Unusual Week Didn’t Stop the Learning!

It’s been a wild week in Northeast Ohio! While Hurricane Sandy did her best to disrupt life, our young women just rolled with the punches and managed to enjoy visits from actors at the Great Lakes Theater performing scenes from “Macbeth” in their English classes; absorb the advice of guest speakers from The Ohio State University CAAP program encouraging the continued study of World Languages; and shared an All Saints Day Mass with the grandparents of our freshmen. It takes more than a few downed trees and power outages to stop our students! Here’s hoping for better weather to come. We are so blessed our students and their families are safe and sound!

~ James M. Cantwell, Ed.D.

STEM Careers Focus of All-Day Seminar

Seventeen students had an exciting day at General Electric’s headquarters in Nela Park last Friday, joining more than 75 other female high school students for a daylong conference “Women in STEM: Preparing for the Future with Confidence.” This learning and networking event was designed to encourage interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Math) careers.

Activities included panel discussions featuring such speakers as Ms. Tina Taylor, Chief Quality Officer, GE Lighting; Ms. Jan Morrison, President and CEO, TIES (Teaching Institute for Excellence in STEM); Ms. Maryrose Sylvester, President and CEO, GE Lighting; and Dr. Lolita M. McDavid, Medical Director, Child Advocacy and Protection, Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospitals/Case Medical Center. Special thanks to GE Executive Rebecca Bompiedi who invited SJA to participate.

“I thought that the GE Women in STEM event was both informative and fun. The speakers and their experiences opened my eyes to the many opportunities available to women in STEM professions. Also, the bridge building competition was a great demonstration of engineering process, not to mention entertaining,” shared Sara Hurley ‘14.
Visitors Stress Importance of World Languages in Global Job Market

“Today’s business world is global and having bilingual skills is quickly becoming more of a requirement rather than a nice addition to a resume,” shared Professor Romaine Paumard, an Ohio State University French teacher, to a varied group of World Language students on Monday.

Professor Paumard, who teaches French at OSU, was visiting the Academy as part of OSU’s CAAP program, which stands for Collaborative Articulation and Assessment Project. He was joined by Ms. Rebecca Bias, the co-director of CAAP. Representatives from CAAP visit some 200 high schools throughout the state, encouraging students to continue studying languages after high school.

“The job market has changed dramatically in the last 10 to 15 years,” he shared. “Today’s top jobs often require you to be bilingual or at least fluent. You need a degree in your chosen content area. You should have a mastery of communications skills and, very importantly, you should have an openness to other cultures.”

During the visit, Ms. Bias provided professional development to our world language teachers, specifically demonstrating the use of Skype to technologically integrate our classrooms with classrooms abroad.

Financial Aid and Scholarship Information Available for 2013-14 School Year

Applications for scholarships and financial aid are now available on our website www.sja1890.org for the 2013-14 school year. You may click on “Parents” and “Scholarships and Tuition Assistance” to access the PSAS form and scholarship applications.

The PSAS form must be completed and postmarked by November 21, 2012. Scholarship applications are due by December 3, 2012. Please contact the Finance Office with any questions.

Environmental Science Class Field Trip Yields Samples for Future Examination

The timing was perfect last week for 24 junior and senior students in science teacher Mrs. Maureen Becker’s Environmental Science class, as the group visited the North Chagrin Metroparks Reservation for a field trip. Temperatures were in the low 70s, the leaves were in full autumnal glory and there wasn’t a cloud in sight to mar the vivid blue sky. In other words, it was a glorious day to hike through the woods, studying the environment.

The daylong field trips included students taking water and soil samples to study later, identifying trees by their leaves and bark, and perform random plot sampling of plant populations in the forest and the meadow. “Students will test their samples in the lab and publish the results in a formal report and media presentation,” stated Mrs. Becker.

“This field trip was incredible. It brought the science lessons to life for us!” shared Shannon Scaggs ’14.
Middle School Retreat Information
Saint Joseph Academy and Saint Ignatius High School are partnering to provide 7th & 8th grade boys and girls a spiritual retreat. It will be held on Saturday, November 17 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at SJA. Register online at www.sja1890.org/admissionevents.

Testing Information
Attention Parents of 8th Grade Girls: If you are considering enrolling your daughter at SJA, she must take a Scholarship/Placement Test. The final one is being offered on Saturday, November 3, beginning promptly at 9 a.m. Register online at www.sja1890.org/admissionevents.

“Beauty & the Beast” Opens Next Week
The fairy tale classic “Beauty and the Beast,” a story about a strong woman who teaches a beast/man that arrogance and being a bully are wrong, will come alive on the SJA stage next week!
Showtimes are Friday, November 9 and Saturday, November 10, both at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, November 11 at 2:30 p.m.; Friday, November 16 and Saturday, November 17, both at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, November 18 at 2:30 p.m.
Reserve tickets are $12. General admission is $10. Students and seniors are $5.
It is being performed in the Academy’s auditorium.

Carving Pumpkins Is Lesson in Three-Dimensional Art!
Seniors Myriah Miles, Claire Violand, Emma Wolpert, Morgan Reminder and Alexis Brunk with their artful pumpkins.

