



Pope John Paul II HIGH SCHOOL

Pope John Paul II High School Weekly Newsletter

[CLICK HERE FOR OUR SEPTEMBER CALENDAR](#)

President's Office

Excitement is in the air at PJP as we open the 2023-24 school year with one of the largest freshmen classes in years. Many factors contributed to this success including the growth of the tax credit program at PJP. Through the PA tax credit program, you can provide financial support for PJP instead of giving it to Harrisburg. A representative from PJP would welcome the opportunity to sit down with you so you can find out more about this tax credit program and see if it is right for you. Email the school President at vcazzetta@pjphs.org to set up a meeting. More Information about the PA Tax Credit Program is on the PJP web site under Support PJP.

Principal's Office

We are eagerly awaiting the return of all our students to the building! Please check the online calendar and carefully read through this document to help you navigate through the first week of school. The Freshmen class will have their first full day of classes on Wednesday, September 6th. They do not report to school again until Monday, September 11th when we welcome back the entire student body for their first full day of classes together. Sophomore and Junior students report for their special day on Thursday, September 7th and Seniors report for their opening day on Friday, September 8th.

Panthers' Learning Center

A new school year is a perfect time for students to reflect on their own learning, organization, and study styles. Now that the year has begun, we encourage you to work with your student on:

- Creating an organization system that may include color-coded folders and notebooks or an accordion file to store handouts.
- Maintaining a daily planner to record assignments and then using it as a homework checklist.
- Communicating with teachers frequently with questions they might have about course material or assignments.
- Checking Schoology, PowerSchool, and email daily to ensure that your student has all the information they need to be successful.

The Panthers' Learning Center is open from 2:30-4:00 PM for students to study after school, and students can request study time using [this form](#) at least one day in advance.

Mr. Rogers is willing to meet with students to help them work toward their academic goals this year! He can be reached at jrogers@pjphs.org.

Academics Affairs



We are so excited to open our doors and welcome or welcome back all of our Golden Panthers to PJP!

We have a graduated return with only certain classes returning on certain days. The first day that ALL of our students will be in the building is MONDAY, September 11th.

WEDNESDAY, September 6th is the first day for all NEW students. This includes the freshman class and any transfer students who would like to have one more day in the building without all of the students present to navigate through the hallways.

THURSDAY, September 7th is the first day of school for all 10th and 11th grade students.

FRIDAY, September 8th is the first day of school for the seniors.

Enjoy these last few days of summer vacation, we are hoping all of your students return to school refreshed and excited for another year of learning and growing together.

Student Affairs

Handbook

Please click [here](#) to read and familiarize yourself with the handbook.

Picture Day is Coming

Picture day for Grade 9 and new students will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2023.
Picture day for Grade 10 & 11 will be held on Thursday, September 7, 2023.

All students are required to be in the winter dress code for pictures; ladies may wear knee highs instead of tights.

Visit mylifetouch.com

Enter your Picture Day ID **EVTMNM3TQ** (Must be typed, not copied)

Order your perfect package— and don't worry about returning anything on Picture Day!

Student Services

Required Forms for 2023-2024

On the first day of school your students will receive a packet of forms requiring completion for the 2022-2023 academic year. Additional Archdiocesan forms requiring your e-signature are on the Power School Portal. **PowerSchool forms are not accessible on the phone app; you must complete them using a desktop or laptop.**

All forms must be completed and returned by Friday, September 15, 2023. Paper forms should be returned to your student's homeroom teacher. Returning these forms in a timely manner will assist us in updating our records. Information provided on these forms may be utilized in the event of an emergency, please provide all information legibly. We ask that these forms remain attached together, we will separate them when they are returned.

Additional copies of these forms can be found on our website under the parents tab.

Student Dress Code Reminders

We firmly believe that attention to personal appearance is an important part of the maturation process for young men and women. Besides wearing the official PJP uniform, all students will be reminded of the following additional dress code details:

- Extreme hairstyles or hair dyes are not permitted for any student, male or female.
- Gentlemen are not permitted to wear ponytails. For gentlemen, hair is to be clean and neat, may not fall below the shirt collar, and must not obstruct or cover their face or eyes.
- Males must be clean shaven. This includes mustaches and sideburns.
- Ladies' skirts can be no shorter than one inch above the knee..
- Body piercings and gauges are not permitted on any student. This includes piercing of the tongue, eyebrows, lips and/or nose.
- No visible tattoos are permitted on any student. Clothing must cover tattoos

We are looking forward to our students returning in September looking their best from the first day of school to the last and we appreciate your parental support. If there are special circumstances where a student can not be in full uniform, please contact Mrs. Stephanie Rowland, assistant Principal for Student Services (srowland@pjphs.org) for a dress code pass.

