



# Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



October 3, 2024

*Empowering students to grow as informed, inspired, compassionate souls.*

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff,

We are so blessed to have many supporters of our schools who understand the value of a Catholic Christian education and who support events that assist SJRS and OLMA in providing the best possible quality instruction to students. Among these supporters is the awesome Knights of Columbus Council #819 who consistently sponsor activities and fundraisers for us. Our schools and students benefit very much from this relationship, so we thank them for two fun gatherings from this past weekend, the annual golf tournament and the Saturday BBQ at St. Bernard.

We also thank all the golfers who played in our tournament at Bretwood Saturday morning. Special kudos go to Mrs. Jen Marshall and Mr. Jim Konopka for getting everything organized. It was a beautiful day, weather-wise, with plenty of laughs, fundraising for the schools, and only a few mulligans. (Well, maybe more than a few...)

The BBQ later that same day was a huge and delicious success that helped raise money for future scholarships. Many parishioners came out to show that they back our schools and are always delighted to hear the great things our students are doing...such as playing the national song of India at the Keene International Festival or running in the DeMar Marathon..just see the pictures below to check out some of the things our students have been up to lately.

And while we welcome the donations and assistance from our local friends, we also remember that we, in turn, must help others. Having seen the devastation that Hurricane Helene brought to homes, schools, and churches in the southeast, we decided to have a dress down day on Friday, October 4 to help the victims rebuild their lives. This is a concrete way for SJRS and OLMA students to practice the corporal works of mercy and for our staff to reinforce the morality and importance of community involvement taught at home. Please be as generous as possible, and one more thank-you to everyone who helped in any way to make our golf tournament and BBQ dinner so successful.

In His service,

Miss Victoria Farrington  
Principal

## **MATTHEW 18: 3-5**

"Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the Kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Friday 10/4** -- Dress Down Day (see details below)

**Saturday 10/5** -- Car wash to benefit Cedarcrest (see details below)

**Monday 10/7** -- Girl Scouts (see details below)

**Wednesday 10/9** -- All-school Mass -- 9:30am

**Thursday 10/10** -- Pumpkin carving -- 5-6:30PM (see details below)

**Monday 10/14** -- Columbus Day -- **NO SCHOOL**

**Tuesday 10/15** -- Picture Day (see details below)

**Thursday 10/31** -- Halloween Parade/Parties

And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me."

(details coming soon!)

**Friday 11/8** -- Parent-Teacher Conferences --

**HALF DAY**

**Monday 11/11** -- Veterans Day -- **NO SCHOOL**

**Wed-Fri 11/27-29** -- Thanksgiving Break -- **NO SCHOOL**

[CLICK HERE](#) for the **UPDATED 2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

### **DRESS DOWN DAY**

**TOMORROW, Friday, October 4,** will be a special dress down day with a requested \$2 donation per student (or more, if you wish). All monies collected will be going to the Diocese of Charlotte (NC) to help assist the many Catholic schools and churches that have been flooded and severely damaged by Hurricane Helene recently. Students may be out of the dress code tomorrow, but must still be appropriately attired for school.



Our Lady of Mercy Academy Parking Lot

# **FALL**

*car wash*

## **OCTOBER 5TH**

1:00 - 3:30 / BY DONATION  
CASH ONLY PLEASE

Donations will go to the  
Cedarcrest Center for  
Children with Disabilities



### **!! IMPORTANT RIDES LINE REMINDER !!**

A reminder for all rides line families...if you are parking on Wilson Street and walking over to get your students from the rides line area, **please enter and exit through the walkers gate only and NOT the car gate (driveway)**. We have had families walking in and out through the space where the cars pull out, and have had a few instances of families walking out and stopping the flow of traffic exiting the school parking lot and turning onto Wilson Street. Please do not enter or exit through the car gate, and please wait until both rides lines have stopped completely before walking through the exiting traffic along the sidewalk. Our top priority is keeping everyone safe during our dismissal time. THANK YOU!

### **50/50 RAFFLE**

All 50/50 raffle tickets have been distributed at this time. If you have not received yours, please be sure to check your child's backpack.



Once your tickets are sold, you may send the stubs/money back into school at any time. They can be given to your student's homeroom teacher or directly to Ashley Brown in the Main Office. THANK YOU!

**If you have any questions or would like additional tickets, please contact Jen Marshall ([jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org](mailto:jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org)).**

**Elakkiyan Devidayalan (Grade 2)** was featured on the front page of *The Keene Sentinel* earlier this week for his

# International Festival brings global culture to Keene

By ABIGAIL HAM  
Sentinel Staff

The annual Keene International Festival filled Fuller Park and the Keene Recreation Center with color, music and the smell of food Saturday. Food booths and arts and crafts stalls offered locals a taste of the global cultures represented in the Monadnock Region, from Finnish caviars to Pakistani clothing. Numerous activities and workshops invited attendees to learn about African drumming, enjoy a performance of Haitian dance, or page through Keene Public Library books in a variety of languages.

An annual staple in recent years, the festival celebrates and honors the cultural diversity of the Monadnock Region.

"The first step in respecting and knowing about other cultures includes from becoming aware of others being around," said organizer Rita Bhaskari in an email, adding that the region has a diversity of people and cultures who can all come together at the international festival.

