



St. John the Baptist Catholic School Newsletter

1057 Hughes Road Madison, Alabama 35758
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August 24, 2022

Daily Reminders:

- 1) Please remain in in your vehicle during morning & afternoon carline.
- 2) If your student is absent, we must receive a note with your signature within 5 days OR it will remain unexcused. Please see attached Attendance Policy.

Thank you.


Upcoming Events:

- 08/29—09/02—MAP Testing
- 08/31/22—Mass at 8:30am
- 09/02/22—First Friday Adoration—Grades 5-8
- 09/05/22—Labor Day Holiday—No School
- 09/06/22—School Advisory Council—6:00pm
- 09/07/22—Mass at 8:30am
- 09/14/22—Mass at 8:30am
- 09/16/22—Teacher Formation Day—No School
- 09/23/22—Mass at 8:30am
- 09/23/22—Make-up Picture Day

MAP Testing Schedule for Next Week:


- Tuesday 8:10-9:30 Grades 3-5
- Tuesday 8:10-11:00 Grades 6-8
- Thursday 8:10-9:35 Grades 3-8
- Friday 8:10-9:20 Grades 3-5

Please try & eliminate check ins/outs during these testing times.
Thanks!



Attention 1st –6th Graders:

The Huntsville Botanical Garden is sponsoring the 2022 Galaxy of Lights Children's Art Contest. Students may choose ONE of the following themes: "Holiday" (Christmas, Hanukkah, or Kwanzaa), "Winter Scene", or "Celebrating Galaxy of Lights". Winning artwork will be displayed during Galaxy of Lights (November 11, 2022 – January 1, 2023). Deadline for submissions is Thursday, September 15 at 3:00 p.m. If interested, please see Mrs. Brown, Art Teacher, for all the details.



Interested in learning about St John's Girl Scout Troop 10329? This is for girls in grades K-8 and meetings are monthly of north-central alabama

Super signup is THIS SUNDAY Aug 28th at 1:00pm in the Parish Hall.



Contact Stacey Haring for more information
Stacey.haring@gmail.com or (703)853-8818




Please see the attached information sheet regarding the newly adopted program for social-emotional learning for our students. We look forward to sharing information with you throughout the year.

Youth Protection 1: Please go the Diocese of Birmingham website. It has transitioned to a new platform for Youth Protection I training. You can find the information and new course at <https://www.catholicyouthbhm.net/>.

St. Vincent de Paul: Our school has worked to be a strong supporter of the SVdP organization in the parish. SVdP is an organization that is able to provide help for the needy directly and without red tape! Our school supports SVdP in various ways across the year. One important way is we ask the students to bring a canned good for the food pantry on Mass day (Wednesday). We would like to continue this practice this year. We know you may not be able to participate each week, but maybe you can chat as a family and set a goal in supporting this effort for the year. Then have your student be responsible for helping select the canned good and get it in the backpack the night before. What a great multitude of lessons learned in this effort: caring for the poor, responsibility, making decisions! Thanks in advance for your help in this effort.

Food Donations



St. John the Baptist Catholic School

We Make Social-Emotional Learning a Priority

Why Invest in Social-Emotional Learning?

Research shows that emotions affect how and why we learn and that **social and emotional literacy supports success in every part of a student's life.**

Social-emotional learning helps students identify their feelings and better manage their emotions, which positively impacts their academics and relationships.

Through social-emotional learning students:

- develop skills of perseverance and resilience to face academic or personal adversity;
- learn how to handle peer pressure;
- stand up for beliefs when challenged; and
- form close secure relationships.

SEL improves students' attitudes and engagement at school and positively impacts school culture.

We have launched a comprehensive, evidence based social-emotional learning program called **Friendzy**.

The Friendzy program uses an evidence-based approach for teaching and learning so teachers, counselor, and school administration can provide SEL support to students and families all year long.



Social-Emotional Learning Core Competencies:

The Focus of the Friendly Program



SELF-AWARENESS

The ability to identify emotions, recognize strengths and limitations, and build self-confidence



SELF-MANAGEMENT

The ability to increase self-discipline and self-motivation while managing behaviors to achieve goals



RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING

The ability to identify problems, analyze situations, and respond appropriately



SOCIAL AWARENESS

The ability to express empathy, appreciate diversity, and show respect to others



RELATIONSHIPS SKILLS

The ability to build strong relationships through communication, conflict resolution, and teamwork

We Believe SEL is Vital for All Students:

At St. John's Catholic School, learning social-emotional skills is vital for student growth both emotionally and academically.

The Friendly program uses interactive lessons and engaging activities to impact school culture and teach students the skills they need to be successful in school, in relationships, and in life.

ATTENDANCE

The school day officially begins at 7:55am. In order to promote a positive learning environment, students should be in the classroom on time and ready to learn by 7:55am. K5 and above students enter the cafeteria by the cafeteria doors or the gym doors after 7:30am where they will remain until dismissed to their homeroom. **Any student arriving late must report directly to the office and be checked in by the parent.** Students unescorted by a parent when tardy, automatically receive an unexcused tardy. Students who are habitually tardy will be subject to disciplinary action and administration will schedule a conference with student and parents. School is dismissed at 3:05pm. Students who are not picked up by the end of the afternoon car line will be placed in after school care.

Maximum absences allowed are **ten days** per semester. Excessive absences can result in a student being retained. Students absent for five or more consecutive school days are required to submit a doctor's certificate before being readmitted to school. Any student who has had a contagious disease (except for minor colds and viruses) is required to submit a doctor's certificate before being readmitted to school.

The following are considered valid (excused) reasons for absence from school: illness, death in family, health treatment, permission from principal and inclement weather. Students missing for excused reasons will be allowed to make-up work. **Parents must send a handwritten note or a doctor's excuse explaining the reason for the absence. Electronic notes, such as emails, and phone calls are not sufficient.** The absence note must be submitted upon the student's return to receive an excused absence. **Notes to excuse an absence will not be accepted after the fifth day the student has returned to school and therefore the absence will remain unexcused.**

Make-Up Work

When a student is absent for two or more days due to illness, a parent may contact the homeroom teacher by 9:30am, to arrange for missed assignments. These assignments may be picked up in the school office between 3:00pm–3:30pm. Students have one day for each day missed to complete make-up assignments. If extenuating circumstances apply, it is the responsibility of the student to request additional consideration from the teacher. AGAIN, any request for make-up work should come after two or more days of absence.

Any student absent from school more than ½ day may not participate in school sponsored events at St. John's and for 7-8 grade athletes at JP2 that afternoon and evening. A student is counted absent the entire day if missing more than three and a half hours, (3 hours and 30 minutes).

Parents should make every effort to schedule doctor/dental appointments after school hours. If not possible, then every effort should be made to have the child miss a minimum amount of instructional time. Parents must come into the office to sign out a student for an appointment. Upon return to school, the parent must escort the student into the office to sign him/her back into school. The student is responsible for checking with the teacher(s) about missed work.

Any scheduled absences must be pre-approved by the principal. In order for a requested planned absence to be excused, please submit a note with a parent signature giving the reason and the date(s) the student will be absent. Upon returning to school from a scheduled absence, it is the student's responsibility to secure missed assignments. Excessive abuse of this procedure can result in a student being denied the opportunity to make up missed work. **Assignments will not be given in anticipation of a vacation.**