



St. John the Evangelist
2024-2025
PARENT and STUDENT
HANDBOOK

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St. John the Evangelist is a co-ed elementary school for grades Pre-K through 8th grade. St. John the Evangelist School reserves the right to amend the Parent/Student Handbook and parent(s)/legal guardian(s) will be notified of any changes made. This Parent/Student Handbook is an informative booklet for parents and students setting forth the rules and policies of the school and is not intended as an expressed or implied contract.

Overview

Vision Statement

Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore nurture and sustain the God given gifts of every person, especially students, to be used in service to the Mission of Jesus.

Mission Statement

Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore provide a Christ-centered education that is academically excellent and empowers students to reach their full potential spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, and morally. Fostered through robust collaboration among all stakeholders, the mission is accomplished through accountable leadership at all levels, ongoing and coordinated strategic planning, centralized efficiencies, and financial sustainability.

History of School

Sharing the campus between parish and school, Saint John the Evangelist serves the community of Severna Park, Maryland, and surrounding area, providing ministry for the faith community, and academic needs of many.

- The school opened in 1959, and currently serves approximately 560 students from preschool through grade eight.
- There are 56 faculty and staff serving on the school faculty.
- In 2008, Saint John the Evangelist School was awarded the National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the U.S. Department of Education.
- In 2017, the school earned the status of Maryland Green School by the State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources and earned recertification in 2021.
- Typically, 100% of St. John the Evangelist School graduates are accepted by the high school of their first choice.

Accreditation

St. John the Evangelist School is accredited by Cognia through June 2027. In accordance with standards set by the Archdiocese of Baltimore, St. John the Evangelist School met the requirements established by the Cognia Accreditation Commission and Board of Trustees and was thereby accredited by the SACS Council on Accreditation and School Improvement.

Awards & Accolades

National Blue Ribbon Award 2008

Green School Award 2017, 2021

National Catholic Identity Award, 2020

Administrative Team

St. John the Evangelist Administration and Leadership team for the 2024-2025 school year

Dr. Glenna Blessing, Principal
 To be announced, Assistant Principal
 Mrs. Lynne Fish, Director of Advancement

Faculty and Staff

School faculty and staff are listed on the website at: <https://www.stjohnspschool.org/about-us/faculty/>

School Board Members

Saint John the Evangelist School is a parish school whose leadership includes the parish pastor, principal, and assistant principal. School board members are advisory to the pastor and principal and serve terms on behalf of the school. The following is a list of current school board officers:

Alex Meyer, Chairperson
 Ed Turner, Vice Chairperson
 Marian Baxter, Secretary
 Joseph Bonner, Treasurer
 David Niccolini, Member Ex Officio

School Calendar 2024-2025

The school 2024-2025 school calendar is available on the school Weebly on Dr. Blessing's page.

New to the 2024-2025 school year St. John the Evangelist School will be identifying **3 inclement weather days** into the calendar. Please note that for each inclement weather day we need to use to close school from August-April, we will take away one of the 3 inclement weather days (days off) identified in April-May.

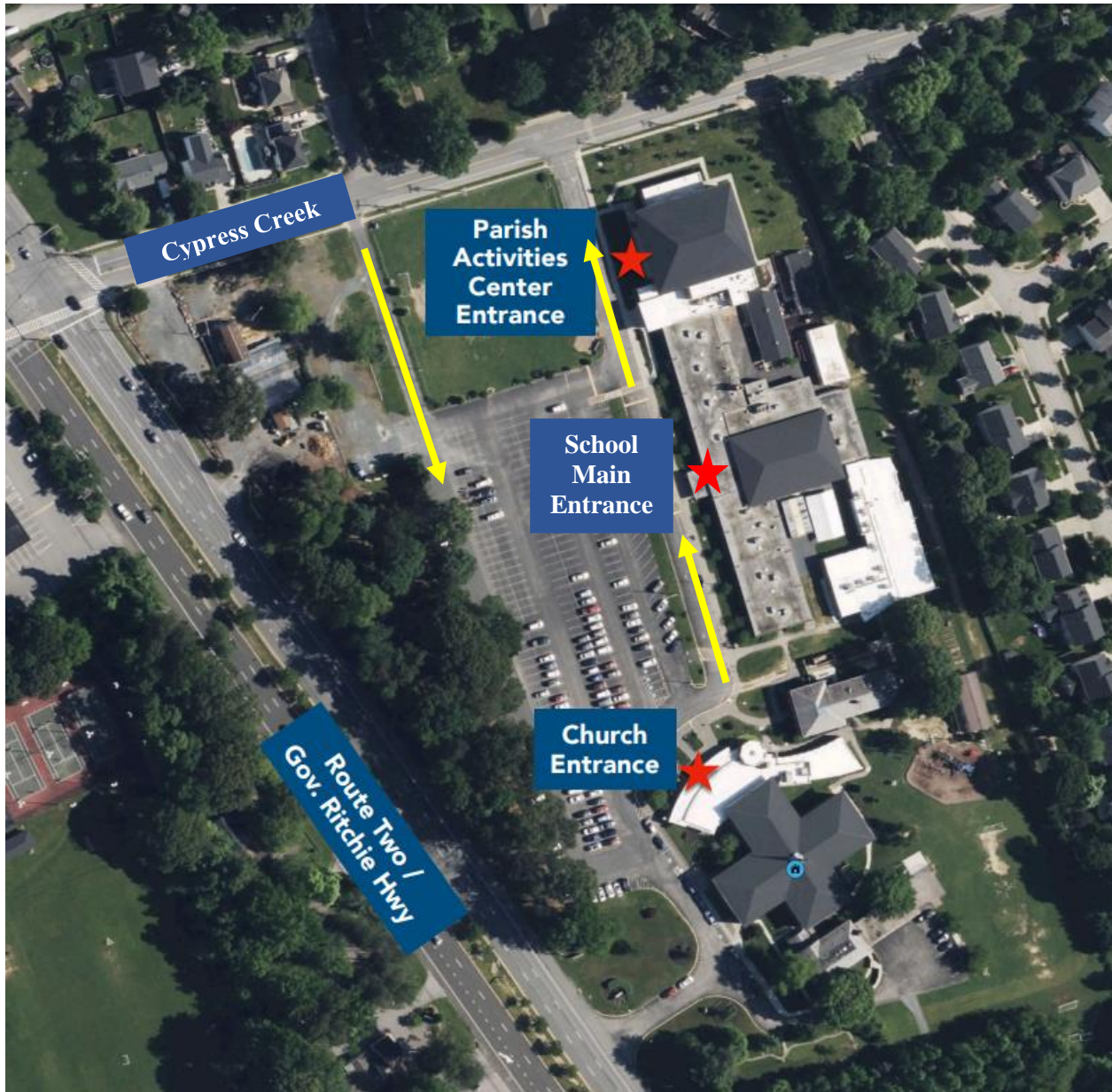
- The 3 inclement weather days identified in April – May:
 - March 25, 2025
 - April 28, 2025
 - May 21, 2025

New to the 2024-2025 school year are **2 asynchronous ½ days** for students. Students will be responsible for completion of work posted to students, so that teachers will be given the time to input final grades for the trimester.

- The 2 asynchronous ½ days for students:
 - November 15, 2024
 - February 28, 2025

Campus Map

St. John the Evangelist is located in just off of Ritchie Highway (Rt. 2) and Cypress Creek. Note that the entrance off of Cypress Creek is a designated one way and the exit from the school on the service road is also one way as noted by the arrows depicted below. When arriving to campus, it is important to maintain attention to the following directions listed below and to adhere to directions from faculty and staff. Safety is paramount when driving in the parking lot, especially during arrival and dismissal times.



Traffic Directions

These instructions are very important to read and follow carefully to ensure safety, minimizing the chance of injury for all. We also want traffic to move smoothly for the benefit of all.

Morning Arrival

All cars are to enter by the Cypress Creek Road Entrance only (not off Ritchie Highway) from 7:40 a.m. until 8:10 a.m. All cars continue from the entrance following the traffic pattern to circle around the parking lot to the service road that runs in front of the school building. Students are to be dropped off in the Drop-Off Zone along the Service Road. The Drop-Off Zone begins at the entrance to the PAC, extends along the Service Road, and ends in front of the church. This includes the sidewalk area with the three brick, raised flower boxes in front of the church. All children must exit from the passenger side of the car. **They are never to exit from the driver's side.**

If you have a child in Pre-K or Kindergarten, please hang the issued card to indicate to the student safety or adult on duty in order to receive help. Please follow the instructions of the assigned staff and volunteers who help during drop-off. When waiting in line to drop off a child within the Drop-Off Zone, please be considerate of other parents waiting in line and discharge your passengers.

Do's	DON'Ts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DO enter from Cypress Creek. ● DO be considerate of each other and alternate vehicles as you merge when you approach the Drop-Off Zone. ● DO form two parallel lines stretching across the back of the parking lot if traffic backs up into the parking lot. This will help minimize the traffic from backing up onto Cypress Creek Road. ● DO form single line in front of church while in your car and proceed to end of school driveway to drop off children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DON'T let children out on the driver's side of the car. ● DON'T pass other cars waiting to drop off children. ● DON'T stop traffic and let children off until you have reached the designated point directed by staff or safety person. ● DON'T drop off students in the parking lot or walk your children into school. ● DON'T exit on driver's side

Morning: Students in Preschool (Pre-K) will enter through the main school entrance and will line up in the library with their TA. Students in grades K-grade 4 will enter through the main school entrance and assemble in homeroom lines in the auditorium. Students in grades 5-8 will enter through the PAC entrance and assemble in lines in the East PAC. Preschool children line up in the library with their TA. Teachers will welcome students into their classrooms upon the 1st bell.

- First Bell 8:00 a.m.
- Second Bell 8:10 a.m.
- **Students in Grades Pre-K-8 are considered late if arriving after the 8:10 a.m. bell.**
- Classes begin for all students at 8:20, following school wide prayer, which begins at 8:10 a.m.

Lunch & Recess

Grades 6-8	11:20-12:05 Lunch and Recess
Grade 5	11:20-12:10 Lunch and Recess
Grades 3-4	11:45-12:30 Lunch and Recess
Grades 1-2	11:45-12:40 Lunch and Recess
Grade K	12:15-1:10 Lunch and Recess
Preschool	11:50-12:20 Recess & Clean-up, 12:30 p.m. Lunch

Half-day Preschool

Dismissal for half-day preschool is at 12:15 p.m. Parents picking up half-day preschool students should park in the main parking lot. Parents should pick up their preschool students from the preschool teacher by reporting to the main entrance by 12:15 p.m.

Afternoon Dismissal

To accommodate our large number of St. John students, all Pre-K and Kindergarten students will be walked to the front of the building for dismissal at 3:05 p.m. All grade 1-8 students will be dismissed following prayers at 3:10 p.m.

Once Pre-K to grade 8 children start to dismiss at 3:10 p.m., no car may move on the parking lot until directed to do so by a member of the administration or staff.

All cars are to enter by Cypress Creek Road entrance only. Cars should be parked in spaces in the parking lot. It is important that students go directly to their car. Do not let the students stand outside the car waiting for you. This causes other drivers to have to wait. Once the signal is given, cars will be instructed to begin moving from the parking area by staff on duty to direct traffic. Do not back up at any time while in the parking lot unless directed to do so. If you know your carpool students will be late coming out of school, please park down toward the Church. When there is moving traffic in the parking lot, it is very dangerous to have the children playing in the parking lot. We ask for your cooperation in this matter for the safety of all our children.

At dismissal, when the hand bell rings for the first time, all students and parents should go to their vehicles and prepare to be directed to exit the lot. Any students who do not have a vehicle present to pick them up at that time, or do not see their vehicle in the parking lot, should remain at the main entrance of the school. These students should not cross the service road to the parking lot side until after cars have exited the lot and the hand bell rings a 2nd time.

Crossing Guards

Crossing guards will be on duty at Ritchie Highway from 7:40 a.m. to 8:10 a.m. in the morning and from 3:05 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. in the afternoon. Please obey the crossing guards. Students may never cross without the guard.

Walkers/Car Riders

It is designated at the beginning of the year whether your child is a walker or a car rider via completion of a permission form. No change may be made in this procedure without written permission from a parent. Phone calls will not be an acceptable substitute. Children who walk must maintain orderly conduct in school, on the street, and at crossings. If a student cannot maintain proper behavior expectations, follow all directions from all adults, and obey safety procedures, then the privilege of walking after school will be denied for the student. Students are not allowed to be picked up on Cypress Creek Road, including Gary's Garden Shop.

Safety Patrol

This service organization is made up of all grade 6 students and plays an important role in helping school staff and crossing guards provide adequate safety procedures for children who attend our school.

Extended Care Program (ECP) – see ECP Handbook on school website

An extended care program (ECP) is provided by the school for care of students before and after the school day. Parents who have children in Grades Pre-K through 8 may make arrangements to enroll their children on a full-time or part-time basis. You can download the necessary forms from the school website at <https://www.stjohnspschool.org/parents/extended-care/ecp-registration/>. Morning care is provided from 7:00-7:40 a.m.; afternoon care is provided from dismissal to 6:00 p.m. Participants in the Extended Care Program will be provided the Extended Care Program Handbook which provides policies and procedures. Receipt of the Handbook must be signed and returned to the ECP staff during the first week of enrollment. If you have any questions, please contact ECP staff at 410-647-2283 or 443-520-5201.

Academics

Curriculum

St. John the Evangelist elementary school follows the Archdiocesan Curriculum standards, instructional minutes and the regulations of the Maryland State Department of Education for non-public schools. Courses are updated on a rotating basis every 5 years.

Saint John the Evangelist School offers courses for students in the areas of English/Language Arts (ELA), math, science, social studies, religion, art, physical education, Spanish language, library/media, technology, environmental education, and music. The school delivers its instructional program and curriculum in concert with the Archdiocesan Curriculum standards and the regulations of the Maryland State Department of Education for non-public schools. Titles of textbooks can be found on the school Weebly site.

Curriculum policy is developed by our school faculty under the leadership of its administrators and guided by the Archdiocese of Baltimore Curriculum and the Maryland State Department of Education. Curriculum content is determined through faculty selection of appropriate grade level materials to meet objectives and benchmarks at each grade level. Students at Saint John the Evangelist School are instructed with a goal of developing lifelong learners.