It’s all about three-dimensional art in a variety of media for students in art teacher Ms. Beth Pleban’s Graphic Design II class … even if the design is a spooky ghost or scary spider carved in large and somewhat slimy pumpkins.
“I haven’t carved a pumpkin since I was in 7th grade, and even then my Dad did the actual carving,” shared Claire Violand ’13, who created a floating ghost on her pumpkin. “This was great!”
Other creations included a Frankenstein’s monster face and the anime character Pikachu.
“This is a fun exercise in creating art with a different perspective!” stated Ms. Pleban.

“Guardian Angel” Box Installed in Chapel
Students concerned about a fellow student’s peace of mind now have a new way to help … and perhaps even save a life. Guidance Counselor Ms. Maryann Marek recently supervised the installation of a Guardian Angel box in the Chapel, located above the petitions for prayers/special intentions book. “The purpose of the box is to provide students a safe and secure way to alert adults if they are concerned for another student’s safety.” shared Ms. Marek.
The Guardian Angel box program was started two years ago by the parents of Saint Ignatius senior Joe Anielski. Joe, also called “Ski,” committed suicide. His parents believed he suffered from undetected and untreated depression. “Their thoughts are that if only one person had written a note, the outcome would have been different. They came up with the idea of Guardian Angel boxes and have dedicated themselves to providing these boxes, also called Ski Boxes, to schools from kindergarten through college throughout Ohio, West Virginia and now one in Tennessee,” stated Ms. Marek.
Ms. Marek stressed that students should continue to notify a responsible adult, teacher, coach, counselor or administrator if they have concerns about a friend or acquaintance … or themselves.
The Guardian Angel box will be checked daily and appropriate action will be taken with the information that is provided.
Sophomore Excels at Single-Breed Horse Competition

Sophomore Lexi Marie Kim last week competed in the All American Quarter Horse Congress, an event held in Columbus involving thousands of competitors from all 50 states, as well as Germany, China and Canada. She placed 9th in the trail class, a category with more than 150 horses! It was her horse Tyson with whom she competed.

The event showcased Lexi’s horsemanship skills acquired from years of practice and devotion to the sport.

“A Top 10 at the All American Quarter Horse Congress is a great accomplishment. I am so happy!” shared Lexi.

Middle School Softball Clinic

Come join SJA softball players and coaches for a one-day indoor softball skills clinic. Participants will experience hitting, throwing and pitching drills, followed by a T-ball game. The event is open to all 6th through 8th grade players. The clinic is limited to 40 players.

Contact Coach Radatz: dradatz@sjastudents.org or 216-647-4269 with questions.

WHERE: Saint Joseph Academy Gym, 3470 Rocky River Drive, Cleveland.

WHEN: Sunday, November 11, 1-4 p.m. | Sign in starts at 12:30 p.m.

COST: $25

Download form here. Mail to 3470 Rocky River Drive, Cleveland, OH 44111, Attn: Coach Radatz Varsity Softball. Please make checks out to Saint Joseph Academy Softball.

Crew

Crew concluded its fall competitions on Saturday, October 27, at the Halloween Regatta on Dillon Lake in Zanesville. The Navy finished with six of eight entries finishing in the top three. The Novice 8+ finished 5th in the first 1,500-meter sprint race. The Lightweight 4+ of Annie Grove ’14, Kelsey O’Donnell ’14, Nicole Hegeman ’13, Kristen Hegeman ’13 and coxswain Morgan Clark ’15 finished second in its race.

The First Varsity 4+ of Julia Herrel ’15, Hannah Smith ’14, Karen McGraw ’13, Sarah Johaneck ’15 and coxswain Nina Ripich ’14 took first place. The Junior 8+ (Audrey Rieman ’15, Kerry Jamieson ’15, Allie Pallotta ’15, Kayla Moore ’14, Kelsey O’Donnell ’14, Annie Grove ’14, Brigid Reynolds ’15, Elizabeth Essi ’15 and coxswain Morgan Clark ’15) raced a solid 1,500 meters, capped by an explosive closing sprint to finish second, only 4 seconds behind the winning team.

The Novice 4+ of Caroline Mills ’14, Jiana Koussa ’13, Sadie Frohnapple ’16, Kendra Cundiff ’16 and coxswain Sara Koussa ’16 won the novice squad’s first medal of the fall with a third-place finish in its event. Following the Novice 4+’s race, the Junior 4+ consisting of Allie Pallotta ’15, Kayla Moore ’14, Brigid Reynolds ’15, Elizabeth Essi ’15 and coxswain Mackenzie Schoenherr ’15 finished second. The final race was the Varsity 8+. The crew of Julia Herrel ’15, Sarah Johaneck ’15, Karen McGraw ’13, Hannah Smith ’14, Maggie Sudetic ’13, Casey Sudetic ’13, Nicole Hegeman ’13, Kristine Hegeman ’13, and coxswain Nina Ripich ’14 finished the season second behind the Cleveland Scholastic Rowing Association.