Despite the Weather, 'Catholic Schools Week' Celebrates Faith-Filled Education

Although Tuesday and Wednesday events were cancelled due to inclement weather, the SJA community was still able to celebrate Catholic Schools Week and the elements that make our school special - parents, students, Sisters from the Congregation of St. Joseph, faculty and staff. The theme of the week was "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service."

Full Story

Welcome to New Interim Athletic Director Mr. Tim Carras!

Mr. Tim Carras, former Athletic Director at North Olmsted High School, this week joined the Saint Joseph Academy community as its Interim Athletic Director. He brings with him a wealth of experience with high school and college-level athletic programs.

Mr. Carras earned a Bachelor of Arts in Health, Physical Education and Psychology, and a Master in Arts in Educational Administration from Baldwin Wallace University. He previously served as Athletic Director at North Olmsted High School, retiring in June 2013 after 15 years in the role. He has extensive administrative and coaching experience at both the secondary and collegiate levels, including coaching for 20 years, the last eight of which were at Miami (Ohio) University. He is a 1971 graduate of St. Edward High School.

"I am excited about joining Saint Joseph Academy and am honored to help continue the school's athletic programs. Go Jaguars!" shared Mr. Carras.
February 20
Senior Urban Plunge Retreat, 3 p.m. February 20 through 3 p.m.
February 21. Contact CORE Ministry theology teacher Ms. Elizabeth Pillari at epillari@sja1890.org for more information.

February 21
Winter Mixer, 7-10 p.m., at SJA.

Parent Events:

February 5
Meet the Teacher Night, 7-9 p.m.
Early dismissal, 2 p.m.

February 8
Please join us for “Celebrate the Academy,” 6-11 p.m., LaCentre Banquet & Conference Center, Westlake. Benefits scholarship initiatives. Click here to join us!

February 17
School, Office closed for President’s Day.

February 19
Early Dismissal, 2 p.m.
STArts meeting, the parent group for SJA’s performing arts, 6:30 p.m.

Admissions Events:

April 11
"Easter at the Academy" for girls in grades 2-5, 6-7:30 p.m. $5 fee per girl. For more information, go to www.sja1890.org/admissionevents.

SPOTLIGHT
Vote Today for Freshman’s Video on Digital Learning - One of Top Four Submitted in State of Ohio!

Now’s Your Opportunity to Bid on a Once-in-a-Lifetime Journey to Rome at SJA’s ‘Celebrate the Academy’!

Please join us at “Celebrate the Academy,” being held on Saturday, February 8, and you will be able to bid on wonderful packages such as fabulous once-in-a-lifetime trip to Italy, or a “food truck” party for you and your friends!!

The gala, which includes live and silent auctions, is a crucial fundraiser to benefit critical scholarship and academic initiatives. This year’s theme is “Building a Foundation of Success.”

The trip to Italy, part of the live auction, takes place in April and will be hosted by FM 95.5 The Fish radio personality Ms. Brooke Taylor. This is an inclusive Roman holiday that includes airfare from Cleveland, 4- and 5-star hotels near St. Peter’s Square, two meals a day, passes, transfers and tickets to museums, and guided tours. The trip also includes visits to Florence, Venice, Assisi, and Tuscany. The highlight of the trip is the opportunity to witness the canonizations of Popes John Paul II and John XXIII with thousands of fellow pilgrims from hundreds of faith traditions from around the world. Click here for more information on the trip. Full Story

Scholarship Opportunities Available for Catholic School Students

Unity Federal Catholic Credit Union and the Ohio Catholic Federal Credit Union both have scholarship opportunities for families to assist them in their Catholic Education costs. Unity Catholic is offering five $1,000 scholarships for students at the high school level. The scholarship deadline is April 1, 2014. For additional information, please visit www.unitycatholiccu.org.

The Ohio Catholic Credit Union (OCFCU) is offering thirty-five $1,000 scholarships for students in grades 1-12. All applications must be completed online at OCFCU’s website. The deadline is February 28, 2014.

Audition Call for ‘Little Women’ Play
**Who:** Freshman Greta Noeth  

**What:** Greta's video on digital learning at SJA is one of four videos chosen statewide from hundreds of entries as finalists in statewide Digital Learning Video Competition.

**Fun facts:** Greta, who created the video on her own time, used multiple Google programs to simulate animation. In addition, she did all the research and wrote the voice-over on her own.

The competition, sponsored by the organization Ohio Higher Ed, asked students to showcase their creative talents and technology skills in a video contest with students across Ohio. They were asked to illustrate how technology is used as a learning aid at their schools. The top four videos were presented at the Ohio Educational Technology Conference held this week with more than 5,000 attendees, including SJA's Instructional Technology Instructor Ryan MacRaild.


There is still time to view all four videos and submit a vote on your favorite (Greta's!). The link is [here](link). Votes must be in by the end of day today (January 31).

Please vote right now! Remember, this is the last day!

Congratulations, Greta!

**SPORTS**

**Basketball**

On January 25, the Jaguars lost to Magnificat High School with a score of 52-36. Senior Nicole McManamon had 12 points, while junior Hailey Grant added 10 points. Click [here](link) for the full 2013-14 schedule.
Swimming/Diving
On Saturday, January 25, the Jaguars traveled to Hathaway Brown to compete in a 7 team invitational where the Jaguars took 3rd place. Juniors Kayla Gartin and Autumn Bragg made their dive debuts. Kayla came within .4 of the record. Jaguars also took a 5th place finish in the 200m-medley relay, and 4th in the 200m free relay. Click here for the full 2013-14 schedule.