Instruction

Instruction occurs in both large and small group settings, utilizing differentiated instruction based on learners' needs. Teachers at St. John the Evangelist provide instruction based on logically organized and sequential presentation of material and are encouraged to develop individual styles of teaching. Classroom instruction is enhanced through cooperative learning, textbooks, digital resources, the integration of technology including Smartboard technology, a computer lab, iPads, 3D printing, and document projection systems. The selection of teachers is based upon high academic, social, and spiritual values and dedication to the teaching ministry. As educational leaders, teachers project values that are consistent with the philosophy of the school and must be positive role models to the students.

Textbooks

Titles of textbooks can be found on the St. John the Evangelist school Weebly site.

Books & Devices

We ask all students to take care of their iPads, textbooks and workbooks. All hard cover books must be covered, kept clean and carried to and from school in some type of book bag. Students

are expected to pay for all non-consumable textbooks which have been defaced or lost. Students are expected to pay for any damage to or loss of school devices.

Other Student Services

Learning Differences Program

The Learning Differences teachers, in collaboration with the classroom teachers, provide assistance and support to those children who have been identified as needing specific changes with the curriculum in order to allow them to perform to the best of their abilities. The principal, teachers or parents may recommend the child to be considered for this program.

Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and Process

If a child is not progressing academically, the school may ask the parents/guardians to initiate, or the parents/guardians may initiate on their own the process to request a professional consultation and/or evaluation through the local public school system. The evaluative process is generally called the IEP Process (Individual Educational Plan) and begins when a parent/guardian calls 'Child Find'. Following the initial phone call to the Local Educational Agency (LEA) Child Find, parents/guardians are given an initial meeting date within 30 days. At this initial meeting, parents/guardians and school faculty are invited to share their concerns, present information, and discuss whether an evaluation will take place. Catholic school staff, in particular the student's teacher, are a vital part of the process.

If an evaluation is deemed warranted and takes place, recommendations and an academic plan are developed and given to the parents/guardians at the summative meeting following the academic evaluation.

If such a plan is developed and the test results determine that there is a need for accommodations and/or modifications within a student's learning environment, the school administrator will consult with the parents/guardians to determine what accommodations, resources, plans, and school placements may be implemented. When appropriate, a Student Accommodation Plan is developed at your child's Catholic School.

Work Habits & Expectations

- Written assignments must be neat, legible, and complete
- Books and notebooks should be free of scribbling inside and out
- Notebooks, folders, and other supplies must be replaced when worn or depleted
- Students must always have reading materials (iPad, book, etc.)
- At all levels, students are required to do homework
- Homework is important for the reinforcement of skills, for developing good study habits and a sense of responsibility
- Requirements for homework are determined by the faculty annually and communicated to parents via letter or at the Back to School meeting

Make-up Work

In case of absence, it is the responsibility of the child to obtain, complete, and submit missed work. In case of a scheduled absence such as a family vacation, teachers are not required to provide work prior to an absence. Homework is available after dismissal and may be picked up

in the school office prior to 3:30 p.m. Homework is also available for each teacher by accessing: www.stjohntheevangelist.weebly.com

Homework

Homework is an extension of classwork. It is assigned as reinforcement of what has already been taught in class. Students are expected to complete all assigned homework on time and with care.

All teachers use the school teacher web site pages at Weebly.com to post homework, announcements and other information for parents and students. Our site is: <http://www.stjohntheevangelist.weebly.com/> Suggested time allotments for homework per day range from 30 minutes at the primary level to 2 hours in the middle school. This allotment includes time for written work, study, review work, and long-range projects or papers. Homework policies are distributed by each homeroom on Back to School Night. Please refer to the teacher's web site throughout the year for specific homework at each grade level and subject area.

Parents/guardians are expected to see that their children fulfill their homework responsibilities. If home assignments cannot be completed because of home conditions, e.g., sickness in the family, death of a relative, etc., students may be permitted to defer doing the prescribed work. A written explanation should be provided to the teacher. At all grade levels, homework is included in determining the subject area grade on the report card. Parents in grades 3-8 can also monitor homework via online parent access to grades. If the situation is not improved, the school administration will be notified, and a meeting will be scheduled.

Parents/guardians support the teachers by attending to the following:

- Reviewing the assigned work with the child
- Providing a quiet, well-equipped place of study
- Providing the time required to fulfill homework demands
- Providing assistance to the child as needed
- Helping the child understand and appreciate the need for study
- Assuring the return of the schoolwork to school
- Helping children plan time to complete long-term assignments by the due date

Education, Supervision and Monitoring of Technology

It shall be the responsibility of all members of Saint John the Evangelist School staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act. Procedures for disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Director of Technology or designated representatives.

Field Trips

Field trips are considered an integral part of the school's educational program and a valuable learning experience for students. Field trips are scheduled at various times during the school year. In advance of the trip, a permission form, required by the Archdiocesan Department of Catholic Schools, is sent home. A student will be permitted to attend the trip only if the permission form is signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the teacher by the specified date along with any fee.

If, for some extraordinary reason, a student is unable to participate, the student is expected to attend school on that day and fees must still be paid since the rates we are quoted reflect total participation. Work will be supplied by the teacher(s), and the student will be assigned a classroom in which to work under the supervision of a staff member. If a student is unable to attend because of illness, we cannot promise a refund. Parents must notify the teacher if a child will not participate in the field trip experience. Students who are kept home from the trip will be marked absent.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are encouraged to participate as chaperones on field trips as the need arises. However, because of safety and liability factors, pre-school siblings and other school-age siblings are not allowed. We do not permit parents not selected as a chaperone to join the group at the trip destination as this creates confusion. All chaperones are required to meet the clearance and screening requirements prior to attending a field trip as a chaperone. Virtus certification must be completed prior to participating in any field trip or volunteer service. Please follow the directions on the website: <http://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/index.cfm>

Upon return to school following a fieldtrip, students will return to their classroom to complete classwork for the remainder of the day. Students will not be dismissed early from a field trip.

Promotion Requirements

Students are promoted to the next grade upon successful completion of all subjects in a given year.

Retention

Students who do not successfully complete the required educational program may be retained at the current grade level. This decision is made by the principal in consultation with the parents after following the timeline described below.

Teachers should communicate with parents on a regular basis regarding the student's progress. By mid-February, the teacher, principal, parents, (and student) review the student's work performance to date and discuss his/her educational needs for the remainder of the year and the possibility of failure and/or retention. This meeting is followed by a written communication to the parents reviewing the content of the meeting, including the educational plan. Students may also be retained for severe attendance and tardy issues during the school year, as determined by the school in consultation with the Department of Catholic Schools.

Graduation Requirements

Students in 8th grade who successfully complete the course of study as outlined by the Archdiocese of Baltimore, will be awarded a diploma at the end of the school year. An 8th grade student must be in good academic, financial and behavior standing in order to participate in the end of the year graduation activities.

Honor Roll for Students in Grades 5-8

Students in grades 5-8 who demonstrate high academic achievement and who positively impact the learning environment are placed on Honor Roll based on the following criteria:

Principal's Honor Roll

All A's and Satisfactory or better in all special classes, standards, effort, and conduct including unstructured time.

Students earn a place on the Principal's List if they earn all A's in the following major subjects: religion, ELA, math, social studies, science and Spanish (Grades 7 & 8). The student must have satisfactory grades or above in all special classes (art, music, physical education, library and computer instruction), standards, effort, and conduct including unstructured time.

First Honors

Grades 5 - 6: All A's in four of the major subject areas. All other major subjects have a grade of B. Students must have satisfactory grades or above in Spanish, standards, effort, conduct and conduct including unstructured time.

Grades 7 - 8: All A's in five of the major subject areas. All other major subjects have a grade of B. Students must have satisfactory grades or above in standards and conduct including unstructured time. To earn First Honors, students also must have satisfactory grades or above in art, music, physical education, library and computer instruction.

Second Honors

All A's and B's (more A's than B's) and Satisfactory or better in all special classes, standards, effort, and conduct including unstructured time.

Grades 5 - 6: A or B in major subject areas. Must have satisfactory grades or above in Spanish standards, effort, and conduct including unstructured time.

Grades 7 - 8: A or B in major subject areas. Must have satisfactory grades or above in standards, effort, and conduct including unstructured time. To earn Second Honors, students must also have satisfactory grades or above in art, music, physical education, library and computer instruction.

Report Cards and Interim Reports

The Archdiocese of Baltimore report cards will be sent home 3 times a year at the conclusion of each trimester. In addition, the school will send interim reports home for grades 3-8 at the middle of each trimester. It is the responsibility of the teacher to keep parents informed of the student's academic progress, and the responsibility of each parent to support progress and growth of children along with the teacher. Parent teacher conferences are scheduled before progress reports are distributed for the first trimester. A teacher or parent may request a conference at any other time during the school year. An appointment can be set by contacting the teacher. Parent conference times must be confirmed by the teacher involved.

Parents may not come to the classroom for a conference with the teacher unless it has been scheduled. This includes before and after school as well as during class as teachers have other responsibilities at these times. Parents of students in grades 3-8 will be able to access their child's progress via the Parent Access component of Power School. For initial access, parents will be provided with a temporary user id and password and asked to set up an account at archbalt.powerschool.com/public. The password will not change from year to year.

It is also the responsibility of parents to obtain their passwords for PowerSchool and monitor grades for their children in grades 3-8. Parents will be contacted by the teacher by mid-trimester with an interim report. In some cases, where there is a significant drop in grades or performance, a conference may be required.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Any parent may request a conference by contacting the teacher concerned. A minimum of twenty-four hours notice is required when requesting a conference. The secretary is unable to set up a conference time for the teacher since she is unaware of the teacher's personal schedule. If a parent has a complaint with any teacher, please discuss the matter with the teacher before asking the administration to arbitrate.

Conferences with Administrators

Appointments with an administrator may be made by calling the school office (410) 647-2283 or by email.

Progress Reports and Interim Reports

Students in pre-kindergarten through grade 8 will receive Report Cards each trimester. Marks are based on the actual achievement of the student according to his/her grade level of instruction. These grades are based on the student's daily performance, homework assignments, weekly tests, unit tests, projects, and papers.

Archdiocesan Progress Report Grading Codes by Grade Level			
Course	PreK – 2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8
Language Arts	Progress Codes	Letter Grade	Letter Grade
Math	Progress Codes	Letter Grade	Letter Grade
Science	Progress Codes	Letter Grade	Letter Grade
Social Studies	Progress Codes	Letter Grade	Letter Grade
Religion	Progress Codes	Letter Grade	Letter Grade
Spanish	Progress Codes	Achievement Comments	Achievement Comments
Technology	Progress Codes	Achievement Comments	Achievement Comments
Physical Education	Progress Codes	Achievement Comments	Achievement Comments
Art	Progress Codes	Achievement Comments	Achievement Comments
Music	Progress Codes	Achievement Comments	Achievement Comments
All Classes		Effort and Conduct	Effort and Conduct

Letter Grades:

A+ = 97-100	C+ = 80-84
A = 93-96	C = 75-79
B+ = 89-92	D = 70-74
B = 85-88	E = 69 and below

PreK-Grade 2 Progress Codes		
Grade	Description	Comments
I	Independent/Proficient	The student understands the concept/skills and works with little or no reinforcement or assistance. The student shows the ability to apply the knowledge or perform skills accurately without instructional support. Student is able to do more challenging work.
P	Progressing	The student's understanding of concepts/skills are developing and are in need of occasional reinforcement and assistance. The student is retaining material and shows the ability to apply the knowledge or skill with little instructional support.
E	Emerging	The student's understanding of the concepts/skills are still at the beginning level and/or need reinforcement and assistance. The student is being introduced to the skill and is beginning to use the skill in context with extensive instructional support. The student needs re-teaching/reinforcement.
NA	Not assessed at this time	

Grades 3-8 Core Subject Subcategories and Specials Classes Achievement Comments		
Grade	Description	Grade
I	Independent/Proficient	97-100
V	Very Good Progress	93-96
P	Progressing	85-92
S	Satisfactory	75-84
N	Needs Improvement	70-74
U	Unsatisfactory/Not Proficient	1-69
NA	Not Assessed at this Time	0

Achievement Comments

I= Independent/Proficient

- Always applies skills or processes with ease and confidence in completing grade level and above academic performance tasks.
- Always demonstrates a thorough understanding of Archdiocese of Baltimore grade level appropriate curriculum strands and objectives taught this trimester.
- Always uses knowledge to skillfully communicate complicated ideas and concepts within the content area.
- Always completes and turns in accurate class work and homework.

V= Very Good Progress

- Consistently applies skills or processes with ease and confidence in completing grade level appropriate academic performance tasks
- Consistently demonstrates an above average understanding of Archdiocese of Baltimore grade level appropriate curriculum strands and objectives taught this trimester
- Consistently demonstrates the ability to use knowledge to effectively communicate difficult ideas and concepts within the content area
- Consistently completes and turns in above average class work and homework

G= Good Progress

- Demonstrates above average uses of skills or processes in completing required grade level and appropriate academic performance tasks
- Demonstrates above average understanding of Archdiocese of Baltimore grade level appropriate curriculum strands and objectives taught this trimester
- Demonstrates above average understanding of important information
- Usually accomplishes purposes of academic tasks
- Demonstrates average ability to use required knowledge to communicate important information.
- Completes and turns in above average class work and homework

S=Satisfactory

- Demonstrates meeting the level of expectation.
- Demonstrates average application of skills or processes required to complete grade level academic performance tasks
- Demonstrates average understanding of Archdiocese of Baltimore grade level appropriate curriculum strands and objectives taught this trimester
- Demonstrates average knowledge of important information
- Demonstrates average ability to use required knowledge to communicate ideas
- Completes and turns in average class work and homework

N= Needs Improvement

- Makes many errors when applying skills or processes required to complete grade level academic performance tasks
- Demonstrates an incomplete understanding of Archdiocese of Baltimore grade level appropriate curriculum strands and objectives taught this trimester
- Demonstrates an incomplete knowledge of important information
- Unable to use acquired knowledge to correctly communicate important ideas
- Performance is markedly below grade level
- Class work and homework fail to meet teacher criteria

U=Not Progressing

- Unable to perform any understanding of skills or processes required to complete grade level academic performance tasks
- Demonstrates no understanding of Archdiocese of Baltimore grade level appropriate curriculum strands and objectives taught during this trimester
- Demonstrates no knowledge of important information
- Unable to use acquired knowledge to correctly communicate ideas

- Class work and homework fail to meet teacher criteria

Effort & Conduct Achievement Comments		
Grade	Description	Grade
O	Outstanding	93-100
G	Good	85-92
S	Satisfactory	75-84
N	Needs Improvement	70-74
U	Unsatisfactory	0-69

Effort Comments:

O= Outstanding

- Always exceeds the level of expectation
- Immense amount of effort put forth
- Highest level of class participation
- Class work/project/assignment criteria meets highest standards

G= Good

- Most of the time exceeds the level of expectation
- Admirable amount of effort put forth
- Above average level of class participation
- Class work/project/assignment criteria meet above average standards

S=Satisfactory

- Meets the level of expectation
- Adequate amount of effort put forth
- Adequate level of class participation
- Class work/project/assignment criteria meets standards

N=Needs Improvement

- Below average amount of effort put forth
- Below average level of class participation- almost always called on, rarely volunteers
- Class work/project/assignment criteria sometimes meets standards/not all criteria met

U=Unsatisfactory

- Little or no effort put forth
- Little to no class participation- always called on, never volunteers
- Classwork/project/assignment criteria rarely meet standards/criteria barely met
- Students failing two or more core subjects may not be advanced to the next grade level.

