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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Jan. 18 - Honor Roll Mass 8:20
- ◆ Jan. 19 - P/T Conferences 3:00-7:00pm
- ◆ Jan. 20 - Free Throw Contest
- ◆ Jan. 23 - Band Picture Day
- ◆ Jan. 25 - Birthday Mass 8:20
- ◆ Jan. 28 - Pancake Breakfast 8:30-11:30am
- ◆ Jan. 28-Feb. 3 - Catholic Schools Week
- ◆ Jan. 30 - Registration Opens for SJB Families
- ◆ Feb. 1 - Special Persons Day
- ◆ Feb. 1 - 100th Day of School

From the Principal...

Why Read 20 Minutes a Day?

Let's face it...parents (and kids) are busy! It is difficult to "fit in" all that needs to be done in a day. We are often faced with having to make choices about what stays and what goes in our schedules. So, why is it so critical to include 20 minutes of reading in your child's daily schedule? There is a wealth of research supporting daily reading with your child especially prior to and during the period when s/he is learning to read. Here are a few of the ways reading with your child for 20 (or more) minutes a day benefits him or her.

Reading is "brain food" Our brains develop as we "feed" them with experiences. The experience of reading (whether you're the reader or the one being read to) activates and "exercises" many of the areas of the brain. The visual cortex works as your eyes track the words on the page and look at the illustrations. Your memory makes connections between what you already know about the topic of the story and its content. You integrate new information learned through reading further strengthening and growing your network of knowledge. Reading provides one of the most enriching and complex brain activities available in life.

Reading improves listening skills What parent doesn't want their child to be a good listener? The experience of being read to helps children develop good listening skills by keying them into the components of language. Through reading they learn to recognize phonemes (the sound building blocks of language), learn new words to add to their oral vocabularies and connect written words to their real-world applications.

Reading builds early literacy skills Before a child can read independently,

they must have phonemic awareness and a basic understanding of phonics. Phonemic awareness or the understanding that words are made up of distinct sounds that affect their meaning is the precursor to reading. Reading aloud to your child is one of the main ways to help him develop phonemic awareness. Beyond this, in order to read, a person must understand that there is a connection between letters and sounds. Without this knowledge letters are just squiggles on a page! When you read with your child, they learn that print is a representation of the words you say aloud. Repeated experiences with reading allow this understanding to grow. The single greatest factor in a child's ability to read is early experiences being read aloud to.

Reading prepares children for kindergarten. In this day and age children are expected to come into kindergarten with a strong knowledge base. Today's kindergarteners are expected to enter the classroom on day one with a knowledge of upper- and lower-case letters of the alphabet, the ability to recognize basic shapes and colors and the ability to count to ten. Reading books tailored towards youngsters with your child helps them develop these important and necessary skills.

Practice makes perfect Generally, the more time you are exposed to something and the more time you spend practicing it, the better you'll become at performing it. This is absolutely true for reading. Research shows that children who have repeatedly been exposed to books from birth generally exhibit strong reading abilities.

Reading improves academic performance There is a strong



Did you lose a pair of a noise cancelling headphones during the holiday parade?

Please reach out to the office with a description so that we can get them to their owners!



correlation between a child's ability to read and their academic performance. Because so much of our schooling relies on our abilities to read, children must have strong reading skills to succeed and thrive in school.

Fun Fact: Starting in kindergarten, if a student reads 20 minutes a day at home, they will hear 1.8 million words per year. They will have read for 851 hours by 6th grade and on standardized tests, they will likely score better than 90% of their peers.

Mrs. Dassler

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences are tomorrow Thursday, January 19th. Conferences are optional or at the request of the teacher. Assigned time notices were sent home on Thursday, January 12th. Mrs. Glasheen, Mrs. Lemke and Mrs. Evers are available from 3-7pm. Mrs. Scheer, Mrs. Bero, and Mr. Bero are available from 3-5pm. Ms. Marchant is available from 3-5:30pm. Middle School conferences will take place in the SJB gym. **If there is no school tomorrow due to inclement weather, conferences will be rescheduled for the following Thursday, January 26th at the same time.**

School Closing and Bad Weather

For school closing information, please check our Facebook page, WBAY2, Fox 11, and NBC26 and listen to WDOR and doorcountydailynews.com radio stations for school closing information.

K of C Free Throw Contest

Just a reminder that the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest is happening this Friday, January 20th! Any student ages 9-14 are invited to participate! Registration begins at 4:30pm, with the shooting beginning at 5:00pm. This competitive event will take place in our school gym! We hope that we will have many students participate!

Kringle Fundraiser

Today kicks off the Uncle Mike's Kringle Fundraiser! Proceeds from the sale will go towards the current 7th graders' Washington DC trip in 2024. We are asking families to help sell these Award Winning Kringles. Families can also purchase coupons to be used at a later date. Order forms can be found in your family folder today and are due back to the school office on February 1st. Orders will be available for pick up on Wednesday, February 8th in the school gym from 3:00-5:30pm. Thanks to Sara Paye for coordinating this fundraiser for our seventh graders. Please consider participating in this tasty fundraiser!

Gala of Giving

Thank you to everyone who has purchased Gala Raffle tickets so far! Included in today's Family Folder is more information about the Gala Raffle and door hangers that can be used to help sell raffle tickets. We encourage families to ask family, friends, neighbors and co-workers! Thank you for your support! All proceeds from the Gala raffle directly benefit your student and keep tuition low for all families!



WI Tax Break

SJB's tuition is tax deductible. The 2022 tuition payment report and appropriate tax form can be found in your family folder today. **Our federal tax ID number is 20-8638023.**

Catholic Schools Week

The itinerary for Catholic Schools Week has been set. A copy of the schedule can be found in your family folder today. Let's try hard to have 100% participation on our dress up days.

Band Instruments Needed on Monday

Just a reminder that students in grades 5-8 need their band instruments for this Monday's pictures with Harmann Studios. Thanks for the cooperation!

Special Persons Day RSVP

There is still time to RSVP for Special Persons Day. Please return the form found in the family folder by this Friday, January 20th. We would love to have a packed church and lunchroom on this very special day.

Registration Opening Soon

Registration will be open for existing families on January 30th. A separate registration packet including the tuition scale and calendar will be sent home next week Friday.

Uncle Pancake Breakfast

To kick off Catholic Schools Week, SJB will be hosting a pancake breakfast on Saturday, January 28th. Uncle Pancake himself will be flipping your pancake in a very special and fun way – a must see for all ages! 8th grade families will be helping with the breakfast. See the flier in today's family folder for more details. We hope that many of you will attend!

SJB's Open House

St. John Bosco School will have an open house for new families to come and see what SJB has to offer. Share the news with your friends! We hope many will walk through our halls and witness firsthand why SJB is such an awesome school to attend!

Semi Formal Dance

SJB will host a 7th and 8th grade semi formal dance on Friday, February 10th. This dance will be open to all Door County seventh and eighth graders. Thanks to Ellen Binard and Brigitte Shefchik for coordinating this fundraiser for our seventh graders. Please help spread the word!

Culvers Fundraiser Thank You

Thanks to all the families who came out and supported our Culvers Share Night last night! The seventh graders and their parents appreciated your support! Thanks to those who worked the event and a special thank you to Sara Paye who coordinated the share night event.