



St. John Regional School

Generation after Generation

Summer
2016

*A newsletter for
alumni, parents and
friends of St. John
Regional School*

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Message to Graduates

The Class of 2016 left SJRS on June 13. They did so with solemn celebrations, beginning with Mass in the morning and ending with Graduation that evening. At the conclusion of the Mass celebrated by Father George Desjardins a number of our eighth graders were recognized for their academic efforts. Classmates applauded heartily as members of the class were recognized. The Class of 2016 left SJRS with a level of maturity, which was characterized by an acceptance of each other as individuals. There was also a genuine desire for the success of all.

This is a strong indicator of a good future for the members of this class. They have dealt with many changes in the school. They have experienced others and have displayed an appreciation for everyone. This is a group of young people who have begun to see the goodness God has placed in their classmates.

Members of the Class of 2016, you are close to the words spoken by God in the Book of Jeremiah:

*Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. And before you were born I consecrated you.
I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.*

Your opportunity now is to take the relationship with your God, what you have learned in the classroom, your successes in athletics and theatre, the friendships and relationships you have formed at SJRS and carry the message of God's presence in others to those who you meet. You are well prepared and ready to answer God's calling in our world. Please answer that call each day.

Do not be afraid to visit us and share your successes.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Donohue
Principal



In this issue

- Current Events 2-3
- SJRS Happenings 4-5
- Advancement Update. 6
- Alumni Update. 7
- Upcoming Events 8

Most Christ-like Award recipients



Gold: Zoë Dienes Silver: Samantha Fune
Bronze: Rachel Achong

Class of 2016

We welcome you as St. John Regional School Alumni!!!

Always remember your fun growing-up years at SJRS. The Office of Advancement is always here to help you find a classmate or connect with the school community. Check us out at www.stjohnregional.org and on Facebook.

Current Events

First Communion 2016

SJRS came together on June 3rd for a special mass honoring those in grade two who had received First Communion. A special thank you to Father Rich Roberge, Mrs. Otterson (grade two teacher), Mrs. Sloane (grade five teacher) and all the parents who made this a memorable day.



SJRS Honors Mrs. Johanson

Mrs. Linda Johanson, our SJRS Art teacher, retired at the end of the school year. Mrs. Johanson has also faithfully attended to the needs of our students in the after-school program. On Tuesday, June 7th, SJRS surprised Mrs. Johanson with a celebration of her dedication to the school, its mission and our students. Mrs. Johanson was presented with a SJRS clock with



an inscription recognizing her many contributions to our school community. A commendation from Bishop Libasci was read.



Students had prepared a framed picture of flowers that were assembled with

the names of students and staff on the petals. The whole school celebrated with cake. As an artist, as caregiver, and as one who deeply respected each and every individual student, Mrs. Johanson will be missed.



May Crowning

Every year SJRS honors our Blessed Mother with a May Crowning ceremony. The students process from the main building, down Thorndike Street to South Main Street saying the rosary. Students then enter the church and present Mary with flowers. Mary is then crowned by some of our eighth graders after a reflection of the reasons we are thankful for our Blessed Mother. We honored our Blessed Mother on Friday May 13th. We give special thanks to Zoë Dienes, Rachel Achong and Marissa Payne who took part in the crowning of Mary.



Congratulations to Emmett Shea, grade six, on receiving the Lions Club Peace Poster award.



Current Events

Congratulations to Mrs. Otterson

Mrs. Otterson was voted the Best of the Best Teacher in the Concord, Manchester and Nashua area by the readers of the Hippo Press. Mrs. Otterson teaches second grade and we are so thankful to have her!



Catholic Schools Week

During the first week in February, SJRS took part in the celebration of Catholic Schools Week. It started with a beautiful liturgy and was filled with fun activities such as ice skating, intercom bingo, a silly hat day, team sport shirt day, and the SJRS talent show. The week ended with our annual spaghetti supper sponsored by grade eight.



SJRS Junior High Players

The Junior High students in grades six, seven and eight presented "Ten/Two" – Ten Plays for Two Actors at the Hatbox Theatre in Steeplegate Mall, and for the SJRS students in May. Thank you to our grade eight teacher, Mr. Gagne, for continuing to inspire our students.



