

Good afternoon SJS Community,

Happy December! We are in that transition phase of the year between giving thanks at Thanksgiving and beginning our waiting for Christmas during Advent. It is a wonderful time to be at SJS – lots of learning and growing happening in every classroom. This week I had the pleasure of doing my second round of formal classroom observations and I learned so much. While greeting students in the morning is my favorite moment of the day and I love to dig through academic and financial data, getting into classrooms is what energizes me and reinforces why all of us are part of this amazing community. This week, I experienced many things in the classroom, including . . .

- I learned to visualize how adverbs modify and change verbs with Grade 4. I also watched a lab that demonstrated the difference between longitudinal and transverse waves.

- I learned the difference between natural hazards and disasters and how scientists develop strategies for mitigation and prediction with Grade 7.

- I was able to experience the first few chapters of Holes and understand how to state a claim and cite evidence with Grade 5.

- I learned about author's purpose in Grade 1 and how to determine if it is to persuade, to inform, or to entertain.

- I watched Grade 8 reflect on the Second Commandment and the importance of our names.

- I watched preschool and prekindergarten begin their day with morning meeting and transition into their first activity.

- I watched Kindergarten try an in-the-round reading activity for the first time and experience success.

- I heard some amazing Christmas songs from Grade 3 in preparation for our Concert.

- I learned about the artist Giotto and watched Grade 7 sketch angels in a similar fashion.

There were many other things, but these few just demonstrate that we have amazing teachers and dedicated students at SJS.

Thank you to everyone who supported our SJS Calendar Drive. It was again a huge success. We will have final fundraising numbers next week. Congratulations to Grade 1 who was the winning class and the following students who sold the most calendars.

PS – Grade 1 – Enzo DoRosario
Grade 2 – Grade 5 – Savanna Le
Grade 6 – 8 – Luke Chin

We were also able to draw our first winner today. Congrats to Diane Susi who won \$250! We will share winners each day on Facebook so check in.

SJS basketball games start this weekend so good luck to all our teams. We reached another high this year with 87 players in the program. This represents 8 different teams. We will have a Pep Rally on Monday at 2:15 for our basketball teams. All basketball players are welcome to wear their jerseys on Monday in lieu of or over their dress shirt or sweatshirt.

SJS has some special Christmas events coming up in the next few weeks.
-On December 15, the SJS Parent Group will hold its annual Christmas Shoppe. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to purchase gifts for their loved ones. More information will go home with students next week.

-Friday, December 15 is also a Christmas themed Dress Down Day. Students should wear Christmas clothes or dress in red and green.

-The SJS Christmas Concert will occur on Friday, December 22 at 10:00 am in the St. Oscar Romero Church. All parents are invited to attend. Doors will open for the concert at 9:30 am (after 9:00 am Mass). All students will return to school after the concert and can be dismissed right after at the school. More information on dress code for the concert will go home next week.

-Be on the lookout as we may also have a themed dress down day or two thrown into the mix.

We love Christmas cards at SJS so please remember us and send one in so we can put it up in our Main Office. It is always great seeing our families in a different light!

SJS Calendar

Tuesday, December 5 – SJS Grade 7/8 Boys Basketball at Galvin Middle School

Friday, December 8 (9:00 am) – All School Mass (Immaculate Conception)

Friday, December 8 – Half Day

Friday, December 15 – Christmas Shoppe and Christmas Dress Down Day

Friday, December 22 (10:00 am) – Christmas Concert (St. Oscar Romero Church)

Second Notices

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) Tutoring

NJHS tutoring occurs every Thursday from 3:15 – 4:15. These sessions are open to Kindergarten to Grade 3 students. There is no need to sign up, just make sure your child's teacher knows they are going. Pick up is at the Main Entrance at 4:15.

Helpful Links

Ebackpack - <https://www.sjscanton.org/e-backpack>

2023-2024 Calendar - [Click here](#)

Chris