Conduct Comments:

O=Outstanding

- Always exceeds the level of expectation
- Demonstrates highest level of self-control
- Follows classroom rules
- Makes good choices
- Role model to other students

G=Good

- Most of the time exceeds the level of expectation
- Demonstrates self-control, rarely needs reminders
- Follows classroom rules, rarely needs reminders
- Makes good choices, rarely needs redirected

S=Satisfactory

- Meets the level of expectation
- Demonstrates self-control, sometimes needs reminders
- Follows classroom rules, sometimes needs reminders
- Makes good choices, sometimes needs redirection

N=Needs Improvement

- Has trouble demonstrating self-control, needs reminders
- Has trouble following classroom rules, need reminders
- Sometimes has trouble making good choices, needs redirection

U=Unsatisfactory

- Has difficulty demonstrating self-control, needs constant reminders
- Has difficulty following classroom rules, needs constant reminders
- Has difficulty making good choices, needs constant redirection

Admissions

Application Process

Admissions and enrollment for the following school year is an ongoing process beginning in October. School information is made available in the church bulletin as well as the school website. Registration, tuition deposit, and non-refundable fee are submitted online. All current families must re-register each year and submit a non-refundable re-registration fee. Enrollment follows the guidelines below:

- To enter Pre-Kindergarten-4-year-old class, a child must be 4 years of age by September 1st, as verified by birth certificate.
- To enter Kindergarten, a child must be 5 years of age by September 1st, as verified by birth certificate.
- Parents should present birth and baptismal certificates, social security card, record request, emergency information, immunization records, custodial records, and general health reports for students entering the school. The Anne Arundel County Health Department determines required immunizations. Saint John the Evangelist School follows these requirements.
- Acceptance of children in grades 1-8 is contingent upon prior academic reports, testing, and complete and accurate information gathered from the sending school. If test results or records show that the school programs may not meet the needs of the child, parents will be informed.

Children will be accepted for grades Pre-K-8 on the basis of progress reports, standardized testing, and teacher recommendations from prior school, along with a school administered placement in the following order depending on grade level openings:

- Siblings of students already attending St. John the Evangelist School
- Children of St. John the Evangelist registered parishioners

- Children of registered parishioners in other parishes where there is no school
- Children of registered parishioners in other parishes where there is an existing school
- Baptized Christians of other faiths
- Non-Baptized children

If the need arises, the length of time the family has been registered in the parish, along with their level of involvement and commitment to the parish, will be considered. This will apply to the acceptance of students in grades Pre-K to 8. In exceptional circumstances, the principal, in consultation with the pastor, shall have the authority to make exceptions to the Acceptance Policy set forth above. All exceptions to the policy shall be documented and filed for future reference. Acceptances for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students begin in February. Grades 1-8 acceptances begin in March.

Placement

Students are initially placed using the results of the following:

School administered placement test
 Teacher recommendation (from sending school)
 Report cards
 Standardized test results

Placement and acceptance of children in grades 1-8 is contingent upon prior academic reports, testing, and complete and accurate information gathered from the sending school. If test results or records show that the school programs may not meet the needs of the child, parents will be informed.

In order to make sure that the school is a good fit for the student, all new students are given a one-year probationary period. Parents will be notified throughout the year if the student's actions and academics are not meeting expectations.

High School Admissions and Visitation Policy

Eighth grade students are allowed up to 3 days for shadow visits to local area Catholic High Schools. While these days are the only excused days off, students will be marked absent since they will not be in the building.

Eighth grade students who are visiting high schools for shadow days are allowed 3 excused days. These are recorded as excused absences as long as parents email/forward confirmation of the high school visitation appointment indicating their attendance at the high school on that day. The high school visitation days are part of the application and decision process that should be part of the child's 8th grade year. The school discourages students in younger grades from missing instructional time for visits prior to their 8th grade year.

Non-Discrimination Statement

The State of Maryland requires the following statement in the Student Handbook:

"It is the policy of the State of Maryland that all public and publicly funded schools and school programs operate in compliance with:

- (1) Title VI of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; and
- (2) Title 26, Subtitle 7 of the Education Article of the Maryland Code, which states that public and publicly funded schools and programs may not:
 - (i) Discriminate against a current student, a prospective student, or the parent or guardian of a current or prospective student on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability;
 - (ii) Refuse enrollment of a prospective student, expel a current student, or withhold privileges from a current student, a prospective student, or the parent or guardian of a current or prospective student because of an individual's race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability; or
 - (iii) Discipline, invoke a penalty against, or take any other retaliatory action against a student or parent or guardian of a student who files a complaint alleging that the program or school discriminated against the student, regardless of the outcome of the complaint.”

The State of Maryland does not require a nonpublic school that is religiously affiliated to enroll, retain, or extend privileges to a student or prospective student who does not meet the usual and regular qualifications, requirements, and standards of the program or school or to adopt any rule, regulation, or policy that conflicts with the program or school's religious or moral teachings provided that the denial, rule, regulation, or policy is not based on discrimination on the grounds of race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.

Requests for reasonable accommodations for a student with a disability may be directed to Mrs. Bridget Lacey, Learning Differences Coordinator blacey@stjohnsp.org and Mrs. Vanessa Krehely, Guidance Counselor vkrehely@stjohnsp.org

Religion is required for each year a student attends St. John the Evangelist School. All students enrolled in St. John the Evangelist School must attend religion classes and services. We will always teach and act consistent with the tenets of the Catholic Church.

Assessment Program

The evaluative process relies on formal and informal assessment. Formal student evaluation is attained primarily through fixed standards of achievement including teacher designed assessments and standardized testing. These tests are used to diagnose the strengths and weaknesses of individual students. Tests, projects, homework, classwork, and creative presentations all are inclusive to student evaluation and assessment. Additionally, online assessments and assignments are used to support learning. Informally, our students are evaluated on the basis of teacher observation and verbal response to observed behavior.

Standardized Testing

All Archdiocesan schools administer the achievement test designated by the Department of Catholic Schools in prescribed grades.

Pre-Kindergarten 4, and Kindergarten Students

Pre-kindergarten 4, and Kindergarten students are administered the BRIGANCE developmental screening in the fall and/or spring.

Elementary Students

Elementary school students in grades 1-8 are administered the NWEA MAP Assessment three times a year to measure growth. Grades 3, 5 and 7 also take the Science Assessment each Spring. Parents are given feedback as to how their child is scoring at the end of the year.

Assessment of Child/Youth Religious Education (ACRE)

All students in grades 5, 8, 9 and 12 are given the ACRE (Assessment of Child/Youth Religious Education) the spring of each school year. This assessment gives information for growth to each school as it assesses how well the Liturgy. This is a school assessment, and no individual student scores are given.

Attendance and Student's Records

Absences

Regular attendance is considered essential for learning at St. John the Evangelist School. Students need to develop the work habits and responsibilities required of all of us as we go through life. When a student is absent from school, a parent/legal guardian must telephone the school between 7:40 and 8:10 to report the reason for absence. If a child misses more than 3 hours of instruction, he or she will be marked for ½ day of attendance. All absences and tardiness become part of a student's permanent record.

There are regularly scheduled vacations and holidays in the school calendar, which is based on mandated instructional days by the State of Maryland and the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Please check these ahead of time when scheduling trips or doctor's appointments. Permission may not be given by any teacher or administrator for students to be absent for extra vacations or holidays. These decisions are the responsibility of the parents. Prolonged unauthorized absences can and will affect students' grades and academic standing. The school cannot be responsible for the consequences of these absences. Personal instruction delivered by the teacher cannot be replicated. Missed work and assignments may only be obtained upon return and provided that missed work assignments may not be available for all absences, as they are dependent upon the nature of the work. Teachers are not responsible for creating alternative assignments or experiences for absent students.

Tardiness (coming to school late or leaving school early)

Tardiness is another action that affects a student's readiness to learn. Coming in and/or leaving early, not only disrupts the educational learning for your child, but also those of other students in the class. Parents will be notified in writing for 5 or more tardies and a conference may be requested by the administrative team to address the issue and consequences.

Students who are absent from school may not participate in any after school or evening school sponsored events such as sports, dances, and possibly field trips.

After an absence and he/she returns to school, the student must bring a written note to his/her homeroom teacher signed by a parent/legal guardian stating the reason for absence. The school

reserves the right to require a doctor's note for absences due to illness or injury or need for assessment/evaluation. A child may not return to school until he/she is well enough to participate in all school activities including recess.

If a student will be out of school for an extended period, whether continuous or intermittent, parents should consult with the administration regarding appropriate support of the student in fulfilling the school curriculum or alternative arrangements such as home and hospital services through the local public school district.

Per the AOB policy, a student marked absent for more than 20 instructional days in one school year is considered excessively absent and may result in the student being retained. The administration reserves the right to request a conference with parents of student with excessive absences and tardies at any point during the school year in order to make parents and students aware of the possible consequences of not attending school on a consistent basis.

Truancy

Truancy is defined as a student absenting him/herself from school without parent/legal guardian permission or leaving school grounds without permission during the school day. Truancy may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion and may be reported to the Maryland State Department of Education.

Lateness & Assignments

Students may enter their homerooms at 8:00 a.m. The school day begins at 8:10 a.m. Any student arriving after 8:10 a.m. is considered late and must report to the office for a late slip. Tardiness is entered on a student's permanent record. It is the responsibility of the student to check with the homeroom teacher to receive the necessary communication or work that may have been missed due to lateness.

Early Departure & Late Arrivals

The school discourages early departures and requests that families arrange medical and dental appointments, etc. after school hours, on early dismissal days, or during vacation periods. Check the calendar for days when school is not in session.

Parents are asked not to take children out of school for appointments, etc. In cases where this is a necessity, the parent must send a note with the student to school to the teacher indicating pick-up time. This information will be sent to the office so that your student will be ready for pick-up at the designated time. **Early departures will not be permitted later than 2:00 PM.** The end of the day is critical review time for students and teachers. **And, due to the scheduling of our school mass later in the school day, we cannot facilitate early departures after 2:00 PM.** The parent must come to the school office to sign-out and pick-up the child. Under no circumstance will a child be permitted to leave otherwise.

Many families have unique arrangements for the custody and guardianship of their children. Unless there is legal notification given to the school office, it is assumed that both parents are permitted to pick children up and to have access to school related information. Parents must keep updated documentation of custodial agreements on file with the school.

All absences and tardiness become part of a student's permanent record. If a child misses more than 3 hours of instruction, he or she will be marked for ½ day of attendance. Students arriving after 8:10 a.m. will be marked tardy. Students leaving prior to 3:10 p.m. will be marked as leaving early. Early Departures will not be permitted after 2:00 p.m.

Regular Dismissal

To accommodate our large number of students, all Pre-K and Kindergarten students will be walked by their teacher to the front of the building for dismissal at 3:05 p.m. All grade 1-8 students will be dismissed following prayers at 3:10 p.m. Once Pre-K to grade 8 children start to dismiss at 3:10 p.m., no car may move in the parking lot until directed to do so by a member of the administration or staff.

Early Dismissal Days

Inclement Weather Closing

Saint John the Evangelist School will follow the Anne Arundel County Public School System concerning weather related problems. For a morning delay or school cancellation, please follow announcements from the county via WBAL or the Anne Arundel County Public Schools website (www.aacps.org). In case of a two-hour delay, the morning care program will open at 8:30am for registered students.

If the school should close early, all children must be picked up at the announced closing time. Instruct your child as to procedures/arrangements for such situations. Before and After School Care will remain open after the announced closing time for one hour for registered students only. If the school closes early, communication will come by email and/or phone via the alert message system.

Location & Access to Student's Records

Student's records are maintained in the school office or a designated administrative area. Access to records is governed by the Records Policy.

Records Policy (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

St. John the Evangelist School complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. In general, FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to education records. (The rights granted to parents under FERPA automatically pass to the student when the student turns 18 or enrolls in college.) These rights and related procedures of [school name] are as follows:

Parents have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the School. Parents should submit to [insert title of appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The School will make arrangements for access and notify the parent of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

Parents have the right to request that the School correct records they believe are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. Parents who wish to request an amendment of the student's records should write to **Dr. Glenna Blessing, the Principal** and clearly identify the part of the record they

believe is inaccurate or misleading and the information they believe should be included in a corrected record. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested, the School will notify the parent of the decision and the parent's right to request a hearing.

Parents generally have the right to consent in writing to disclosures of information from a student's education record. However, there are certain exceptions to the consent requirement, including disclosures under the following conditions:

To School officials who have a legitimate educational interest in the information. A school official is a person employed by the School or the Archdiocese as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff); a person or company with whom the School has contracted to provide a service (e.g., attorney); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his/her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his/her professional responsibilities or duties to the School.

- To other schools to which a student is transferring.
- In connection with financial aid under certain circumstances.
- To specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes.
- To organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school.
- To accrediting organizations.
- In order to comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena.
- To appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies.

The School also may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent unless a parent objects in writing. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the School to include this type of information in certain publications. Examples of such publications include a playbill, showing the student's role in a drama production; the annual yearbook; honor roll or other recognition lists; graduation programs; and sports activity sheets.

The School has designated the following as directory information:

- Student's name
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Electronic mail address
- Photograph
- Honors and awards received
- Date and place of birth
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level

Parents who do not want the School to disclose the above directory information without their prior written consent must notify *the principal* in writing by *September, 16, 2024*.