Congratulations to Sophia Griffin, grade three, on winning the Casella "Green" Art Calendar Contest.



Spirit of St. John Award

This annual award is given to students who exemplify the values of a Christian centered lifestyle. This award was inspired by the lives of our former principal Sr. Irene Turgeon, and former secretary Mrs. Shirlene Pelkey. Their kind, loving and caring spirits live within our school community and we recognize our students who demonstrate their values. Mrs. Kim Pelkey and her son, Anthony, presented the award this year. The recipients of the 2016 Spirit of St. John Award are Camryn Howe from grade five, and Kathleen Galvin from grade seven.



SJRS Happenings

DARE

We are very grateful to Officer Howe for providing our 5th graders with a most informative D.A.R.E. Program.



Eighth graders had the privilege to visit St. Joseph Cathedral and volunteer at the Catholic Charities NH Food Bank garden in Manchester. They performed various gardening duties such as turning over planting beds, spreading compost, and weeding.



El Salvador donation

Christ the King Parish has been a long time supporter of Epilogos Charities, Inc., which works in San Jose Villanueva, El Salvador. As several member of the Parish visited the Mission this past February students from SJRS collected a variety of small items for the children. Pictured here are toys and games, candy, craft items and other things sent from SJRS to El Salvador.



Eighth graders had a fun experience sailing and learning on the gundalow Piscataqua on the tidal waters of the Piscataqua Region.



Congratulations to the SJRS grade 8 Boys Basketball Team on becoming the 2016 NH CYO Champions! They won the Merrimack Basketball League, the New Hampshire C.Y.O. Tournament and competed in the New England C.Y.O. Regional tournament in Connecticut in April. We are grateful for their Coach, Tony Cipriano.



Science Fair

With the help of Mrs. Collins, our Jr. High Science Teacher, SJRS held a Science Fair for students in grade five through grade eight. The projects included Rube Goldberg machines by grade eight, human body display by grade seven, atmospheres and changes over time by grade six, and various science concepts such as static, density, and optical illusions by grade five. This hands-on fair was on display in the Parish Activity Center for students and families to explore.



SJRS Happenings

Father Daughter Dance



Our annual Father Daughter Dance took place on Saturday, April 2nd. This event held in the Parish Activity Center was a most memorable evening for all. Thank you Father Ray for lending your DJ magic.



Social Studies Bee

The SJRS Social Studies Bee took place on April 5th. Congratulations to the winners!

1st Place: Nathaniel Muller
2nd Place: Tommy Fraser
3rd Place: Tejas Davé



Walkathon

On May 26 our sixth, seventh and eighth graders participated in the Walk-a-thon, which was both a "fund raiser" and a "fun-raiser".

Students earned pledges and donations for the four-mile walk to Rollins Park where they spent the day playing games and having lunch. All had a good time.



Memorial Day Ceremony



Thank you to Mrs. Sloane and grade five class for holding a meaningful Memorial Day service on May 31, 2016 honoring service men and women as well as deceased loved ones. Students from younger grades also sang patriotic songs to help commemorate the prayer service.

Kids Fair

The last day of school was a day of summer fun for the students of SJRS. The seventh graders hosted this fun fair and we thank them and their parents for making a most enjoyable day for all!



Spring Concert



The Spring Concert was held on May 25th. Thank you to Mrs. St. Cyr, our music teacher, for a lovely performance.

Advancement Update

Change of Address - Graduations – Weddings – Births – Promotions - Reunions – Etc. Please help to keep your St. John Family in touch by forwarding information to SJRS to adv@stjohnregional.org or phone at 603-228-1789. It's always a pleasure to hear from former classmates.

Auction 2016

Auction 2016 is coming soon!

Please save the date and join us on November 5th, 2016 for a fun and exciting evening. Hart's Turkey Farm will be catering the event this year and many wonderful "live" and "silent" auction items will be available.

Ways to Give...

You can make a significant gift, with little financial sacrifice, and great personal benefit through:

- Appreciated securities; income tax deductions for stocks full value and not tax gain
- Real estate; a residence, vacation home or commercial property

Gifts of appreciated securities to SJRS are doubly good:

1. They support the school.
2. They provide tax benefits.

For more information, please call 603-228-1789.

