Parents: At a Glance

Father-Daughter Dance, February 28, 6-11 p.m. at Brennan's Party Center. See story below.


Junior Professional Shadowing, March 3-5. Email sent from College Counseling.

Athletic Boosters meeting, March 3, 7 p.m. in Board Room.

Parent-Teacher Conferences, March 5, 3:30-8 p.m. See story below.

Kermit Service Trip, parent meeting, March 5, 7 p.m., Board Room.

Father-Daughter Dance Is This Saturday, February 28, at Brennan's Party Center

This is the final week to reserve your spot for the annual Father-Daughter Dance, being held from 6-11 p.m. on Saturday, February 28, at Brennan's Party Center, 13000 Triskett Road in Cleveland. The evening will include dinner, a DJ, and a photo booth. Cost is $70 per father and daughter.

This is always a treasured event at SJA and it’s coming up soon! Please RSVP by today, Friday, February 27, with the form here. Questions? Contact Mothers’ Club volunteer Mrs. Mary Zavoda P ’17 here.

Important OGT, ODE Testing Information
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.

Fundraiser at the Kamm's Corners Chipotle, for Crew, 4-8 p.m. Flyer here.

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, 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 216.251.6788 x245 for more information.

Student Spotlight

More Than 500 Alumnae, Friends and Family Enjoyed "Celebrate the Academy"

The Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT) and the Ohio Department of Education tests (ODE) will be given at SJA next week, March 2-6. All sophomores, as well as any juniors and seniors who have not yet passed one or more of the OGT's, 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. Upperclass students who are currently enrolled in Government must also take the ODE test this week. The Government test will be given 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.

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.

More Than 500 Alumnae, Friends and Family Enjoyed "Celebrate the Academy"
Name: Senior Sam Velasco

Fun Fact: Sam stood before more than 500 attendees on February 21 at the annual gala "Celebrate the Academy," to talk about her love for SJA.

"I was very nervous and excited to be the speaker! I did not know what to expect since it has been a long time that we have held 'Celebrate the Academy' here, but everyone came together to completely transform The Academy Center into something magical!"

"One of my favorite moments was seeing my first grade teacher Sr. Rita Mackert, CSJ '52 at the table directly in front of the stage!" shared Sam.

Sam's activities at SJA include being a member of the Leadership Team of the Executive Board of Ambassadors, a four-year member of the Academy Chorale, a Howley Scholar and a member of the Girls Go Red Campaign.

"I have been at the head of the Holy Thursday reflections/Stations of the Cross for three years (including this year) and I am student directing the spring play 'Arsenic and Old Lace.' " said Sam.

She also is a member of Show Choir, a tutor, retreat leader, in the handbell choir and the liturgical choir, and is an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist.

Her favorite subjects are science, history, English and anything.

We would like to extend a sincere "Thank You" to all the friends and supporters of Saint Joseph Academy for making this year's "Celebrate the Academy," held on Saturday, February 21, a success. Held for the first time in more than a decade at SJA, the evening was truly a celebration of our 125th birthday, as well as a sincere and heartfelt opportunity to thank our founders and continuing source of inspiration, the Sisters of the Congregation of St. Joseph.

Thanks to the generosity of our compassionate and giving community, a net $229,000 was raised for SJA academic and scholarship initiatives.

The Sisters of St. Joseph were honored at the event with the Medaille Shield award, the highest award given in honor of outstanding service to the school. Sr. Nancy Conway, CSJ '65, accepted the award on behalf of the Sisters.

Enjoy a photo album of the evening's festivities by clicking [here](http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs137/1111082143500/archive/1120227263397.html). Cleveland.com also featured the gala with a story and photo gallery [here](http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs137/1111082143500/archive/1120227263397.html). The Universe Bulletin and the Sun Post-Herald also had stories about our 125th birthday and the "Celebrate the Academy" gala. [Here](http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs137/1111082143500/archive/1120227263397.html) is the Sun Post-Herald story.

**Join Us for the St. Patrick's Day Parade!**

Are you ready to have some fun on St. Patrick's Day and celebrate SJA's 125th birthday at the same time? Please join us as we march in Cleveland's St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 17! We would love to have students, parents, friends and alumnae joining us to walk beside our float, which will be a replica of the front of the school and will feature the Academy Chorale singing live Irish music.

SJA is providing two buses to transport participants downtown and back. They will leave the school at approximately 10:30 a.m. on parade day, Tuesday, March 17. The buses will transport participants immediately back to the school at parade's end. Downtown already? Just meet us at E. 18th Street and Superior Avenue, in front of the Northeast Ohio Media Group (formerly The Plain Dealer) building. Specific details on the location of the buses for the trip back will be provided on parade day.

Those joining us to march will receive a purple scarf and SJA head bands for warmth and to help indentify walkers as proud Jaguars.

In order for us to get an accurate count for our buses and the scarves, we need all interested alumnae to RSVP [here](http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs137/1111082143500/archive/1120227263397.html). Bus transportation is on a first-come, first-served basis.

*Sursum corda! Erin go bragh! Happy birthday!*

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**SJA President Featured in "My Cleveland"**
related to the performing arts.

Sam will be studying Forensic Anthropology at college. "I have not made an official decision yet as to college. I am debating between Mercyhurst University, Loyola University Chicago, and Loyola University New Orleans.

"I would like to further my studies all the way to the doctorate level and hope to attend Mercyhurst University for graduate school," she added.

Congratulations, Sam!

College Corner

Location: Cincinnati, Ohio (4 hours), Urban.

Enrollment: 4,355 undergraduates.

