

# ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY PARENT NEWSLETTER

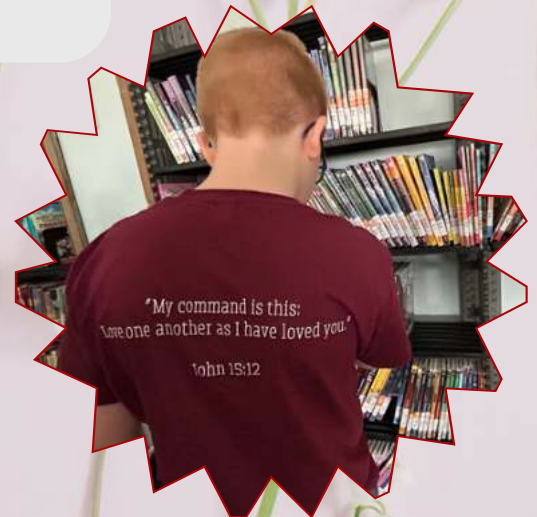
stjohnsacademynd.org

## APRIL 2025



### Important Dates

- MAY 2 – PEP RALLY – 11:45AM DISMISSAL**
- MAY 2 – FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION**
- MAY 4 – MRS. FIX RETIREMENT OPEN HOUSE**
- MAY 5 – MUSIC CONCERT**
- MAY 6 – MAY CROWNING**
- MAY 8 – 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BISMARCK TRIP**
- MAY 9 – KINDER PARENT DAY**
- MAY 12 – LIVING MUSEUM – 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**
- MAY 16 – BOOK PARADE – 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE**
- MAY 20 – 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GRADUATION DINNER**
- MAY 21 – LAST DAY – 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GRADUATION MASS**



"But Peter got up and ran to the tomb, bent down, and saw the burial cloths alone; then he went home amazed at what had happened."

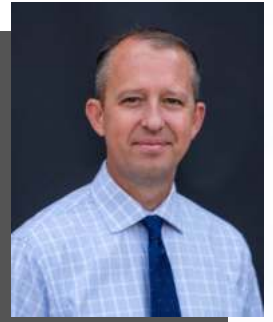
Luke 24:12

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

ST. JOHN'S



ACADEMY



St. John's Academy Families,

Happy Easter! As we celebrate the glorious Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are filled with renewed hope, joy, and gratitude. Easter is the heart of our faith—a reminder that love triumphs over darkness, and new life is possible through Christ.

## **He is Risen! Let Us Rejoice.**

As we enter the Easter season, we are reminded that this is not just one day, but a 50-day celebration of joy and life. May the light of the Risen Christ continue to shine in our hearts, our homes, and our school. Our challenge and great privilege is to carry that joy into all we do—in our classrooms, on the playground, and in our relationships with one another.

## **Important Updates & Reminders**



### First Communion & Confirmation

Please keep our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in your prayers as they prepare for their First Communion and Confirmation on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. These sacraments are such important steps in their faith journey, and we are so proud of their commitment.



### Standardized Testing

Testing will take place the week of April 28 – May 9. Please ensure students are well-rested, eat a healthy breakfast, and arrive to school on time.



### Spring Music Recital

Join us on Monday, May 5 at 6:00 PM in the Gallagher Commons for a night of musical entertainment. I

## **A Message of Hope**

This Easter, let us remember the words of Pope Francis: “Christ is alive! He is our hope, and in a wonderful way he brings youth to our world.” We pray that the Risen Lord continues to guide and bless your family. Thank you for being a part of the St. Michael's community. Together, we are raising children of faith, love, and purpose.

Wishing you all a joyful and grace-filled Easter season!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature of Jeff Trumbauer.

