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Upcoming Events

This Saturday, February 21
"Celebrate the Academy" at SJA,
celebrating our 125th birthday and
honoring the Sisters of the
Congregation of St. Joseph, 6-11 p.m.

Urban Plunge Teaches Empathy

Nine students Wednesday and Thursday braved the frigid weather and blowing snow conditions to experience an Urban Plunge retreat at St. Herman's House in Ohio City, and St. Patrick’s Church on Bridge Avenue.

As part of the immersion retreat, students helped serve meals at St. Herman's to homeless men. In the past year, St. Herman's has served more than 73,000 hot meals, three times a day. "Students not only served the meal, but they also sat down and chatted with residents," shared CORE Ministry Teacher Dan Guion. Full Story

Students Visit "TechCentral" at Cleveland Public Library

http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs137/1111082143500/archive/1120120349314.html
February 23
Mothers’ Club meeting, 7-9 p.m., in the Dining Hall.

February 24
Italy trip meeting, 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the auditorium.

February 25
Blood drive, sponsored by the Unity Club in conjunction with American Red Cross, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., in the auditorium. Contact Math Teacher Lisa Previs to schedule an appointment.

Early dismissal, 2 p.m.

February 28
Father/Daughter Dance, 8-11 p.m. at Brennan's Party Center. The form to serve your spot is here. Questions? Contact parent volunteer Mrs. Mary Zavoda P '17 here. See story in this newsletter for more information.

March 3
Athletic Boosters Club meeting, 7-9 p.m., Board Room.

March 4
Class of 2019 Welcome Night, 7-8:30 p.m., The Academy Center.

March 5
Parent-Teacher meetings, starting at 3:30 p.m. Contact Dean of Women Marie Ciolek here for more information. See story in this newsletter.

March 18
STArts meeting, 6:30 p.m., in the Dining Hall.

March 21
Reservations are now being accepted for “Night at the Races,” 6:30-11:30 p.m. Ticket, tables, horses, advertisements and sponsorship available for purchase here. Email Athletic Director John Manuszak here for more information.

March 26
Class of 2019 course registration, 3:30-8 p.m. at SJA.

March 27
Easter at the Academy, 6:30-8 p.m. (2nd-6th grade girls), at SJA. Activities include an Easter egg hunt, Six math and science students made a special visit this week to "TechCentral", an innovative technology and learning center providing services to Cleveland Public Library’s main library and all 27 branch locations. Located in the lower level of the Louis Stokes Wing downtown, TechCentral offers a variety of computer and technology related services. Students were visiting the center to see real-world applications of technology. Full Story

Cleveland Rape Crisis Center Speaker Shares Facts With Students
Knowledge is power in many ways, especially when it comes to personal safety and protecting those you love. That is why each year a speaker from the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center (CRCC) visits SJA health classes to talk about the many misconceptions about rape.

"Rape is not sex and sex is not rape. It's about control and power," said Mr. Brian Dodyk, CRCC prevention specialist. Full Story

Students Help at Annual "Go Red for Women Expo"
Eighteen students volunteered on their day off last Friday for what they consider to be one of the most important annual events held in support of women's health - "Go Red for Women" Expo and Luncheon held in the downtown Cleveland Convention Center. Full Story
Easter themed crafts, and a coloring contest. $5 fee per student.
Call 216.251.6788 x219 for more information.

March 30
"An Evening of Reflection for Women." Start Holy Week with prayer and reflection. Moderated by Sr. Pat Kozak, CSJ ’64, 6-9 p.m. at SJA. Cost $25. Call 216.619.1653 for more information.

Student Spotlight

Name: Senior Kayla Gartin

Fun Fact: Kayla has excelled in the two years that she has been on the diving team.

Achievements: This season, Kayla broke the school’s six-dive record with a score of 205.05. Her previous 11-dive record was a score of 335. She participated in this season’s sectional meet and placed 12th, qualifying to advance to districts. At districts, her scores qualified her for the finals, where she placed 15th overall out of 32 divers.

"I love both working on improving in diving and the close friendships I’ve made on the team. Last year, I placed 27th overall at districts which is a huge difference with my placement this year. Diving is a challenging sport, but is the most fun I have ever had," she shared.

When not diving or practicing, Kayla helps organize her own Arthritis Walk team and participates in the Cleveland Arthritis Walk each spring. Her efforts help fund research and treatment for children suffering from juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. "I want to raise awareness about this illness and to make a difference," she said.

Important OGT, ODE Testing Information
The Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT) and the Ohio Department of Education tests (ODE) will be given at SJA during the week of March 2-6. All sophomores, as well as any juniors and seniors who have not yet passed one or more of the OGTs, will be tested.

Also, the Ohio Department of Education tests (PARCC and ODE) will take place during this week for the Class of 2018 students who are currently enrolled in Math, English and Physical Science. Upper class students who are currently enrolled in Government must also take the ODE test this week. The Government test will be taken on Monday, March 2. Students currently in U.S. History will take their ODE test on March 9 at noon.

We are adjusting the school day schedule on those OGT and ODE test days in order to provide students with an optimal testing environment. Click here for complete testing information.

