



SJPII Family Fact Sheet 02/25/2022

“Know the Truth and the Truth will set you free.”

John 8:32



Dear Families,

Next week we begin the beautiful season of Lent with Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras) and Ash Wednesday. We are called to be an Easter people with our focus on the Death and Resurrection of Our Lord. Before we enter our eternal salvation, we must take up our crosses in life and follow Him. Lent means “springtime and lengthening of days.” Often, spring pruning is required in order to allow for new growth. In the same way, we engage in pruning during Lent allowing us to enjoy the new life of grace at Easter by removing from ourselves the things which inhibit our spiritual growth. The Church guides us in that process by encouraging an increase in prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Your children will be supported in this journey at school, and our prayer is that school and family will work in tandem to allow the entire community to benefit fully from our Lenten practices of additional prayers (i.e. Stations of the Cross), fasting (especially on designated days), and almsgiving (acts of service).

Caritas in veritate,
John Donohue

Virtue of the Week: Sincerity

NEW AND EXCITING

- **Mardi Gras Miles 5K Fun Run (TOMORROW):** Saturday, February 26th 2022. It’s finally here! Whether you’re participating in the big event as a runner, a donor, a volunteer, or an official sponsor, the wheels you’ve set in motion now culminate in the excitement, the rigor, the athleticism, the prestige, and the self-determination that is the thrill of friendly competition layered over some of the bests in our community. You too can still join in, right up to the minute it all begins.
<https://runsignup.com/Race/NC/SouthernPines/MardiGrasMiles5KFunRun>
- **Healthy Kids Running Series:** Sundays, March 6th through April 10th 2022 at the SJPII campus. Arrivals begin at 2:30pm, the activity begins at 3:00pm. Contact Ms. Potts with questions elenapotts4@gmail.com and check out details about the series at <https://healthykidsrunningseries.org>
- **Lenten Food Collection:** SJPII collects for St. Anthony’s Food Pantry during Lent. We encourage families to enjoy one meager home meal each week in solidarity with those who utilize our pantry. Please see our flyer for recommended pantry donations.
- **Golf Club:** Participating 5th-graders begin practicing at Whispering Pines Golf Club starting Monday, February 28th. Practices will run from Monday through Thursday, 3:30pm to 5:00pm. The cost is \$200 for 9 weeks of golf. Checks should have been turned in to Ms. Sheets in the office yesterday, Thursday, February 24th. Golf Club openings remain limited to the 5th-grade this year.
- **Mary's Manor:** Thoughts soon turn to gardens. Our Mary's Manor garden could benefit from a few new or gently used improvements/donations. Sturdy, plastic kitchen items, wind chimes, whirligigs, and other whimsical additions are welcome.
- **Summer Camp Registration:** Now open. Please see the attached registration form. 10% off if registered by March 15th.
- **2022-2023 Academic Calendar:** Attached, please find the academic calendar for the next school year, 2022-2023.
- **School Health Update:** There have been no new positive cases of COVID-19 reported during this school week.
- **Illness & Education:** The severity of any pandemic has a way of shifting one’s focus. It is incumbent upon us to remind our community members that temporary illnesses of any kind, not just COVID-19, do not belong in a classroom setting. Sending children to school while exhibiting fever, coughing, vomiting, sneezing, diarrhea, etc. does not merely run the risk of passing an illness along, but is further distracting to the class and, further still, inconsiderate of classmates and teachers. Your Family Handbook makes particular, repeated note of students refraining from classroom distractions as it, likewise, points out the requirement to keep a feverish or vomiting child home “until both symptom-free and fever-free for 24 hours, without the use of medicine.” This handbook requirement has pre-dated the current pandemic by several years and we expect it to be followed.
- **Parent/Teacher Partnering & Masks:** Now that masks have become optional for students at SJPII, if you are a parent who wishes for your child to continue wearing a mask, please both impress this upon your child personally, and additionally, if you so desire, contact your child’s teacher so that s/he may help honor your wishes in the classroom.

REMINDERS

- **PTO Board Nominations:** <https://zfrmz.com/Rk4b3MteIyxmaE1fYdxy>
- **Golf Tournament:** Our PTO’s hosting the Inaugural SJPII Spring Golf Tournament at Whispering Pines Country Club on Saturday, March 26th. Packets in this regard were sent home last week. The digital version of that packet is attached with today’s Family Fact Sheet.

UPCOMING AT SJPII:

- **Shrove Tuesday Bake Sale Fundraiser:** March 1st. Please consider stopping by during pick-up to enjoy a cookie, brownie, or other sweet treat before beginning your Lenten sacrifice. The sale benefits 8th-grade projects including Legacy Gift and/or class trip.
- **PTO Rosary Group:** For SJPII parents. Thursday, March 3rd at 2:30pm in the SJPII chapel. There is a change in the point of contact for this. Please contact Ms. Phillips for information: maggie.m.phillips@gmail.com
- **7th-Grade Class Trip Chaperones:** 7th-graders will be going to Camp Thunderbird in Lake Wylie, SC, overnight, from May 12th through May 13th. To keep costs down, transportation will need to be provided by the parents. If you are interested in chaperoning, please contact Mr. O’Connell or Ms. Nickens. poconnell@jp2catholicschool.org tnickens@jp2catholicschool.org