

# GRADES 6-8 NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2023 | TRIMESTER III



- NEEDHAM -  
EST 1954

Forming future leaders of  
faith, virtue and humility.

## GOD BLESS THE SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2023!



## GRADES 6-8: EXPLORATORY WEEK

Exploratory week is a week of fun and learning where all the middle school classes go on separate, extended field trips. It is both a social and academic opportunity for the students, and they look forward to it all year long. It is the classroom outside the classroom. The trips have changed over the years, but the positive experience has remained!



# GRADE 6



The 6th graders had a blast at Exploratory Week! They started at the Museum of Science on Wednesday where they had the opportunity to explore the many exhibits. Some of the favorites include the Arctic Adventure, Science in the Park and the other hands-on exhibits! The students were very impressed with the Mathematica exhibit and enjoyed the variety of exhibits within that room.

The Hall of Human Life had a variety of interactive components that the students engaged in which directly related to the content they were learning in Science class. They ended the trip with a visit to the Planetarium where they had the opportunity to view an amazing show on the Solar System. 6th graders started the year in Science learning about the Solar System and the Sun-Earth-Moon system, so the Planetarium show was engaging and fun for them to see.

## LAUNCH TRAMPOLINE PARK

Saint Joe's 6th grade took over Launch on Thursday, where the students had an absolute blast jumping, playing trampoline basketball, attempting the obstacle courses and playing laser tag. They were having so much fun, they didn't even want to pause for the pizza lunch! The Launch day is definitely a highlight for the 6th grade students.



Lastly, Friday was our service day. Students created blessing bags for the homeless and wrote inspirational cards to our veterans for Memorial Day. In addition, we listened to a guest speaker (Father Rocko) who is a missionary with the Xaverian Fathers. He presented on the Xaverian missions in Sierra Leon. We concluded the day with homeroom competitions in dodge ball. The week was a success from both an educational and school spirit vantage point.





## GRADE 7



The 7th graders had 3 days of adventure away from school this year. The students were an important part of the planning for the week, offering suggestions and helping to do some research. Their week started on Tuesday with a tour of Fenway Park. From the Green Monster to the press box and everything in between, they were able to take in some great views and learn some unique facts about the park's history. From here they went on to enjoy lunch in a small park, followed by a tour of the Mapparium – a three-story-tall globe made of stained glass. It fit perfectly with their social studies curriculum and also gave them the chance to ponder, “How do you see the world?”.

## HALE RESERVATION

Wednesday was spent at Hale Reservation, doing some team building and of course, hitting the tree course. It was great to see all the students working together to solve different problems and it was most impressive to see them fearlessly up on the trees, climbing around!



## STARLAND

Thursday took us to Hanover at the Starland fun park. This place had something for everyone – courts and fields to play games, a game area with laser tag, and outdoor activities, too. The students were lucky enough to have the park to themselves and they made the most of it! Probably their favorite day of the week!

**The week culminated on Friday with a day of mass, service, and competitions. Grades 6, 7 and 8 joined one another for Mass in the morning, then returned to homeroom to assembly blessing bags to be donated to the homeless. From there, students gathered to listen to a missionary, enjoyed a pizza lunch, and spent the afternoon competing against one another in dodgeball. A great day gathered as a community!**



# GRADE 8



Exploratory Week? More like Exploratory Month for the 8th grade. We kicked off May with Law Day at the Dedham Superior Court where the Class of 2023 were honored guests of the Bar Association of Norfolk County to celebrate Law Day at the Superior Court of Norfolk County. After being led by fellow classmate Ashling H. in the Pledge of Allegiance, the 8th graders listened attentively the morning's speeches which touched on many aspects of our Civics curriculum.

## CLASS BONDING

Next, we had two great class bonding days at BodaBorg, a quest experience in Malden and mini golf with ice cream at McGolf in Dedham. Our favorite Head of School treated us to breakfast at Bagel's Best which we enjoyed on the newly completed Needham Common.



## DINNER DANCE CRUISE

The highlight of the week for all was the Dinner Dance Cruise on Boston Harbor. The weather was perfect and the sunset over the city was gorgeous. We all had a fantastic time dancing the night away while cruising the Harbor.



**When brainstorming trips for Exploratory Week, the 8th graders identified a service opportunity as part of their week. We had the opportunity to sort clothing donations at Cradles to Crayons in Newton. Many hands made light work as we opened several dozen bags of clothes and sorted by season and gender.**





# CONGRATS GRADUATES

## SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2023

**2023 Graduate**  
**ZELLA**

High School  
**URSULINE ACADEMY**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**GRADE 7**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**ART & MATH**

SJS Activities  
**FIELD HOCKEY & BASKETBALL**

Favorite Memory  
**DINNER DANCE CRUISE**

**2023 Graduate**  
**LILA**

High School  
**NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**PREKINDERGARTEN**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**GRADE 7 SOCIAL STUDIES**

SJS Activities  
**BASKETBALL**

Favorite Memory  
**WHEN JOHNNY EXPLODED THE MICROWAVE BECAUSE HE FORGOT TO ADD WATER TO HIS RAMEN**

"I am forever grateful for the opportunities this incredible school has given me. I have been able to grow in my faith and find who I truly am as a person."

**2023 Graduate**  
**WESLEY**

High School  
**NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**GRADE 6**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**MATH WITH MR. H**

SJS Activities  
**FIELD DAY**

Favorite Memory  
**LEVEL 99 & BODA BORG**

"Saint Joe's is a fun place to be daily!"

