ST. JOSEPH ACADEMY

Supporter Newsletter – Vol. 1, Issue 3
Fall 2021

SJA SCHOOLAGE STUDENTS RETURN IN-PERSON

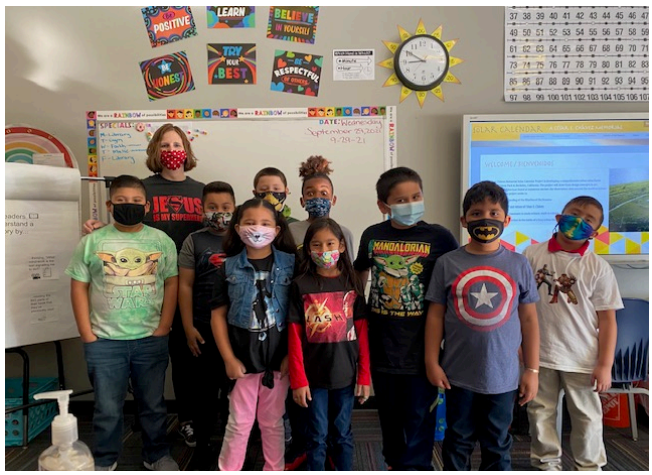
After one year and three months, SJA school students returned to in-person learning this fall. What a joy and blessing! We have welcomed in a new class of Kindergarteners, eleven of whom graduated from our Early Childhood program, and a new class of 8th grade students as well as many new faces to our Academy.

With safety protocols in place, we have had limited COVID disruptions. In addition to masking, hand washing and social distancing, students and staff are tested weekly for COVID and vaccine clinics have been offered to staff, students and parents. We are doing our best to kick COVID to the curb!

Our students and staff have embraced learning new norms and establishing great learning habits. Our students are thriving! Students have already participated in a number of service learning projects, are preparing for MAP testing and parent/teacher conferences, and preparing for Baptism, 1st Reconciliation & 1st Communion. We're off to a great start!

OUR MISSION

St. Joseph Academy is a Catholic educational organization sponsored by the Felician Sisters. Our mission is to educate children to be successful life-long learners and problem solvers. We are guided by the Felician values for Ministry: Respect for Human Dignity, Compassion, Justice and Peace, Transformation and Solidarity with the Poor. We partner with families and community to fulfill this mission.



St. Joseph Academy, Inc., 1600 W. Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53215 (414) 645-5337
Sponsored by the Felician Sisters
St. Joseph Academy is an Equal Opportunity Provider

ECEC CHILDREN – IN THE GARDEN
By Kayla Fellows, Asst. ECEC Director

Last spring, Green & Sustainable Committee chair Kim Schubring and SJA volunteers welcomed 10 new raised garden beds from Victory Garden Initiative to campus. SJA's goal is to promote gardening as a sustainable practice and to utilize for outdoor learning classrooms.

The team planted different fruits and vegetables in the raised beds next to one of the ECEC playgrounds. Over the coming weeks the Head Start Preschool classroom would walk past the beds every day to check on their growth.

The students took an interest in checking every day to see what new items were growing in the garden. As the plants grew, the classroom discussed all of the different types of vegetables and fruits that can be grown here in Wisconsin.

As the produce became ripe, Room 108 would harvest the items and bring them in for taste testing. They also experimented with different recipes, even pickling some of the cucumbers to send home.

We look forward to next year to learn what new plants we can watch grow, taste and dissect.

If you would like to become involved in or support SJA's garden program, please contact Kim Schubring, kschubring@sjamilwaukee.org.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: VERSITI

The 2021-2022 Academy year continues to be a challenge for our organization. In a typical year, we would welcome over 150 volunteers onto campus to assist in many volunteer projects.

Currently, we are limited to outdoor volunteer work or projects volunteers can complete offsite. We continue to practice safe COVID protocol practices in regards to our volunteers.

We were very fortunate to have an amazing team of volunteers from Versiti join us in September as part of their Seasons of Caring United Way project.

They harvested the remainder of our gardens, cleaned out the weeds and dead plants, helped prepare and winterize the beds covering them with tarps, built three small greenhouses and cleaned up around the grounds.