Ash Wednesday Mass Starts Lent

Students, faculty and staff on Wednesday began the Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday mass and the receiving of ashes. This time of spiritual reflection and sacrifice leads us all to the holy celebration of Easter.

Father-Daughter Dance Is February 28

There’s only a week left to reserve your spot for the annual Father-Daughter Dance, being held from 6-11
College Corner

Her favorite subjects are American history, government and English. She hopes to attend Mercyhurst University, majoring in intelligence with the hopes of working for the FBI.

Maria Tirpak ’15, Stephen Tirpak and Clare Tirpak ’16 enjoy the 2014 Father-Daughter Dance.

College Corner

Location: Alliance, Ohio (1.5 hours), Rural, small town.

Enrollment: 2,200 undergraduates.

Strongest Programs: Sports management, physician assistant program.

Fun Fact: Mount Union is a co-educational, liberal arts college. Students are encouraged to participate in the annual Belly Flop competition! Residents enjoy taking nature hikes at Mount Union's John T. Huston-Dr. John D. Brumbaugh Nature Center, a 141-acre preserve located six miles south of campus.

www.mountunion.edu

Academy Chorale To Perform at Monsters Game

Support the Academy Chorale and enjoy a Lake Erie Monsters hockey game at the same time! The Academy Chorale will be singing the National Anthem at the Saturday, March 21 Lake Erie Monsters hockey game. The game, starting at 7 p.m., is at Quicken Loans Arena in downtown Cleveland. Each chorale member and any family or friends need a ticket, which costs $20. Deadline to buy a ticket is March 4. Here is the form.

Sign-Up Available for Parent-Teacher Conferences on Thursday, March 5

Parent-teacher conferences will be held on Thursday March 5, 2015 from 3:30- 8 p.m.

Parents wanting to meet with their daughter's teachers may sign up for 10-minute appointments online here. The form will ask parents to select their daughter's teachers and enter information, including an email address. If parents want more than 10 minutes, they are invited to email the teacher directly to set up a conference for another day. Conferences are NOT mandatory.

If you have questions, please contact the Main Office at 216.251.6788 or email Dean of Women Marie Ciolek here.

STArts Seeks Parent Volunteers

STArts (Support the Arts), the parent booster club for the Visual and Performing Arts, is looking for new volunteers! This generous group of parents is dedicated to contributing to the success of all the school events related to arts at SJA through various volunteer efforts. STArts volunteers help with the Fall Musical, Christmas Concert, Visual Arts shows, choral groups, Jazz Night, the Spring Play and the Spring Concert.

If you are interested, contact STArts President Matt Walsh, P'15, at 216.906.3068 or email him at walshma@cox.net The next STArts meeting is Wednesday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Dining Hall.
Scholarships Deadlines Approaching
Applications for scholarships are currently available from Unity Catholic Federal Credit Union and Ohio Catholic Federal Credit Union. Applications are being accepted now for the James E. Flynn Memorial Scholarship through the Unity Catholic Credit Union. Each year, the credit union awards $7,000 in scholarships for elementary and high school students. For more information, go to www.unitycatholiccu.org.

Now through February 28, the Ohio Catholic Federal Credit Union is accepting applications for some $50,000 in Catholic education scholarships. Fifty families in Ohio will each receive $1,000 to assist in paying Catholic school tuition. To apply, go to www.ohiocatholicfcu.com/scholarships and fill out the required information. Attendance at a Catholic school needs to be verified by a school official. This is open to members and non-members of the credit union. Deadline is April 6, 2015.

SPORTS

Basketball
Varsity lost 62-57 in their season finale at Hathaway Brown on Saturday. The regular season ended at 13-9 and the Jaguars received the 8th seed (out of 33 teams) in the district tournament. We received a first-round bye and will host Normandy in the sectional semifinal game on Thursday at 7 p.m. Please come out and support your Jaguars!

The freshman basketball team completed its season with a sparkling 18-1 record. Congratulations on an outstanding season!

Swimming and Diving
SJA competed in the sectional swim meet last week at Cleveland State and seven Jaguars advanced to Saturday’s district meet at Bowling Green. Junior Kelly Shantery qualified in four events (two individual events and two relays), while senior Kate Blayney advanced in the 50m freestyle. The 200m medley relay qualified as Kelly Shantery joined Kylee Wright ’17, Rachel Strick ’17 and Elise DeGidio ’15 on the team. The 200 freestyle relay of Kate Blayney, Elise DeGidio, Alicia Abele ’16 and Kylee Wright also qualified for districts. The 400m relay team of Kate Blayney, Elise DeGidio, Alicia Abele and Kelly Shantery also qualified. Senior Aliza Ocasio also qualified as an alternate.

Senior diver Kayla Gartin competed in the district meet on Tuesday at Bowling Green and finished in 15th place. Congratulations on a great career, Kayla!

Reminder
The Athletic Boosters’ Night at the Races event will be held on March 21 at 6:30 in the Academy Center. Tickets and advertising opportunities can be purchased here. Come out and support the athletic boosters and all their great endeavors!

STAY CONNECTED

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