



St. Joan of Arc School

Grounded in Faith, Focused on the Future

January 12, 2022

Dear SJA Families,

The hint of snow always seems to create a bit of a stir in school. I think it is the anticipation and the fact that we have no control over what falls from the sky. I love to see the excitement of the students but even more the excitement of the teachers.



This maybe a disappointing fact to all, but at this point in time, we have used all of our snow days built into the calendar. This will not stop the fact that snow may still fall from the sky. The AOB has decided that instead of making up days we will move to remote instruction for weather related closings. I have included information in this newsletter about what to expect and how we will transition to remote learning.

Please be clear, the next day that Harford County Public Schools is closed for weather, St. Joan of Arc School will move to remote learning.

I have and will continue to keep families updated on the latest information and updates from the AOB. It is our goal to keep students in school and everyone healthy. It is important that parents complete a health inventory of their students each morning and do not send anyone to school with COVID symptoms.

Positive results and close contacts or questions need to be reported to the school office:

pfranke@stjoanarc.org, dkestler@stjoanarc.org

We pray everyone remains safe and healthy in 2022.

God Bless,
Ms. Dianne Kestler
Principal

Important Dates

January 12 – 20	Scantron - Winter Testing
January 14	Dress Down Day – rescheduled from Jan 7
January 17	School Closed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 30 – February 5	Catholic School’s Week
February 4	Early Dismissal 12:05

Important Information

Due to the increase in COVID cases, some school and parish activities have and will be canceled out of precaution.

- The students will not be attending Mass in the Church together for the month of January.
- Additional distancing in the classrooms will occur during eating times in the classroom.
- Parent volunteers are limited to outside recess only.

Snow Day Information

Currently we have used our 3 snow days. The next day that we are closed for weather, we will be moving to remote learning for any additional days. If snow is expected, the students will be sent home with their devices and any materials needed for remote learning. The teachers will post links for synchronous

instruction along with activities to do independently. The day will be a normal school day, starting with prayer and homeroom for attendance at 8:10am. Expectations for these days are attached. Please read and go over with your students.

Weather Related Closings

St. Joan of Arc follows the same procedures for closing and delays as Harford County Public School Systems. If there is a delay, regardless of the amount of time, there is **NO** Before Care. In the event that we close early, Aftercare is open for 2 hours after school closing. If schools are closed, there is no Extended Care.

Reregistration

Save \$100 by reregistering your student before January 31, 2022.

Click on the following link to visit your family's **Admissions & Enrollment Portal**:

<https://stjoanarc.schooladminonline.com>

Script Program

Do you want to save money on your tuition for next year? Buy gift cards at face value through: shopwithscrip.com enrollment code: **A9C13C7351446**

Grant and Financial Aid for 2022 -2023

2022-2023 Grant & Aid Applications are due February 28, 2022.

COVID-19 Testing Available

Ripken Stadium in Aberdeen has now reopened for drive-thru COVID-19 testing for anyone age 2 and older. Testing hours are from 9AM-3PM Monday through Saturday. Rapid tests (~15 minutes) and PCR tests (24 - 48 hours) are available.

School Climate Survey

We are pleased to announce that our school will partner with Johns Hopkins University to study how we're doing as a school community.

This is a great opportunity for us to ask everyone involved in our school about important elements of school life that matter for your child's success. This deep dive examines five core areas of school culture: academic life, administration and governance, communality, "the whole child," and organizational identity. If you agree to participate, you will be asked to answer questions for about 15 minutes.

Use this link to participate in our survey. Parents who participate will receive 1 hour of service time.

Take a screen shot of the final screen that shows your survey is complete. Send in an email to Ms. Kestler with the subject line: SJA Climate Survey. This must be in the subject line to get your service hour.

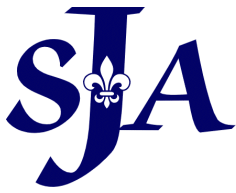
https://jhuedu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4Z9XsEG3jT8T2Vo?Source=St.JoanofArcSchoolParents

Students in grades 6 – 8 will be participating in the survey the week of January 18.

Parish News

Please visit our website at www.stjoanarc.org for updates.





SJA Academic Plan for Remote Learning

In response to weather related school closure, we want to share the plan for whole school remote learning. Our intent is to maintain consistent learning for our students based on daily teacher instruction, assignments and activities provided.

General reminders:

- Chromebooks will be sent home
- Devices should be charged and supplies/materials ready in each student's learning space before the school day begins.
- Students need to be on time, on camera, and in gym uniform for class meetings.

Presentation of Material and Communication:

- Students will be in school and/or working on school related learning for the hours of a traditional school day. Class schedules will be communicated by teachers through Google Classroom, websites or emails.
- All students (PK-8) must sign into their morning homeroom at 8:10am for attendance and prayer. Students must be in school gym uniform and will have the camera on during live sessions.
- Students in PreK and K will sign on for a short periods of time, and will be assigned age appropriate activities to be completed on their own and brought into school upon return.
- Students in grades 1 - 3 will meet live according to their class schedules in the morning and afternoon. The schedule and links will be provided by the teachers.
- Students in grades 4 -5 will meet live according to their class schedule for Religion, ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science. The schedule and links will be provided by the teachers.
- Students in grades 6-8th will follow their daily schedule, with classes starting every 45 or 90 minutes depending on the subject/schedule. The schedule will be posted on Google Classroom.
- **Special areas** (art, PE, music, Spanish, tech) will create assignments for weather-related school closures and share with the homeroom teacher for posting.
 - If the remote day is a Thursday – Band students will meet at their scheduled times. The Band teacher will
- All students should expect to be assigned additional independent work outside the live meetings. Student work must be submitted to the correct teacher by the time students return to school the following day.

- There will be a minimal need for printing material. Students/parents may be asked for a screenshot or photo that is submitted via email or other app.
 - If a picture is part of the submission, it needs to be a clear shot of the paper and work that a teacher can clearly read. Teachers may require a redo or another picture if submission is difficult to read.
- Teachers will be teaching for the majority of each day, so please keep this in mind when contacting them with questions. They may not respond immediately. I am also available via email to support learning as needed.
 - Dianne Kestler dkestler@stjoanarc.org
- Grades/assessments
 - Assessments will be rescheduled for the next in person day.

