



The Montessorian

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Students Go “Ga-Ga” for our New Ga-Ga Pit



Photo: R. Holomitch

Our Upper Elementary students enjoyed a game during outdoor playtime.

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With a Legacy Gift from the Class of 2020, our current students are enjoying outdoor playtime more than ever.

Last fall, our then 8th year students embarked on a project to build a gaga pit for our playground. These students met with Brenda Huth and Melanie Steadman for formulate a plan for the financing and construction of this equipment.

To help finance this project, the Middle School class hosted a dance and invited other Catholic school students to the event.

In her graduation speech last spring, Arya Chabria, the gaga pit project leader passed the project onto our now 8th year students to keep the project moving forward.

With the help of some strong volunteers, students are able to enjoy this energetic game at outdoor play time.

Virtual Mass

Even though our students were not filling the pews in Sacred Heart Church, they were still participating in Mass. This month, our students attended our monthly Mass virtually in their classrooms. This decision was made for the safety of all our students and staff.

“I still enjoyed Mass, even if we were in our classroom,” said Matthew Holonitch, a 7th year student.

Laura McCrady, our new Religion Specialist, worked with Father Adam Streitenberger to plan two enriching Masses for our students.



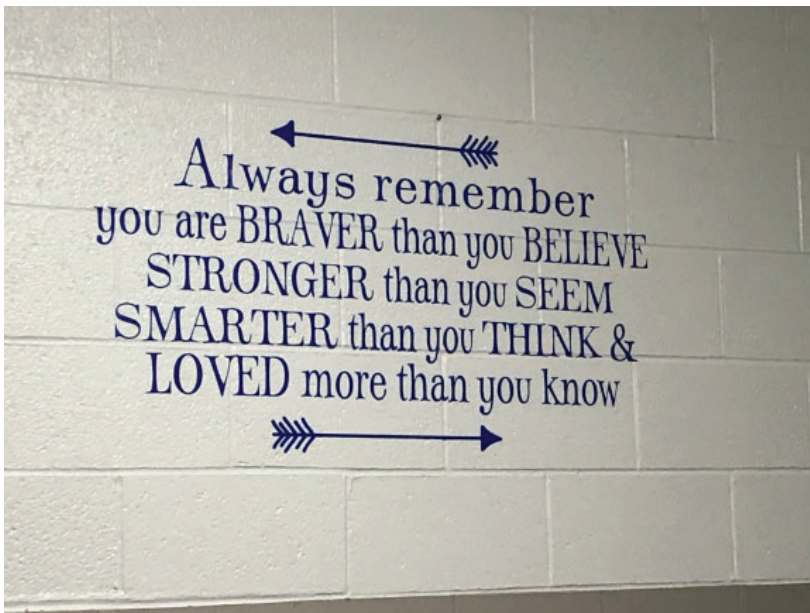
Laura McCrady supported our virtual Mass as reader.

Photo: R. Holonitch

Renovated Bathrooms

With financial support from The Catholic Foundation and our Family Association, we finalized the work needed to renovate our student restroom in the main building. The elements in this renovation include:

replacing stalls, fixing the terrazzo flooring, replacing the vanity shelf, lighting, and dispensers. A volunteer team painted the tile and walls to bring new life back to this space.



Both bathrooms feature a motivating mural.

Photo: R. Holonitch

Constitution Day

On September 17th, our students celebrated Constitution Day. On this day, lessons, discussions, and activities are prepared to engage students in learning about the U.S. Constitution.

International Day of Peace

Each year, our school celebrates International Day of Peace. On September 21st, each classroom shared lessons, songs, and art activities to remember the importance of peace in the world.

The song that many of our students sang is “Light a Candle for Peace” by Shelley Murley.



Outdoor Learning



Linda Miller, CH3, led a lesson in person and on her laptop for our home school students.

Photo: R. Holonitch

To help promote safety for our staff and students, our teachers have utilized the outdoors as classrooms. Many lessons, including special subjects, have occurred outside using social distancing guidelines.

Welcome New Staff to SJMS

We are thrilled to announce a new member of our faculty. Mrs. Hannah Greer-Young has joined us as our new Music Specialist. Hannah comes to us from Lima West Middle School in Lima, Ohio. Hannah graduated from Bowling Green State University with a Bachelor of Music/Music Education degree. At Lima West Middle School she was the Band Director for 7th and 8th year students and tripled the enrollment in the middle school band in two years. Hannah has experience with children of all ages, has worked with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, gives private music lessons, plays several instruments, and was the Ohio Collegiate Music Education Association President at Bowling Green State University for two years. Relationships and joy through music are very important to Hannah and she will bring great energy to our music program.



