



# Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



September 26, 2024

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

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff,

Thank you to the parents who attended our initial Home and School meeting on Tuesday night. This is what was shared with them.

We are restarting a parent group:

- as a way to work on fundraising and fun-raising activities for our schools;
- as a venue for important presentations to parents (such as cybersafety tips);
- as a platform for parents to talk about and give input on important school matters
- as a way to support the Mission of our schools.

The group will be called Home and School because it incorporates the two parts of a student's life, the home and the school, that work in partnership to provide the best quality Catholic Christian education possible. It is not a PTA or PTO which are also national organizations with dues and legislative agendas. Exception: any legislation focused on increasing state scholarships for students is something for which we'd advocate.

The meeting was an open exchange of ideas and hopes for the new school year, and the parents who were present expressed interest in continuing these discussions while planning ways for them to become involved in the many fun things that we do at SJRS and OLMA. Our schools absolutely need more parents to help plan and work at events, and we encourage new and creative ideas from them.

If you were not able to attend this meeting, there will be plenty more opportunities to participate. My plan is to have regular Home and School meetings to organize activities, and to also have some 'fireside chats' which would be more of a Q and A about school issues. The next newsletter will include some additional dates for these, so stay tuned.

Again, thanks to the parents who attended. I know our school is on a good path when staff and parents join together for the benefit of our awesome students.

In His service,

Miss Victoria Farrington  
Principal

## **LUKE 9: 2-3**

(H)e sent them to proclaim the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick. He said to them, "Take nothing for the journey, neither walking stick, nor

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Saturday 9/28 -- Golf Tournament at Bretwood**

**(see details below)**

**Sunday 9/29 -- Blessing of the Animals -- 1pm (see details below)**

**Tuesday 10/1 -- NHDI meeting (see details below)**

**Wednesday 10/2 -- All-school Mass -- 9:30am**

**Thursday 10/3 -- Vision screenings**

**Thursday 10/10 -- Pumpkin carving**

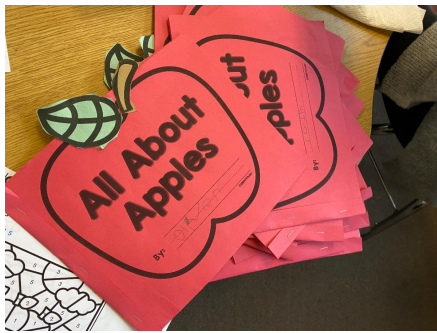
sack, nor food, nor money, and let no one take a second tunic."

**Monday 10/14 -- Columbus Day -- NO SCHOOL**  
**Tuesday 10/15 -- Picture Day (see details below)**

**CLICK HERE for the UPDATED 2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR**



Mrs. Dubois's Kindergarten students enjoyed their APPLE PARTY this morning with crafts and delicious tastings! Thank you to all of the parents who joined us!



### 50/50 RAFFLE

Just about all of the 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)).**



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

### LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Last Friday we had the speeches and elections for the Middle School Leadership Council.

#### 2024-2025 Leadership Council Officers

President: Brynn Bezio -- Grade 8

Vice President: Keagan Sweeney -- Grade 8

Secretary: Anna Rafail -- Grade 8

Treasurer: Jackson Royce -- Grade 6



### FRENCH CLUB

#### 2024-2025 French Club Officers

President: Sharon Adams

Vice President: Lilith Stephens

Secretary: Tiger Lily Stoutzenberger

Treasurer: Brooklyn Pymm

Event Coordinators: Sophie Tarnowski , Baylen

Raynor, Eli Lavigne, and

Acacia Stoutzenberger



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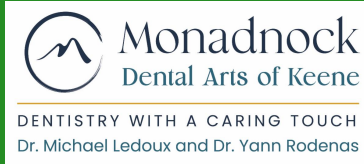
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From Mrs. Heeran: Middle School Youth Group (MSYG) met on Sunday, September 22. We worked hard for our meal, lots of peeling potatoes and apples! While everything was cooking, we learned about the virtue of Humility and how Jesus is our perfect role model. We prayed the Litany of Humility and then it was time for some sculpting! Displayed below are our works of art! We finished with apple crisp. It was a blessed time together!



#### A Middle School Youth Group Proverb

May your virtues not become  
extinct like the dinosaur.  
May your humility be  
firmly planted and sprout abundantly  
like the broccoli.  
May your will soften like the potato,  
boiling in water.  
And may the Holy Spirit pour its gifts over you  
like a river of gravy.  
Amen

#### NHDI INVITATION

Last week during school, interested students in grades 4-8 participated in a sample class for the 2024-2025 NHDI Year-Long Program.

On **next Tuesday, October 1, at 5:30 pm in the SJRS gym**, parents of interested students who want to participate in the NHDI Year-Long Program are invited to a short informational meeting. While some of you may have already registered your children, we still encourage you to attend. NHDI Coordinator for SJRS, Andrea Wright, will briefly give more information about the program, registration, fundraising, and the expectations for all participants. She will also answer any questions you may have at this time. We ask that only parents attend.

To register your child for the 2024-2025 NHDI Year-Long Program go to:

<https://www.nhdi.org/year-long-program>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Andrea Wright ([wrightortizfamily@gmail.com](mailto:wrightortizfamily@gmail.com)).







OLMA 10th grader Ethan Petschik had his sheep on campus yesterday, since he was headed straight to a 4-H event at the Deerfield Fair after school. His sheep got many happy visitors!!!

## 2024-25 MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER GAME SCHEDULE

**Thursday, September 26** -- St. Michael's School @ 4:00 – 5:00 pm at TBD St. Michael's School in Brattleboro, VT

**Thursday, October 3** -- St. Michael's School @ 4:00 – 5:00 pm at Home

**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.\*\*



*Our 8th grade soccer players(left to right): Philip Benitez, Dane Singleton, Brynn Bezio, and Reid Pearson.*

*Bless your pet for the Feast of St. Francis*



# BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

From kittens to chickens, guppies to puppies, there will be a blessing of the animals in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. This event is open to the parish, the schools and the entire community, so come and enjoy this wonderful tradition.

*Sunday, September 29th*  
1:00PM



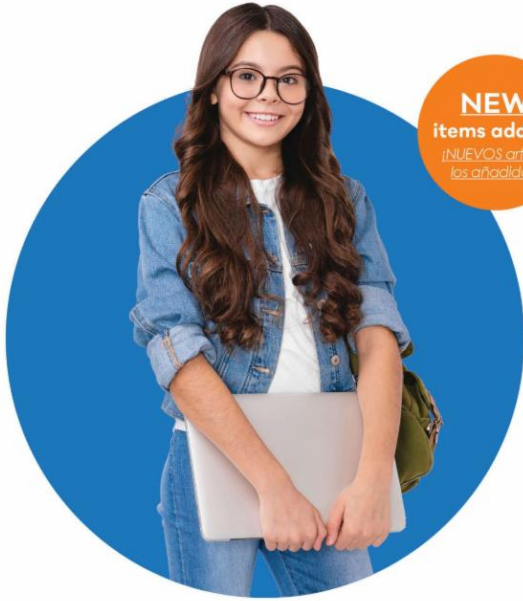
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# PICTURE DAY IS ALMOST HERE!

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