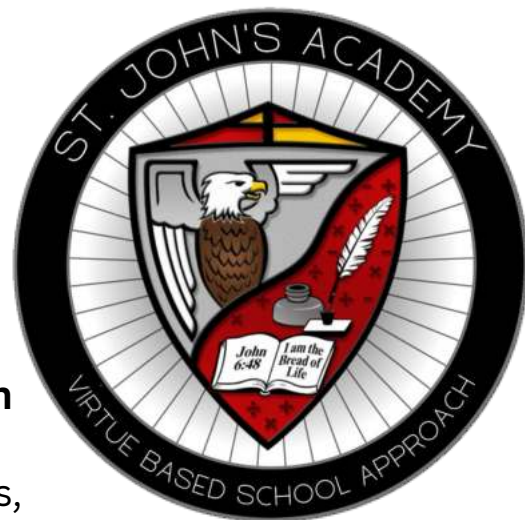
Jeff Trumbauer

Principal – St. John's Academy



# A Virtue-Based School Approach

## Intentional Approach on Educating in Virtue



### The Cost of Neglecting Virtue Formation in Children

In a fast-paced world increasingly influenced by screens, instant gratification, and ever-changing cultural values, it has never been more important to consider the importance of virtue formation in children. Neglecting to instill virtues such as honesty, patience, humility, compassion, and courage, runs the risk of raising a generation well-equipped with information but lacking in character.

Without guidance in virtue, it is highly likely that children will struggle to navigate moral dilemmas, resist peer pressure, or form authentic relationships. The absence of a moral compass will lead to increased anxiety, impulsivity, entitlement, and a diminished sense of responsibility. These outcomes don't just affect individual children — they ripple outward, influencing classrooms, families, communities, and ultimately society at large.

Virtue formation is not about enforcing perfection, but about helping children recognize right from wrong and develop the ability to choose the good, even when it's difficult. Virtue education is rooted in love, modeled through consistent adult example, and nurtured by daily habits and faith. In Catholic education, this task is of the highest priority. We are not only teaching children to read and write, but to love God, to serve others, and to become the people they are called to be.

When we prioritize virtue, we help children grow into wise, resilient, and joyful adults. When we neglect it, we risk leaving them unanchored in a world that desperately needs the light of goodness. As parents and educators, it is important that we commit ourselves to forming the hearts and souls of the next generation with care, conviction, and Christ at the center.

# ADVANCING OUR MISSION

## WITH PAM PERLEBERG

Dear Alumni & Friends of St. John's Academy,

The past year has flown by - and it has been a year full of blessings and growth at St. John's Academy. I'm looking forward to many upcoming events (highlighted below), and getting together with many of you to celebrate our wonderful Academy!

I wanted to share a few ways you can support the endeavors of the Academy - we have a Teachers Endowment Fund available to contribute to - which will help us provide competitive salaries for our teachers in the future, and obtain the best possible talent for our children's education. We hope to build this fund to provide stability in maintaining as well as replacing teachers as needed.

Raffle tickets are available for the Buck Tag/Cash Raffle - to be drawn on August 21st - stop by the SJA office or KCs/Club 1883 to pick up one - or if you would like to sell some for us, please stop by

We also have a recurring gift option available through the website - you can designate your gift to be weekly, bi-weekly or monthly - or a one-time gift. In the "other" category - you can indicate where you would like your gift to be contributed. You can use the QR code below to connect to the site. Every gift makes a difference for our students, teachers and staff.

If your business is interested in being a Community of Saints sponsor - we will be renewing memberships in July. Please contact me if you would like to learn more.

It is through the support of loyal, dedicated alumni and friends our students can continue to thrive in the same traditions and caring values. We so appreciate your commitment to our students, our staff, and our mission at St. John's Academy.

Thank you - and God's Blessings to you.

*Pam Perleberg*  
ADVANCEMENT DIRECTOR



Office: 701-252-3397

Cell: 701-293-0495

Email: [advancement@stjamesbasilica.org](mailto:advancement@stjamesbasilica.org)



### Upcoming Events:

May 4th - Marlys Fix Retirement Open House 2- 4 pm SJA Commons

July 26th - SJA All-Class Reunion Open House 1 - 3 pm SJA Commons  
Mass at 5 pm - St. James Basilica

August 24th - Community Corn Feed - 11:30-1:30 pm  
Stutsman Co. Fairgrounds

October 25th - HOPE Dinner Gala - SJA

# Mrs. Gange's Kids' Kingdom

In April we finished assessments and are now moving on to the fun part of the school year. The weather is getting nice, we are going to adventure outside a little more.

