Parents: At-a-Glance

Monday, December 16
Formal Uniform

Advent Prayer Service, Academy Center, 10:44-11:24 a.m.

Christmas Concert, Auditorium, 7-8 p.m.

Wednesday, December 18
A and B Block Final Exams, 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Thursday, December 19
C and D Block Final Exams, 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Friday, December 20
Final Exam Make-Up Tests
First Semester Ends

Upcoming Events

Monday, December 23
Christmas Break/No School/Office Open

Tuesday, December 24-Thursday, December 26
Christmas Break/No School/Office Closed

Tuesday, December 31-Wednesday, January 1
Christmas Break/No School/Office Closed

Thursday, January 2-Friday, January 3
Christmas Break/No School/Office
**News**

**We Need Your Help: Share Your Gratitude for School Choice with Your State Representatives**

As you may know, public funding for private education via the EdChoice Program has come under fire lately in the media. This year, Catholic schools have seen significant growth in their student population who are eligible to receive these scholarships. Saint Joseph Academy students have been the beneficiaries of tuition assistance from EdChoice scholarships. We expect this number to increase going forward, which is wonderful news for our families.

Click [here](#) for a template that enables you to easily communicate to your local representative your appreciation for this funding and your hope for its continuation. We ask you to make your voices heard in support of the EdChoice Program and its necessity for the future of Catholic education.

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**Important Information for Senior Parents/Guardians**

We have been actively working to prepare for the Class of 2020 graduation activities. In order to ensure we have the correct information for your daughter, we ask that you respond to the questions [linked here](#) by **Friday, December 20**.

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Engineering Students Modify Power Wheels for Children with Disabilities

Saint Joseph Academy students know the true spirit of Christmas is in giving and serving the dear neighbor. Students collaborated with the organization Go Baby Go, a nonprofit research program designed to provide children with special needs, ages birth to three years old, with an enjoyable, temporary wheelchair alternative. The motorized cars are modified to meet each individual child’s needs. The group also rewired and built a support structure to keep each child safe and only activate the vehicle when he/she is standing up, per the specifications.

On Thursday, eight students presented Andrew, a three year old who has suffered a traumatic brain injury and stroke, with an adapted power wheels. “For him to be independent and move on his own with this car is such a gift,” shared his mother, Tracy. Click here for more photos from the presentation.

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Chinese Classes Collaborate with School in Taiwan

The students in Chinese I and Chinese II collaborated with students at our sister school, Blessed Imelda’s School, in Taipei, Taiwan for a special project. Instead of communicating letters via email, the students created cards and exchanged handwritten letters before Thanksgiving. They enjoyed connecting with the Chinese speakers globally with letters and they are looking forward to exchanging handwritten Christmas cards this year.

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Serving the Dear Neighbor through Engineering

As a Christmas service project, students in the Engineering & Design Honors Program put their coursework to the test by thoughtfully disassembling and removing the core workings of mechanical toys. Click here for the Ideastream article.

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Physical Education Uniform Reminders

Does your daughter have Physical Education in her second semester schedule? Stop in to the Paw Prints Store to purchase the required uniform and lock before the first day of class which is **Tuesday, January 7, 2020.**

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Paw Prints Store Special Holiday Events Starting Tonight

**Pick-a-Present Sale**

Tonight, Friday, December 13, the store will be open from 6-8:30 p.m. Tonight, select a present at the register upon check out and receive a discount on your total purchase.

**Extended Store Hours**

We have many extra hours for your shopping convenience. Click [here](#) for special hours.

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College Credit Plus Informational Meeting

Through a program called College CreditPlus (CCP), the state of Ohio provides high school students an opportunity to earn college credit during their high school years. CCP classes may be taken at any Ohio public college/university or from any participating private college.

