



# Saint Jude *the* Apostle Catholic School

nurtures *the* formation of saints *and* scholars

**Tails are wagging at Saint Jude School. Our school is proud to announce the arrival of the K-9 Kids Reading Program!**

As part of this program, children in the primary grades will practice their reading skills with the help of highly-trained service dogs from Canine Assistants. Research has demonstrated that there is a definite connection between children and animals; therefore, K-9 Kids capitalizes on this wonderful relationship to enhance reading development.

What a fun way to build overall academic achievement, motivation, self-esteem, and confidence in our new readers.

K-9 Kids Reading Program is offered through Canine Assistants, a non-profit organization that trains and provides service dogs for children and adults who have physical disabilities or other special needs.

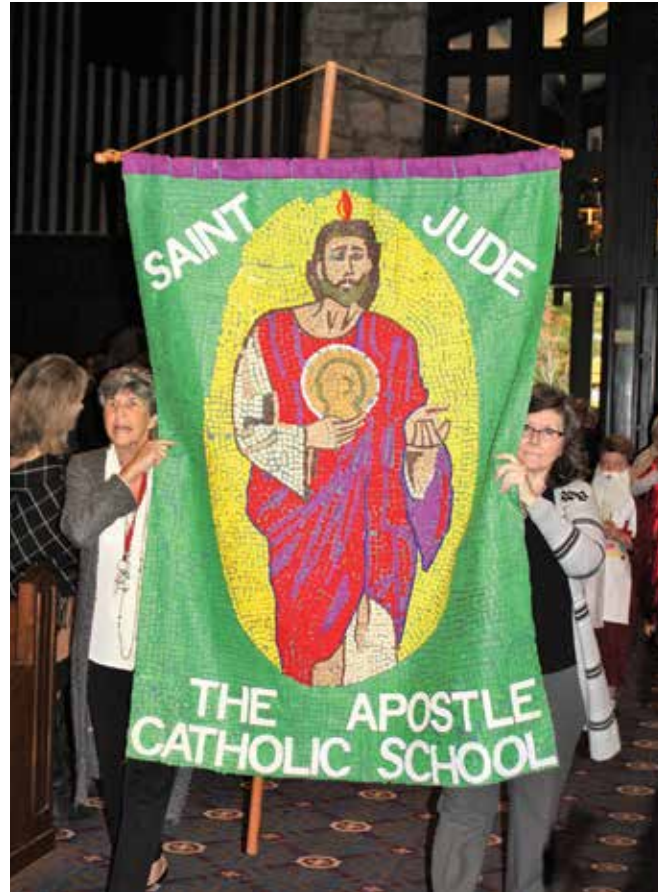
## K-9 Kids Reading Program





# Our Living Saints

Following a brief study of many of the saints, our third graders researched the life of their patron saint, wrote a paper, and made a saint doll. In addition, they did a presentation on their saint using the See Saw App. To culminate the lesson, they dressed as their patron saint for our All Saints' Day school Mass on November 1.



# Blessing of the Pets *and* St. Francis Day

On October 3, students joined in our annual celebration of St. Francis Day. Darling pets of all sizes and species were on hand for an outdoor prayer service followed by a “blessing of the pets.” Later in the day, students in K – 7 added plants to their respective class gardens. These activities communicate the importance of caring for God’s creatures and of being good curators of the earth we all share.





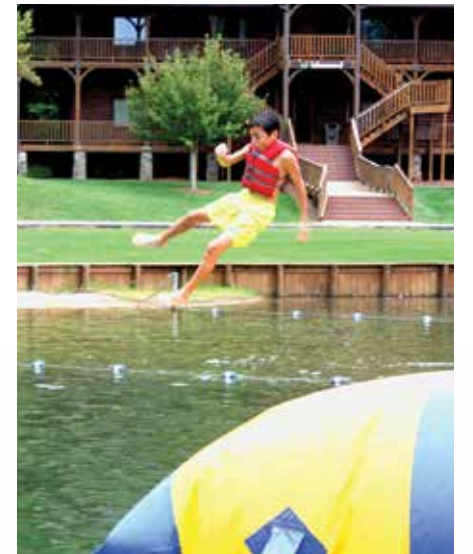
# donuts with dad

On Friday, September 28, our dads joined their kids in the cafeteria and enjoyed coffee and donuts together before school – our annual Donuts with Dad is a popular, “donut miss” morning!



