



Saint Joseph Regional School Our Lady of Mercy Academy



August 29, 2024

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

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff,

We are almost done with our first full week of school, and I would like to thank:

- our parents for entrusting their beautiful children to our school;
- our families for being patient as we refresh our recall of the parking lot routines;
- our students...I have been really impressed by their excellent manners and good behavior;
- our staff for making students feel welcome and loved from the moment they stepped through the school doors;



- Fr. Alan and the choir, servers, lector, and eucharistic ministers for a joy-filled first school Mass. We commissioned our 8th Graders and 12th Graders as the leaders for each school;
- the excitement of the beginning of the school year. Yes, we will have some bumps along the way, but we all want the best possible spiritual and academic environment for our children, and working together, we will continue to make SJRS and OLMA the best schools in Keene.

Please join us on Friday, September 13, for the Back to School Picnic ! This is a great event that students love and also a great time to meet one another in a relaxed setting, enjoy the fall weather, some good food, and even better company.

Also, a reminder that there is NO SCHOOL on Monday, September 2, for Labor Day.

In His service,

Miss Victoria Farrington
Principal

MATTHEW 23:12

Whoever exalts himself
will be humbled; but
whoever humbles
himself will be exalted.

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 9/2 -- Labor Day -- NO SCHOOL

Tuesday 9/3 -- Middle School Soccer begins (see details below)

Wednesday 9/4 -- All-school Mass -- 9:30am

Wednesday 9/4 -- Middle School Cross Country begins (see details below)

Sunday 9/8 -- Middle School Youth Group -- 4-6pm (see details below)

Friday 9/13 -- Back-to-School Picnic – 5:30-7:30pm (see details below)

Sunday 9/15 -- Parish of the Holy Spirit Faith Formation Family Picnic -- after 11:15am Mass (see details below)

Tuesday 9/17 -- Middle School Back-to-School Night
Wednesday 9/18 -- Elementary School Back-to-School Night
Saturday 9/28 -- **Golf Tournament at Bretwood (see details below)**
Thursday 10/3 -- Vision screenings
Monday 10/14 -- Columbus Day -- **NO SCHOOL**
Tuesday 10/15 -- Picture Day

CLICK HERE for the UPDATED 2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

2024-2025 FORMS TO BE COMPLETED

All permission and school acknowledgment forms are in the Renweb Family Portal to centralize all documents and forms. These forms can be accessed from the homepage of your account. **ALL FAMILIES MUST LOG IN AND COMPLETE ALL FORMS!**

To find the forms:

- **Go to <https://sjo-nh.client.renweb.com/pwr/>**
- Log into your Renweb Family Portal account.
- Type in the District Code: SJO-NH, your username, and password. (If you have forgotten your username or password, please click on the link provided for help.)
- Under the “School” drop-down on the left side of the screen, locate “Web Forms.”
- Click on “Web-Form” to access the permissions slips and acknowledgments.
- Forms that need to be completed will appear in blue. You will need to open and sign each form individually.

THE DEADLINE TO COMPLETE ALL FORMS IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6.

If you have any questions, please contact Megan Amundson (mamundson@stjosephkeene.org).



On Monday morning, we honored our 8th graders as they begin their final year at SJRS and take on their leadership role in the school community!



ATHLETICS FORM

For any students playing sports outside of SJRS, please complete the below linked Google Form so that we can put a calendar together for teachers. Please note that all students should reach out to teachers if they will be missing a class PRIOR to leaving for the day. This form will need to be completed for each sport played.

CLICK HERE for the Athletic Participation Form

If you have any questions, please reach out to our Athletics Coordinator Ali Wilson (awilson@stjosephkeene.org).



MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER

Come join the SJRS Middle Soccer Team! All skill levels encouraged to join. **Practices and games to be Tuesdays and Thursdays from September 3 until October 15.** A \$10 suggested donation per family is asked to help offset new uniform jerseys. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Petschik at wpetschik@stjosephkeene.org.

Please CLICK HERE to indicate your interest in soccer!

MIDDLE SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Middle School Cross Country will be Mondays and Wednesdays, **beginning next Wednesday, September 4.** All interested students should meet in the gym by 3:00pm and be ready to run!

Please CLICK HERE to complete the sign up form.

If you have any questions, please contact SJRS parent Miranda Tarnowski (baleen8652@yahoo.com).

LUNCHES

Hot lunches will be available **starting next Tuesday, September 3**. Ordering via Renweb is now available in the Lunch Orders section. Orders are placed in RenWeb, then you will be invoiced via FACTS, and payments should then be made promptly via FACTS. Our lunch options this year are:

Monday -- Cheese pizza -- \$2.75/slice

Tuesday -- Chicken nuggets with mac & cheese -- \$5.00

Wednesday -- Ham/turkey/bologna/veggie sandwich with chips -- \$5.00

Friday -- Cheese pizza -- \$2.75/slice

If you have questions about ordering through Renweb, please contact Ashley in the Main Office (ashleybrown@stjosephkeene.org).