**2023 Graduate**  
**ASHLING**

High School  
**NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**PREKINDERGARTEN**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**6A HOMEROOM**

SJS Activities  
**FIELD HOCKEY, SKI CLUB, LOCKS OF LOVE, STUDENT COUNCIL, LIBRARY MOVIE NIGHTS**

Favorite Memory  
**JOINING THE SKI CLUB AS A NOVICE**

"Saint Joe's truly has prepared me for the real world, I've learned so many life lessons, made so many friends, have had great teachers, & going to miss it! Thank you!"

**2023 Graduate**  
**LAILA**

High School  
**NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**KINDERGARTEN**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**GRADE 7 SOCIAL STUDIES**

SJS Activities  
**FIELD HOCKEY, BASKETBALL, YEARBOOK**

Favorite Memory  
**DINNER DANCE CRUISE**

**2023 Graduate**  
**JOHNNY**

High School  
**NEWTON SOUTH**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**GRADE 6**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**GRADE 6 SCIENCE**

SJS Activities  
**VOLLEYBALL, SPEECH & DEBATE**

Favorite Memory  
**DINNER DANCE CRUISE**

**2023 Graduate**  
**BROOKE**

High School  
**SAINT PAULS (CONCORD, NH)**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**PREKINDERGARTEN**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**6A HOMEROOM**

SJS Activities  
**VOLLEYBALL, SPEECH & DEBATE, MUSICALS, FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVERS**

Favorite Memory  
**GRADE 7 END OF YEAR PARTY**

"I have been grateful to have spent so many years here. I am sad to be leaving and know that this school has well prepared me for my high school years and beyond."

**2023 Graduate**  
**CHARLOTTE**

High School  
**THAYER ACADEMY**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**GRADE 7**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**7TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES**

SJS Activities  
**SPEECH & DEBATE, MUSICAL**

Favorite Memory  
**DINNER DANCE CRUISE**

**2023 Graduate**  
**KRIS**

High School  
**NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**PREKINDERGARTEN**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**ART**

SJS Activities  
**BASKETBALL, BAND & CHOIR**

Favorite Memory  
**GETTING STUCK IN A LOCKER**

**2023 Graduate**  
**BELLA**

High School  
**NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**GRADE 8**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

SJS Activities  
**COLOR WARS**

Favorite Memory  
**DINNER DANCE CRUISE**



**2023 Graduate**  
**ROWAN**

High School  
**ST. SEBASTIAN'S**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**GRADE 7**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**ENGLISH**

SJS Activities  
**SPEECH & DEBATE, LIVE NATIVITY,  
STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Favorite Memory  
**EXPLORATORY WEEK**



**2023 Graduate**  
**KATIE**

High School  
**NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**KINDERGARTEN**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**SOCIAL STUDIES**

SJS Activities  
**BASKETBALL & FIELD HOCKEY**

Favorite Memory  
**HAUNTED HALLWAY**

"Saint Joe's shaped me into  
the person I am today!"



**2023 Graduate**  
**MAEVE**

High School  
**URSULINE ACADEMY**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**GRADE 7**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**GRADE 7 SOCIAL STUDIES**

SJS Activities  
**FIELD HOCKEY, BASKETBALL, YEARBOOK,  
MUSICALS**

Favorite Memory  
**DINNER DANCE CRUISE**



**2023 Graduate**  
**JULIETTE**

High School  
**NEEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL**


Joined Saint Joe's  
**GRADE 7**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**8TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES**

SJS Activities  
**FIELD HOCKEY & BASKETBALL**

Favorite Memory  
**DINNER DANCE CRUISE**

"Saint Joe's is that special & happy place I found. I made  
so many memories & new friends. I'm super happy I was a  
middle schooler at Saint Joe's. Let's go Saint Joe's!!



**2023 Graduate**  
**DOLAN**

High School  
**ST. SEBASTIAN'S**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**GRADE 7**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**RELIGION**

SJS Activities  
**LIVE NATIVITY**

Favorite Memory  
**EXPLORATORY WEEK**



**2023 Graduate**  
**EMILY**

High School  
**NEWTON SOUTH**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**GRADE 6**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**7TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES**

SJS Activities  
**FIELD HOCKEY & BASKETBALL**

Favorite Memory  
**DINNER DANCE CRUISE**



**2023 Graduate**  
**WILLIAM**

High School  
**DEXTER SOUTHFIELD**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**KINDERGARTEN**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS  
WITH MS. CRISPI**

SJS Activities  
**MUSICALS, SPEECH & DEBATE,  
ART SHOW, MOVIE NIGHT**

Favorite Memory  
**LIVE NATIVITY & PAINTING MY GRADE 8 TILE**

"This school taught me leadership & confidence. This has  
been a big part of my life, it has created many bonds for  
me, lifelong friendships, and memories I will never  
forget!"



**2023 Graduate**  
**TAYLOR**

High School  
**MEDFIELD HIGH SCHOOL**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**GRADE 6**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**7TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES**

SJS Activities  
**FIELD HOCKEY, SKI CLUB & MUSICAL**

Favorite Memory  
**DINNER DANCE CRUISE & SKI CLUB**

"Saint Joe's was the best 3 years of my life  
and gave me countless unforgettable memories  
and forever friends."



**2023 Graduate**  
**SHAYLA**

High School  
**CARDINAL SPELLMAN**

Joined Saint Joe's  
**KINDERGARTEN**

Favorite Saint Joe's Class  
**GRADE 6**

SJS Activities  
**FIELD HOCKEY, BASKETBALL,  
MUSICALS, YEARBOOK**

Favorite Memory  
**GRADE 5 MUSICAL - FROZEN**

"I love how Saint Joe's helps me grow in my faith, as  
well as helps me grow to be an independent and kind  
person, when times could get hard."