They helped us so much! We thank them from the bottom of our hearts.

Thank you to

Gitesh, Sean,Brian, Meg, Jeff, Joe, Sikirat, Deb, Jessica, Christopher, & Allison.

MISSION CORNER: CELEBRATION OF GENEROSITY
By Sr. Michelle M. Konieczny

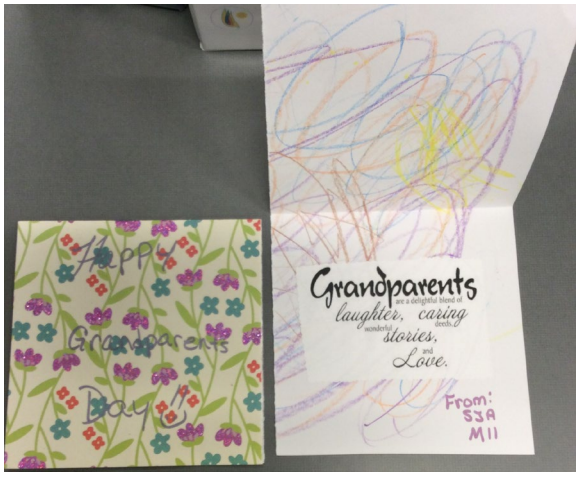
A relationship continues to blossom. St. Joseph Academy and Villa St. Francis have had a long-standing relationship spending time together and building friendships throughout the years but then Covid hit. For about a year, neither side was able to see each other or even write to each other.

I am happy to announce that the relationship is back on! Our Villa St. Francis friends donated school supplies for our children, which is greatly appreciated, and the children made cards and posters for Grandparents Day, Sept. 12, for their senior friends at the Villa. Our 5th Grade students are also starting a penpal program with our Villa Friends.

I believe this renewed relationship will stand long in the heart of both the residents of Villa St. Francis and the children of St. Joseph Academy.

Grandparents Day Prayer

Gracious God, thank you for the precious gift
Of grandparents and grandchildren,
Together blessed
Loving with love overflowing,
Side by side or in reminiscence
Thank you for everyday moments:
Mints in the old candy jar, and stuffed toys
Hugged after its mend, muddy shoes
At the frog pond, favorite stories read before bed.
With thanks, we bring you this prayer
For all grandparents and grandchildren,
Especially those dear to us.
May we learn from one another and stay ever in your company.
Amen.



St. Joseph Academy | 1600 W. Oklahoma Avenue | Milwaukee, WI 53215

2021 ST. JOSEPH ACADEMY ANGEL GIFT DRIVE

Purpose of Angel Shop: To allow children to be part of and develop the spirit of giving. Students will have the opportunity to gain a true sense of pride and accomplishment from choosing a gift for another person independently from their family.

How it works: SJA collects donations of small gift items year around. Our ECEC & K4-8th students will come in during a scheduled shopping time in December to shop for a gift for someone special in their life. Very young children will be assigned an angel helper to help them find just the right item. Items will be priced at $1-$3. This allows children to be part of the process and spirit of giving and learn how to purchase items while keeping it very low cost to them. They will also have the opportunity to wrap their gift on site.

When: Children will tentatively have the opportunity to shop Thursday, December 16 – Tuesday, December 21

Items we are collecting:
New or gently used items for all ages: children, teenagers, adults & older adults, even pets! ***Examples:*** Candles, handsoap, lotions, small kitchen items, hand towels, books, home decor items, wallets, jewelry, purses, scarves, hats, mittens, tools, Adult coloring books, puzzles, cologne, perfume, men's ties, sports items, fishing items, toys, pet toys, figurines, Christmas Decor, socks, slippers, blankets, etc. Items especially needed for men & teens.

Do you know a business willing to donate small or clearance items? Please help us get in touch!

2) Gift Wrap, Gift Bags, Bows, Tissue Paper

Collection Goal: Our goal is to collect 1,500 - 2,000 items. We are anticipating Academy enrollment to be around 550. We would like to allow each child to be able to shop for 2-4 people.