- *A log must be maintained of each request for access to and each disclosure of educational record information other than disclosure to parents or students 18 or older or school officials. The log should contain the name of the person(s), the date, and the legitimate interests the person had in requesting or obtaining the information.*
- *Parents have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by **St. John the Evangelist School** to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-8520.*

Discipline

Statement on Philosophy of Discipline

St. John the Evangelist School strives to develop responsible, courteous, self-disciplined boys and girls whose pride in themselves, their parents, their school, and their community is reflected in their behavior. The development of such young people requires a consistent practice of thoughtful, responsible behavior during these formative years. Students are made aware that they are an integral part of the faith community and that their actions affect themselves as well as the entire community. The ultimate purpose is to develop true Christian character and a sense of responsibility: to establish an atmosphere conducive to academic excellence; and to protect the welfare of the individual, as well as the school community.

Students may be disciplined for conduct that occurs on school premises or at school-sponsored events, or for other conduct that adversely affects the interests or reputation of the school regardless of where the conduct occurs.

Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS)

The Archdiocese of Baltimore has implemented an evidence and research-based Anti-bullying Program, Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS). PBIS is a comprehensive framework in which schools focus on our Christ-centered teachings and values to create nurturing, safe, positive, and supportive learning environments. Consistent school-wide expectations are visible throughout the school and students' positive behavior is acknowledged and celebrated. The PBIS framework adopts behavioral interventions into an integrated continuum that is designed to enhance academic and behavioral outcomes for every student.

At St. John the Evangelist, our PBIS program is named the "SOAR Program". The SOAR program is school-wide and designed to improve the overall academic and behavioral environment of the school. The success of all students is based on the 3Rs, "Respect, Responsibility and Role Modeling, with the Eagle as our mascot based on the scripture verse from Isaiah 40:31, "They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength, they will soar on eagles' wings." The purpose of the program is to promote positive success with Christian values within the school environment and to reward students who do well both academically and behaviorally.

As part of the program, when students demonstrate the target behaviors, they will be recognized. All students have the opportunity to participate in a school-wide reward for their effort. The reward is given at the end of the school year. Parents/Guardians encourage their children to engage in positive behaviors and aim for success.

Classroom Behavior

The following are the standard classroom procedures. Teachers may have other classroom rules. Students are bound by both the following rules and by the teacher's rules.

- Students are to be in their seats when class begins. They are not to leave their places in the classroom without explicit permission.
- Each student is to have all the necessary materials for class when class begins.
- Students are to be attentive to the teachers and to participate actively in all class activities assigned by the teachers. They are not to do work for another class or read other-than-class materials, unless given explicit permission to do so by the teacher. Materials for another class or for non-class activities should not be on the student's desk.
- During morning and afternoon prayer and at any time when there are announcements over the PA system, students should stop what they are doing and sit silently to listen and participate when appropriate.
- Each student is to refrain from talking without permission and from talking to others while instruction is going on, study periods or tests are underway.
- Students are to avoid any action that is distracting to the learning procedure underway in the classroom, especially harassing other students.
- Students are responsible for the cleanliness around their chairs, inside their desks, at their lunch tables, etc. Students should dispose of trash around their desks at the end of the day.
- Students should approach teachers outside of direct instruction time regarding tests, grades, or consequences given during class.
- The location of desks, the condition of windows, blinds, and lights, etc., are the teacher's responsibility; students are not to regulate these unless directed to do so by the teacher.
- Students should always enter and leave the classroom quietly. They should move quietly in the halls.
- Outside of morning snack eating or drinking must take place in the cafeteria except for water bottles.
- Chewing gum is prohibited in school at all times.

Recess Behavior

So that all students may participate in a safe and enjoyable recess every student must abide by the following rules:

- walk to your designated area
- stay in your designated area
- never go into the roadway for any reason
- never throw any object excluding a ball
- no aggressive play
- use only assigned equipment and take proper care of it
- children assigned to equipment return it to its proper place and report to your teacher when equipment is damaged or missing

- no snacks are allowed outside during lunch recess
- stay away from parked cars and moving vehicles

Report immediately to teacher on duty:

- any injuries
- any persons who do not belong on school grounds
- any glass, rocks or any obstacle that may cause injury
- any aggressive play

Note: When inclement weather prevents children from outdoor recess, students are permitted to play games or enjoy quiet activities in the classroom, or at times, in the PAC. Parents may donate games, books, etc., to the classroom for this purpose.

Student Responsibility

All students at Saint John the Evangelist School are expected to

- show respect for administration, teachers, staff, students, school facilities and campus grounds.
- obey rules, regulations, and procedures established by school and administration.
- obey rules, regulations, and procedures established by each teacher.
- be present and punctual daily.
- complete projects and homework assignments daily.
- participate appropriately and fully at prayer, liturgies, field trips, civic activities and school assemblies.
- practice courtesy and good manners at all times.
- abide by the dress code established in the handbook.

To maintain a positive learning environment and standards that are consistent with our Christian philosophy, it is essential that students exhibit a sense of responsibility and respect for themselves as well as others. Listed below are some behaviors that are unacceptable:

- Dangerous Play
- Dishonesty
- Disrespect in manner and/or language to each other, including peers, teachers, faculty and staff
- Disruptive Behavior
- Dress code violations.
- Failure to have necessary supplies for class work
- Fighting or threats of violence
- Gum
- Harassment
- Harassment of any kind by word or action including but not limited to digital harassment
- Leaving school property without permission
- Possession of knives/weapons or look-alike knives/weapons

- Possession of pornographic material(s) including distribution of both physical and digital
- Possession or consumption of alcohol while at school or while attending a school function
- Possession or consumption of any drug or look-alike drug while at school or while attending a school function
- Public displays of affection
- Rowdiness
- Rudeness
- Smoking/using matches/vaping/gummies
- Theft or extortion
- Using the property of others without permission
- Vulgarity
- Willful destruction of school property

After school activities, while riding on buses to sports games or other school or parish sponsored activities are included in the definition of on-campus conduct.

When it comes to social media, whether posted during school hours, and on school property, or while occurring outside of the school property, if it creates a substantial disruption, the school can take action to support the school environment.

Detention, Suspension & Expulsion

After school detentions will be held on Tuesday of each week from 3:15-4:00 p.m. for students in grades 3-8. Children in grades Pre-K to 2 may be sent to the office for lunch detention. When a student is given detention, a notice is sent home to the parent(s) or guardian(s) stating the reason, the date and time the detention will be served. The parent signs the notice and returns it to school the following day. Parent signature indicates parent has been notified. No exceptions will be made after a detention is issued unless consultation with the principal or assistant principal occurs. In the event of cancellation of detention, the parent or guardian will be notified. The parent or guardian is responsible for the transportation of the child on the day the detention will be served. Once assigned to detention, a student will not be excused without a written note of explanation from the parent. Excuses such as extracurricular activities will not be considered.

Initially, the classroom teacher or staff member will issue the discipline infraction. Should circumstances warrant, consultation with the Administration will occur. Parents will be notified of the behavior infraction and discipline. In cases of serious or repeated violations, students may be subject to disciplinary suspension or expulsion. The principal will exercise his/her discretion whether the suspension should be served in-school or at home. The school's fair procedure to be used in cases of possible suspension or expulsion is as follows:

While on suspension, the student is still responsible for missed work. After the specified amount of time for suspension, which shall not exceed three consecutive school days, (unless

approved in consultation with the superintendent) the student and the parent(s)/guardian(s) will meet with the Administration for reinstatement. The Administration reserves the right to determine the conditions for reinstatement.

An expelled student forfeits all privileges of the St. John the Evangelist School student. The Administrator reserves the right not to re-admit an expelled student at a later date. If a student is to be expelled, the student is entitled to a prompt review procedure established by the Department of Catholic Schools. A written request for review must be submitted to the Superintendent of Catholic Schools within 10 working days of the notice of intent to expel. In some cases, parents are given the option to withdraw the student in lieu of expulsion.

The school reserves the right to deny attendance to anyone whose behavior is contrary to the teachings and ideals of the school or whose behavior or attitude is disruptive to the functioning of the student body.

The Archdiocese of Baltimore description of discipline policy can be reviewed at the following links [Discipline 2.0](#) and [Suspension and Expulsion 3.0](#)

Other Disciplinary Actions

If necessary, other appropriate consequences will be given if students fail to meet required expectations for behavior and/or academics. These consequences may include, but are not limited to:

- time out
- lunchtime detention
- loss of reward
- loss of field trip privilege (student must still attend school)
- consequences set by each teacher
- consequences set by administrator

Search and Seizure

St. John the Evangelist School reserves the right to search school property (e.g., lockers, desks), a student's belongings, and areas under the student's control in order to enforce school policies, rules and regulations or otherwise to preserve a safe and orderly learning environment.

Conflict Situations

Conflicts are a normal and healthy part of living and growing. The Administration will implement acceptable conflict resolution techniques to work towards a solution.

Bullying Policy

Bullying, harassment, or intimidation (as defined below) of any student is prohibited in all Archdiocese of Baltimore Schools. Retaliation or reprisal against anyone who reports such behaviors or participates in an investigation of a report is also prohibited. Such behaviors are contrary to school life in a Christ-centered community, which respects the dignity and uniqueness of all of God's children. To foster a school environment where all students are educated in a safe and caring atmosphere, all Archdiocesan schools will follow established procedures for bullying prevention, intervention, and response.

Harassment of students on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, disability or handicap, gender identity or expression, and sexual orientation are also addressed under the Archdiocesan Student Harassment Policy in the Code of Conduct. Suspected abuse or neglect of students is addressed under the Policy for the Protection of Children and Youth.

“Bullying, harassment, or intimidation” means intentional conduct, including written, verbal, or physical conduct or an intentional electronic communication, that:

- a. Creates a hostile educational environment by substantially interfering with a student’s educational benefits, opportunities, or performance or with a student’s physical or psychological well-being and:
 - i. Is motivated by an actual or a perceived personal characteristic including race, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, ancestry, physical attributes, socioeconomic status, familial status, or physical or mental ability or disability; or
 - ii. Is sexual in nature; or
 - iii. Is threatening or seriously intimidating; and
- b. Occurs on school property, at a school activity or event, or on a school bus, or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school.

Electronic technology means a communication transmitted by means of an electronic device, including a telephone, cellular phone, computer, pager, gaming device, tablet, etc.

Retaliation means an act of reprisal or revenge, i.e., getting back at a person for an act he/she committed (such as reporting misconduct).

The principal or designee will notify the parent/guardian of the alleged victim of a report of bullying, harassment or intimidation within three (3) business days after the incident is reported. The principal or designee will notify the parent/guardian of the alleged perpetrator of a report of bullying, harassment or intimidation within five (5) business days after the incident is reported

Reporting forms are located in the main office and on the school’s website. Refer to the bullying policy here [Bullying Policy SS 6.0](#)

Harassment Policy

It is the policy of the Archdiocese to prohibit harassment on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability or handicap, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, or protected activity (i.e., opposition to prohibited discrimination or participation in the complaint process) in its education programs and activities. Each Catholic school shall adhere to this policy with respect to students. (Employees are similarly protected from harassment by a separate Archdiocesan policy.) A school is not required to adopt any rule, regulation, or policy that conflicts with its religious or moral teachings.

A. Scope

This policy applies to all students in Archdiocesan elementary, middle and secondary schools. The Archdiocese neither condones nor tolerates harassment of students at school, at school-related activities or functions, or in any school-related setting. Harassment of students, whether engaged in by other students, teachers, administrators, or others, is prohibited. Violation of this Policy is grounds for disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment or suspension or expulsion from school, depending on the nature and severity of the offense and the individual's disciplinary record.

B. Prohibited Conduct

- a. For purposes of this Policy, "harassment" means verbal or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual because of his or her race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability or handicap, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, or protected activity, that:
 - i. Has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment;
 - ii. Has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's academic performance; or
 - iii. Otherwise adversely affects an individual's educational opportunities.

b. Harassing conduct includes, but is not limited to, epithets, slurs, negative stereotyping, or threatening, intimidating or hostile acts that relate to race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, handicap or disability, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation. "Sexual" harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for educational decisions or has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

C. Procedure

- a. Any person who believes that a student is being subjected to harassment should immediately report the harassment to any one or more of the following individuals: the student's teacher, the principal of the school, the Superintendent of Catholic Schools. A bullying/harassment form should be filled out.
- b. Individuals are encouraged to report harassment early, before it becomes severe or pervasive, so that preventive action can be taken. All complaints will be investigated promptly, thoroughly and impartially, and will remain confidential to the extent possible.
- c. Any retaliation, reprisals, or intimidation, whether by the alleged harasser or from another source, directed toward the complaining party or anyone else as a result of the filing or investigation of a harassment complaint is considered a serious violation of this Policy and should be reported immediately.

- d. *Once the investigation is complete, the school will take immediate and appropriate corrective action when it determines that this Policy has been violated. The complaining party and the complained-of party will be advised of the investigation's findings and conclusions. A report of the findings will be forwarded to the Department of Catholic Schools.*

Financial Obligations

Saint John the Evangelist School considers the mutual agreement between the parents and students, and the school with utmost seriousness. In all interactions, the school fulfills its commitment to provide quality Catholic education for the student. In return the parental obligation is to maintain support of these educational efforts and to fulfill the financial obligations explained below.

Tuition Agreement

The following information was communicated in the 2024-2025 tuition agreement when registering a student for the upcoming school year in TADS:

In consideration of the enrollment of the above-named student(s) at St. John the Evangelist School in Severna Park, Maryland (the "School"), I (we) hereby understand and agree as follows:

1. I/We agree to be financially responsible for the above-named student's or students' Tuition. I (we) hereby agree that I (we) will pay Tuition promptly in accordance with the chosen payment plan. Furthermore, I (we) understand and agree that if ALL outstanding Tuition and any other School-related balances are not current at any particular time, the School may exclude the above-named student from School-sponsored extra-curricular activities, classes, field trips and exams and may withhold grades, Parent Access to PowerSchool and transcripts. This Tuition Agreement must be signed and returned no later than February 16, 2024, along with the non-refundable \$250 tuition deposit and registration fee. Failure to return the Tuition Agreement, deposit and fee by February 16, 2024, may result in forfeiture of the student's enrollment. Delinquent Tuition Agreements will be subject to a late fee of \$39.00 which may be assessed by and paid to St. John the Evangelist School.
2. In the event of enrollment prior to September 15, 2024, the full annual Tuition payment shall be due and payable according to the payment plan indicated herein. In the event of enrollment on or after September 15, 2024, the annual Tuition shall be prorated based upon the number of months remaining in the current school year.
3. The School receives tuition assistance funds from St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church (the "Parish") to be granted to its students under the Catholic Family Grant Program (the "Program"). The Program awards funds based upon relative financial need, as well as level of participation and involvement at the School and in the ministries of the Parish. The Program uses TADS to ensure consistency in determining financial need. All applications for Tuition Assistance must be submitted online with TADS. In the event that Tuition Assistance is awarded to an applicant, the applicable annual tuition payment for said student may be reduced, in the School's sole discretion, by the amount

of such Tuition Assistance. The reduction, if applicable, will be spread equally among any remaining payments in the above-selected payment plan.

