

September 14th, 2025



St. Joseph Parish School Lancer Times

Weekly online school communication from the Leadership Team

Administration email: principal@stjosephgraffton.org

Important Dates to Remember

- Safe Environment Training at SJPS, 6:00pm - Mon. 9/15
- 7/8th Hospitality after mass - Thurs. 9/18
- 5th-8th Project Presentation at 4pm Mass - Sat. 9/20
- Caramel Apple Fundraiser Order Forms due - Fri. 9/26
- No School, teacher in-service - Fri. 10/3

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The date for Family Fun Night has been **MOVED FROM 10/31/25 TO 10/24/25**. More information to come in next week's Lancer Times!

~ A Note from the Leadership Team ~



Dear St Joseph Parish School Families,

Thank you to all the families who attended our Back-to-School Parent Information night - it was great to see new faces, converse with old friends and realize just how much support our SJPS school has from its families! In case you were not able to attend, here are some key takeaways that were shared:

- Staff Introductions and Interim Principal Leadership Team Role delineation
- Safe Guarding Class required if wanting to help out in school during the day
- Adhering to the Drop-off/Pick-up Map routes for safety of everyone
- Forms to turn in (if not done already): Parent/Student Handbook Acknowledgment, Immunization Records, Confidentiality Form (if volunteering in school), Image Opt-Out form (to be sent home this week)
- Home & School Updates - so many volunteer options available to help out at the school and be a part of our wonderful SJPS community
- Auction Update - May 2nd, 2026 and volunteers needed!

The first two weeks of the school year have gone off without a hitch and the students have done a wonderful job learning their classroom routines and practicing with the school expectations! We have had so much fun getting to know all our new

homeroom students and look forward to all the fun and learning to be accomplished this year!

Blessings,

St. Joseph Parish School Leadership Team



SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

If you would like to volunteer in the school in any capacity during the school day, you MUST first complete Safe Environment Training. This includes going on field trips.

All participants must arrive on time and stay for the entire session. Latecomers will not be admitted and those who leave early will not receive credit for attendance.

You must first register through the Arch website (link at bottom of the page).

UPCOMING LIVE TRAINING: Monday, Sept. 15th @ SJPS 6:00pm

[Register for Safe Environment Training HERE](#)



Family Fun Night, our annual school Monster Mash Halloween Party, will be on Friday, October 24.

One of the highlights includes games for the kids where they can win prizes. If you have any NEW items to donate as prizes, please send them to the school office labeled Family Fun Night by Friday, October 10.

Ideas include new trinkets, books, stuffed animals, Halloween toys, etc.

More information on other activities and dinner will be sent next week.

Drop-Off & Pick-Up

We look forward to seeing you on the first day of school. Here is a reminder of our drop-off and pick-up procedure.

1. **Bus** - Students taking the bus will be dropped off between 8:00 & 8:15. After school, they will be supervised in the bus line located by the elementary wing doors.
2. **Car Line** - Parents may use the car pick-up line to stay in their car and drop off and pick up their child along the cones. Please do not park under the canopy. *This is the preferred method in the morning, as it makes it much easier on the little ones who sometimes have a hard time letting go. **Parents of children requiring a carseat must pull their car all the way up to the cones closest to the basketball hoops if they need get out of the car to buckle or unbuckle their child.**
3. **Sidewalk** - Parents may park in the parking spaces on the east side of the parking lot and walk along the sidewalk by the church to drop off or gather their child by the playground. **For the safety of everyone, do not walk in front of or between the cars in the pick-up line.**
4. **Middle School Only Option** - Middle School Students may walk to the far end of the sidewalk past the church and meet their parent/guardian at their parked car in one of the designated parking spots on the far east side of the parking lot. This applies only to Middle School Students who do not have a younger sibling.

Please remember, students are not allowed to play on the playground after school unless they are supervised by their parent/guardian.

Map

IMMUNIZATION REMINDER

All updated immunization records are due by 10/1/25 to the school office

(If your child has an appointment after this date, please call the School Office)

All immunization records must be up to date for all students by the start of the school

year. Please call the school office if your child received a shot over the summer so we can update their file. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services does an annual review of all student records. Please don't wait to make an appointment to have your child immunized.

