

# The St. Joan of Arc Blade

*"Hold the cross high so I may see it through the flames!"*

October 27, 2021

Edited By: Charlotte Clinnin

## DuPage County Vaccinations

By: Jack Getz



DuPage County reopened a large-scale vaccination clinic on Wednesday, Oct. 14, to administer booster doses of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine. In DuPage County so far there have been 107,000 cases and 1,459 deaths from COVID-19. Since the beginning of Covid, the US has had nearly 740,000 deaths resulting from Covid. The average death per month in the US is 49,000, the highest worldwide. The vaccination center at the county fairgrounds in Wheaton will offer boosters by appointment only three days a week. Also, people seeking their first dose of the vaccine will be able to receive it at the fairgrounds. Those seeking booster shots should bring a COVID-19 vaccine card showing that they received a second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine at least six months ago. Booster shots are available for the following eligible groups: anyone 65 and older; residents of long-term care facilities; adults who have underlying medical conditions; and adults who work or live in settings that put them at high risk of COVID-19 exposure or transmission. Healthcare workers, firefighters, police and teachers are in that category.

## What's Happening at SJA?

By: Audrey Olejnik

On September 24, 2021, the SJA pizza party was brought back! Run mostly by eighth graders, there were many fun games for kids to play. The activities varied from plinko, to face painting, and dunking the eighth grade boys in the dunk tank. Although there was a bit of rain, the pizza party was a great success!

A week later, on October 1st, we had our first official Faith Families! This year, the eighth graders took the lead, presenting a slideshow on saints and the Catholic Social Teachings. After that, they passed out cards to color which were then delivered to the elderly.

The student council set up two fun accessory days this October. On Thursday the 14th, we had a pink day in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and on Friday the 29th, we will be having a Halloween accessory day.

On October 19th, grades 6th-8th had the opportunity to audition for the school play, Annie, and the cast list was released on Friday, October 22. Our lead, Annie, will be played by Sophia Costello and Lily Jackson!



## Hot Lunch is Back!

By: Owen Park



Recently, people's favorite thing about school has come back, and that would be hot lunch. A few weeks ago, the hot lunch menu was passed out to everyone in SJA and the menus had one major change to it. That change included everyone's favorite, Chick-fil-A, which included an 8-piece nugget bowl, crispy or grilled, with fries and sauces. To add on, people are now able to sit next to and across from each other in the PAR, but still have to keep a distance of 3 feet. But besides that, lunch has returned back to normal.

## Teacher Spotlight

By: Cullen Larkin

Mrs. Flynn is currently a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at SJA. She attended Mother McAuley High School on Chicago's southside, received her bachelor's degree from Illinois State University in Bloomington, Illinois, and her master's from Chicago State University. Mrs. Flynn said she loves to scrapbook, go out with friends, and read in her free time. The thing she said she loves most about SJA are the beautiful children who she enjoys teaching. Mrs. Flynn decided to teach after years of being a babysitter, a summer counselor, and a swimming instructor in high school. She said during this time, she fell in love with teaching kids. She's been teaching 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> grades for 15 years now. Her favorite Halloween candy is a toss-up between Reese's and Twix.



## Starbucks Recommendations

By: Leah Kreller and Sophia Hillebrand

This week we went to Starbucks and tried some of our friends' favorite drinks. Recommended to us by Owen Park, was a peach green tea with one sugar and no ice. This drink was extremely peachy and had a slight hint of tea flavor which was not very noticeable. If we were to order this drink again we would not ask for extra sugar, because combined with the peach it tasted like a melted dum dum peach lollipop, and that was too sugary for our preference. If you don't like sugary or fruity flavored drinks then we don't recommend you order this, but if you're looking for a drink with no coffee, but lots of sweetness then you should definitely try this. Overall we rate this drink a 9/10.



Grace Walsh suggested we try a vanilla bean frappuccino. This drink was very simple and mirrored a plain vanilla shake. We rate this drink a 8/10.

Recommended to us by Jack Bratthaur was a dragon fruit refresher. Not too good in our opinion, but many others do like it, 1/10. Cullen Larkin recommended we order hot chocolate with extra whipped cream. It was very sweet and had lots of chocolate flavor. We recommend ordering this drink in the winter to warm you up. We give it an 8/10.

Recommended to us by Ellie Solano was a chai tea latte. This drink was chilled and very refreshing. The chai tea latte had lots of different spices that tasted similar to those of pumpkin pie. If you enjoy drinks with lots of different flavors then this drink is for you. We would definitely order again. 9/10

## Sports

By: Lucas Kohlmeyer and Sam Larson



The 7th and 8th grade combined boys' team, pictured above, won the 8th Grade Blue Division DuPage Parochial League volleyball championship on Sunday, Oct. 24 in a rousing two-game match. The boys defeated Sacred Heart 26-24 and 26-24. In the first round of the playoffs, the 8th-grade boys, the 5th, 6th, and 7th-grade girls each won and advanced to round two. Sadly though, the 8th-grade girls were eliminated by St. James ending their volleyball careers at SJA. The 5th and 7th-grade girls then proceeded to lose in the semi-finals. The 6th grade girls, however, finished in second place, losing in the championship match to St. Scholastica. Overall, St. Joan of Arc teams finished the regular season in fourth place out of the 15 teams that competed.

## Cross Country

Our 6th grade boys finished 1st in the AA division led by Jack DeCoste who ended up in 20th place among all the divisions. The 5th Grade boys took 2nd place in the AA division paced by Josh Kroupa who finished in 7th place overall.

## Funny Words

By: Sam Larson

### Biblioklept

This refers to a person who steals books.

Greek "Biblio" meaning book and "Kleptes" meaning thief

### Fuddy-duddy

A person who is super old-fashioned and doesn't want anything to do with modern trends would be called this. Unknown origin

### Flibbertigibbet

A silly or talkative person From Middle English word flepergebet, meaning "gossip" or "chatterer"

### Jellygraph

old device for copying that used a plate of jelly invented in Russia in 1869

### Hopsack

rough-surfaced loose fabric the term comes from the end-of-the-Nineteenth-century-English hop-sack, the sack for hops

## Halloween Comic

by Mia Krezel



## Oh The Places You Can Go

By: Elizabeth Walsh

### Fiji

The capital of Suva

Population- 896,444

Continent- Oceania

President- Jioji Konrote

Languages Spoken- English, Fijian and Hindi



## Junior High's Favorite Halloween Candy

By: Alex Macdiarmid

I asked the eighth grade what their favorite Halloween candy was and here are the results:

1. Twix
2. 100 Grand
3. Hershey Chocolate Bars
4. Snickers
5. Nerd Ropes

## Jokes

By: Lucas Kohlmeyer

Yesterday I saw a guy spill all his Scrabble letters on the road. I asked him, "What's the word on the street?"

Never break someone's heart. They only have one. Break their bones instead. They have 206 of them.

What do ghosts wear when their eyesight gets blurred?

### Spooktacles.

What can you catch from a vampire in winter?

### Frostbite

What is never the right thing to do?

### The left thing