This month's family homework is building a bug. Along with building a bug comes with science. Science is crucial at a young age because it helps them understand the world better. Science is a tool and rulebook that allows them to figure out how things work. For example, how plants grow or why the sky is blue. These are all things that can be learned & talked about at home too.

For preschoolers to experience science you can use simple concepts related to everyday experiences. (Like the weather, basic cause and effect relationship)

Engage in sensory activities and simple experiments to explore concepts like sink and float or mixing colors.

These are great ideas to make a summer full of learning.





# Mrs. Mahoney's Kids' Kingdom

## Dear Kids' Kingdom Parents,

So much growth has taken place this year! Much of which cannot be recorded on paper. As we enter our last month together, I hope you felt cared for this year. I hope you have felt the love we have for our job as teachers, your child, and your family's well-being. My wish, ideally, is that you have felt connected to your child's school experience, and in turn, it has strengthened your family unit in some way or another. It sure has been fun to review your monthly assignments!

Primarily, early childhood is about the development of emotional and social skills. Mrs. B and I strive to create an environment where our students can grow in independence and learn to interact with others as they prepare for school years ahead. It's our hope that you are moving forward with a feeling that you were a part of this introduction to formal education and that we were a team. After all, you are your child's most influential teacher!

We're grateful that you shared your Little One with us as they began their school journey. Much love to you all! - Mrs. Mahoney





In April, our Pre-K class embraced the beauty of new beginnings. We joyfully celebrated Easter, teaching the children that Jesus is risen—a powerful reminder of hope and renewal.

Through stories and crafts, we shared how Jesus' resurrection brings new life to all. Our classroom came alive as we explored nature, planting grass seeds and observing their growth, learning about the parts of a plant. These experiences not only deepened their understanding of the world around them but also highlighted the wonder of God's creation







# COMMUNITY OF SAINTS SPOTLIGHT



**BANK**   
**FORWARD**

FIND SJA ONLINE!

[www.stjohnsacademynd.org](http://www.stjohnsacademynd.org)

 [stjohnsacademy](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsacademy)

 [@sjacademy1890](https://www.instagram.com/sjacademy1890)



# Kindergarten

April brought snow showers and rain showers. The kids had fun watching the snow fall from the sky. They had a blast at recess when they got to play in the snow. Rain showers kept us inside, but the kids enjoyed extra free play.

Friendship Friday this month was Things That Go. The kids always like the activities that are planned in each classroom based on the theme. We spent time learning about the stations of the cross and preparing for Easter. We started our Lenten journey by making a clay pot and each week we added an item to the pot to help remind us to show compassion to others.

There isn't much time left in Kindergarten. The students have come so far this year. It is always amazing to see the progress that is made.





# First Grade



April was a busy month for our first graders. We started the month with some yucky snow on April 1st. We were hoping it was an April's Fool joke, but it wasn't! We then memorized the Stations of the Cross and watched the Christian Mimes perform for us. They really brought it to life for us! We earned our class reward and got to wear pajamas/slippers to school. So comfy!

After Easter, we were able to unbury our Alleluias and hang them on our door.

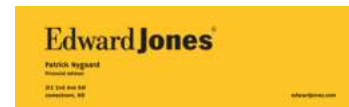
We will finish out the year by learning everything we can before we head to second grade and enjoying the beautiful weather!







# SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY OF SAINTS



For more information on our Community of Saints program, visit:  
[www.stjohnsacademynd.org](http://www.stjohnsacademynd.org)



# Second Grade

What a fun-filled year it has been to learn and grow together in 2nd grade! We have been completing monthly book reports and are looking forward to presenting our floats in the book parade next month. We appreciate learning about the virtues each week and applying them to our daily life. This has allowed us to build our character and lead a more purposeful life!