4. To preclude further financial obligation as described in paragraph 5, the student must be withdrawn on or before June 1, 2024. Notice of a student's withdrawal must be in writing, sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Parish Accounting Office, St. John the Evangelist Catholic School, 689 Ritchie Hwy., Severna Park, MD 21146.
5. If notice to withdraw is received after June 1, 2024, but prior to the end of the first academic trimester, then one-third the annual Tuition amount will be due. In the event of withdrawal after the start of the second academic trimester; the full annual Tuition will be due. Further, in the event of withdrawal prior to the end of the school year, any Tuition Assistance awarded by the Program will be rescinded automatically and may not be used to offset or reduce the amount due. Family relocation and other similar circumstances will be reviewed upon receipt of a written request for a refund.
6. All Tuition is payable on or before the due dates indicated in the payment plan selected. No student will be admitted to the first day of classes for the 2024-25 academic year unless both their 2024-25 Tuition account is current and all Tuition payments and other School balances for all prior years are paid in full.
7. Once School is in session, if any Tuition or other payment is delinquent for a period of more than thirty (30) days, I (we) will be obliged to contact the Parish Accounting Office at 410-647-4884. I (we) acknowledge that the delinquent payments will be subject to a monthly late payment penalty of \$50.00 which will be assessed by and paid directly to TADS.
8. Tuition Assistance awarded by the Parish may be withdrawn in the event that a delinquent tuition balance remains at the conclusion of the 2024-25 academic year. The resulting additional tuition due to the School may be added to the outstanding tuition balance.
9. In the event of non-payment as required by this Tuition Agreement, I (we) hereby agree to pay any and all costs of collecting any past-due sums, including reasonable attorneys' or collection agents' fees.
10. I (we) acknowledge that the School reserves the right to dismiss any student for any noncompliance with this Tuition Agreement or for other reasons in accordance with the School's handbook, procedures, and policies.
11. Maryland law will govern this Tuition Agreement, without regard to conflict of laws principles.
12. This Agreement contains the entire understanding between me (we) and the School with respect to its subject matter and supersedes all other oral and written agreements and understandings between us. No modification of or addition to this Agreement shall be valid except by a writing signed by me (us) and the School.
13. I (We) acknowledge that this Tuition Agreement becomes effective upon my (our) signature(s), I (we) hereby acknowledge my (our) voluntary agreement with all terms and conditions set forth in this Tuition Agreement. I (We) intend for this Agreement to be under seal and subject to the twelve-year limitations period.

Tuition Schedule

Full day preschool through grade 8:	\$9,075 per child
Half day preschool:	\$5,445 per child

2024-2025 Tuition Payment Policy and Schedule

When completing enrollment in the enrollment and billing system (TADS), school families sign a contract agreeing to their family's commitment to enrollment and payment accordingly.

1. Tuition payments are due in the following months (due on the 5th, will be considered late after the 10th of the month):
 - Plan 1 – June
 - Plan 2 – June and November
 - Plan 4 – June, August, and November 2024 and March 2025
 - Plan 10 – each month for 10 months from June 2024 to March 2025
2. Tuition billing is managed for the School by TADS. Families will select their plan, method of payment of invoicing method (electronic vs. paper) through TADS online during enrollment. The first tuition payment for all plans is due June 5, 2024. Final payments are due by March 5, 2025.
3. No child/children will be admitted to class in August unless financial responsibility is current and progress reports and school records may be withheld because of financial obligations.
4. In the case of a student's withdrawal during the school year, any adjustments to the tuition due will be in accordance with the terms and conditions as set forth in the Tuition Agreement.
5. St. John the Evangelist School does not provide tuition assistance directly to its student's families. However, several grant and assistance programs are available. See more information on the Tuition Assistance page of the website.
6. Families are encouraged to use other available means for lowering out-of-pocket tuition expenses. Learn more about the Tuition Credit Program from the PTP by clicking on the links.
7. If you are experiencing any financial difficulty and cannot make a payment at the scheduled time, please contact the Parish Business Office to explain the circumstance. Extensions are readily granted for any serious reason. Any significant hardships will certainly be taken into account, and other necessary arrangements can be made.

Registration Fees

Registration fees are charged by family, not by student:

Returning Families - \$200

New Families - \$225

Activity Fees

Fees for participation in a field trip, school activity, club or athletic team will be determined based on enrollment, on-site fees, transportation to events off campus, uniforms, etc. and will be communicated to families via either classroom teachers, directors, and coaches, or upon registration for activities, club, or an athletic team.

Tuition Payment Schedule

Tuition payments are due in the following months (due on the 5th, will be considered late after the 10th of the month):

Plan 1 – June

Plan 2 – June and November

Plan 4 – June, August, and November 2024 and March 2025

Plan 10 – each month for 10 months from June 2024 to March 2025

Tuition billing is managed for the School by TADS. Families will select their plan, method of payment or invoicing method (electronic vs. paper) through TADS online during enrollment. The first tuition payment for all plans is due June 5, 2024. Final payments are due by March 5, 2025.

Tuition Assistance, Tuition Grants, BOOST

Catholic Family Grant Program

The St. John the Evangelist Parish Catholic Family Grant Program exists to provide aid to families that need financial support to provide a Catholic education for their children in grades kindergarten through eighth. This year the Parish Finance Committee and Pastoral Council have pledged monies, as needed, up to \$130,000 for the Program. Grants are awarded to families on the basis of both demonstrated need and level of participation in the ministries of the Catholic Church. Preference is given to registered parishioners and families who give most generously of their time, talent and treasure to the campus-wide community of St. John the Evangelist. If you believe your resources are not sufficient to meet the total cost of a St. John education, you are encouraged to apply. The application for this grant can be found [here](#).

Marion Burke Knott Scholarship Fund

The Knott Scholarship Funds have been providing merit based, full-tuition scholarships for academically talented Catholic elementary and secondary school students for 41 years. Awarded in the 4th grade for grades 5 through 8, or 8th grade for grades 9 through 12, scholarships are awarded to Catholic students in the Archdiocese of Baltimore who wish to attend a Catholic school. Applications are available beginning in January and are due in March for awards for the following year. For more information, please visit www.knottscholar.org.

Archdiocese of Baltimore Tuition Assistance Program

Funds are available through the Archdiocese of Baltimore Scholarship Fund. You may qualify for assistance from this fund (*in addition to*) any funds you may have received from the St. John Catholic Family Grant Program or any other parishes' tuition assistance program. More information about this fund, as well as several other Archdiocesan Scholarships can be found on the [Archdiocese's website](#).

Other Local Parishes

Families registered with other parishes are encouraged to apply for a grant through the pastor at your home parish. Many local parishes have funds available from their local share of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. For more information you should contact your pastor or Parish Office directly.

Scrip Tuition Credit Program

Families at St. John have the opportunity to earn tuition credit by participating in the Scrip Program. Scrip is gift cards from national and local retailers sold to our organization at a discount. Families like you buy the cards at the discounted price, you redeem them for full face

value, and you earn the difference as tuition credit. Please contact Stephanie Anderson at stjohns.tcp@gmail.com regarding any questions about Scrip.

Delinquent Tuition

Report cards and school records may be withheld because of financial obligations. If ALL outstanding Tuition and any other School-related balances are not current at any particular time, the School may exclude the student from School-sponsored extra-curricular activities, classes, field trips and exams and may withhold grades, Parent Access to PowerSchool and transcripts.

Withdrawals

To preclude further financial obligation as described in paragraph 5, the student must be withdrawn on or before June 1, 2024. Notice of a student's withdrawal must be in writing, sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Parish Accounting Office, St. John the Evangelist Catholic School, 689 Ritchie Hwy., Severna Park, MD 21146. If notice to withdraw is received after June 1, 2024, but prior to the end of the first academic trimester, then one-third the annual Tuition amount will be due. In the event of withdrawal after the start of the second academic trimester; the full annual Tuition will be due. Further, in the event of withdrawal prior to the end of the school year, any Tuition Assistance awarded by the Program will be rescinded automatically and may not be used to offset or reduce the amount due. Family relocation and other similar circumstances will be reviewed upon receipt of a written request for a refund.

Health

Health Room

The school's Health Room is not a diagnostic clinic with facilities for prolonged treatment but rather to be used for the immediate and temporary care of injuries or illnesses occurring during the school day. If a child cannot return to class within a half hour, a parent will be called. A registered nurse is in the Health Room during school hours five days a week. The nurse will administer first aid to injured students and isolate ill students until they can be taken home by a parent or guardian. The nurse must be informed if a child has any special health problems. It is very important that all emergency information be accurate and up-to-date. Parents/guardians are responsible for notifying the nurse of any emergency information changes.

Maryland School Immunization Requirements

A child may not enter school unless he/she has submitted an official immunization record or other appropriate documentation of immunization status. The immunization record must have the month, day and year of each vaccination and be signed by a physician or health department official. In the case of religious objection or medical contra-indication, form DHMH 89, must be submitted and kept on file and be approved by the school. Exempted students are to be excluded from school if there is an outbreak of the disease for which they are not immunized.

Dispensing of Medication

The administration of medication in school is discouraged. However, if a student's physician recommends that the student receive prescription or over-the-counter medication during the school day, a written order from the student's doctor is required. Medication can only be dispensed with a written order from the student's physician, specifying start and stop date. The original medication container or box for inhalers must be brought to the school. These containers or boxes should include the following: name of medication, directions for use, time for dispensing, name of doctor ordering the medication, date of prescription, expiration date as stated by the pharmacist, strength of medication/dosage, and student's name and grade.

Students may not possess, dispense or distribute medication on their own. Under special circumstances, individual students may be authorized by their physician to carry and self-administer emergency medications (e.g. inhalers, epi-pens). In this case, the school nurse must be consulted. All medication must be delivered to school by a parent/guardian.

Other Health Related Issues

Upon entering Saint John the Evangelist School, students must have a complete physical, dental examination and the required immunizations. Children who are ill enough to be kept in during recess periods should be kept at home until they can follow the regular school schedule. The school does not have adequate personnel for individual supervision. Parents should not send a child to school that has had a fever of 100 degrees or more or had vomiting or diarrhea within 24 hours. Since there is no indoor monitor, a student must be well enough to fully participate in outdoor play. A doctor's written and signed request is needed for a student to be excused from physical education classes.

Communicable Diseases

Parents must call the school if their child is diagnosed with a communicable disease. The school must notify their county Health Department. All reports are confidential. Reportable diseases include the following:

Adverse reactions to Pertussis Vaccine

Animal bites / Rabies

Chicken Pox (varicella)

Covid 19

Food Poisoning

Hepatitis

Human Immune Deficiency Virus Infection (AIDS and all other symptomatic infections)

Influenza

Lyme disease

Measles – regular or German (Rubella)

Meningitis

Mumps

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever

Tuberculosis

Whooping Cough (Pertussis)

Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)

Any student with drainage from the eyes associated with conjunctivitis (pink eye) must be kept at home until under treatment from a doctor. A doctor's note will be required for readmission to school.

Varicella (Chicken Pox)

Students who have chicken pox are excluded from school until all lesions are scabbed over.

Health Records

Parents are required to complete a Health Form listing any allergies, serious medical conditions, medications, and emergency contact information. The school must be notified of any changes that occur during the school year.

Head Injury

If any injury to the head or any other serious injury occurs to a student, then nurse will call the parent and send home a report. The report is to be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to school. If the parent/guardian or alternative contact person cannot be reached in an emergency, the school will contact police/ambulance for assistance.

Insurance

The Office of Risk Management, on behalf of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, offers a voluntary student accident plan for school families to purchase. This coverage is an inexpensive way for families to cover co-pays, high deductibles, and may even provide accident coverage in the event that no other health coverage is available. If a family declines this coverage please be aware that any injuries sustained while at school or during school activities may not be covered by any Archdiocesan insurance policy. For more details regarding purchasing student accident insurance please visit www.archbalt.org/risk.

Allergies

Parents must notify the school of their child's allergies including food allergies. School medication orders must be renewed each year by the physician and the order must be signed on or after July 1. If the student carries an EPIPEN with them, the physician must state this requirement on the order.

Bloodborne Pathogens A complete Bloodborne Pathogens Standard Exposure Control Plan has been established by the school and can be found in each Faculty Handbook and on file in the Office.

Vision & Hearing Screening

The school follows the directives of Anne Arundel County Health Department and responds to parent's requests for individual testing.

This testing is usually done for:

- All new students who have not provided documentation for screening in the past year;
- All students the year they enter the school in Grades PreK, kindergarten, 1, and 8 or 9;
- Grade 3 or Grade 4 if funding is available;

- Any student with a suspected hearing or vision problem as reported by school staff or parents/guardians.

Birthdays

Student and staff birthdays are announced each morning as a school-wide recognition and celebration of an individual's birthday. Due to allergies and food intolerances, we do not have class parties. Delivery of or distribution of special gifts is not permitted. If a student is having a party, all invitations are to be mailed or sent electronically, not distributed at school.

General Use Epi Pens

As of July 1, 2023, St. John the Evangelist School has adopted a policy allowing the availability of stock epinephrine in the health suite for use in the event of an anaphylactic emergency. This epinephrine is for emergency use during normal school days and is not dependent on allergy history. It is not available outside of normal school hours or on field trips. Students with a known history of severe allergies are still expected to maintain emergency action plans, medical orders, and their own supply of emergency medication.

There are written policies and procedures that are followed in the event that we have to use the stock EpiPen. Those policies are available in the nurse's office if anyone wishes to read them. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call 410-647-9659.

Naloxone (Narcan)

As of September 2024, St. John the Evangelist School has adopted a policy allowing the availability of Naloxone through the health suite for use in the event of a suspected overdose emergency. This Naloxone is for emergency use during normal school days. It is not available outside of normal school hours or on field trips. As required by the "Start Talking Maryland Act" a communication about the program is provided at the beginning of the school year. For those interested in learning more about the program and administration of Naloxone, please refer to the following resources: https://youtu.be/p9hYzykHs_o and [Pages - Home \(maryland.gov\)](https://www.maryland.gov).