Candice Singleton has been hired as our new Director of Admission. Candice comes to us from COVA where she was a Transitional Youth Specialist. She has been a statewide Outreach Manager for Indiana Mentoring Partnership, a teacher, an Admissions representative for Harrison College in Indianapolis, Indiana, and volunteers as a school ambassador at her two son's private school. She holds an MBA from Salem University and a BA from The Ohio State University. She won a National Award for Community Outreach/Jobs for America's Graduates, she has presented at national Job's for America's Graduates conferences, and has facilitated implementation of over 54 community partners into school districts. Candice is positive, insightful, has a quiet kind demeanor, and has a beautiful vision for the SJMS Director of Admission position.

The Upper Elementary team interviewed qualified candidates and selected Jennifer Robertson. Jennifer and her husband are the proud parents of Ellie, who is in our Children's House program. She has been a part of our substitute pool during the 2019-20 school year and completed a long-term substitute assignment in our Middle School environment. Jennifer holds a Bachelor of Arts from The Ohio State University, a Master of Arts from Goldsmiths College of the University of London, and a North Carolina Transition to Teaching Alternative Licensure. Jennifer taught 6th and 7th grade Humanities and English Language Arts in Brooklyn, New York and also served as Department Lead Teacher and Co-Chair. She is a certified Google Educator, has extensive experience with differentiated instruction for academically gifted and autism spectrum students, and is extremely interested in learning all she can about Montessori education. We are extremely lucky to have Jennifer become a member of the SJMS Faculty.



In our After Care program, Melissa Meszaros and Madeline Robinson have joined the team. They both bring great experience working with school-age students, including our Summer Learning Camp.

Virtue of the Month September *Life-Long Learners*

Life-long learners show the virtue of studiousness. They recognize in themselves the hunger for knowledge. They seek the truth in

all things. They know how to learn about something new. A studious person has good habits that allow them to explore and understand new terms, concepts and processes. These habits include accessing resources, asking clarifying questions, being thorough, and seeking feedback or self-checking their

knowledge. They often delight in sharing what they discover. By virtue of our Baptism, we are all "life-long learners" of a sort – we have embarked upon a personal journey of growth and transformation in Christ through which we help others to grow as well!

Alumni News

Class of 1999

Bethany Torres Mann



Baby Estelle Quinn Torres Mann was born at 11:06 on Tuesday, June 2nd at St. Ann's Hospital. At birth, she was 8 pounds 2 oz and 20 inches long. Congratulations to Bethany, Josh, and Oli!

Class of 2002

Cameron VanTilburg



Photo: C. VanTilburg

Congratulations to Cameron and Amanda VanTilburg. On May 11th at 3:34pm, they welcomed Quinn Rose into the world. She was 20 1/2 inches long and weighed 8 1/2 pounds.

Class of 2003

Allison (Reifeis) Soraire



Photo: A. Reifeis

On May 21st, Allison and Lucas Soraire welcomed Baby Emma Marie to the world. At birth, she was 7 lbs. 1 oz. and 20 inches long.

Class of 2004

Leeanne (Hester) Mako

In May, Leeanne earned her Master's degree in Nursing from The Ohio State University. With this degree, she will begin to work as a Nurse Practitioner.

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Bobby Jones



Photo: S. Weber

On May 21st at 4:54am at Riverside Hospital, Hazel Mae Jones arrived to meet her happy parents, Bobby Jones and Sarah Weber. She weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 20 1/2 inches.

Class of 2011

Allison Dean

In the spring, Allison Dean earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Substance Misuse and Addiction from The Ohio State University in the College of Social Work. She works as a Mental Health Specialist in the Behavioral Health Pavilion at Nationwide Children's Hospital.

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Sam Kukor

This spring, Sam Kukor graduated from Ohio University with two bachelor's degrees in Wildlife Conservation Biology and French. Currently, he is preparing for graduate school. Congratulations, Sam!

Class of 2014

John Faller

In July, John Faller, now at Denison University, was named to the North Coast Athletic Conference Academic Honor Roll for 2019-2020 school year. John earned this honor for having a cumulative grade point above 3.50 and being an active member of varsity basketball roster.

Class of 2020

John "JJ" Holonitch

After graduating from SJMS last spring, JJ became a freshman at the Graham School. For September, JJ earned 3 Red Dragon Awards, which represent their Habits of Learning. He earned 2 "Self-Directed Dragons" and 1 "Persevering Dragon."