Phone Calls and Texting During the School Day

At PJP, students are permitted to have cell phones in their possession during the school day. A cell phone can be a useful tool within the classroom, but it can also become a distraction to student learning. Please review our cell phone policy in the 2023-2024 Student Handbook with your student as we work together to maintain an environment conducive to learning. Your parental support is invaluable.

We also respectfully request that parents refrain from calling and texting their students during the school day. If you need to speak to your child or share an important message please contact us and we will make sure that your student receives the message.

If your student communicates with you that they are not feeling well and wants to go home, please ask your student to report directly to our school nurse and our nurse will contact you.

Responsible Use of Technology

At PJP, our students use technology on a regular basis to enhance their learning. School Chrombooks should be utilized for that purpose only and all students should adhere to the Responsible Use of Technology Policy outlined in our Student Handbook.

As our students prepare for college and enter the workforce, we highly encourage our students to leave a positive digital footprint. Even when social media accounts are private, colleges and companies find ways of reviewing what individuals post. The book, Light, Bright, and Polite by Josh Ochs educates students on how to use their social media accounts as a platform to present their strengths rather than a way to post criticisms.

Younger more inexperienced students have the tendency to misuse social media in an inappropriate manner. We encourage both students and parents to read Light Bright and Polite together so that students may create a positive digital identity.

Student Handbook Changes for the 2023-2024 School Year

The following areas have been modified or added in the 2023-2024 Student Handbook. Please view our handbook to review the details. Modifications will be reviewed with students during their class meetings at the beginning of the school year.

**ACADEMIC INELIGIBILITY & INTERVENTION
CELL PHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES
RESPONSIBLE USE POLICY**

Athletics



School Ministry

Office of School Ministry

Freshman Family Communion Breakfast will be held on Sunday, September 24th at 11:00am in the Auditorium. All Freshman Families are encouraged to come together to celebrate the Eucharist and to meet other Freshmen families over a delicious lunch! If you plan to attend please RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/FqRg1FU1HCOGFCq8>

All seniors are invited to attend Kairos LII retreat from October 6th until October 9th. Kairos is a four day three night retreat experience which offers seniors an opportunity to grow in knowledge of a relationship with God, others, and themselves. Seniors are encouraged to fill out the registration form sent to their email and return it to Mr. Koz in the Ministry Office before September 15th. Space is limited!

We warmly invite your students to join Mr. Koz in the Chapel every morning at 7:30am for a meaningful experience: Morning Prayer and Muffins. Liturgy of the Hours: Morning Prayer. Is a beautiful tradition, known as the daily prayer of the Church, creates a special rhythm for each day, infusing it with the power of prayer. It offers God praise and sets the perfect tone for the day ahead, fostering a strong spiritual connection. And, as an added treat, we'll be serving delicious muffins before they head to class. Your student's day will begin on an uplifting note! We're looking forward to having them join us.



**Morning Prayer
and
Muffins**

Start your mornings right with Mr. Koz and Mr. Allen at **Morning Prayer in the Chapel, every day at 7:30am.**

Join us for a moment of blessing your day with prayer before school starts. And guess what? Muffins are waiting for you afterward ! Two perfect ways to fuel up for the day.

Guidance Office

SENIOR PARENTS- *Class of 2024 PARENT BRAG SHEET*

During the college application process, many colleges and/or scholarships require a Counselor Letter of Recommendation. The PJP School Counselors would love to hear from you about your senior student! Just complete the Parent Brag Sheet by Sunday, September 10th, if you have not so already. The Parent Brag Sheet is optional, but a parent/guardian's insight can provide invaluable information that is worth including in a Counselor Recommendation, conveying your child's unique qualities. This information will aid counselors in writing the individualized counselor letter of recommendation.

Please use the link below for Parent Brag Sheet and additional details:

<https://forms.gle/PSWbeZK16aHUWvGr7>

SENIOR PARENT COLLEGE APPLICATION NIGHT- Tuesday, September 19th (Zoom)

Ms. Shoemaker, PJP's College and Academic Resources Specialist, will be leading a virtual Senior Parent College Application Night on Tuesday, September 19th, at 6:30 PM. During this virtual event, parents will receive an overview of the college application process. Additional registration details will be forthcoming.

THE LENNY MARTELLI FOUNDATION PRESENTS

THE SECOND ANNUAL #ONESTEPCLOSER

MUSIC THERAPY NIGHT 2023

SEP. 9  6PM  \$100

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LEARN MORE AT MARTELLIFOUNDATION.ORG



Have a great week!

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