A highlight for many of our middle school students is the overnight retreat combining team building, spiritual formation, and social development in one fabulous trip!

In September, our 8th graders traveled to Woodlands Camp in Cleveland, Georgia, for a one-night retreat. They participated in special faith building exercises, unique team building activities, along with personal reflection opportunities. In addition, there was plenty of time for zip lining, the giant swing, swimming in the lake and the best part, blobbing Coach Fason!



## 8th grade retreat





# Spelling Bee

Machicolation, peregrination, and hygroscopic are just a few of the words our students must learn while preparing for our yearly Spelling Bee. All students in fourth through eighth grades take part in classroom bees with the top two from each class competing against one another to claim the title of Saint Jude’s best speller! We routinely have students advance past the local and regional levels and participate in the state competition.



This year’s winner was sixth grader McKale Stevenson (right), and our runner up was seventh grader, Julia Sophia Wunder (left).

# Kindergarten Toy Drive

The Kindergarten students conducted their annual Toy Drive in support of the Atlanta Children’s Shelter the week of December 10. The Atlanta Children’s Shelter hosts an annual event called Holiday House where homeless families can “shop” for Christmas gifts for their children. Our Kindergarten elves were hard at work each morning collecting toys from every homeroom, and they enjoyed loading up two big SUV’s!



# STREAM Night

On November 6, we hosted our 2nd Family **STREAM** (science, technology, religion, engineering, arts, math) Night. Families rotated through various transportation themed activities; Catapult, Airplanes and Helicopters,

Zip Line, Lunar Landing, and Google Expedition – in an effort to strategize, create, and problem solve to reach the desired outcomes. It was a great family evening for all participants! Save the date for our next Family **STREAM** Night on April 29, 2019.



# STEM Learning

Robotics is an extension of our STEM education here at Saint Jude School! Thanks to the success of our **Day of Giving** held on January 30, 2018 during Catholic Schools Week, we were able to purchase and invest in Robotics kits. Grades K-8 will experience Lego Robotics activities using the Wedo 2.0 and Mindstorms EV3 throughout the school year.







# Saint Jude *the* Apostle Catholic School

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## Advancement Updates

We kicked off our 2018-2019 Annual Fund campaign with our “Chastain” Night event on September 15. Over 200 parents and staff members attended a fun night under the stars on the SJA soccer fields with live music from the Stephen Lee Band.

The Annual Fund allows us to continue to enhance excellence in all areas of academics, technology, and our school facilities. Our goal is 100% parent participation – Annual Fund payments are accepted through June 30, 2019.

We rely on the generosity of parents, grandparents, faculty, staff, parishioners, alumni, and friends of the Saint Jude School to support our Annual Fund.

*Please consider making a gift today!*

**[www.saintjude.net/Giving/Donate](http://www.saintjude.net/Giving/Donate)**

## Upcoming Dates

# 2019

### **Sunday, January 20:**

Archdiocesan MLK celebration  
at St. Peter Claver

### **Monday, January 21:**

MLK Holiday

### **Sunday, January 27 to Friday, February 1:**

Catholic Schools Week

### **Monday, February 4:**

2019 – 2020 Saint Jude  
School Applications due

### **Friday, February 15:**

Noon Dismissal

### **Monday, February 18:**

Presidents' Day Holiday

### **Saturday, March 9:**

Archdiocesan Music Festival  
at Blessed Trinity

### **Saturday, March 23:**

Advancement Fundraiser  
(details announced soon)

### **Saturday, April 13:**

Archdiocesan Art Show at  
St. Joseph's Catholic School

### **Thursday, May 2:**

First Grade Play

### **Friday, May 10:**

Grandparents' Day

### **Saturday, May 11:**

First Holy Eucharist at  
Saint Jude Church

### **Saturday, May 18:**

Family to Family Picnic/Mass

### **Monday, May 20:**

8th Grade Graduation

### **Tuesday, May 21:**

Alumni luncheon for all  
graduating high school  
seniors who attended  
Saint Jude School