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Spotlight: Bridget Kerr '21

**Accomplishments:** Bridget Kerr '21 is currently one of two Saint Joseph Academy students selected to complete an internship with ArtWorks through the Center for Arts-Inspired Learning. This program is an arts-based job training and college readiness program for 10th-12th grade students. Students are enrolled as paid apprentices to train under the guidance of master teaching artists, who mentor the apprentices in an art form while teaching 21st century skills. Art
opportunities differ annually but include animation, game design, recording arts, filmmaking, slam poetry, fashion design, photography, theater and visual arts. All participants will have the opportunity to perform and/or exhibit their work for the public and will leave the program with a portfolio that can be used when applying to college.

"I am a member of the Visual Arts co-op called Creative Path. As a group, our goal is to channel young adult voters, specifically people between the ages of 18 and 21. Together we noticed that when going to vote, there is a commonality of people getting the “I voted” sticker to post on social media. As a team, we decided to give the stickers a new and interactive meaning. Our logo and design is inspired by the retro television, and we plan to have a blank TV screen broadcasting the words #MakeAChange. The design will be screen printed onto t-shirts, tote bags and limited quantities of pullover sweatshirts. The point of the TV is to unplug from the current media and bring it back to a time when people were more prone to think for themselves. In the end, the message we would like to convey is to primarily using your voice to make a choice and be the change in the voting scene," voiced Bridget.

Activities & Interests: Bridget is a member of the Yearbook Club and Dance team.

Athletics

Varsity Bowling Squeezes Past Olmsted Falls High School; Remains Undefeated at 4-0

The Varsity bowling team won a very close match on Saturday, December 7 against Olmsted Falls at Spins Bowl Independence. The Jaguars dropped the first game 651-609, but came back to win the second 686-660. Lizzy Rajnicek '20 and Nora McCarthy '21 led the Jaguars, both bowling 168 games.

Swimming & Diving Finishes Fifth at Mason Invitational

The Saint Joseph Academy swim team had a strong showing on Saturday, December 7 at the Mason Invitational. The Jaguars finished 5th out of 12 teams.

Advancing to the finals were Maddy Kelly '20, Gwen Pierce '21, Maddie Jarosz '21, Emma Claire Lambert-Shemo '22 and Claire Doverspike '23. Maddy Kelly won the 100 backstroke and came in second in the 50 freestyle.

Basketball Drops Close Matchup
Saint Joseph Academy fell short on Wednesday, December 11 to Magnificat High School inside the Academy Center. The Jaguars were within two points heading to the fourth quarter but the Blue Streaks made their free throws down the stretch to seal a 56-49 win.

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Indoor Track & Field Team Spiritwear Store Open Through Wednesday, December 18!

In partnership with the Paw Prints Store, Saint Joseph Academy is happy to offer an online store through KRH Trading Co. The online-only store will provide spiritwear specifically for our indoor track & field team. This special opportunity will be available for a limited-time only.

You can order through this limited-time only online shop through **Wednesday, December 18, 11:59 p.m. EST**. Purchases can be made in four easy steps, listed below.

1. Go to the online store, [krh-sjatrack20-1.itemorder.com/sale](http://krh-sjatrack20-1.itemorder.com/sale)
2. Choose your items and add them to your cart.
3. Securely checkout with your credit card.
4. Choose your delivery option: ship to home, athlete pick up in the Athletic Office or pick up in Paw Prints Store.

All items will be placed and paid for directly online. Orders will ship directly to your home 14-21 days after the store has closed.

Future Jaguars Winter Volleyball Clinic: December 26 and 27

The Jaguars’ volleyball program will host a winter volleyball clinic for current 7th and 8th grade girls. Below is information for the clinic. Registrations are limited so do not wait to sign up! Click [here](http://example.com) to register.

**Thursday, December 26 and Friday, December 27**

Times: 5-7:30 p.m.

Location: The Academy Center at Saint Joseph Academy

Cost: $60 which includes both sessions and a Jaguars’ volleyball giveaway.

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For more information on athletics highlights, scores, and schedules check the Saint Joseph Academy Athletics homepage.