February 6, 2015

Dear Parents,

Benefit Dinner. I am pleased to announce that our ninth annual benefit dinner, A Morocckin’ Night, was a great success! Although profits are not quite finalized, the evening was well-attended and the auction tables were loaded with fabulous items. The gym and family center were beautifully transformed into a Morocckin’ marketplace and the appetizers, dinner and desserts were delicious!

Many thanks to our art teachers, Mrs. Jennifer Marra and Mrs. Mary Kay Culver, for their skill in working with the students. The student artwork was so creative and the bidding was fast and furious.

I want to also thank our Benefit Dinner chairpersons and mention how long they have been chairs of this annual event: Mrs. Jennifer Buerk, 3 years; Mrs. Andrea DuBois, 6 years; Mrs. Monica Leslie, 5 years; and Mrs. Carol Lindsley, all 9 years. Our school has realized profits of $532,000 in eight years and is able to do so much for our students because of the annual benefit dinner. Thank you to all involved.

Calamity Days. Weather was very much an issue for us again this week with one full-day closure and three two-hour delays. As of today we have accumulated 41 hours of weather related school closings or delays. The process for counting calamity days/hours changed with the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year. Schools or districts needed to build sufficient hours into their calendar to cover all calamity situations. We have 90 hours. I think we are safe. Last year at this time we had already had 14 “snow days” or the equivalent of about 70 hours of school closure.

Honeywell Alert. We initiate a weather alert when we receive information that Sylvania is delaying or closing. Most often that announcement on local television stations or social media sites is made around 6:00 am. Occasionally it appears as early as 5:30 am. Our subsequent Honeywell Alert to all parents confirming that we (SJS) have a delay or closing follows, but not sooner than 6:00 am. If you do not receive an alert from SJS, please follow the television announcement regarding Sylvania Schools. When they delay, we delay; when they close, we close.
National Geography Bee. SJS recently held a National Geographic “Geography Bee” for fifth, sixth, and seventh grade students. The following were class finalists:

Reina Zeitouni 5C, Alison Heerdegen 5K, Joey Suwinski 5P.

Wil Halker 6K, Joe Colella 6O, Evan Carroll 6S

Jesslene O’Loughlin 7AM, Ben Steirer 7JJ, Jack McGranahan 7MJ

Our school champion is Evan Carroll who will now see if he qualifies to move onto state competition. Congratulations to all these students!

Have a Heart Restock Drive. This annual event sponsored by Sylvania Franciscan Village helps to restock local pantries. We support their efforts and have placed donation boxes in the elementary building and at the middle school. Students/families are asked to “spare a square”. The goal for the community is 1000 rolls of toilet paper! The collection drive began on Wednesday of this week and will end on Thursday of next week. Students have just four days to bring in their donations of a two roll, four roll, six roll, or eight roll package of toilet paper!!

Registration for the 2015 – 2016 School Year. Have you returned your form? Please send it to us next week if you have not already done so.

100th Day and Math-a-Rama. Our 100th Day activities (K – 3) and Math-a-Rama Event (4 – 5) needed to be rescheduled due to the two-hour delay on Wednesday, February 4. The events will take place on Wednesday, February 11.

Congratulations. I am pleased to announce that eighth grade student, Megan Sherman, received First Honors for the second quarter of the year. Megan’s name was unintentionally omitted from the First Honors list.

The Golden Apple Award. Through the generosity and kindness of the Jack and Rhonda Donahue Family Foundation of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the Golden Apple Award has been established to honor outstanding individuals who devote their lives to teaching in Catholic Schools. The foundation has been expanded from the Diocese of Pittsburgh to include the Diocese of Youngstown and the Diocese of Toledo. The award will be given to seven elementary teachers and two secondary teachers each year in the Toledo Diocese. In light of the valuable contribution made by the teachers of St. Joseph to children, families, the Church, and society in general, I ask that you consider placing a name in nomination. Eligibility Requirements:

- The candidate must be a practicing Catholic, full-time teacher and have completed a minimum of three full years in the elementary or secondary school at which they are currently employed.
- A teacher, parent or student must nominate the applicant in an elementary school.
- The teacher must have a valid license or certification, both state and diocesan, for the position they currently hold. (All St. Joseph teachers hold valid state and diocesan licensure or certification.)
Information, including nomination and application forms, is made available at the Catholic Schools Office website: online.catholicschoolsoffice.org. Click on “Scholarships/Awards” link under the “Course categories” heading. To be considered, the form and a letter of recommendation must be returned to my office by Friday, February 13. At that point, nominated teachers will be notified and given application forms. The local selection process will take place in early March. Each Catholic school in the Toledo Diocese will be allowed to submit one candidate. In April, the Diocesan Committee will meet to select the final recipients and winners will be notified. The Golden Apple Awards Banquet is in May. Note: If you are unable to access the Catholic Schools Office website or to print the required forms, please call our school office and request that forms be sent home with your child.

Sincerely,

Sally A. Koppinger
Principal