



“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” - Philippians 4:6

November 15, 2021

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Thanksgiving is soon upon us! We pause to thank God for all the blessings we have been given. I am grateful for each of you and the partnership we share. It has been a challenging year, filled with highs and lows, and I feel blessed to share this journey with you and your family. Wishing you a safe and blessed Thanksgiving!

Marking Period #1 is complete. **Report Cards** and **Attendance Reports** will go home in the November 22 *Black Excellence* Family folder. Please review with your child, sign and return a copy to school.

Many of you already are aware that two 6th Grade students and two 7th Grade students have been **dismissed from SJS due to their behavior and making choices that do not line up with what families and SJS value: safety, education, and responsibility.** We are seeing teasing & drama escalate to bullying and conflicts, both in person and **mostly on social media.** Please speak with your child about ways to make our school community safer and stronger than ever. In the November 9 mandatory 7th Grade Family meeting, the tips below were shared regarding students and social media.

- a. Do not allow your child to have Instagram, Tik Tok, Facebook, Twitter, etc...
- b. If you do, then:
 - i. Check your child's cell phone every night
 - ii. Take phone after dinner (do not allow children to have phones in bedrooms overnight)
 - iii. Delete social media accounts - if allowing social media, then creating new accounts that are shared with parent / guardian and make them private !
 - iv. Change your child cell phone # (even if you block people, if they have your cell # and online username they can create “fake” accounts and still reach your child)
 - v. Check for multiple social media accounts on their students phone - you can do this when on their page (showing their posts) you see a handle in the top left. If there are multiple accounts you see a down arrow and can see if there are multiple accounts.
 - vi. Do not allow your child to share their passwords with anyone but you
 - vii. You can report any accounts that are sending inappropriate messages/ posts online
 - viii. Check your child's phone for apps that appear as games, but are really social media accounts

ix. iPhone? Set up Family sharing under your Apple ID and set parental controls

FLU and COVID 19 Vaccinations:

- SJS is partnering with **Rite Aid**, to host a Vaccination Clinic on Clearfield St. Vaccination and Clinic will take place in the Church of Saint James the Less; Stay tuned for dates! Sign up ASAP!
- Covid vaccines are available now for everyone 5 years and older! They are safe and well tested. More than thirteen million people have already been vaccinated across the globe, including more than one million children.
 - Vaccinations are the strongest protection we have!
 - When enough students are vaccinated, we can relax some of our masking rules!
- Be sure to get a flu vaccine now, for yourself & loved ones! *Please notify Nurse Ayton (ext 118) of all student vaccines given this year (2021)!* Thank you!
- Check [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) and [phila.gov](https://www.phila.gov) for vaccination sites near us, to obtain needed vaccinations.
- **The Ronald McDonald Dental Van** has been short staffed and unable to serve as many kids as usual. After December 1, 2021, the next dental van visit will be in June, 2022. If your child needs to be seen, please call (215) 427-5065. Your child can be seen by appointment at the St Christopher's Dental Service on St. Christopher's campus.
- **Thanksgiving and other holidays!** Let's all keep in mind that the pandemic is not over! We all need to stay safe and protect the community! We have done an amazing job, let's keep it up!

Chromebooks

- Many students have received school chromebooks from the school. If the chromebook is not functioning properly or you are missing a charger please contact Mr. Gurol via Jupiter, e-mail (ngurol@stjamesphila.org) , or text/call 484-416-5614

Uniforms: Students should be in full uniform when they arrive at school.

- Grades 6,7,8 are now wearing ties. There is no charge for the 1st tie. Replacement ties cost \$10.
- Uniforms can be requested on **Tuesday** and **Thursdays**. Each article of clothing is **\$10 each** ; **money orders** or **checks** (no cash). Please allow > **24 hours** for your request to be completed.
- As the weather gets colder, students can wear black or white long sleeve shirts under uniform shirts, their SJS sweater or sweatshirt, and blazers to bundle up as needed.

Welcome Table - Saturday from 9am-12pm and by appointment. Contact the school at 215.226.1276.

Family Fees - Coming very soon! You will be able to pay your family fee at the front desk with Mr. Yun!

Contact me at any time with suggestions or questions. Be safe and be well.

Sincerely,

Mr. McDonough