

ANSWERS TO COMMON QUESTIONS ASKED BY PARENTS AT SJE

To & From School:

Q: What time is drop off?

Students should arrive at school between 7:30 am and 7:45am, as classes begin promptly at 7:50. Detention will be given for persistent tardiness.

Q: Which way do I go to drop off?

The traffic pattern is such that you come in on the right hand side (Mechanic St. side) of the school and exit through the left hand side. Children are dropped off at the main door on the north/left side of the building. A faculty member is on duty each morning to greet the children at the door. It's important that children exit cars quickly, so that the traffic line doesn't back up onto Hodges St. The line works best when the first 5 cars in line let children out at same time, and the next 5 cars then all move up. Children should walk inside the yellow line up to the doors.

Q: What if we're late to drop off?

At approximately 7:45 AM, the on-duty faculty member closes up the north door. If you arrive and the north door is closed, please proceed back to the south door. Your child will ring the bell for admittance and then sign-in as tardy in the attendance room on the second floor at the top of the stairs.

Q: How does pick up work?

For pick up at the school, please enter the right side of the building and form two or three lines into the parking lot. (This is necessary to reduce/eliminate traffic lines backing up onto Hodges St.) As you round the back of the building, the lines merge into one, so that children are never asked to cross a line of traffic to get to a waiting car. As your car pulls up to the north door, your child will be called and released to you. For safety purposes and a smoother traffic/dismissal flow, we ask that you do not park on the street or on private property and walk up. At dismissal time, students will exit the building (with faculty present), stand behind the yellow line and watch for their rides. Again we ask that you pull up as far as possible. Please do not exit your vehicle. Students will walk to you.

Q: What time is dismissal for walkers and busses?

Busses leave the building starting at 2 PM and the car line begins picking up students at the same time.

Q: What days do the busses run and what days are you expected to pick up?

Bus transportation is provided by the City of Attleboro; and therefore we are not entitled to transportation on days that the Attleboro public schools are not in session. Reminders will be posted on the SJE website, when bus service is not available.

Q: What if I need to pick up my child early from school or make alternate arrangements for a pick-up?

It's highly recommended that students and families make appointments and necessary arrangements outside of school hours, but we recognize that occasionally that is not possible. If your child does need to be released early, please use the "notes from home" pad that is supplied in the back-to-school package letting your child's teacher know what time you will be picking up your student and if they will be returning to school and the approximate time. Similarly, if your child is going home in an alternate manner than he or she usually does (different bus, getting picked up instead of bus, etc.), please use the notes system to inform your teacher of the details.

LUNCHES:

Q: How does the hot lunch program work?

The lunch schedule for the entire next month is listed on the SJE website (www.sjeschool.com -- look under "Forms & Links") approximately 2 weeks before the beginning of the month. Orders for the coming month are due in before the beginning of that month. Please print the form and send into school with your child. Checks are made out to "St. John's School".

Q: How does the milk program work?

The milk program is a one-time fee for the entire year. You'll receive a sign-up form in your back-to-school packet. Your child can purchase milk for the year, whether he or she buys lunch, brings lunch or mixes the two.

SPORTS:

Q: What sports does SJE offer?

Spring co-ed volleyball is offered in grades 6 through 8. Spring girls and boys track is offered in grades 5 through 8. Fall cross country is offered in grades 5 through 8. Basketball is also offered in grades three through eight. Look for details on each of these programs to come home with your child or check the Sports pages on the SJE web site.

GENERAL INFO:

Q: What are the office hours?

Office hours at the school are 8:00am-4:00pm. School volunteers answer the phone from 8am-2pm. SJE has an answering machine on when we are not available to come to the phone.

Q: Who do I call if my child is sick?

Please call the SJE office as soon as you know your child will not be in school (and no later than 9AM). The office number is: 508-222-5062. Please leave a phone message if the answering machine is on.

Q: How is the school website used?

The web address for St. John's is www.sjeschool.com, and the site is used frequently for updates and disseminating important school information. Lunch schedules and order forms, for example, are on the site and an extensive school calendar is kept updated there, as well. Please check the school website at least once per week to stay up to speed.

Q: What's the best way to get involved and help?

The St. John's HSA (Home & School Association) has just been launched and is the best way to get involved as a volunteer at SJE. Every parent or guardian of a St. John's student is automatically a member of the HSA, which will have 3 general meetings throughout the school year. The HSA also has 4

committees (Communications, Teacher Appreciation, Welcoming and Social and Spiritual Events), and much/most of the volunteering opportunities are at the committee level. For example, the social committee will organize nearly a dozen events this year (from Family Movie Night to a Ziti Supper to a Father-Daughter Dance and more...), and each has a committee which would love your help. Contact the HSA directly (HSA link on web site or call school) to learn more. Volunteers are also always needed/welcome working on the school auction, the sports committee and/or basketball tournament and the annual spring golf tournament.

Q: How does the afterschool program work and what are the fees?

Please contact the school office directly for complete information.

Q: What are the requirements to make high honors or honors? When does honor roll begin?

St. John's students become eligible for the honor roll beginning in 4th grade. High Honors = all A's; Honors = all A's & B's.

Q: Do all students get progress reports?

No, typically teachers prepare progress reports only for those students about whom they'd like to communicate a particular concern. At the beginning of the year, your child's teacher will also likely let you know how he or she can best be reached (note, phone, other) if you'd like to connect on your own.

Q: When do they switch from summer to winter uniforms? Can girls wear their skirts in Sept. or just their shorts?

Both boys and girls are welcome to wear the winter uniform the entire school year. Summer uniforms start with the first day of school and end Columbus Day weekend. Winter uniforms start the day after Columbus Day and end at April vacation. Summer uniforms in the Spring start the first day after April vacation and end the last day of school.

Q: How do parents know when they are invited to a daytime school function/mass? How are the parents notified?

SJE – with the help of the new Communications Committee – is going to make a strong effort this year to provide key details (including this one) for all key school events right on the school website. Many times, this information will also be in the new email newsletter. Your best source, though, will be the events/calendar (??) page at www.sjeschool.com, where each upcoming event will be listed with a description and need-to-know details for parents.

Q: Do kids wear their uniforms for school pictures?

On picture day, you can dress your children as you see fit. It is a no uniform day. In past years, most families have had their children in non-uniform clothes of their choice, although you are more than welcome to have your child in the school uniform if you prefer that look.

Q: What is the uniform SWAP?

The SJE uniform SWAP is our informal system for sharing gently used uniform items. There is typically a uniform swap two times a year with dates and information available on the web. It is simple; if you have uniforms that you no longer need you can swap them for something you do need. If you need uniforms and have nothing to swap, gently worn items can be purchased from \$1.50 - \$5.00 per piece. If

you have something to trade and cannot find something you need; a family listing is kept so you can keep your credits until something is available for you.

Q: Cancellations & Snow Days

St. John's follows the Attleboro Public School system for delays and cancellations, largely because all of our buses run on the Attleboro schedule. Attleboro cancellations are often reported on the local access cable TV (if you are in Attleboro) as well as on many TV and radio stations. When possible, the SJE website is also updated with cancellation information.

More questions? We know getting acclimated to a new school can be difficult. Feel free to call or email anyone on the welcoming committee, any HSA leaders or the school office. We'll help as best we can or guide you to people who do have the right answers.