Strongest Programs: Nursing, medical professions.

Fun Facts: Its three colleges offer 90 undergraduate majors, 59 minors and more than 20 graduate programs. The University is the sixth-oldest Catholic university in the nation and one of 28 Jesuit colleges and universities nationwide.

http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs137/1111082143500/archive/1120227263397.html

The Plain Dealer

SJA President Mary Ann Corrigan-Davis '71 was featured on Sunday, February 22, in The Plain Dealer's "My Cleveland" column written by reporter Grant Segall.

Here is a snippet from the story: "One of my goals for the young women here is to give them a global perspective," said Mrs. Corrigan-Davis. "Diversity is exciting. That's the world."

Here is a link to the story.

Lenten Activities Include Food Drive, Fundraiser Against Human Trafficking

Student members of the Catholic Schools for Peace and Justice (CSPJ) organization and the Student Council are organizing several Lenten activities, including a fundraiser for the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking.

"In collaboration with the Sisters from the Congregation of St. Joseph, we will be collecting peanut butter and socks through March 31," shared CORE Ministry Teacher Cathy Lanning Knittel '67. "Students should bring in any size container of peanut butter or nut butter, and a pair of new socks any size or type. Please place them near the piano in the alcove area near the front door across from the main office."

In addition, Student Council sponsored Penny Wars this week to raise money for Harvest for Hunger. Pennies counted as positive for each class, silver and paper money counted as negative. "We should know next week how much money was raised for Harvest for Hunger," shared Social Studies Teacher Nick Roaldi, who is a moderator for Student Council.

CSPJ is also sponsoring a Dress Down Day (date to be determined) to benefit the Collaborative to End Human Trafficking.

Key Club Sponsors Blood Drive

Students, faculty and staff once again gave the "gift of life" this week during a Red Cross Blood Drive coordinated by the Key Club. Dozens took time from their busy schedules to "serve the dear neighbor."

"We are so grateful for the participation," shared Math Teacher and Key Club Moderator Lisa Previts. "Thank
"Club Lead" Fosters Self-Confidence, Leadership Skills for all Students

Would you like to strenghten your leadership skills? Do you want to develop communication tools you will use for the rest of your life? Now is your chance to discover your inner strength by participating in the Effective Leadership Academy's (ELA) "Club Lead." This unique, eight-week program is an interactive opportunity for students to learn and expand confidence and leadership skills. Participants will be involved in fun and engaging activities, meaningful discussions, and thoughtful action steps.

Held on Tuesdays in March, "Club Lead" sessions are from 3:05 to 4:05 p.m. Students will set goals along the way to turn thoughts into action. Facilitators will be there to guide them through the process, and support their growth.

Over the past six years, ELA has trained, developed and motivated more than 7,000 students in 70 Northeast Ohio schools and community organization settings. ELA offers an innovative program focusing on several critical elements including: personal responsibility, self-empowerment, team building, understanding team dynamics, interpersonal and communication skills. For more information or to register for "Club Lead," click here.

There are Multiple Benefits for Students to Travel, Study Abroad

World Languages students last week learned about the benefits of the Academic Year in America (AYA) program and the possibilities of hosting exchange students in their home! The AYA is part of the American Institute of Foreign Study (AIFS) Foundation. The group is currently recruiting host families for the 2015-2016 school year. AYA is recognized by the U.S. Dept. of State as an official cultural exchange program and consistently receives the highest approval ranking from The Council on Standards for International EducationTravel (CSIET).

Hosting students from other countries is something several SJA families have already participated in and enjoyed. "It has been an amazing experience. It has opened my eyes to ways of life in an entirely different country," shared Frannie Smith '17, whose family has hosted Chinese exchange student Maggie Zhou '16 this school year. "We have created a strong, sisterly bond."

Students between the ages of 15-18 travel from all around the world to study. All students travel with their own spending money and only need a place to sleep, study and meals when at home.
Families interested in serving as a host family should contact Mrs. Regenia Spoerndle, local coordinator for AYA, for further information either by calling 330.701.4440 or by email.

**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.

**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](mailto:walshma@cox.net) The next STArts meeting is Wednesday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Dining Hall.

**SPORTS**

**Winter Sports Banquet**

The Winter Sports Banquet is on Tuesday, March 10 at 6:30 p.m. **Note: The location has changed.** The banquet is being held at SJA in the auditorium. Cost is $15 for guests; athletes are free. Send check, payable to Saint Joseph Academy, to Ms. Cheryl Joseph, Athletic Assistant, by next Tuesday, March 3. Questions? Email Ms. Joseph [here](mailto:). The RSVP form can be found [here](#).

**Swimming and Diving**

Kylee Wright ’17, Elise DeGidio ’15, Kate Blayney ’15, Kelly Shantery ’16, Rachel Strick ’17 and Alicia Abele ’16 participated in the district swim meet on Saturday at Bowling Green. Congratulations on a great season!

**Basketball**

The team captured another sectional title on Thursday night as the Jaguars topped Normandy 65-63 in overtime. With the win, the Jaguars move on to the Medina Division 1 district semifinal game on Monday at 7:45 p.m. against Avon. The game will be played at Medina High School. In the win against Normandy, Brittany Morrison ’15 led the way with 19 points, while Colleen Drellishak ’17 added a career-high 16. Sophomore Gia DiMassa also added 12 in the win. Congratulations and good luck!

**Reminder**

The Athletic Boosters’ Night at the Races event will be held on March 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Academy Center. Tickets and advertising opportunities can be purchased [here](mailto:). Come out and support the athletic boosters raise money for all the SJA athletic teams and have fun doing it!