



Monday's Memo

Volume 1, Issue 3

October 2, 2017

From the Principal's Pen

Dear Parents and Families of St. Joseph the Protector School,

It is hard to believe that the month of October is already here! School is in full swing with activities, projects, and assessments planned. Please make sure that you are frequently checking our website, your email, and My Student Progress so that you can stay up to date with all that is happening at StJP.

We are looking forward to our First Friday Mass on October 6. Grade 7 has planned the Mass and has spent much time practicing the readings and hymns. Students will be recognized for the September Fruit of the Holy Spirit. National Junior Honor Society students will also be inducted. Please join us at 10:00 AM to celebrate our school community.

Sincerely,
Alicia Farren

Our Catholic Identity

*Vente, Sancte Spiritus
Come, Holy Spirit*



Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Parents, as you pray with your children at home, please continue to practice the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Fruits of the Holy Spirit

For the month of October, **JOY** is the fruit of the Holy Spirit that students and teachers will be discussing in class.

When we ask the Holy Spirit for a life of **JOY**, what we are truly asking is that He brings us the ability to endure hardships and trials with a heart that knows God is right there with us, never abandoning us, and always holding us close. We are asking, not for an easy life, but a life where regardless of what we encounter we accept it with an open heart and a belief that no matter if what we are encountering is suffering or happiness, it will bring us closer to Christ.

Spiritually joyful people put God first in their lives. They realize that "things" the world tells them they need to be happy are not what truly brings contentment. They find that happiness in following God. They regularly say, "Thy will be done!" They are patient, not only with God but with themselves and others. Joyful people make forgiveness a priority. They not only forgive others but they forgive themselves. They try to see the good in every situation. They pray and pray often. They relinquish their troubles to Christ. People that possess joy are thankful. They are thankful not only for the good but for the times where they are asked to pick up their cross. Spiritually joyful people put others before themselves. They know that to serve with an open and giving heart is part of finding joy. They know that when they serve others they are serving God.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

October 5	Pizza Hot Lunch
October 6	First Friday Mass, 10:00 AM
October 12	Fire Truck Demonstration, Kindergarten
October 13	School Open
October 18	Grade 2 Field Trip
October 20	The Living Rosary, 1:15 PM; Trunk or Treat
October 27	ABC Boot Camp Finale, Kindergarten
October 30	Picture Day
October 31	School Open
November 1	School Open/Winter Uniform Begins/ Mass

HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS

HOMEWORK

Homework is given for the following reasons: to foster habits of independent work-study, to reinforce learning that has taken place in school, and to bring home and school together. Each teacher sets up his/her own policy for home assignments. Parents should provide a good study atmosphere, set a definite time for homework each day, and check the homework to ascertain that it has been completed. It is important, however, that parents recognize that homework is the student's responsibility; they should not assume that responsibility for the child. If there is a problem about assigned work, parents should contact the teacher involved by sending a note.

The Office of Catholic Education suggests the following time allotments for daily homework (includes both written and study assignments):

- Grades 1 and 2: 30 minutes
- Grades 3 and 4: 60 minutes
- Grades 5 and 6: 90 minutes
- Grades 7 and 8: 120 minutes

The school realizes that teachers, students, and subjects vary. The objective is not time, but the extension of learning beyond class time.

All written assignments should be done neatly and legibly. No assignment, projected by a teacher to take a few weeks, can be done overnight or in one weekend. Rather, students should approach long-term assignments by evenly distributing the work over a period of time and not procrastinating until the due date. These time-management skills provide vital training for the future. Parents' signatures on homework are at the discretion of the individual teacher. The teacher reserves the right to detain students during recess for the purpose of completing assignments not submitted.

Homework Illness Policy

In the event of absence or suspension, all homework and missed assignments are to be made up.

For short absences students should make arrangements with classmates, check assignments online or obtain them

when they return to school. If a student is absent, parents may call the main office for homework before 10:00AM. Homework may be picked up in the main office after 3:00PM.

Homework Vacation Policy

Parents are strongly discouraged from planning vacations during the academic year. While family time is certainly valuable, interruption in the educational process places a burden on the child to learn and make up the required schoolwork. Prior to the extended absence, the school must be notified. Schoolwork will not be given to the student prior to their vacation as this work is a follow-up to the teacher's instruction. It is the responsibility of the student, upon returning, to meet with the teacher/teachers to discuss plans for making up all missed work and tests. It is also the responsibility of the student to make up the missed work within a week of returning.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Please make dental and doctor appointments after school hours. When it is necessary for a child to be excused from school before the regular dismissal time, a note must be given by the child to his/her teacher in the morning. A child leaving school early must be picked up by a parent, or an authorized person representing the parent, in the Main Office. The parent or authorized person must sign the child out from the school office and will be required to show proper identification. Students may NOT be picked up for early dismissal after 2:30PM. Students that leave school early are not eligible for perfect attendance.

CELL PHONES/OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students are permitted to have cell phones at school. If the phone is not collected by the homeroom teacher, the student's phone MUST be kept in a student's backpack and MUST be OFF. The purpose of having a cell phone in school is for emergency ONLY. Therefore, no student needs to have the cell phone on his/her person at any point during the school day. All electronic devices must always remain in the schoolbag when in the building. Any students who do not follow the guidelines above are subject to disciplinary action. Phones and electronic devices carried on the student or outside of their backpack will be confiscated.

Home & School Happenings October 2, 2017

Important Information!

- **Make a Difference:** Volunteering is a great way to meet other parents and support the school. To [sign up to volunteer, click here.](#)

Event	Date	Location	Description	Contact	Links
Trunk or Treat	Friday, 10/20 (6:00-8:00)	Jenkintown Campus	All families are invited to dress up, decorate their car trunks, and give candy to our "trunk or treaters." Prizes awarded for best trunks and costumes.	Christy Lafond	RSVP to Deniseldurante@gmail.com
Father/Daughter Dance	Saturday, 11/4 (7:00-9:00)	Father FitzPatrick Hall	Dads and daughters from grades Pre-K 4 through 8th are invited to cut a rug! Cost is \$20 per family.	Sue Fidler Melanie Lucot	Registration coming soon Volunteer (scroll down to Father/Daughter)

Movie night was a hit! More than 70 kids watched Boss Baby in their jammies.

Are your houses clutter-free? We received an amazing amount of donations this past weekend for our Fall Clothing Drive fundraiser.

Thank you to all the volunteers for making this weekend a success. And special thanks goes to **Kate Murray** for chairing movie night and **Kathy Cassidy** and **Joanne Majeski** for running the clothing drive.

For more Home & School news, visit [our blog](#). To contact Home & School, please email homeandschool@stjpschool.org.