## In April we learned about:

- the Mass being both a holy meal and a sacrifice
- interpreting data
- habitats
- how life changes throughout history
- pronoun-verb agreement
- multiple meaning words





# Third Grade

**Spring is blooming with so many wonderful moments in our 3rd-grade classroom!**

We are so proud of our students who have been preparing for and recently completed their Sacrament of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation studies (on May 2nd). This spiritual milestone has been such a meaningful journey, and it's been a joy to witness their faith and understanding grow and how they can be spiritual warrior for Christ. We were also blessed to attend the Fargo Diocese Chrism Mass in Fargo!

In science, curiosity took center stage as we dissected owl pellets—a fascinating (and slightly messy!) way to learn about food chains, animal adaptations, and ecosystems. Our scientists showed such enthusiasm and care during this hands-on exploration!

Math has been equally exciting as we dove deeper into how multiplication and division are connected. Students have been discovering patterns, building strategies, and making real-world connections that show just how fun math can be when we work together.

Students performed fractured fairy-tale reader theaters in class and they showed their dramatic skills to all. We laughed, we cried, we sang songs... well, some of us did! 😊

Most importantly, our classroom continues to be filled with kindness, leadership, and inspiration. This group of learners consistently shows us what it means to lead with heart. Whether it's helping a classmate, sharing a creative idea, or simply offering a smile, they are truly becoming the leaders we hope to see in the world.

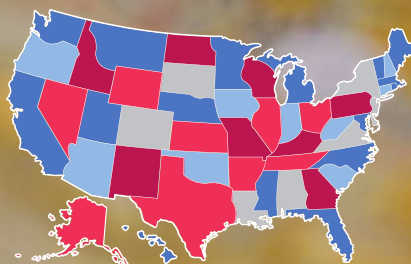
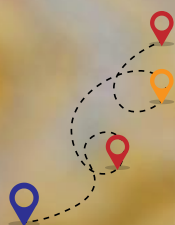
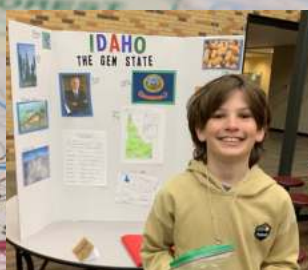
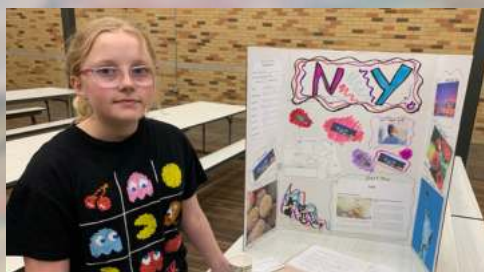
**Thank you for your continued support and partnership. As we move into the final stretch of the year, we're excited to keep learning, growing, and celebrating all that makes 3rd grade so special.**





# Fourth Grade

After a month of hard work researching, note-taking, report writing, presentation board creating and presentation preparing, the fourth graders were ready for the States Fair at SJA! They did a great job!!





# Fifth Grade

Finished science weather unit. Moving on to human body.  
Studying the Civil War.

Finished fractions, moving on to measurement. For our next science unit, we'll be delving into the fascinating world of the human body. Students will explore the different systems, learn about how they work together to keep us healthy, and discover interesting facts about what makes us tick.

In history, we're embarking on a journey through the Civil War, where students will gain a deeper understanding of this pivotal period in American history. They'll examine key events and figures, and discuss the impact the war had on the nation's development.

In math, having mastered fractions, our focus will shift to measurement. We'll explore various units of measurement, engage in hands-on activities, and apply our knowledge to real-world situations, making learning both fun and practical.





