



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER November 17, 2023

Dear Families –

Christmas is around the corner. **Please make sure you mark your calendars for our Christmas program on December 6<sup>th</sup>.** The program will be at the Our Saviour Church and Pre-K will start at 6:00 and then K – 4<sup>th</sup> grade will follow at 6:30. Parents of Pre-K students will need to exit the church promptly so that parents of the K – 4 students can get seated in time for the 6:30 show. Parents of our K – 4<sup>th</sup> grade students should NOT enter the church until 6:15 pm to avoid interruptions to our Pre-K program.

**The Band and Choir Christmas Program will be on December 19 at 6:00 pm at the Our Saviour School gym.** This program will include Band Students in grades 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, Youth Choir, and Mixed Choir.

**Shout outs to our Geo Bowl participants as well as our coaches, Ms. Koleczek and Mrs. Davis. Team members are:** Presley B, Jaxon B, Audrey B, Samantha C, Bryce C, Marcel G, Brady J, Nathan P, Sloan T, Jack W, Owen W, and Howie W. Shout outs to our GREEN and WHITE team! Both teams tied for 4<sup>th</sup>!

**Good luck to our** girls basketball team as they begin postseason play this weekend on Saturday, November 18th at 10:00am against Springfield Christian in Ashland.

**HOUSE ACTIVITIES:** Our November House activity will change our Non-uniform Day slightly on November 21<sup>st</sup>. We normally would ask everyone to bring \$1 for non-uniform to go to the Food Pantry. Instead, we are asking students to bring **at least** 1 non-perishable food item for the non-uniform day on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Points will be awarded based on number of food items from each house. Also, we will be having a house contest with the food items and external judges will help us to determine the winner. While students can wear non-uniform, we suggest students wear their house shirt, a shirt the color of their house, or spirit wear (which can include the Parent Club sweat pants. No other sweat pants are allowed.)

**Just a reminder – students must sit in the gym if they are attending a sporting event. They are not allowed to run around the school/concession area, nor play on the carpeted ramp in the gym. Thank you.**

**Late Start:** Once again, Our Saviour School will be utilizing “Late Start” days due to extreme wind chill temperatures or icy road conditions. As we coordinate with Jacksonville School District and Rount Catholic High School, on late start days, school will begin **two (2) hours later than usual** and buses will run their regular routes unless otherwise noted. Whereas our doors typically open at 7:45 a.m. and the last bell rings at 8:07 a.m., with this “Late Start” option, our doors will open at 9:45 a.m. and the last bell will ring at 10:07 a.m. Those using Jacksonville bus service in the morning, the bus will pick you up 2 hours later. “Late Start” is an option to allow school districts to continue with school (while starting later) and therefore, eliminating the use of a snow day. The decision for wind chill and ice situations should be made by approximately 5:30 a.m. I will send out notice via School Messenger as soon as determination has been made. **Please note – while we try to coordinate bus schedules with Jacksonville School District, we do NOT necessarily follow their weather related schedule. We will send a School Messenger if OUR schedule changes.**

**A reminder that any outstanding lunch balance or after school care balance over \$50** at the end of 1<sup>st</sup> semester will be taken out of their FACTS account on or around January 5<sup>th</sup> to zero the account. Please make sure that you have your lunch and after school accounts paid to current prior to leaving for Christmas.

**The Girls on the Run Program** is wrapping up our fall season. We would love to have a spring program in 2024 but we are in need of at least two additional volunteers to help as a coach or practice partner. Practices are twice a week from 3:00-4:30 starting in March for 10 weeks. You do not have to be able to run, you just need to be able to encourage the girls and have fun! The program is open to all girls in grades 3rd, 4th and 5th. If you are interested or have questions,

please contact Sara Schumacher at 217-473-7817.

**Fireside Chats:** Wanting to remind our Catholic school families to sign-up for one of the Parish Fireside Chats. Please sign up at: [https://ptcfast.com/schools/Our\\_Saviour\\_School\\_and\\_Parish](https://ptcfast.com/schools/Our_Saviour_School_and_Parish)

The remaining dates are:

November 28 – 6:15 pm  
November 29 – 6 pm  
November 30 – 6:15 pm  
December 3 – 11:45 am

We hope to see each Catholic family at one of the Fireside Chats (in the Upper Convent) as it will be an opportunity to network with other school families and build comradery while discussing the future of the school.

As this will be our last Parent Letter before Thanksgiving, I want to wish each of you a wonderful Thanksgiving, celebrating with family and friends. Let us all be thankful for the many blessings God has bestowed on us.

With Shamrock Blessings,

Mrs. Stevie VanDeVelde

**Dates to Remember:**

November 19 – High school and Middle school youth program meet at 7 pm – Upper and Lower Convent  
November 19 – Parent Sacramental Meeting for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade – 11:30 – Upper Convent  
November 21 – Non-uniform Day for a Cause – Food Pantry  
November 22 – 24 – Thanksgiving Break – no school  
November 26 – Youth Mass – 10:30 am  
November 29 – No JSD PM Bus  
December 3 – High school and Middle school youth program meet at 7 pm – Upper and Lower Convent  
December 6 – Christmas Program at the church – Pre-K at 6 pm and K – 4<sup>th</sup> grade at 6:30 pm  
December 6 – Parent Club “Pack the Place” at Leo’s Pizza  
December 8 – Holy Day Mass at 8:20 am and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Retreat  
December 12 – Confirmation at The Cathedral in Springfield  
December 13 – House Night at Boys Basketball – students wear their house shirt and cheer the boys’ basketball team on!  
December 14 – Parent Club – 6 pm – Art/Science Lab  
December 17 – High school and Middle school youth program meet at 7 pm – Upper and Lower Convent  
December 17 – Solemn 1<sup>st</sup> Communion at 10:30 Mass  
December 18 - Student Council Pajama Day – Bring \$1 to wear school-appropriate PJ’s for Food Baskets  
December 19 – Band and Choir Christmas Program – 6 pm – Our Saviour School Gym  
December 20 – Red and Green Day – End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter  
December 21 – January 2 – Christmas break – no school  
January 3 – Teachers’ Institute – No student attendance  
January 3 – “Pack the Place” at Leo’s Pizza  
January 4 – Students Return to School – No JSD Bus  
January 5 – Spirit Wear Day – Report Cards Home – No JSD Bus

Tuesday, January 2, 2024      4:00 - 6:00 pm – Gently used uniform exchange  
Thursday, January 4, 2024      4:00 - 6:00 pm – Gently used uniform exchange  
Friday, January 5, 2024      4:00 - 6:00 pm – Gently used uniform exchange  
Tuesday, January 9, 2024      8:00 - 10:00 am and 5:00 - 6:00 pm – Gently used uniform exchange  
Thursday, January 11, 2024      8:00 - 10:00 am and 5:00 - 6:00 pm – Gently used uniform exchange  
Friday, January 12, 2024      5:00 - 6:00 pm – Gently used uniform exchange  
February 13 – House Night at Volleyball - students wear their house shirt and cheer the volleyball team on!

# FOUR HOUSES – ONE FAMILY