Immunization Brochure



RAISERIGHT TUITION CREDIT OPPORTUNITY

Buy RaiseRight Gift Cards Today!

For those of you new to the school, RaiseRight is a gift-card fundraiser for our school. You can order gift cards from almost anywhere you shop through the office at any time! This year, we will continue to offer a 50/50 profit split with families who order gift cards. 50% of all profits will be applied to the following year's tuition. You must indicate the family you would like the tuition credit applied to on your order form.

As of 9/5/25, we are placing a "Hold" on ordering any new RaiseRight giftcards. In lieu of physical gift cards, the Raise Right program is available online that has a broad selection that is delivered electronically for a nominal fee of \$0.29 with no cost for shipping!



2025-26 School T-Shirts, Lancer T-Shirts, & Sweatshirts

If you had purchased Lancer Spirit wear, your order will be arriving in the next 1-2 weeks. We do regret that there is not availability on any orders of "ash" color and can supplement with the navy blue or forest green.



SJPS 8TH GRADE CLASS PRESENTS



CARAMEL APPLE FUNDRAISER



IN ORDER TO RAISE FUNDS FOR
THEIR END-OF-YEAR TRIP, THE
8TH GRADE CLASS IS
PARTNERING WITH LOCAL SHOP,
HANDMADE WITH LOVE, TO SELL
CARAMEL APPLES!



ORDER FORMS WENT HOME FRI. 9/5/25
ORDERS FORMS DUE: FRIDAY, 9/26/25



2nd Grade Sacramental Preparation



2nd Grade *Sacraments*

1st Reconciliation Parent Meeting

Sunday, September 14

9:15am

Lower Level Conference Rooms

SJPS Extended Care: If you are in need of childcare for your SJPS student, we are pleased to offer both morning (6:30 - 8:00am) and evening (3:15 - 6:00pm) childcare through our Extended Care Program. Please use the link provided to sign up your student(s).

[September Extended Care Sign Up](#)

Weekly Classroom Highlights

By: Mr. Shaun Kempf, MS ELA & SS

September Update: Building a Strong Foundation in ELA and Social Studies

The month of September in ELA and Social Studies has been all about preparing for success in middle school. We have focused on building strong academic habits and practicing the skills that will carry students through the rest of the year.

ELA

- 5th/6th Grade: Students have been learning how to annotate as they read, which encourages them to think more deeply and engage with the text. They are also practicing *RACE* responses (Restate, Answer, Cite evidence, Explain), which help them write full, thoughtful answers that are supported with evidence from the text.
- 7th/8th Grade: Students have been creating vision boards to set personal and academic goals for the year. This project gives them a chance to reflect on what they want to achieve and provides a visual reminder to keep them motivated throughout the school year.

Social Studies

Across all grades, students are learning and practicing the core skills they need to

become strong history learners. These include:

- Asking thoughtful questions
- Identifying and evaluating different types of sources
- Analyzing evidence and making claims
- Practicing chronological thinking
- Understanding that history is interconnected and does not happen in isolation
- Summarizing texts to build comprehension and simplify complex ideas
-

These activities are not only helping students learn history but also developing critical thinking and literacy skills that transfer across subjects.

Looking Ahead

September has been a month of building habits and setting expectations. All of this practice is laying the groundwork for a successful year in middle school. I am excited to see the growth, discoveries, and learning that will continue to happen in our hallway as the year progresses!



~Important Information from Previous Lancer Times~

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

What is Student of the Month?

The SJPS staff is so proud of our students and would like to recognize those who go above and beyond. The faculty and staff will celebrate our incredible students this year through the *Student of the Month Program*. Each month, one nominee will be chosen from each level: Early Childhood (K3-K5), Elementary (1st grade - 4th grade), and Middle School (5th grade - 8th grade). When the students are chosen, they will receive a sign to put in their yard, be announced

on the morning announcements, have their picture in the Lancer Times, and hung on a bulletin board near the school office, and receive a Student of the Month Certificate.

Students will be nominated by the teachers and staff based on a character trait each month. We will post the trait we are looking for each month.