Federal Drug-Free Workplace Act's Applicability to Cannabis Use in Schools

There have been significant legislative changes at the state level around the use of cannabis in recent years. In 2023, the Maryland General Assembly enacted legislation that will allow individuals 21 and older to purchase cannabis products legally from a licensed dispensary. However, it is important to keep in mind that, despite these changes, cannabis continues to be classified as a Schedule I controlled substance under federal law, and its use remains illegal under federal law.

The policies and regulations set forth by the Federal Drug-Free Workplace Act apply directly to the use of cannabis in schools, including childcare facilities located in schools, even if such use might be permitted under State law. All employees, contractors, volunteers, and visitors are required to comply with this law and may not distribute, possess, use, or be under the influence of cannabis while in schools or during working hours, including but not limited to while transporting students or attending school-sponsored activities.

Partnership and Communication with Parents

Responsibilities

In enrolling your child in a Catholic School, you agree to certain important responsibilities. These include:

1. to be a partner with the school in the education of your child
2. to understand and support the Catholic mission and identity of the school
3. to read all communications from the school and to request clarification when necessary
4. to know who your child's teachers are and to observe parent-teacher conference dates and any special requests for meetings
5. to discuss concerns and problems with the person (s) most directly involved
6. to be as actively involved as you can be in the life of the school and to volunteer assistance when possible
7. to promote your school and to speak well of it to others to include, but not limited to, social media platforms.
8. to meet your financial obligations in a timely manner and to support the fundraising efforts of the school when possible
9. to appreciate Catholic education and the benefits of attending a school in a Christ centered environment.
10. to behave appropriately at all school related functions, both inside and outside of the school hours, and whether on school property or third-party site, and including sporting events.
11. to follow the guidelines of this handbook including non-academic standards and expectations, including related to parking, drop-off, pick-up, and communication with teachers and staff.
12. To demonstrate appropriate behavior and respect to all teachers, staff, and, administrators, this includes verbal, written or electronic exchanges.

Support, Partnership, and Compliance by Families

In cases of disregard of the direction of staff members, threats or threatening behavior, serious or repeated noncompliance with school policies or procedures, or other demonstrated lack of support or cooperation, whether by parent, child or other family member, the administration reserves the right to withdraw child/children from the school. Depending on the severity of the breach of partnership with the school, parents or other family members may be prohibited from entering the campus.

Communication

On Wednesday at 4 p.m. all parents and guardians will receive the school's Weekly Update with announcements and information. Daily classroom and school information can be found on the school Weebly Site. Teachers may also send information and communicate through email.

In the best interests of students, the school welcomes and encourages communication between parents and teachers. Whenever a situation occurs that causes concern, the concern should be addressed first at the level at which the situation arose. Please contact your child's teacher directly by email or phone to schedule a mutually convenient time to meet.

Parents whose phone numbers are unlisted must give the school either the unlisted number or a number where the parent(s) can be reached. It is essential that the school have this information in case of emergency. This information will be kept in the strictest confidence. Any change of phone number or home address is to be given to the school office and homeroom teacher immediately.

Non-Custodial Parent

Emergency contact information for each child is to be kept current. It is the parent's responsibility to keep that information current. Children will only be released to the person(s) designated on the emergency card, unless otherwise instructed by the custodial parent/guardian.

Non-custodial parents are welcome to review their child's records unless there is a court order or legal agreement prohibiting such access. The school may notify the custodial parent of a request to review records.

St. John the Evangelist School does not allow a non-custodial parent physical access to his/her child during school hours or on school premises unless the custodial parent has consented, or the school has a court order permitting access.

Change in Name, Family Status, and Custody

If there is a change in the family status/or the change of a child's name, or a change in custody arrangement, it is important that the school be informed promptly of the change. In case of a change of custody, a copy of the portion of the court order that describes the custody arrangements must be on file with the school. The parents also need to notify the principal.

Change in Address, Telephone Number, and Email Address

When there is a change in address, phone number or email address, parents need to update school offices staff immediately. If you are moving, notify the school office of the new address and the expected last day of attendance. A Release of Records Form must be signed by the parents before school records are forwarded to the new school. Official school records will be mailed directly to the new school as soon as we receive their request. No records will be transferred if financial obligations have not been met.

Bright Arrow

Bright Arrow will be used to send emergency communications to families as the need arises. For example, if the school will be dismissing early for a weather-related event, Bright Arrow will be used to contact families and send the notification.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent teacher conferences are scheduled before progress reports are distributed for the first trimester. A teacher or parent may request a conference at any other time during the school year. An appointment can be made by contacting the teacher to schedule a conference. Parent conference times must be confirmed by the teacher involved.

Parents may not come to the classroom for a conference with the teacher unless it has been scheduled. This includes before and after school as well as during class as teachers have other responsibilities at these times. Parents of students in grades 3-8 will be able to access their child's progress via the Parent Access component of Power School. For initial access, parents will be provided with a temporary user id and password and asked to set up an account at archbalt.powerschool.com/public. The password will not change from year to year.

Parent Teacher Partnership (PTP) (Home & School Association)

The purpose of a Parent Teacher Partnership (Home and School Association) is to partner with the school in providing support for both the academic and social aspects of the school. All parents of the students become members of the Parent/Teacher Partnership at the time of registration. This organization is essential for the financial support of the school. It also provides opportunities for parents to assist the school in a variety of capacities. General meetings are held periodically throughout the school year. PTP officers are listed below for reference and on the school website. Please do not request class parents or PTP representatives to relay complaints and grievances.

Gina Connors, President
Megan Rupinski, Vice President
Brittany Moran, Treasurer
Kelly Proatch, Secretary

[Archdiocese of Baltimore Home and School Association manual](#)

Homeroom Parents

The class parents assume responsibility to make contacts throughout the year with parents for various events and to arrange with teachers for holiday treats.

Safety

Emergency Plan

St. John the Evangelist School, as required by the State of Maryland, maintains a Crisis Management and Emergency Response Plan. Planning for the need to respond to an emergency or event on our campus is practiced/conducted with frequency and involves all members of our school community including administration, teachers, staff, and students.

Fire and Safety Drills

St. John the Evangelist conducts several drills throughout the school year including those required as listed below:

Fire Drill/Evacuation
Lockdown of the building
Evacuation due to an Intruder

Shelter in Place
Emergency Dismissals
Tornado Drills
Earthquake Drills
Power Outage

Emergency & Weather-related Closings and Delayed Openings

The school will follow the county in which the school is located, for decisions regarding early dismissals, delayed openings and any other emergency and weather-related closing. Saint John the Evangelist School will follow the Anne Arundel County Public School System concerning weather related problems. For a morning delay or school cancellation, please follow announcements from the county via WBAL or the Anne Arundel County Public Schools website (www.aacps.org). In case of a two-hour delay, the morning care program will open at 8:30 am for registered students.

If the school should close early, all children must be picked up at the announced closing time. Instruct your child as to procedures/arrangements for such situations. Before and After School Care will remain open after the announced closing time for one hour for registered students only. If the school is closing early, communication will come by email and/or phone via the alert message system Bright Arrow.

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)

AHERA – In October 1986, the U.S. Congress enacted the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). Under this law, comprehensive regulations were developed to address asbestos problems in public and private elementary and secondary schools. These regulations require most schools to inspect for friable and non-friable asbestos, develop asbestos management plans that address asbestos hazards in school buildings and implement response actions in a timely manner. Our program for fulfilling these responsibilities is outlined in our asbestos management plan. This plan contains information on our inspections, re-inspections, response actions and post-response action activities, including periodic surveillance activities that are planned or are in progress. The plan is kept in the principal's office and may be viewed upon request during normal business hours.

Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Policy Procedures

Maryland law requires that all educators and other school employees, including volunteers, report suspected child abuse or neglect to the proper authorities in order that children may be protected from harm and the family may be helped. Our school policy supports Maryland laws in this regard and requires that all school staff report suspected abuse and neglect to the Department of Social Services, Protective Services Division, and/or the local police department, as well as to the principal.

Student's Cell Phones

Cellular telephones may not be used during school hours, upon arrival in the morning, Before and After Care, school functions, or in the school building. Homeroom teachers in all grades will collect all cell phones first thing in the morning. Students may not have cell phones on their person or in their bags at all during the school day. The phones will be secured in the classroom by the homeroom teacher during the school day and distributed to students as they leave the

building at dismissal. If a student has a cell phone out for any reason during the day, it will be confiscated and given to an administrator by the teacher who took it from the student's possession. The student will receive a Conduct Referral and the cell phone back at the end of the day. If a second offense occurs, the student will be given detention and his or her phone will be given to the parent or guardian at 4:00 p.m. on the day the detention is served.

Personal electronic devices such are not allowed on campus. Students are provided iPads for educational use during the school day. Text messages and other forms of social media from student-to-student may not be sent or received during the school day. A parent must call to set up an appointment to retrieve a device at the convenience of an administrator and parent. School Wi-Fi will not be provided to students. Their school issued device will have access to internet service. If a phone, personal electronic device, or smart watch is brought to school, it is the complete responsibility of the student, and the school is not responsible for loss or damage under any circumstances.

Any Smart Watches must have applications, sounds, haptics, and communication abilities disabled during school hours. If students are found to be using these devices for functions other than timekeeping during the day, or if they disrupt a class in any way, they will be taken from the student by the teacher and given to an administrator. The consequences will reflect that of the cell phone policy.

Telephone Calls

Students will be called to the office to answer a phone call only in the case of an emergency. Students are not allowed to make or receive phone calls on their individual cell phones. Students are allowed to use the telephone at school only in the case of an emergency. Forgotten homework or materials does not constitute an emergency.

Visitors

All volunteers in any capacity must abide by the Archdiocese of Baltimore Policy for the Protection of Children and Youth. These policies require that every volunteer submit an application, participate in training, abide by the Code of Conduct for Church Personnel, and undergo a criminal history screening prior to any volunteer service, including service as a chaperone

All members of the school community share a concern for child safety. In order to ensure a safe environment for your child, all school doors will remain locked during the school day. All visitors must report to the main school entrance and receive an identification badge through RAPTOR before visiting other parts of the school building.

Parents and visitors wishing to gain access to areas of the school beyond the main office will be asked to show their drivers' license. The license is scanned, and a visitor's badge is printed that must be worn by the parent or visitor in the building at all times. Visitors without this badge will be asked to return to the main office area and complete this process.

No teacher or student may be disturbed during school time except in the case of emergency or scheduled appointment. This regulation is to safeguard the security of our school and respect the instructional environment.

Volunteers

All volunteers in any capacity must abide by the Archdiocese of Baltimore Policy for the Protection of Children and Youth. These policies require that every volunteer submit an application, participate in training, abide by the Code of Conduct for Church Personnel, and undergo a criminal history screening prior to any volunteer service, including service as a chaperone.

VIRTUS for the Protection of Children and Youth

The Archdiocese of Baltimore and St. John the Evangelist Parish are committed to providing a safe environment for our children and youth.

We will...

- work to produce a healthy and nurturing environment for our children and youth.
- strive to make our Church and School a safe environment for them.
- exclude from ministry, employment, and volunteer service anyone against whom there is a credible allegation of child abuse.
- ensure that victims are offered quality pastoral care and counseling.
- affirm the efforts of people who provide appropriate and loving outreach to the children and youth of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

All volunteers and employees MUST register through VIRTUS online, our compliance management system, to be screened, trained, and approved for the protection of our children.

<http://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/index.cfm>

NOTE: If a volunteer or employee applicant fails or refuses to complete any part of the screening steps, then he/she cannot serve as a volunteer with our students at St. John the Evangelist Catholic School. This includes ...

- working in the classroom in any capacity,
- serving as a chaperone on a field trip,
- leading as a coach, assistant coach, or a team parent for any of our athletic teams, and
- any fundraiser whereby you will be interacting with children.

Training or screening offered by any other organizations such as Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts, Little League, area public schools, area athletic organizations, other dioceses, or federal agencies may not be substituted for this Archdiocesan Children and Youth Protection training. If you were already approved to volunteer in the Archdiocese of Baltimore through STAND, Shield the Vulnerable, or VIRTUS, in the past five years, you may confirm your status through the Screening Coordinator. Also, please contact the Screening Coordinator with any questions about VIRTUS at shield@stjohnsp.org. More information on VIRTUS training requirements through the Archdiocese of Baltimore can be accessed at <https://www.archbalt.org/child-and-youth-protection/>

Chaperones

Chaperones assume responsibility for the group assigned to him/her; chaperone does not permit children to switch groups without consent of teacher. The chaperone does not permit children to go anywhere alone, even to the bathroom, makes arrangements with other chaperones to provide for needs of children, and establishes check points and check-in times during the day to

be sure all are safe and accounted for if students are permitted flexibility. All chaperones must complete the VIRTUS training before taking on the responsibility of chaperone.

Visiting Classrooms for Events

Parents are invited to visit their children's classroom at stated times throughout the year. Since these are regular school days, we ask you to follow certain procedures. Do not bring younger children with you unless invited. Cell phones must be silenced while visiting classrooms. In a departmental situation such as middle school, please move with the children. In self-contained units, please stagger your time so classes do not become over-crowded.

At times during the year, our parents may be invited to come to school for classroom events (Author's Tea, class plays, etc.). Due to space, other students within the building may not be allowed to attend. Teachers will provide expectations for this in their communication related to individual events so there is not confusion on the day of the event.

Media Release

Image/Audio Reproduction: The student and the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) hereby consent to St. John the Evangelist and/or its agents' reproduction and publication of images and audio of the student on St. John the Evangelist's website, school publications, and other media now known or later developed in furtherance of the school's educational and other objectives. Such images and audio include photographs, video, digital media and other media now known or later developed. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) that do not wish to have their children included in such media may opt out by sending a letter to the school's main office to Lynne Fish's attention.

Cafeteria and Playground School Supervision

All children are supervised during lunch in the cafeteria and recess out on the fields or playground. Students are expected to remain with their class during lunch and recess to insure proper supervision. A hot lunch is served daily. A menu is distributed monthly and is found on the school website under the lunch program tab. Milk and a variety of other beverages are available for purchase daily. Bread and rolls for meals served daily have whole grain options. Please do not bring in food from other vendors for the children during school hours. This includes students carrying breakfast or drinks upon arrival. Parent volunteers who are VIRTUS trained are welcome and appreciated to help with lunch supervision and recess. Please sign up using the Sign-Up Genius website created by the homeroom teacher or sign up with the homeroom teacher.