# Middle School

The end of the year is approaching at break-neck speed, but the middle school students and teachers are hanging on and loving the ride! The 8th graders had the trip of a lifetime together when they went to Minneapolis on the 8th Grade Mission Trip. They put in a full 2 days of learning, fun, and service. One of the highlights of the trip was a tour of the Cathedral of St. Paul. This cathedral has a rich history and seeing an exact replica of Michaelangelo's Pieta is an experience I invite everyone to take the time to do. One of the best memories and heart-warming experiences was packing food at Feed My Starving Children. We are all called to make a difference, and this group certainly did!

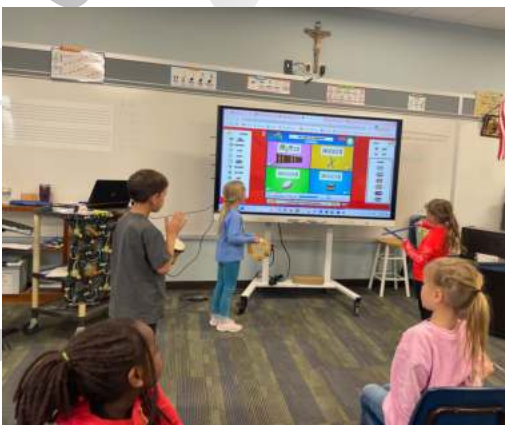
Both 6th and 7th graders continue to enjoy the experiences they are given at SJA every day. There is always something new, fun, and challenging to look forward to. Dot and Dash have joined the 6th grade science class. Students are being entertained as they learn to code these crazy robots. The 7th graders did an amazing experiment where they were able to create a "plastic" out of milk and vinegar. We are thankful for all we get to do at school!





# Music Class with Mrs. Sprague

April was spent learning about long and short sounds, same and different, and high and low with the littles. Middle elementary have been learning about dynamics, tempo, and instrument families. Older grades have been learning about music and composers of the Romantic and Impressionist period and playing recorders.





# SJA Band & Choir

## Mrs. Lynch



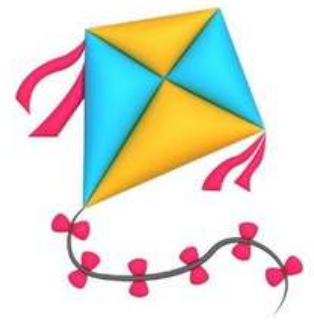
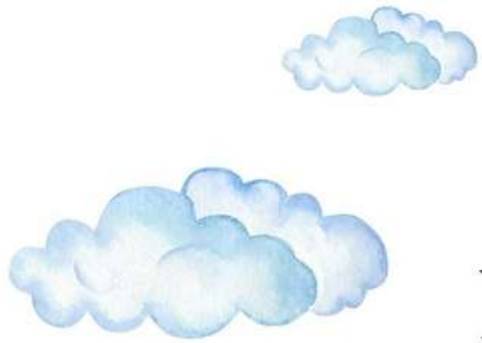
Throughout this semester, the bands have been focusing on a variety of musical skills, including articulation patterns, exploring new key signatures, recognizing dynamic changes, interpreting tempo and stylistic markings, and strengthening rhythmic accuracy. Meanwhile, the choir has been deepening their understanding of solfege (do-re-mi, etc.) and its role in sight-reading, and building confidence in singing harmonized parts. Their vocal tone and blend continue to improve as they practice proper vocal techniques, particularly breath support and vowel placement.

The SJA Choir has been invited to perform in the Jubilee Concert at St. James Basilica on Sunday, April 13, at 2:00 PM. They will present a unison piece on their own and join the Basilica Choir for a four-part arrangement, singing in the soprano, alto, and tenor sections. All are welcome to attend this special event!

Looking ahead, the Spring Concert featuring the bands and choir is set for Monday, May 5, at 6:00 PM in the SJA Gallagher Commons. The evening will showcase performances from both bands, the choir, and select solo and ensemble pieces. Mark your calendars and come celebrate the hard work and talent of our young musicians!