□ **September Character Trait: KINDNESS**

What It Means:

Kindness is showing care, compassion, and respect toward others through words and actions. It means being helpful, inclusive, and thoughtful—without expecting anything in return.

How Students Demonstrate Kindness:

- Greeting classmates and staff with a smile or kind words
- Helping a peer without being asked (e.g., picking up dropped items, explaining directions)
- Including others in group activities or play
- Complimenting others sincerely
- Listening when others are speaking and showing empathy
- Using polite language consistently (please, thank you, excuse me)
- Standing up for someone who is being left out or treated unfairly
- Showing appreciation to teachers, peers, and staff

How Parents Can Support at Home:

- Talk about what kindness looks like in everyday life
 - Encourage children to share kind acts from their day
 - Read books or watch shows that promote empathy and compassion
 - Model kind behavior in your own interactions
-

Join
US!

**SEPTEMBER 9th–
NOVEMBER 25th**



**SAINT
JOSEPH**
PARISH
SCHOOL

Crokinole Club

**\$20 Fee to Help
Purchase Boards**

Hosted by:

ANDY SMITH

**CLUB WILL MEET THE
2nd AND 4th TUESDAY
OF EACH MONTH**

**A GREAT CHANCE TO
HAVE A GREAT TIME!**

FINAL TOURNAMENT WITH PRIZES!

COUNSELING CORNER

Subject: Help Shape Our School Counseling Program – Parent Survey

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we begin a new school year, I want to make sure our school counseling program continues to meet the needs of both our students and families. Your input is a valuable part of shaping the

direction of the program and ensuring that I can best support your child's academic, social, and emotional growth.

I am asking you to take a few minutes to complete this [Parent Survey](#). The survey will give you an opportunity to share:

- How I can support your child individually.
- Ways the counseling program can better serve our school community.
- Parent-focused topics you'd be interested in (for our upcoming Coffee with the Counselor gatherings).

Your feedback will help guide the next steps for individual student support, small group counseling and classroom guidance at St. Joseph Parish School.

Please click the link below to complete the survey: [Parent Survey](#)

Thank you in advance for your time and insights. I truly value your partnership and look forward to working together to support our students.

Sincerely,

Abby Jones

School Counselor

HOME & SCHOOL COMMITTEE

is looking for more volunteers!

We are a mighty force backed by a few committed individuals! Home & School supports many wonderful events to raise money for the school, recognize teachers, and engage your kids. These are just a few of the events they've supported.

- Back to School Picnic
- Teacher Appreciation
- Raise Right
- Room Parent Activities
- Family Fun Night
- Christmas Concert Hospitality
- Open House
- Catholics Schools Week/Walk
- Scholastics Book Fair
- Grandparent's Day

If you are interested or have suggestions for improvement, please contact **Huong Le** at Homeandschool@stjosephgraffton.org or text 262-573-9733

Special Thanks to our Home & School Committee Leaders who carried out all the events your child was able to enjoy this year

- Amy De Ruyter
- Becky Meyer
- Brittney Hess
- Hannah Belknap-Webber
- Mary Baylor
- Melissa Iserloth
- Shannon Morgan



2025-2026 School Advisory Committee

The SAC Committee works closely with SJPS Leadership to further enhance the culture, marketing and student-family life at St Joe's.

There is still one spot still available for this committee. Please reach out to the school office if you are interested.

September SAC Meeting Minutes

RAISERIGHT GIFT CARDS FOR SALE

We have a large amount of gift cards for sale from our RaiseRight Fundraising Program. Also, don't forget, for every gift card you purchase, a percentage is given back to you in tuition credit for next school year.

Sale of physical gift cards is currently on hold. Please consider purchasing through their online portal.

[Click Here to See our Current Gift Card Inventory](#)

[Donate to our Annual Fund](#)

[RAISERIGHT ORDER FORM](#)

[Visit our Website](#)

[Parish Bulletin Look-up](#)

St. Joseph Parish School
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262-375-6505

School Office email:
schooloffice@stjosephgraffton.org

Administration:
principal@stjosephgraffton.org

[2025-2026 Parent/Student Handbook](#)

~St Joseph Parish School: Teaching, Learning, Leading and Serving as the Hands of Christ~

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