Supervision Responsibilities (Before and After the Official School Day)

Parents are required to follow the times stipulated when dropping off or picking up students. The school is not responsible for supervision of students before the drop-off time and after the pick-up time, as listed above. The school is not liable for any injuries or accidents which may occur before the drop-off time or after the pick-up time, as stated above.

The school day begins at 8:10 a.m. and dismissal begins at 3:10 p.m. Children may arrive no earlier than 7:40 a.m. unless registered for the Before and After School Care Program. On regularly scheduled half-days the school admits students at 7:40 a.m. Supervision is provided until 12:30 p.m. The school is not responsible for supervision of students before or after the times stated above, and the school is not liable for any injuries or accidents which may occur. This is

required by insurance coverage and is done for the safety of the children. Parents are advised, therefore, to follow the times as stated above. Parents will drop off students using the traffic pattern established and explained in this handbook. Parents may not leave students unattended on school grounds. No supervision is provided for students prior to 7:40 a.m. Morning Care is available from the school for families that need to drop off students earlier due to work schedules. Families who drop off students before 7:40 a.m. will be charged the a la carte morning care fee. In the afternoon, students who are not picked up by 3:20 p.m. will be sent to our Extended Care Program and will be charged the daily a la carte aftercare fee. The office or website can provide parents with the proper registration materials for this program. If students are participating in a scheduled supervised activity before or after the hours noted above, specific arrangements must be made for drop-off and/or pick-up at the designated times. If students are participating in before or after school day care programs, parents must comply with the rules established by the program for dropping off and picking up children.

If the student is participating in a scheduled, supervised activity before or after the hours noted above, specific arrangements must be made for drop-off and/or pick-up at the designated times. If children are participating in before or after school care, parents must comply with the rules established by the program for drop-off and pick-up.

Transportation Procedures

Students are only to be released to custodial parents or those adults listed on emergency contact forms. Students should never be allowed to leave school in an UBER, Lift, or any private transportation company.

Use of School Grounds

School grounds and building facilities are not permitted to be used by outside entities or organizations. All events scheduled on campus are associated directly with the St. John the Evangelist School Administration and Parish personnel.

Assembly Procedures

During any assembly or liturgical gathering, students should direct attention to the speaker or performer, applaud or participate when appropriate (no disrespectful sounds or behavior will be tolerated), and await the announcement of dismissal procedure at the conclusion of the assembly and exit in an orderly manner.

Changing Classes

Students in departmental situations are to change classes orderly and quickly. They are to enter by the front doors and exit by the back doors marked for each classroom.

Spirituality

We are a community rooted in faith to nurture and develop Catholic Values. We embrace our role as Catholic educators to inspire every student to develop a lifelong relationship with Jesus Christ. Through weekly mass, prayer, self-reflection, and acts of charity we inspire our students to serve others in the community and in the world.

- Prayer begins and ends each day.
- Religion is taught daily. Religion is required for each year a student attends St. John the Evangelist School. All students enrolled in St. John the Evangelist School must attend

religion classes and services. We will always teach and act consistent with the tenets of the Catholic Church.

- Prayer Partner Program engages older students in faith sharing projects with younger students.
- Priests, deacons and seminarians cooperate with classroom teachers in religious instruction of students.
- Students attend weekly Mass with their class.
- Students in Grades 7 and 8 cantor or lector at the weekly Mass.
- Students in Grades 5 through 8 serve as altar servers at weekly Mass and full school liturgies.

St. John the Evangelist

Lord, teach us to know You, love You, serve You, and glorify You in our lives. We thank You for everything You have given us. Help us to respect others just as You have done. Help us to glorify You every day with our lives. Help us to be role models to everyone around us. Show us the way to eternal happiness. St. John the Evangelist, pray for us. Amen.

Religious Education

Religion is required for each year a student attends Saint John the Evangelist School. All students enrolled in Saint John the Evangelist School must attend religion classes and services. Schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore follow the Archdiocesan curriculum for religion. We will always teach and act consistent with the tenets of the Catholic Church.

Teachers, priests, Director of Religious Education, and the principal participate in planning and carrying out the religion curriculum. In addition, the textbooks include the most recent changes to the Roman Missal as promulgated by the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops. *The Growing with God: Safe and Sacred* program will focus on child safety and family life program that is solidly grounded through Church teachings and the Catholic faith is included in this curriculum.

Liturgy

The priests, in conjunction with the faculty of St. John the Evangelist provide liturgies for the children at various times during the year. Weekly mass, Holy Days, special school celebrations, Penance services and prayer services are some of the ways we worship together as a community of faith. Parents are invited to attend these liturgies and prayerful celebrations. Students in grades PreK-8 attend mass weekly.

School Liturgy Schedule

School mass will be held weekly for the whole school. All students will attend mass and participate in the liturgy. All grades organize liturgies, and students participate as cantors, lectors, greeters, gift bearers, or in the choir at full school liturgies.

Prayer Services

All school liturgies and prayer services commemorate many feast days and holy days. All students will have the opportunity to participate in prayer services throughout the school year. Sacraments (First Eucharist, Reconciliation, Confirmation)

Sacrament Preparation – First Communion (Grade 2), and Reconciliation (Grades 2, 3 or 4) is available through St. John the Evangelist Parish Faith Formation. More information is available at <https://stjohnsp.org/>

Service Projects

Service Projects are planned and performed within and outside school and the community. We believe in the role of school in the nurturing and development of children to be responsible citizens with servant hearts in this world. Service to others through prayer and acts of charity is not just something we do at St. John; it is who we are. Listed below are some examples of service projects completed throughout the year that serve both the local and global communities:

- Food collection for the St. Vincent DePaul Society, SPAN, Little Sisters of the Poor and Lighthouse Shelter in Annapolis.
- Towel and washcloth collection for Happy Helpers for the Homeless with notes of prayer and encouragement
- Sunrise Assisted Living outreach and visits
- Baby item collection and prayers for mothers and babies in need at Mary's Center
- Meal preparation for homeless families residing at Sarah's House
- Money collection for Pediatric Cancer, Holy Childhood Association, and Fish for a Cure
- Faculty participation in Catholic Charities Dragon Boat Race raising money and paddling for the DePaul House Senior Living
- Shoe collection for Feet for Francis
- Operation Gratitude

Prayer Partner Program

Prayer Partner Program engages older students in faith sharing projects with younger students. Specific grades are paired together to encourage an opportunity for students to share in leadership and modeling of prayer. Prayer partners attend mass together throughout the school year.

Altar Servers

Students in grade 5 and above, from the school or parish, may apply to give service to the parish by assisting the priest in liturgical celebrations. Interested students will receive altar serving training.

Parish Information and Pastor's Contact

Please use the following link to access all information about the St. John the Evangelist Parish and the pastoral team <https://stjohnsp.org/>

Advent

Teachers design Advent activities at each grade level. These activities are appropriately designed to provide students a deeper spiritual understanding of this season in our Catholic Church. A variety of prayer experiences are provided to engage the students with an opportunity to deepen their faith and an understanding of how to prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ. This is a time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus and to deepen our understanding of the true meaning of Christmas.

Lent

Teachers design Lenten activities at each grade level. These activities are appropriately designed to provide students a deeper spiritual understanding of this season in our Catholic Church. A variety of prayer experiences are provided to engage the students with an opportunity to deepen their faith and an understanding of how to prepare for the Easter celebration and Resurrection of Jesus.

Stations of the Cross

Students in grades 1-8 will participate in Stations of the Cross during the Lenten Season.

May Procession & Crowning

Each May, the whole school reverently honors Mary our Mother. The school participates in a Mary prayer service and crowning. This is a student led prayer service.

Catholic Schools Week

Catholic School Week 2025 will occur from Jan. 26, 2025 - Saturday, Feb. 1, 2025. Events during Catholic School Week include opportunity for the entire school and parish community to share in fellowship, celebration, athletic events, an open house for prospective families, and celebration of mass.

Religion Curriculum

Each grade level will follow the Religion curriculum as published by the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Growing with God: Safe and Sacred lessons will occur throughout the school year as designated in the Archdiocese of Baltimore curriculum.

Living Rosary

Each year, the 8th grade class designs, plans, and performs a Living Rosary for the whole school community during the Lenten Season. All students in the 8th grade class participate in various roles including readers, cantors, musicians, and performers.

Retreats (Grades 6-8)

Retreats are planned for the middle school grades 6-8 each year. Teachers in collaboration with the Religion teacher, grade level teachers, youth minister, and St. John the Evangelist pastoral team design the retreat experience focused on providing an opportunity for students to grow spiritually with their grade level peers.

Student Services

Before & After School Care

Extended Care Program (ECP) – see ECP Handbook on school website

An extended care program (ECP) is provided by the school for care of students before and after the school day. Parents who have children in Grades Pre-K through 8 may make arrangements to enroll their children on a full-time or part-time basis. You can download the necessary forms from the school website at <https://www.stjohnspschool.org/parents/extended-care/ecp-registration/>. Morning care is provided from 7:00-7:40 a.m.; afternoon care is provided from dismissal to 6:00 p.m. Participants in the Extended Care Program will be provided the Extended Care Program Handbook which provides policies and procedures. Receipt of the Handbook

must be signed and returned to the ECP staff during the first week of enrollment. If you have any questions, please contact ECP staff at 410-647-2283 or 443-520-5201.

Cafeteria: Milk & Lunch Program

A hot lunch is served daily. St. John the Evangelist uses Tommy's Meal Service to provide daily hot lunches. Lunch is served in the cafeteria for Grades K through 8. Tommy's provides a variety of your students favorite foods and healthy snack options. Due to food allergies, Tommy's lunch options do not contain peanuts. Milk and a variety of other beverages are available for purchase daily. Bread and rolls for meals served daily have whole grain options. Parents are not permitted to bring in food from other vendors for the children during school hours. This includes fast food brought in for lunch and students carrying breakfast or drinks into the school building at morning arrival.

School Activities & Organizations

Clubs and Activities at St. John the Evangelist School

Clubs and activities are offered to provide opportunities for our students to develop their unique talents and personalities. In addition to weekly art and music classes, students have the opportunity to participate in the following clubs and activities:

Activities	Grade
Flutophone	Grade 3
Instrumental Music/Band	Grades 4-8
Drama Jr.	Grades 2-3
Drama Club	Grades 6-8
Intermediate Drama	Grades 4-5
Christmas Concert	Grades K-5
Upper School Chorus	Grades 5-8
Book Club	Grade 4
Chess Club	Grades 3 – 7
Birding Club	Grades 5 – 8
Spelling Bee	Grades 4 – 6
Rosary Prayer Group	Grades 6 – 8
Ava Maria Prayer Group	Grades 2 - 3
Meteorology Club	Grades 5-8

Athletics at St. John the Evangelist

We believe in promoting a positive sports culture that promotes habits of perseverance, responsible decision-making, teamwork, prayer, and whole health. St. John the Evangelist has continued its partnership with University of Notre Dame to facilitate the *Play Like a Champion Today* training and educational series. *Play Like a Champion Today* is a national coach and parent education program designed by the Alliance for Catholic Education at the University of Notre Dame to elevate the culture of Catholic school-sponsored sports. All coaches at St. John the Evangelist participate in the *Play Like a Champion Today* training series which is offered at the start of each sports season. St. John the Evangelist will provide a *Parent Like a Champion Today* workshop for all parents. Parents receive resources that will help them contribute to building the positive culture that is the focus of St. John the Evangelist and the *Play Like a Champion* program.

The St. John Athletic Association (SJAA) is a parent volunteer organization that provides our student athletes an excellent opportunity to participate in athletics, which becomes a valued component of their total Catholic educational experience at St. John the Evangelist School. SJAA embrace these guiding principles:

- To promote character development, Christian values, leadership qualities, sportsmanship, and academic excellence in our student athletes.
- To enhance school spirit within the community of students, families, faculty and parish.
- To develop in our student athletes appropriate skills in their representative sports.
- To support the maintenance and improvement of St. John the Evangelist athletic facilities, equipment and the school physical education program.

Athletic Teams

County League Teams

Boys & Girls Soccer

Girls Lacrosse

Boys & Girls Basketball

Running Club

Middle School Cross Country

Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) Teams

Boys & Girls Basketball

Intramural Sports Teams (Grades PK through 2)

Co-ed Soccer

Co-ed Basketball

Co-ed Scooper Lacrosse

Guidance & Counselor

Parents who would like to speak with our Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Vanessa Krehely may reach out to her via email at vkrehely@stjohnsp.org. Throughout the course of the school year, various guidance lessons are presented to engage students at each grade level with a deeper understanding of kindness, friendship, bullying, grit, perseverance and resiliency.

Leadership Programs

Our children are the future of our faith community and our nation. The education they receive at St. John as disciples growing in faith and as students growing in wisdom and knowledge will prepare them to be the leaders of tomorrow. St. John offers several opportunities for our students to cultivate their confidence and develop leadership skills within their school community through participation in several programs as listed below:

Student Ambassadors Grade 8

Student Council Grades 6 – 8

Flag Attendants Grade 7- 8

Safety Patrols Grade 6

Altar Servers Grade 5 -8

Technology

Acceptable Use Policy for the Internet and Technology Tools

Technology skills are necessary to ready our students for their future. Access to the Internet and technology tools (including software tools, web-based applications and services, computer equipment, I-Pads, and other personal electronic devices) allow students to conduct research, produce digital content, and communicate with classmates and teachers. The Internet and technology tools put enormous power at the fingertips of users. As such, they also place a great deal of responsibility on users.

It is imperative that technology resources be used to build community, encourage critical reflection, and foster readiness for future learning. Developments in technology at the School are to be used ethically, legally, and responsibly. As in other areas, our students are expected to make good choices with regard to their behavior.

Individual users are responsible for their activity on the Internet and technology tools, including the material stored and information shared. In order to protect private and personal information, unauthorized disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal information is prohibited. The School reserves the right to edit Internet accounts for child-only configurations, and to run filtering software for students' protection.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that student users (and their parents) recognize the limitations the School imposes on the use of the Internet and technology tools and that they understand the standards of behavior the School expects of users.

All users of the School network and technology tools, whether on a School-owned or personal device, are responsible for adhering to the following guidelines for acceptable use.

Acceptable uses of the Internet and technology tools are for authorized academic and school-related activities that support learning and teaching and:

- Respect the privacy and property rights of others and the well-being of the School
- Are consistent with Roman Catholic values and morals
- Treat technology tools and computer equipment with respect.

