

# ST. JOHN'S AREA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



8.16.23

## Principal's Message

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Happy End of Summer! With school starting in just a few weeks, we are looking forward to seeing you at our Open House on **Thursday, August 31st** from **3:30-6:30**. Please [click on this link](#) to sign up for a specific time to visit SJAS.

Each family is allotted 30 minutes (longer for large families) within the building for meeting teachers, turning in paperwork, dropping-off school supplies, meeting with your parish priest, and seeing friends! Please keep your time in each classroom brief yet meaningful so the teachers have the opportunity to talk with every family. Thank you!



## House T-shirt Size Link

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This year, we will be introducing a fun way to build relationships and leadership skills- a House System. Houses are named after religious communities within our diocese and students will remain in their "house" during their entire time at SJAS. Students in grades K & 3 will be **Crosier Cubs**, 1 & 4 grade **Franciscan Foxes**, and 2 & 5 grade **Benedictine Bees**.

Each K-5 student will receive a free House t-shirt to kick-off our program. Please complete the linked form by **August 31st** to let us know the t-shirt size of your student(s). [Click here for t-shirt form!](#)

## Meet Chris Bemis, our new 2nd grade teacher

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Chris grew up on a farm outside of Foreston and graduated from Milaca High School. He attended church growing up in Foreston at St. Louis Catholic Church. Chris enjoys woodworking and running.

He and his wife Mary have been married for 16 years. They have two children; Owen is 15 and entering his sophomore year at Foley and their daughter Olivia is 13 and going into 8th grade.

Chris strongly believes that SJAS helped to shape their two children into who they are today. He wants to be a part of St. John's to help future children become great students and faith-filled individuals. Welcome, Chris!



## HAPPY 60TH BIRTHDAY!

St. John's Area School was built by St. John's Parish to serve the children in Foley and the surrounding areas. The school was originally named "St. John's School", and it first opened its doors on September 3, 1963. The entire teaching staff was comprised of Franciscan sisters from Little Falls. The first principal was Sister M. Michaela Moos.

Grades 1, 2, and 3 were offered, and the total enrollment was 93. A grade was then added to St. John's each year until 6th grade was opened in 1967. Franciscan sisters taught at St. John's School until 1986.

In 1993, the school was incorporated to include the surrounding area parishes and was subsequently renamed, St. John's Area School.

Anticipated enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year is 80 students in grades K-5 with an additional 18 students in the prekindergarten program.



## CALENDAR

### UPCOMING EVENTS

8.28-31 Teacher Workshops

8.31 Open House 3:30-6:30pm

**9.4 No School, Labor Day**

9.5 First Day of School 😊

10.6 Walk-a-Thon

**10.19-20 No School - MEA**

11.3 End of First Quarter

11.8 Evening Conferences, 3-7pm

**11.9 No School, Conferences, 11am-7pm**

**11.10 No School**

**11.23-24 No School, Thanksgiving**

11.27 - 12.1 Cookie Bake

**12.1 - No School, Teacher In-service**

12.19- Christmas Program

**12.22-1.1 No School, Christmas Break**

1.2 School Resumes

**1.15 No School, MLK Jr. Day**

1.19 End of 2nd Quarter

### Tech Fee Instituted This Year

St. John's Area School will require a \$50 tech fee per device for each student in 1st through 5th grade. This fee is compensation for time spent maintaining and troubleshooting problems on the devices throughout the school year. It does not cover the replacement or repair of the device. This fee is in addition to the *optional \$100 insurance* that is applied to each device used by your child(ren) during the school year. Please contact Mr. Smith if this fee presents a financial hardship.