more details. We would appreciate any help you could give us!

WE  **VOLUNTEERS**

Columbus Day

There will be no school on Friday, October 6th to allow the faculty to attend a Professional Development Day.

There is also no school on Monday, October 9th in Observance of Columbus Day.



Gym Days

Kindergarten:	M/T/TH
Grade 1 :	M/W/F
Grade 2:	W/Th/F
Grade 3:	W/Th/F
Grade 4:	M/T/W
Grade 5:	T/W/Th
Grade 6:	M/W/Th

A Good Start

Did you know that breakfast is the most important meal of your child's day? It provides the nutrients and energy he/she needs to concentrate at school. Research even shows that kids who eat breakfast get better grades, pay more attention in class, and behave better. Help your child begin on the right foot each day!

You can also set your children up for success this school year with some basic pointers. Suggest that he/she try to follow this checklist:

- ◇ I attend school every day unless I'm sick and I get there on time.
- ◇ I get 8-10 hours of sleep each night.
- ◇ I eat a healthy



breakfast in the morning.

- ◇ I pay attention in class.
- ◇ I write down my assignments for each subject.
- ◇ I start my projects when I get them.
- ◇ I complete my homework on time.
- ◇ I read for pleasure each day.

The Board of Regents has announced the schedule for the Grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics and Science Tests for the 2023-2024 school year. Please note the following dates on this year's school calendar and make every effort not to schedule time away from school on these dates. Thank you!

Grades 3, 4, 5, & 6

ELA: April 24 and 25

Math: May 14 and 15

Grade 5

Science Performance: May 29

Science Written: June 3



**New York State
Testing Program**

Please check our school website for updates from the teachers, as well as postings of the monthly newsletters, menus and other useful information.



Heartfelt THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

- * To Mrs. Case for maintaining the landscaping at our school. The grounds continue to look beautiful for the start of the school year because of her efforts.
- * To our custodial staff (Bob, Jen and Kaiden) for cleaning the



building this summer.

- * To the SOS committee for their work on our fundraisers.
- * To our SJRS Board who spend countless hours at St. Joseph Regional School. Our school would not be what it is without your continued support and efforts!
- * Stan Kaus and Bob Welker for their work on our ventilation system this summer.
- * To John Bowen and Norm Argulsky for their weekly efforts in picking up and preparing items for our Super Sales!

If you are interested in donating items to the next sale, please leave them on the steps by the annex building entry way. For large deliveries, please call the main office and we will put you in contact with a chairperson for assistance.

We continue to collect clothing items as an additional fundraiser. Please drop off bagged clothes, shoes, curtains, sheets, towels, etc. on the annex steps. Thank you for your anticipated help with this!



Mass Intentions

September

8th: Carol Sherwood

15th: Essie Marone

22nd: Jared Diehl

29th: Jim Smith



All parents are invited to our Meet the Teacher Night on Tuesday, September 26th beginning at 6:30 P.M. More information will be distributed in the near future. We look forward to seeing you!



Dear God,
Help me spend today
with a Smile on my face,
Love in my heart,
Joy in His grace,
and my thinking cap on all day.
Amen

Subway Day

We will be having monthly Subway Days again this year. Order forms will be sent home to be filled out and returned with payment prior to the deadline each month. Our first Subway Day will be on Friday, September 29th. Remember, there is no regular lunch that day. If your child does not wish to order a sub, they will need to pack a lunch.



Volunteer Questionnaire/ Code of Conduct

Volunteer Questionnaire/
Code of Conduct forms will be included in September's family envelope. We must have these on file in order for you to volunteer in any capacity. **Only families that are new to St. Joe's need to complete these forms, one for each parent.** If you previously filled out these forms you do not need to do so again unless information has changed.



Welcome to our New Faculty!



We are pleased to welcome back Mrs. Emily Lutey as our long-term substitute teacher in 2nd grade. Mrs. Lutey was a Spanish teacher at SJRS. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education and a Master of Professional Studies in Literacy.

Mrs. Sacheli is expected to return at the end of December following her maternity leave.



Welcome to Mrs. Jamie DeHaven as our new cafeteria director. Jamie has over 25 years of experience working at Subway and is a well known dance instructor in Batavia.

A BIG thanks to Sandi Clark for her help in training Jamie during the first 2 weeks of school.



Welcome to Miss Morgan Armison, as our 3rd grade classroom aide. Morgan has been working at Target for the past 2 years and is excited to begin working with students in a classroom setting.

We are looking forward to a great school year with all of them!



2023-2024 Faculty and Staff

Pre-School:	Stephanie King & Gabriella Pawlak
Pre-K:	Beth Hofmaster, Bridget Del Plato & Gabriella Pawlak
Wrap Around:	Stephanie King & Bridget DelPlato
K:	Mary Case & Beth DeFreze
1:	Kristine Fava & Karen Rapone
2:	Melissa Sacheli & Diane Fraser Long-term substitute: Emily Lutey
3:	Deb Dumuhosky & Morgan Armison
4:	Sharon Fischer
5:	Carolyn Fisher & Brandie Hamilton
6:	Bill Fisher & Nya Thomas
2-6 Religion:	Amy Laska
Teacher Mentor:	Marianne Clattenburg
AIS/Sp. Ed.:	Mary Winiecki
Phys Ed:	Chris Harloff
Art:	Mimi Reyngoudt
Music:	Dan DeLuca
Technology/Makerspace:	Barbara Paserk
Cafeteria:	Jamie DeHaven
Nurse:	Dawn Canale
Custodians:	Bob Welker & Jennifer Moore
Business Manager:	Peggy Marone
Secretary:	Dawn Norton
Director of Student Services:	Nora O'Neill
Principal:	Karen Green

