

# FEBRUARY 2022

## CAMPUS Connections

 SAINT JOHN PAUL II  
CATHOLIC ACADEMY

### Catholic Schools: Faith, Excellence, and Service!

National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. The theme for the National Catholic Schools Week 2022 is *"Catholic Schools: Faith, Excellence and Service."* This week, all of our campuses will observe the annual celebration week with Masses, open houses and engaging activities for students, families, parishioners and community members.

Faith, Excellence and Service are the hallmarks of Catholic schools and considered gifts given to each of us from our loving God. Each year, SJPIICA students give over 4000 hours of service. Our projects include feed, clothing and toiletries for shelters and veterans, visit the elderly, creating cards for the sick, collect clothes for the needy, tutoring, send messages to our troops and help at home! Even during COVID-19, our students serve others!

### SJPIICA and Catholic Education Track Record

Catholic schools are the largest private educator of children in this country. Research shows that Catholic school students test higher than their public and charter school peers.

**The graduation rate for Catholic high schools is 97%, with 96% of students going on to post-secondary education, 92% to four-year colleges.**

**30% of students in the Archdiocese who attend Catholic schools are not Catholic.**

**60% of Catholic schools are in urban settings, and the schools are open to all families who are interested in quality Catholic education.**

### Excellence:

SJPIICA students are showing great growth in our MAP testing. Our MAP testing provides a personalized assessment of each student's growth. Our teachers are personalizing their instruction for each student!

**80% of our classrooms have scored above that National Mean on our MAP testing**

**Over 91% of early childhood students are ready or advanced for Kindergarten and first grade**

**Over 50% of our students are accepted into exam schools.**

**100% of our 8th graders are accepted into Catholic high schools. Our students are learning!!**

Each day during this week, we will celebrate a vital part of our Catholic community with all Catholic schools in the United States:

**Sunday:** Our Parishes

**Monday:** Our Community

**Tuesday:** Our Students. Plus SJPIICA will participate in Giving Tuesday! Use this link to participate:

<https://www.sjp2ca.org/support-us/>

**Wednesday:** Our Nation

**Thursday:** Vocations

**Friday:** Our faculty, staff and administrators

SJPIICA is preparing well rounded, faith filled and academically prepared young men and women for the future! Please share our great story and your experience to families who may not realize the gift of a Catholic Education!

Please follow us on social media and share with your friends and family!

Instagram: @sjp2ca

Facebook: Saint John Paul II Catholic Academy

Twitter: @sjp2ca

Thank you for your continued support of SJPIICA.

**Kate Brandley**, Regional Director



**Catholic Schools**  
**Faith. Excellence. Service.**

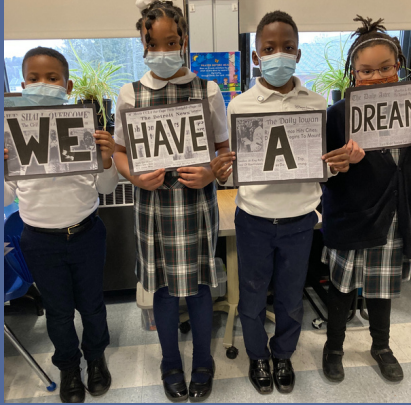
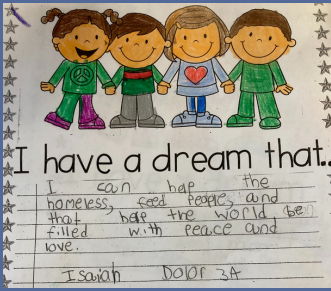
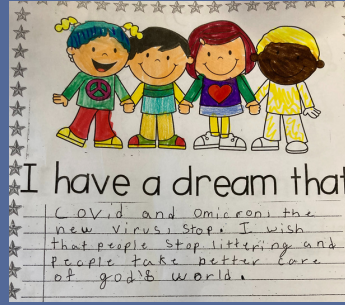
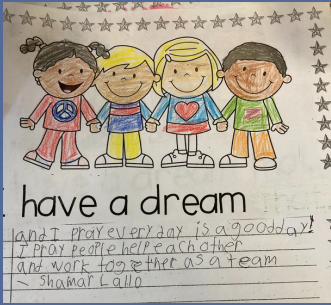
*Where students are known, loved and called to excellence.*