Annual Fund

Thank You

Thank you to all who have already contributed to the SJRS Annual Fund. The Annual Fund is the foundation of our school. For anyone who wishes to make a tax-deductible donation for this year's Annual Fund, please contact adv@stjohnregional.org. Your donation received by December 31st will be included in the recognition society for 2016.

Improvements at the School

In the second half of the 2015-2016 school year, St. John Regional School has been able to obtain several important pieces for our curriculum. Many of these were purchased with the 2015 Fall Directed Appeal. We will be starting the school year with new Social Studies textbooks for grades 1 through 5. We have replaced novels and other paperback materials in the English/Language Arts classes in grade 6-8. We have obtained additional reading resources for our youngest students in order to provide a wider variety of things they can read based on their interests and reading levels.

With the help of our Parent Teacher Organization we updated maps in our elementary classrooms. The biggest project involved the purchase and implementation of Language Arts materials in Kindergarten through Grade 5. With the help of a bequest by Barbara J. King of the Class of 1953 we were able to acquire the Journeys series to replace our Reading series, which was over 13 years old. We have obtained grant money to assist our teachers to use these new materials well.



Other improvements to the building include our new heating system installed in the summer of 2015, which resulted in a very significant reduction in our heating bills. We also were able to get a new, permanent canopy over our main entrance to deflect snow from the stairs.

One of a Kind Family Painting

Ryan Otterson, grade four, and Alex Otterson, grade two, along with the guidance from Mrs. Johanson, our Art teacher, created this beautiful landscaped painting. This was one of the auction items that were available last year – a great opportunity to capture the talent of your children.



Alumni Update

8th Grade Social

On June 8th, the graduating Class of 2016 gathered in the Parish Activity Center for a social. The students had a memorable night reflecting on their years here at St. John's, and enjoyed time together as a united class before their graduation. Congratulations Class of 2016!



Alumni Senior Breakfast

Each year SJRS calls back the graduating high school seniors to enjoy breakfast and to share memories of St. John's during their most formative years. On May 24th, the SJRS Class of 2012 gathered at the Parish Activity Center for breakfast, took a tour of the campus, and visited with their buddies (now in grade 5). Mrs. Fox, our retired grade 4 teacher, came back to reconnect with the Class of 2012 with some square dancing. The seniors enjoyed visiting with former teachers, and various classrooms. It was a heartwarming reunion for all

Buddy Brunch

Every year the first graders honor their graduating buddies by attending a brunch. Students in grade one and grade eight along with their parents enjoyed breakfast in the Parish Activity Center after the end of year Mass. The graduates had fun spending time with their buddies.



In Memory

Recently Deceased Alumni

- Ernest L. Guimond "SJRS Attendee"
- Madeline (Pluff) White '49
- Margaret (Boissey) Britton '43
- Dorothy (Cullen) Flanders '47
- Gwenyth (Everett) Greeley '51
- Bernard Mayo '54
- Gerriane (Hogel) McAllister '59
- Maurice R. Boucher '62
- Rita Jean (Harrison) Hobbs '53
- Katherine MacNeil '34
- Brian Everett '57

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Visit us on Facebook to see what's happening at SJRS and what photos are posted every week.
Who knows, you might just recognize yourself!

Upcoming Events

SJH Alumni Celebration: September 24, 2016 1934-1963

You should have received your invitation for the gathering to be held on Saturday, September 24th, 2016. Please return your registration as soon as possible so that you can be a part of this memorable afternoon. If you have any questions, please contact the SJRS Advancement Office at 603-228-1789 or adv@stjohnregional.org.

Grandparents' Day: September 29, 2016

Grandparents' Day will take place on Thursday September 29th, 2016 here at SJRS. Mark your calendars and let grandparents know when and how they can be a part of this memorable event.

SJRS Annual Auction: November 5, 2016

Our 24th Annual Auction will be held at the Bektash Shrine Center in Concord on Saturday November 5th, 2016. Mark your calendar for this fun filled evening. Hart's Turkey Farm will be catering the event this year and many wonderful "live" and "silent" auction items will be available. For more information or to make a donation, please contact the Advancement Office at 603-228-1789 or adv@stjohnregional.org.

Congratulations Class of 2016!