Items needed by Tuesday, December 1. Schedule a time to drop-off or have your items picked up weekdays August 1 – December 1.

Contact person: Contact Kim Schubring, kschubring@sjamilwaukee.org or (414) 645-5337 ext. 247 for any questions or to arrange collection drop-off or pick-up.

St. Joseph Academy is sponsored by the Felician Sisters.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!!!

JULY - SEPTMEBER
Donors giving at the highest levels.

St. Joseph Society – Gifts of $10,000 & up

- Felician Services, Inc.
- Lakeview Foundation
- Michael Ripp
- United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha Counties

St. Felix Level – Gifts of $5,000-$9,999

Blessed Mother Angela - Gifts of $1,000 - $4,999

- George & Mary Barsema
- Molly Gallagher
- Kerber, Eck & Braeckel
- Donald & Barbara Koehler
- MacDermid Enthone
- Micron Metal Finishing
- George & Barbara Minnich
- QPS

GIVING TUESDAY

Support St. Joseph Academy on Giving ***Tuesday, December 7!*** Your support helps our children grow!

UPCOMING EVENTS

October – United Way Employee Campaign

October 18 – 25 – Boo Grams

November 1 – ECEC Kringle Fundraiser begins

Tuesday, Nov. 2 – Dine for A Cause! **Chipotle, Tuesday,** 4:00-8:00 pm, dine in or order online or through the APP use our code **HZKQWYF**. Only good at 3232 S 27th St, Milwaukee, WI 53215

November 15 – December 3
Poinsettia Sale Orders

2020 SJA COOKBOOKS
Still available for $15/book.

Tuesday, Dec. 7, 4:00-8:00 pm, GIVING TUESDAY!!! – Dine for a Cause! Noodles & Co, to order online or through the APP use our code **GIVING25.** Offer only good at 2729 W. Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53215 and during the hours above. If you walk-in, make sure to mention that you are supporting St. Joseph Academy when you go in.

DECEMBER 16th -21st - ANGEL SHOP

TAX DEDUCTIBLE UPDATES FOR DONORS

Thank you to all of our donors who have supported the children at St. Joseph Academy this year. Did you know that, if you do not currently itemize your taxes, you may be eligible for the 2021 Line Item Charitable deduction on your 2021 tax return? For single households you can claim up to $300 in charitable donations. For households filing jointly you can claim up to $600. See your tax advisor for more information.

ST. JOSEPH ACADEMY
LEADERSHIP TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. Tabia N. Jones, President and CEO, tjones@sjamilwaukee.org

Mr. Scott Hanson, Principal shanson@sjamilwaukee.org

Mrs. Lucia Arboleda, Assistant Principal, larboleda@sjamilwaukee.org

Ms. Karrie Krueger, ECEC Director, kkrueger@sjamilwaukee.org

Mrs. Kayla Fellows, ECEC Asst. Director, kfellows@sjamilwaukee.org

Mrs. Jodi Hazen, Finance Director, jhazen@sjamilwaukee.org

Sr. Michelle Marie Konieczny, Director of Mission Integration & Outreach, smichelle@sjamilwaukee.org

Mrs. Kim Schubring, Resource Development Manager, kschubring@sjamilwaukee.org

Mr. Joe Caruso, HR Director, jcaruso@sjamilwaukee.org

Mrs. JoEllen Rodriguez, Food Services Manager, jrodriguez@sjamilwaukee.org

Mr. Tommy Burress, Building Services Manager, tburress@sjamilwaukee.org

Have a story or experience that you would like to share? Questions about making a donation?

Please contact Kim Schubring, Resource Development Manager, (414) 213-6367 or kschubring@sjamilwaukee.org

BE GREEN, SAVE FUNDS, RECEIVE UPDATES VIA EMAIL

Help our Academy to save resources and funds! If you would like to receive our newsletter via email, please contact Kim Schubring, kschubring@sjamilwaukee.org to be placed on our mailing list.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Be the first to know our most current updates and news! Connect with us through our Social Media.

We work very hard to ensure that all of our social media sites are sharing our story through posts of regular and meaningful information.

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