Led by Bhaskari, the planning committee included Andy Bahamson, Julie Moulton, Madhu Bolam, Lisa Akhavan, Aggie Consonas, Carrab Park Heronsey, Amy Kowarsky, Hunter Kowleser, Lori Goldring, Milena Lima and Jennifer Alexander. They represent various local organizations such as the Keene School District, Keene India Association, Keene Public Library, City of Keene Human Rights Committee, and Keene Community Education.

Food vendors served up a variety of delicacies, with long lines of locals queuing up to purchase Somali injera, Greek spanakopita, and Jamaican jerk chicken.

Some vendors, like the Greek booth, are International Festival veterans with dedicated local fans. Christa Akhavanopoulos, who was helping at the booth, said they'd had people stop by before they even opened for the morning. "They said we've here

See THE KEENE on page A2



Photos by ABIGAIL HAM / Sentinel Staff



Elakkiyan Dovi Dayaram, 7, above, performed the national song of India at the Keene International Festival Saturday in Fuller Park. To the right, earrings made by Samantha Beault of Keene attracted the attention of attendees.

**WEL WEATHER**    **FORECAST, A4**    **225**    **TODAY: 70** | **TONIGHT: 50** | **TUESDAY: 69**  
**OPINION/LETTERS: A5** | **SPORTS: A7**    **MAGAZINE: B1** | **COMICS: B2** | **CLASSIFIEDS: B3**  
 10 sections, 12 pages    New Hampshire's oldest newspaper: Guarding the past, tending tomorrow    Established 1799  
[sentinelsource.com](http://sentinelsource.com)       \$3.00

## performance at the Keene International Festival last Saturday! Great job Elakkiyan!!!

## GIRL SCOUT TROOP 59010

Next Monday, October 7, at 4:30pm in the SJRS gym, the Girl Scouts will be holding a meet and greet to share the plans for this school year. All interested girls in grades 5-8 are invited along with their parents.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact SJRS parent Serena Shomody ([sshomody@yahoo.com](mailto:sshomody@yahoo.com)).



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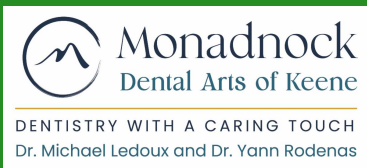
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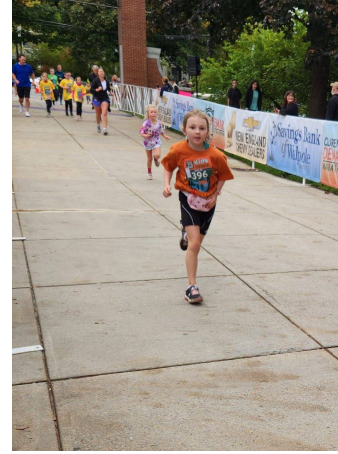
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**CONGRATULATIONS** to all of the SJRS students (and accompanying parents!) who ran the **Kids Clarence DeMar Marathon** this past Sunday morning! **SUPER JOB** everyone!!



### **2024-25 MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER**

**Tuesday, October 8** -- Trinity @ 4:00 pm at Trinity School

**Thursday, October 10** -- Mountain Shadows @ 4:00 pm at Mountain Shadows in Dublin

**Tuesday, October 15** (rain date Thursday, October 17) -- Soccer Team vs Faculty/Parent game at SJRS soccer field (all parents welcome to play) -- Pizza party for kids after the game.



**BRING WATER BOTTLES, SHIN GUARDS, TEAM SHIRT AND CLEATS (if you have them).** \*\*All practices are Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:00-5:00 PM. The season is from Sept 3 through Oct 17 with games and the final faculty/parent game included.\*\*



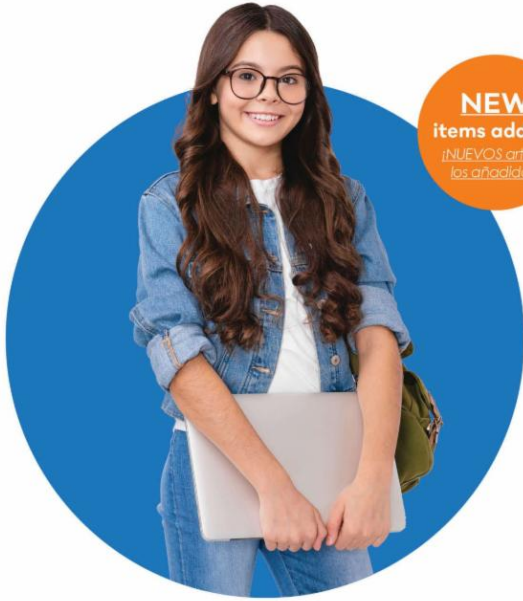
It was a beautiful day for our **annual golf tournament** this past Saturday at Bretwood Golf Course! A huge **THANK YOU** to all of our golfers, volunteers, sponsors and raffle prize donors!





# PICTURE DAY IS ALMOST HERE!

¡El día de la foto llegará pronto!



**NEW**  
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Saint Joseph Regional School



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