Everyone got to work right away on our first day of school!



BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

5:30-7:30pm

Celebrate back to school time with our whole school community!

We are asking that families with the last name beginning with **A-L** please bring a side dish or a salad to share with everyone.

Families with the last name beginning with **M-Z** please bring a dessert item to share.

We'll have seating in the field and under the tree at Mercy. The playground will be open for students to play on, however, please know that we do not have any faculty/staff monitoring them, so parents should consider themselves in charge of their students while they are here.



Middle School Youth Group Ephphatha! Be Open!



REMINDER ARRIVAL TIME FOR PreK-4

A reminder that this year we have a **new earlier arrival time** for all students in grades PreK-4. Students in grades PreK-4 are now expected to arrive at SJRS **by 8:15am.** Extended Day (formerly called Child Care) will operate 7:15-8:15am. All students in all grades will go to their classrooms at 8:15am. We have made this change so that the entire school is starting at the same time every day.

The middle school start time remains the same as in the past. **Students in grades 5-8 must arrive by 8:15am.**

All students must be dropped off at the main entrance of the school when they arrive (not at the playground).

All classes begin promptly at 8:30am. If students arrive to school after 8:30am, they must first go to the Main Office and be signed in by a parent/guardian there.

A reminder that consistent ON TIME arrival every day is essential to the academic process and to achieving the maximum benefit from the SJRS education programs.

NEW ATTENDANCE EMAIL

If your student is going to be absent or tardy, please send an email to attendance@stjosephkeene.org or place a phone call to the Main Office (603-352-2720) with a valid reason by 8:30am. Parents may call or email anytime. Please leave a message if you get the voicemail. Voicemails/emails are checked promptly throughout the school day.

2024-2025 SJRS FAMILY HANDBOOK

Please be certain to review the updated SJRS Family Handbook. The handbook can be found on our website here:

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the 2024-2025 SJRS Family Handbook on our website.



A FAMILY OF FAITH

Family Catechesis
for Our Parish

Family Faith Formation

The theme of this year's family faith formation program is Christian Prayer, as we follow volume four in the series A Family of Faith. We will be exploring and experiencing various forms of prayer, unpacking the significance of the petitions in the Our Father, drawing closer to our Blessed Mother, and more!

Parents meet monthly to receive teaching, inspiration, and support both for their own faith journey and for guiding their children in lessons at home. There are also opportunities to gather as families in community to live out our faith together.

We encourage all families with children from Kindergarten to middle school to participate in this opportunity to grow and deepen your faith life together. There is always more to learn!

Participation in the program is required for families of children in grades 1-3 or older who are preparing to receive the sacraments of reconciliation (typically, second grade), confirmation and first communion (generally, third grade).

Please register online using the link on the Parish website swnhcatholics.com. Feel free to contact Carol at faithformationswnh@gmail.com with any questions.

Our year will begin with a family picnic after the 11:15 Mass on Sunday, September 15th! Burgers, hot dogs, and drinks will be provided. Feel free to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD



Honoring the beauty, depth, and joy of the child's relationship with God

Based on the child development principles of Maria Montessori, CGS is hands-on, contemplative method of religious formation that takes place in a specially prepared space called the atrium. Everything in the atrium is designed to foster exploration and wonder as we work with essential elements of the liturgy and scriptures.

The Good Shepherd calls each of us by name, cares for us, and gives us everything we need. In the atrium we are given the freedom to hear His voice, to get to know Him, and to respond with our whole being.

CGS is an especially beautiful way for children to understand the gift and significance of receiving the sacraments of reconciliation, first communion, and confirmation.

We will be offering sessions for Level I (ages 3-6) and Level II (ages 6-9) beginning in late September. Please contact Carol at faithformationswnh@gmail.com if you are interested, and look for our table at coffee and donuts in the next weeks!

SJRS EXTENDED DAY

SJRS offers the Extended Day program (formerly called Child Care) each day in the morning and afternoon for all students in all grades. **All families utilizing the program this coming school year must enroll.**

Please **CLICK HERE** for all of the details and the Enrollment Form.



50/50 RAFFLE COMING SOON

This fall we will once again be having our annual 50/50 raffle! Each student will receive an allotment of 12 tickets. All families will be responsible for either selling their allotted tickets OR they may purchase the tickets themselves. Keep an eye out for more details and your tickets coming to you on the Back-to-School Nights! If you have questions, please contact Jen Marshall (jmarshall@stjosephkeene.org).



A promotional poster for a golf tournament. The background is a blurred green golf course with a white golf ball on a red tee in the center. Text on the poster includes: "THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 819 ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL SCHOOL | OUR LADY OF MERCY ACADEMY PRESENT", "4th Annual SJRS/OLMA Golf Tournament", "SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 8:30AM SHOTGUN START BRETWOOD GOLF COURSE", and "WWW.MERCYACADEMYKEENE.ORG/GOLF". To the right of the poster are three logos: the top one is the Knights of Columbus Council 819 logo, the middle one is the Knights of Columbus logo, and the bottom one is the Our Lady of Mercy Academy logo.