*Where students become leaders with faith and values.*

*Where students succeed with outstanding academics*

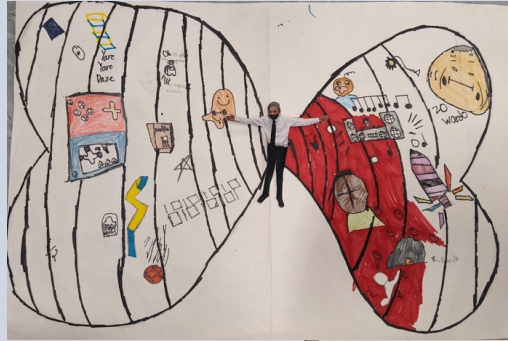
*Where students thrive in a safe and diverse community.*

# Lower Mills News



Being a christian is pure and simple. It's all about the life you live and the "Golden Rule," Always treat others as you would like to be treated! In our 3rd grade class we live by that each day and try to make the world a better place for all, and to show God our appreciation for all he has given us. As we celebrate Martin Luther King this week we discussed how we could make a change with a dream. Answers varied but were all relatively alike: praying and caring for one another and the world, stopping disease, hunger, and war. One student's dream is to stop polluting so animals will not go extinct. Another's dream was that more people prayed and had faith in God, because if we did there wouldn't be as much anger and hatred. We would be taking better care of one another. The world would be a more peaceful and loving place with God as our Father! One good deed leads to another, or in other words, always pay it forward!

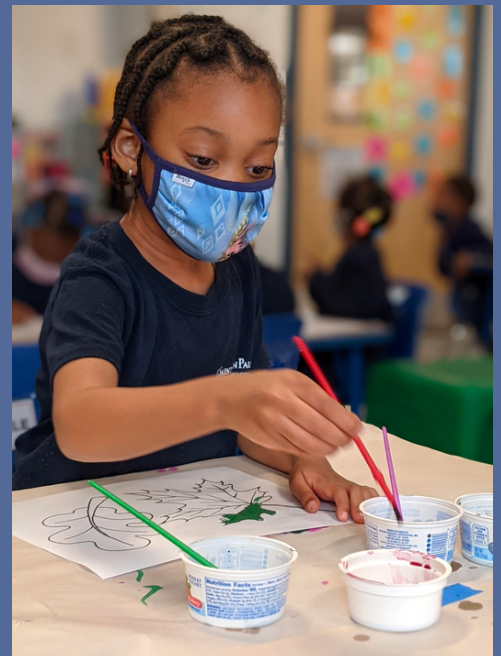
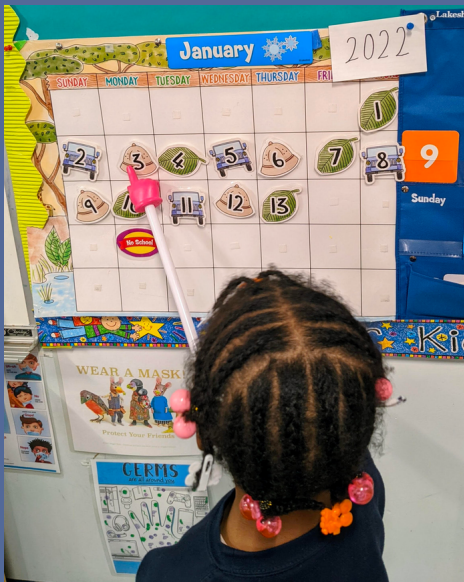
Lower Mills Grade 6 students have been hard at work on an interactive drawing project in class. This project is inspired by artist Kelsey Montague, who is known throughout the world for her interactive murals that we can pose and interact with. She has created murals in many cities across the country and the world. Each mural she paints typically incorporates something that represents the city in which it is being painted. Sixth grade students were asked to create a drawing that they would interact with. Their drawing needed to incorporate things that represent them. Students are in the finishing steps of this project and they are looking forward to seeing how each person has chosen to interact with their drawing. We are so proud of our creative and inspiring artists at Lower Mills!





# Lower Mills News

Our students in K1C have been busy in this new year with the Opening a World of Learning (OWL) and Building Blocks Curricula. The class recently finished the OWL unit on Wind and Water. One activity from this unit is based on Jan Brett's picture book, "The Mitten," which is based on a folk tale. The tale begins with a boy named Nikki begging his grandmother for a pair of white mittens, which the grandmother warns will get lost in the snow. The children in K1C acted out the story of "The Mitten;" you can judge for yourself whether our Nikki's mitten is visible in the snow. Our current OWL unit, The World of Color, must be my favorite of the six units. Among other activities, we work with primary and secondary colors in paint, experimenting with creating "new" colors. These projects are always popular with the children, taking advantage of their natural curiosity. For Building Blocks, our class has been counting up to the date each day as well as newly counting to 100! We always incorporate movements, such as clapping, marching in place, or patting our heads, into our counting practice. The daily Calendar Helper chooses the specific action. It has been so rewarding to see how much the students have improved since September, and we're looking forward to the rest of our school year.





