Parents: At a Glance

January 18
No school, office closed.

January 19
College Night for Junior parents.
Discussion on college application process.
7-9 p.m. in the auditorium.

January 20
STArts (Arts Boosters)
meeting, 6:30-7:30 p.m.,
in the Dining Hall.

January 21
Class of 2017
Parent College Counseling
meeting, 7-8 p.m. in the auditorium.

January 27
Early dismissal,
at 2 p.m.

Congrats to Assistant Principal Emily Hanson '99, Named New Principal at Archbishop Hoban
The SJA community is offering special congratulations to Assistant Principal Emily Hanson ’99 on her appointment as the new Principal at Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron. Ms. Hanson will assume her duties in Akron starting July 1, 2016. A search for her replacement will begin immediately.

It’s been a year of note for Ms. Hanson, starting with being recognized last June as one of the inaugural “25 Under 35” young alumnae who lives the mission of Saint Joseph Academy in her professional life. She is also an Associate of the Congregation of St. Joseph. Full Story

Health Sciences Students Experience Hands-On Learning at Cleveland State University

Over a period of two days this week, some 50 students in the Health Science Honors Program experienced first-hand the new Center for Innovation in Medical Professions at Cleveland State University (CSU). The Center, which opened in September, is a $47.5 million state-of-the-art facility designed to foster a new era of interprofessional health care education. Full Story

To see a photo album of the visits, click here.

The Cleveland Orchestra Wows Seniors

Seniors started the new year with a special visit to Severance Hall and a concert by The Cleveland Orchestra. The annual Severance field trip for Seniors is integral to SJA’s efforts to create lifelong appreciation of the arts and the world-class cultural institutions that our region provides.
The Seniors enjoyed music that featured Beethoven’s String Quartet No. 15 in A minor, Opus 132, and Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Opus 37. The concert was conducted by Franz Welser-Möst, making the performance an extra-special treat for students.

As part of the same cultural journey, the Junior class in December enjoyed the "Monet to Matisse" special exhibition at The Cleveland Museum of Art. Both very special field trips were thanks to the generosity of The Milton and Tamar Maltz Family Foundation.

**Students Excel at Vex Robotics Competition**

Eleven students in three teams traveled to Columbus this week to participate in the challenging national VEX Robotics Competition. The students have worked since July in preparation for the event, sponsored by the Robotics Education and Competition Foundation.

"This is considered the ultimate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) activity for students ages 11-18," shared Science teacher Mary Ellen Foley Scott '76. "I am so proud that two of our three teams placed in the top half of the competitors."

Students participating included: Seniors Bailey Slattery, Molly Nar and Veronica Martin; Juniors Sarah Dever, Liz Renner, Greta Noeth and Annie Wolodzko; and Sophomores Grace Semon, Lizzie Lewandowski, Juli Howe and Stephanie Rolon.

Each year at VEX, an engineering challenge is presented in the form of a game. Students, with guidance from their teachers and mentors, use the VEX Robotics Design System to build innovative robots designed to score the most points possible in qualification matches, elimination matches and Skills Challenges. In addition to having a great time and building amazing robots, through their participation in the VEX Robotics Competition and their work within their team, students will learn many academic and life skills.

**Help the Garden Club Take a Step to End Thirst!**
Maggie's favorite part of the experience was learning in a hands-on environment.

In college, Maggie hopes to focus on engineering and ecology. "I want to work in energy conservation," she said.

At SJA, Maggie is hoping to play on the Rugby Team this spring, as well as being involved with the Robotics Club.

Maggie's sister Helen is an SJA senior.

Senior Sings Original Music at Tri-C Rock-Off

Congratulations to senior Molly Stofko for an awesome performance this past weekend at the 20th Annual Tri-C® High School Rock Off at the legendary Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum.

Molly, who describes her musical style as "dramatic pop and alternative music," plays piano, guitar and ukulele, as well as being the lead singer in the Molly Stofko Band. "While we weren't chosen to continue in the competition, I think my band and I played really well in the Rock Off. I'm satisfied with our performance," she said, adding "I'm not really your typical 'rocker.' I play more of a 'coffee house' kind of sound."

Full Story

SPORTS

Basketball

The team was busy over the holidays and returned to action this week with a record of 8-5. On Wednesday, SJA traveled to Medina Highland and came away with an impressive 50-40 win, to move to 9-5 on the season. The team was led by sophomore Colleen Neitzel, who had 15 points to go along with an impressive 21 rebounds and 5 blocks. Junior...
was overheard saying "That guy will not be a warm-up act for very long."

Gia DiMassa added 10 points, including 3-3 pointers in the first quarter to jump start the team. Junior Colleen Drellishak had 7 points to go along with 3 assists, 2 blocks, 3 rebounds and 3 steals. Sophomore Molly Dever had 6 points, 2 assists, 2 blocks, 2 steals to go along with some high intensity defense. Sophomore Bre Coleman contributed 8 points and 4 steals.

The Jaguars return to action on Wednesday, January 20, when they travel to take on Brunswick.

Swimming
On Saturday afternoon, Jaguar swimmers celebrated Senior Day for their three seniors: Kelly Shantery, Samantha Jammal and Mariela Harris. It was a tough meet for the Jaguars as they swam with the boys team from St. Edward against Toledo St. Ursula. Kelly took second in the 50-yard freestyle, while junior Rachel Strick posted her best 500-yard freestyle time and also had her fastest 50-free of the season.

Next up is a meet with Cuyahoga Heights on Tuesday, January 19.