Our annual GOLF TOURNAMENT is coming up!

Join us to hit the beautiful fairways of Bretwood Golf Course. Play is Scramble format with great prizes. The field will be limited to the first 100 golfers (25 foursomes) to register, so gather your family, friends, and colleagues! **CLICK HERE for details and to register!**

Highlight your business with us as one of our **sponsors!** Personal/individual sponsorships are welcome also. Lots of different sponsor levels are available.

<https://www.mercyacademykeene.org/golf-sponsorships>

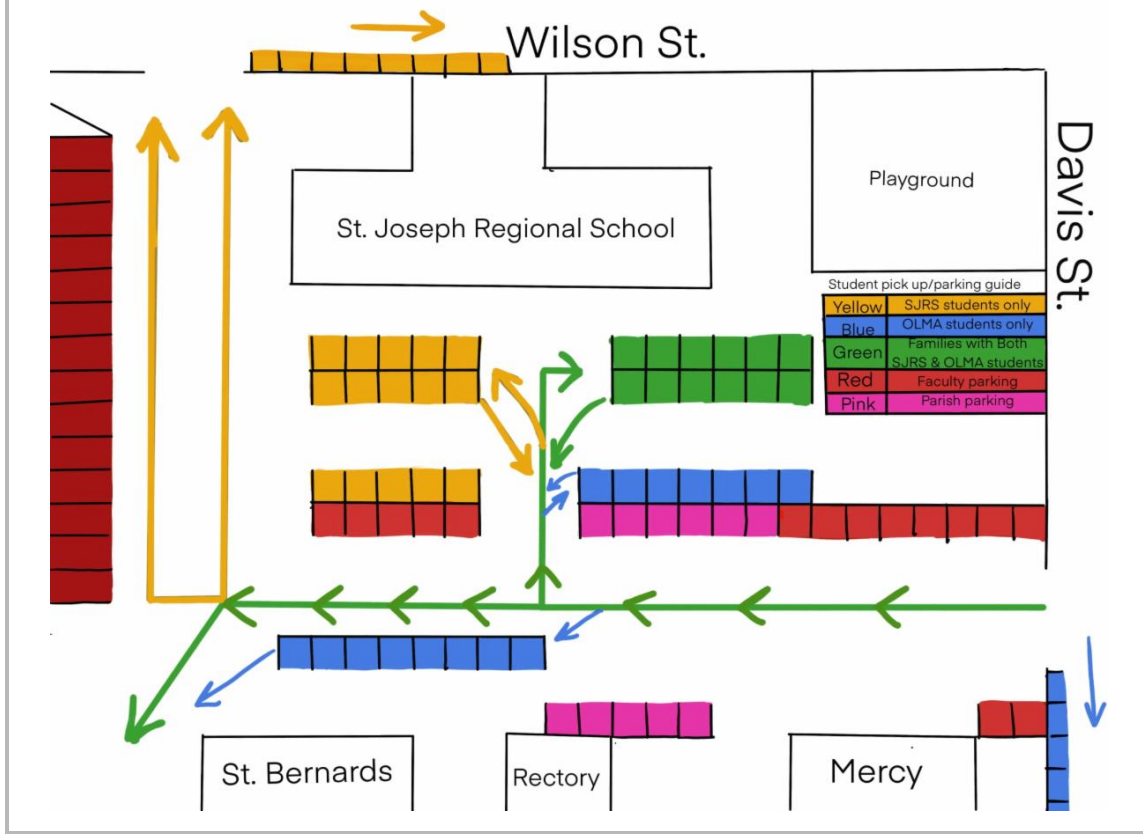
DISMISSAL

SJRS students may be picked up in several ways beginning at 2:50pm. As always, safety is our top priority. Always be aware of students walking in the parking lot and always drive slowly. **Please see the map below as a guide.**

If you are entering the parking lot for dismissal, **you must enter via Davis Street (GREEN ARROW).** **When exiting, you must exit on the SOUTH side of St. Bernard's Church (GREEN/BLUE ARROWS),** unless you are in the rides line.

1. You may park along Wilson Street (YELLOW) and pick up your student. You must walk over and get them directly from the teacher before rides line begins to move. Your child's teacher must know that you are taking them before you do.
2. You may park in the school/church parking lot in the designated area (YELLOW) and walk over to get your child directly from the teacher before rides line begins to move. Your child's teacher must know that you are taking them before you do.
3. You may join the rides line (TWO PARALLEL YELLOW ARROWS) and pick up directly at your car. Your student will be brought to you at your car.

4. If you have a Mercy Academy student, the Mercy student may pick up their siblings at the playground door (known as the "Mercy door") and walk the students to your parked car in the parking lot near the flagpole (**GREEN**).



St. Joseph Regional School | 92 Wilson Street | Keene, NH 03431 US

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