# May 2025

## St. Johns Academy Breakfast Menu

| MON  | TUE   | WED   | THU   | FRI   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
|                               |  |  | <p>1</p> <p>Pancakes<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>  | <p>2</p> <p>Cinnamon<br/>Pastry<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>                             |
| <p>5</p> <p>Poptart<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>  | <p>6</p> <p>Frosted Donut<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>                     | <p>7</p> <p>Breakfast Pizza<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>                   | <p>8</p> <p>French Toast<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>                                    | <p>9</p> <p>Cinnamon Roll<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>                                   |
| <p>12</p> <p>Yogurt<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>  | <p>13</p> <p>Pancake &amp;<br/>Sausage Wrap<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>   | <p>14</p> <p>Scrambled Eggs<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>                   | <p>15</p> <p>Strawberry<br/>Pastry<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>                          | <p>16</p> <p>Muffin<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>   |
| <p>19</p> <p>French Toast<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>  | <p>20</p> <p>Cooks Choice<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>                     | <p>21</p> <p>Cooks Choice<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>                     | <p>22</p>  | <p>23</p>  |
| <p>26<br/>MEMORIAL DAY</p>  | <p>27</p> <p>Frosted Donut<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>                    | <p>28</p> <p>Cheese Omelet<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>                    | <p>29</p> <p>Pancakes<br/>Cereal<br/>Fruit &amp; Milk</p>                                       | <p>30</p>  |










# May 2025

## St. Johns Academy Lunch Menu

All Meals Served With Fruit, Veggies, And Milk

| MON   | TUE   | WED   | THU  | FRI   |
|---|---|---|--|---|
|    |  |  | <p>1</p> <p>Pepperoni Pizza<br/>OR<br/>Ham Sandwich</p>  | <p>2</p> <p>Mac And Cheese<br/>Garlic Toast<br/>OR<br/>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly<br/>Sandwich<br/>Early Dismissal</p> |
| <p>5</p> <p>Hamburger<br/>Potato Fries<br/>OR<br/>Ham Sandwich</p>                  | <p>6</p> <p>Chicken Nuggets<br/>Bread Stick<br/>OR<br/>Turkey Sandwich</p>        | <p>7</p> <p>Hotdog<br/>Baked Beans<br/>OR<br/>Ham &amp; Turkey Wrap</p>           | <p>8</p> <p>Teriyaki Chicken<br/>Fried Rice<br/>OR<br/>Ham Sandwich</p>                        | <p>9</p> <p>Pizza Sticks With<br/>Sauce<br/>OR<br/>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly<br/>Sandwich</p>                         |
| <p>12</p> <p>BBQ Rib Sandwich<br/>Corn<br/>OR<br/>Ham Sandwich</p>                  | <p>13</p> <p>Chicken Quesadilla<br/>With Salsa<br/>OR<br/>Turkey Sandwich</p>     | <p>14</p> <p>Corndog<br/>Baked Beans<br/>OR<br/>Ham &amp; Turkey Wrap</p>         | <p>15</p> <p>Taco In A Bag<br/>OR<br/>Ham Sandwich</p>   | <p>16</p> <p>Fish Sticks<br/>Coleslaw<br/>OR<br/>Sunbutter &amp; Jelly<br/>Sandwich</p>                           |
| <p>19</p> <p>Chicken Burger<br/>Baked Beans<br/>OR<br/>Ham Sandwich</p>             | <p>20</p> <p>K-8<sup>th</sup> Picnic<br/><br/>Child Care<br/>Cooks Choice</p>     | <p>21</p> <p>Last Day Of School<br/>Ham Dismissal<br/><br/>No Lunch Served</p>    | <p>22</p>  | <p>23</p>                    |
|  | <p>27</p> <p>Child Care<br/>Mini Corndog<br/>Fruit<br/>Veggies<br/>Milk</p>       | <p>28</p> <p>Child Care<br/>Chicken Strips<br/>Fruit<br/>Veggies<br/>Milk</p>     | <p>29</p> <p>Child Care<br/>Pizza<br/>Fruit<br/>Veggies<br/>Milk</p>                           | <p>30</p>  <p>20</p>         |