



The Weekly Newsletter of Mr. Courchane
September 18, 2026

"Today and every day, be a peacemaker."

Dear 8th Grade Parents:

I need to address a few matters that are less positive this week. First, cell phones need to be in the student's backpack during the day and turned off. Three times already my teaching has been interrupted by a ringing cell phone. Sometimes we might forget to turn the phone off. Three times is pushing my patience.

Second, students have the opportunity to retake assessments in my room if they receive a grade of 1. Three criteria need to be met for this to occur. They must get the original assessment signed by a parent. They must correct the original assignment. They must make arrangements with me to take a similar test before we have completed the next unit of learning. I do not force students to retake a test. It is up to them to demonstrate the desire for improvement. I strongly urge students to avail themselves of this chance, though.

Third, Tuesday was an out of uniform day for summer birthdays. This would have applied to four 8th graders. However, none "knew" of this day. It was noted in my Friday Folder slips and in my weekly newsletters and in the school newsletter. It is important students take a few seconds each week to actually read these items and see what is going on at SJE.

In other news: In science we are still learning Newton's Laws of Motion. In religion we are learning about Old Testament covenants. We are continuing to get to know our buddies. We are doing Friday Buddy Day activities such as web page designs and nature journals.

Important Dates

September 22 – September birthdays out of uniform day.

September 23 – Chesterton High School visit to SJE.

-- St. Matthias High School Fair

September 30 – St. Lawrence Seminary visit to SJE.

Sincerely,

Mr. Courchane

8th Grade Homeroom

Middle School Science and Religion

"By all these lovely tokens, September days are here. With summer's best of weather and autumn's best of cheer." -Helen Hunt Jackson