Unacceptable uses of the Internet and technology tools include but are not limited to:

- Violating the rights or privacy of others, including by photographing or filming an individual without consent
- Posting or distributing videos or photographs without consent of the persons depicted and the School
- Using technology to send profanity, obscenity, or other offensive or harmful language
- Unauthorized copying, downloading, or installation of content, software or applications (including plagiarism or "pirating" music)
- Sending false information or sending messages to the School community that fail to identify the sender (including anonymous messages or messages using a pseudonym)
- Using any program designed to disrupt network performance or breach network security, such as software designed to capture passwords or break encryption protocols
- Revealing personal information beyond what is required for login while using Internet or web-based

resources

- Responding to inappropriate messages from others (which should be reported to the School)
- Downloading or copying information onto disks or hard drives without prior teacher approval
- Accessing, downloading, storing, or printing files or messages that are inappropriate or may be offensive to others (including pornography and other inappropriate images)
- Sharing of passwords or attempting to discover another's password (passwords should be changed frequently)
- Using or accessing another's account (network accounts are to be used only by those for whom the account has been established)
- Intentionally writing, producing, generating, copying or introducing dangerous codes or programs designed to cause harm, including, but not limited to viruses, bugs, 'worms', etc.
- Intentionally damaging, altering, or tampering with any hardware, software, printers, keyboards, speakers, etc.
- Accessing or searching files, directories, or folders for which the user does not have authorization
- Intentionally erasing, renaming, or disabling of anyone else's files or programs
- Accessing social media, email, or other off-task websites or apps during School without explicit permission of a teacher or adult supervisor
- Violating School conduct rules or the law.

Harassment/cyber-bullying of others online, whether against a student, non-student, or employee, is serious, is prohibited, and is contrary to the School's policy and values. Harassment/cyber-bullying whether it is initiated on campus or off campus, online or in person, should be reported immediately to a faculty member, and may lead to disciplinary action and possible criminal prosecution under Maryland's law prohibiting the Misuse of Interactive Computer Service ("Grace's Law").

Parents are responsible for:

- Reviewing and discussing this policy with their child as well as supporting the School in its enforcement
- Partnering with the School in monitoring their child's technology use
- Modeling appropriate Internet behaviors for their child
- Reporting any concerns regarding this policy or their child's use of the Internet or technology tools to School personnel.

Failure to adhere to the policy guidelines may result in a revocation of a student's Internet access and other technology privileges and disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion.

Web-based Services

St. John the Evangelist uses Microsoft Office 365 as well as other web-based education tools, sites, and services ("web-based services") to provide students with important web-based educational experiences and enhanced opportunities to communicate and share collaboratively with one another. As part of students' use of web-based services, certain educational records may be created, collected, or stored. Directory information, such as a child's name, email address, grade/age, and enrollment status, may also be shared with web-based services. St. John the Evangelist may access, monitor, and review children's use of web-based services and Internet use and children shall not have any expectation of privacy with respect to any communications or activities through such services. Use of

web-based services is for educational purposes only and subject to the conduct and acceptable use guidelines set forth in this Handbook. A list of the St. John the Evangelist's web-based services and corresponding privacy policies are available upon request. By enrolling a child in St. John the Evangelist, the parent consents to the child's participation in the St. John the Evangelist's academic activities and programs, including the child's use of and access to web-based services as described in this paragraph. In order to withhold or withdraw consent for the use of web-based services, parents must contact the school principal in writing.

In addition to the Acceptable Use Policy and Ethical Use Policy, we are including this addendum to the policy for school-owned iPads/devices. Using school iPads encourages greater collaboration, problem solving and creative thinking. This will result in more engaged students and thus increased achievement.

iPad/device Acceptable Use Policy

- *Devices must be off/put away unless teacher approved*
- *Devices should be on the desk and in view of the teacher when in use*
- *Devices are for use by the assigned student*
- *No tasks or functions are to be performed on another student's device, unless working on a group assignment under the direction of the teacher*
- *No use of devices during tests, unless specified by the teacher*
- *Must be in silent mode while on school campus (ear buds allowed at teacher discretion)*
- *No accessing social media, email, or other off-task websites or apps during school hours without explicit permission of a teacher or adult supervisor*
- *Teacher/administration allowed to examine if suspected of misuse*
- *No photos, videos, audio recording without teacher permission (e.g., for yearbook, for project)*
- *No use of cell networks, only school WiFi provided to the student*
- *No food or drink around digital devices*
- *No use of devices in cafeteria, bathrooms, on playground or any place other than inside a classroom unless directed by the teacher*
- *Devices must be stored and carried in a safe place while not in use*
- *iPads must be fully charged upon entry to school each day*
- *iPads settings are to remain at the exact settings in which they are received at the start of the school year, no settings are to be changed by a student or parent*
- *Airplay must be turned off at all times during school hours, unless a teacher has given permission to use it*
- *Airdrop is not to be used at all and should remain off at all times*
- *School Email is to be used by students to communicate with teachers about school related projects; students are not to use email to communicate with parents directly.*
- *If a student iPad is left at home, the parent will be informed and asked to bring it as soon as possible*
- *Not following iPad/device Acceptable Use Policy will lead to a progressive loss of technology privileges which could result in mobile device use not being allowed*

Infraction 1 – lose school or home device privileges for the rest of the day

Infraction 2 – lose device privileges for a week

Infraction 3 – lose device privileges for a length of time to be determined

In all cases, the device will be turned in to an administrator and a meeting with an administrator may be warranted.

In the case of damage, loss, or physical misuse, families/students are expected to pay the cost of any repairs or replacement of the student device.

- Cracked screen or damaged device - \$200
- Broken case - \$50

The school requests that families bring devices to school for any repairs and not make repairs themselves with an outside vendor.

Uniforms

Student Uniforms

Students wear uniform clothing in elementary and secondary school. [ADM 8.0](#)

Uniform Company

FlynnO'Hara is our uniform supplier for all uniform components including pants, shorts, skirts, jumpers, tops, sweaters, shoes, and gym attire.

Online: www.flynnohara.com

Store: Burwood Village Shopping
1608 W. Furnace Branch Road
Glen Burnie, MD 21060
410-684-2816

PreK thru 4th Grade Girls

Fall (Opening Day - October 31st) Spring (April 1st - Closing Day)

- Red plaid drop-waist jumper or khaki twill walking shorts with red or white monogrammed polo top – short or long sleeved, tucked in (for shorts)
- Socks: white, no logo crew socks (mid-calf height)
- Shoes: Tan Buc Oxford shoe, Sperry Sahara Tan leather boat shoe, or black Mary Jane styled shoe

Winter (November 1st - March 31st)

- Red plaid drop-waist jumper with red or white monogrammed polo top – short or long sleeved or khaki flat front slacks with red or white monogrammed polo top – short or long sleeved
 - **required 2nd layer with pants** – red or black monogrammed sweater or vest
- Socks: white or black knee socks or tights
- Shoes: Tan Buc Oxford shoe, Sperry Sahara Tan leather boat shoe, or black Mary Jane styled shoe

5th thru 8th Grade Girls*Fall (Opening Day - October 31st) Spring (April 1st - Closing Day)*

- Red plaid wrap-around kilt with white oxford (monogram optional) – short or long sleeved, tucked in or khaki twill walking shorts with red or white monogrammed polo top – short or long sleeved, tucked in
- Socks: white, no logo crew socks (mid-calf height)
- Shoes: Tan Buc Oxford shoe, Sperry Sahara Tan leather boat shoe, or black Mary Jane styled shoe
- Kilt and shorts length must be worn no more than two inches above the knee

Winter (November 1st - March 31st)

- Red plaid wrap-around kilt with white oxford (monogram optional) – short or long sleeved, tucked in
 - required 2nd layer – red or black monogrammed sweater or vest
- or
- Khaki flat front slacks with white oxford (monogram optional) – short or long sleeved, tucked in
 - required 2nd layer – red or black monogrammed sweater or vest
- Socks: white or black knee socks or tights
- Shoes: Tan Buc Oxford shoe, Sperry Sahara Tan leather boat shoe, or black Mary Jane styled shoe
- Kilt and shorts length must be worn no more than two inches above the knee

PreK thru 4th Grade Boys*Fall (Opening Day - October 31st) Spring (April 1st - Closing Day)*

- Khaki twill walking shorts or pants with red or white monogrammed polo top – short or long sleeved, tucked in
- Socks: white, no logo crew socks (mid-calf height)
- Shoes: Tan Buc Oxford shoe, Sperry Sahara Tan leather boat shoe, or black/brown Moc slip-on

Winter (November 1st - March 31st)

- Khaki pants with red or white monogrammed polo top – short or long sleeved
 - required 2nd layer with pants – red or black monogrammed sweater or vest
- Socks: white, no logo crew socks (mid-calf height)
- Shoes: Tan Buc Oxford shoe, Sperry Sahara Tan leather boat shoe, or black/brown Moc slip-on

5th thru 8th Grade Boys*Fall (Opening Day - October 31st) Spring (April 1st - Closing Day)*

- Khaki twill shorts or pants with red or white monogrammed polo top – short or long sleeved, tucked in
- Belt: plain brown or black leather or ribbon belt with school logo
- Socks: white, no logo crew socks (mid-calf height)
- Shoes: Tan Buc Oxford shoe, Sperry Sahara Tan leather boat shoe, or black/brown Moc slip-on

Winter (November 1st - March 31st)

- Khaki twill pants with white oxford (monogram optional) – short or long sleeved, tucked in
 - **required 2nd layer** – red or black monogrammed sweater or vest
- Tie: traditional or bow
- Belt: plain brown or black leather or ribbon belt with school logo
- Socks: white, no logo crew socks (mid-calf height)
- Shoes: Tan Buc Oxford shoe, Sperry Sahara Tan leather boat shoe, or black/brown Moc slip-on

Monday Dress Code

- To bring attention to our scriptural theme for the school year, students may wear the official t-shirt on Mondays throughout the school year. These are distributed at the beginning of the school year.
- During winter months, the t-shirt must be worn with jeans or khaki pants. (No shorts or sweatpants unless it is PE for your student)
- During the spring and summer months, the shirt can be worn with jeans, khaki pants, khaki shorts or SJE gym shorts.
- If a student would like to wear a second layer, the SJE school gym sweatshirt or school sweater must be worn.
- Footwear for both seasons must be sneakers (no light up sneakers) or uniform shoes only, and white crew socks (no logo).

PE Uniforms for all students – Need to purchase through Flynn O’Hara.

- Grey t-shirt with school logo
- Navy mesh shorts with school logo – all shorts must be worn at least two inches past the fingertips
- Navy sweatpants with school logo
- Grey sweatshirt with school logo
- Socks – white crew (no logo)
- Sneakers must be worn to participate in PE activities. Please no light up shoes.

The second layer for PE days is the uniform sweatshirt only.

Additional Information

- Colored and/or decorated white t-shirts are not permitted under uniform shirts.
- Skirts and shorts must be worn past the fingertips.
- Hats/caps may not be worn inside any building.
- No flip flops or sandals may be worn to school.
- Complete uniforms, with shirts neatly tucked in and buttoned, are to be worn every day, except for the day on which a student has Physical Education or on Mondays.
- Fad or costume jewelry is not permitted. Girls are permitted to wear small post earrings no larger than a dime. Boys are not permitted to wear earrings in school or at school related activities. Boys and girls may wear one bracelet and a watch, and one necklace with a small pendant.
- Make-up, nail polish, gel polish, fake nails, or nail tips cannot be worn.

Hair Policy

Hair may not be dyed, colored, or highlighted for boys or girls and should be kept neat and natural, without extreme styles. The following styles are examples of prohibited hairstyles: head shaving, lines and designs, faux-haws, mohawks, mullets, spikes, fades, ombre, highlighting or coloring of any kind. Hairstyles are to be neatly groomed. For boys, hair is not to exceed the top of the collar, the top of the ear, or be below the eyebrows. Boys sideburns are not to exceed the bottom of the ear.

- Plain barrettes, bows and headbands are acceptable for girls. Fad or costume head accessories are not permitted.
- Boy's hair length should be no longer than the top of the collar, above the eyebrows and the ears. St. John the Evangelist School recognizes that particular hairstyles are often part of racial, ethnic, spiritual, and cultural identity and practice. Accordingly, it is the policy of the school to permit individual families to decide the appropriate cared-for hairstyle for their children.
- Boys need to be clean shaven each day.

General Rules for Out of Uniform Days

On occasion, there may be out of uniform days scheduled.

Dress down days are a privilege and done as a celebration of our school, or a special occasion. When dressing down for these days, all clothes must conform to the following principles:

- Appropriate for the occasion
- Neat and clean
- Modest

Clothing may not contain terms, logos, pictures, cartoons, slogans, writing, or images that are offensive, political, harassing, or discriminatory in nature. Students may not wear clothes that are torn, or midriff bearing, tank tops (with straps no smaller than 2 inches), short shorts (must be worn at least two inches past the fingertips), low cut pants or tops, suggestive printing, patches or pictures on clothes that do not fall into the above categories will not be acceptable casual wear for school events. Girls may wear leggings with a top that extends to their fingertips. The school reserves the right to make a judgment regarding the choice of clothing and a student may be deprived of participation in a school event until he/she has complied with the above expectations. If there are questions, please contact the teacher.

Labeling Clothes & Belongings

Families are encouraged to label all clothing and belongings. For clothing, it is suggested that a first initial and last name be placed on the inside of the clothing. For belongings, it is suggested that a label be placed on items with the student's first initial and last name. If room permits, the homeroom teacher can be listed.

Personal Possessions

Students may not bring personal items for play or recess (e.g. iPads, electronic games, etc.) from home due to the high cost of the goods and the distraction that can be caused to the learning environment. The school and its agents are not responsible for students' personal possessions.

Used Uniform Swap

Periodically throughout the school year, the PTP will organize a used uniform swap for families.

Lost and Found

Items found throughout the school building that are not able to be returned to a student because they are not labeled will be collected and placed on the counter outside of the auditorium.

Students can check the counter for the missing item or ask the office staff if the item they are missing has been turned in or found.

Saint John the Evangelist School Admission Agreement

I/we have received a copy of the school handbook and have carefully read and understand the policies, procedures, and regulations of this school, including tuition charges, parent responsibilities, dress and disciplinary regulations, as well as Internet and Acceptable Use Policies. I/we hereby express agreement with these policies, procedures and regulations and accept them as conditions for enrollment of our child/children in this school.

I have demonstrated my acknowledgement of receiving the Saint John the Evangelist Handbook through the electronic form.