# Columbia News

One chilly January morning PK extended our choice time and worked together to create a dinosaur habitat. We have been learning about Penguins and Polar Bears and the elements in their habitats and one student, while playing with the blocks, asked about a dinosaur's habitat. We took advantage of the teachable moment, switched gears and followed the interest of the children. We looked in some books and on the internet to explore what life was like long ago when the dinosaurs roamed the earth. We then set out with paper, scissors and tape to turn our blocks into Dinosaur land. The children fringed green paper for the trees, cut blue paper for a water source and one friend created a volcano complete with lava. The Finishing touch was a bright orange sun complete with rays. The best part was watching the class work together peacefully to create something wonderful. It was a great morning of creative cooperative play. We can't wait to see where the learning brings us next.



2.9B has been learning about Wind and Water this month. Students made pinwheels and painted in the style of Gilberto and the Wind by Marie Hall Ets. The snow day gave us a great opportunity to talk about things we like to do in the snow. Some favorite activities included making snowmen and throwing snowballs!





## K1 Celebrates the Feast of the Epiphany

On Thursday, January 6th, students at SJP celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany. Students in K1 learned about the Three Kings who visited Jesus and the journey they embarked on to find him and created their own king crowns. The Epiphany reminds us of our journey in faith everyday!



## PreK Celebrates MLK Day & Dr. King's Legacy

Students in PreK celebrated diversity, community, and togetherness as we entered MLK Day. Students read "Last Stop on Market Street," an inclusive story about empathy, kindness, and finding beauty in our differences. Students created beautiful artwork emphasizing peace and togetherness in Dr. King's memory.





## Winter Clubs off to a Great Start!

After school clubs are off and running at the Neponset Campus! Girl's basketball clinic has been practicing dribbling drills in the gym, Lego club members imagine and create masterpieces, and students in the dessert club prepare delicious banana splits and other yummy snacks! Other clubs include science club, karate, musical theater, and sports club! So many fun after school activities help to extend our truly robust school day!





# Artists of the Month



Brooklyn Torres,  
Grade 5  
*Neponset Campus*



Madison Centeio,  
Grade 2  
*Lower Mills Campus*



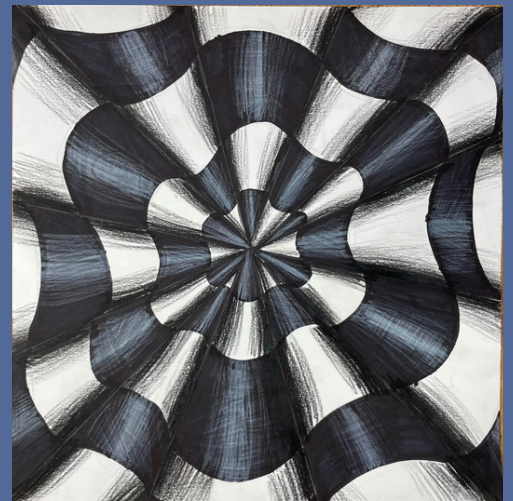
Noah Constantin,  
Grade 5  
*Lower Mills Campus*



Rocco Mullane,  
Grade 1  
*Neponset Campus*



Venus Zhang,  
Grade 6  
*Columbia Campus*



Grace Torres,  
Grade 5  
*Columbia Campus*



# Notes from the Business Office

## **FINANCIAL AID:**

Financial aid applications for the 2022-2023 school year are now open. We will be accepting applications until **April 15th**, no late applications will be accepted. There will be a change in documentation required for this year, we will be requiring 2020 tax forms and 2021 W2 forms.

We will be available in the business office for assistance by appointment only on the following days:

*Monday-Friday 9:00am-3:00pm*

*Tuesday and Thursday 3:30pm-6:00pm*

If you would like to schedule an appointment or have any questions regarding your application, please contact the business office at:

Mark Hegarty [mhegarty@sjp2ca.org](mailto:mhegarty@sjp2ca.org) 617-265-0019 x7004

Judith Walker [jwalker@sjp2ca.org](mailto:jwalker@sjp2ca.org) 617-265-0019 x7202

## **VOUCHERS:**

If your voucher is updated or renewed by your ABCD facility, please make sure that you fax, or email a copy of it to the Business Office.

If you would like to make an appointment with the Business Office, please call or email [jwalker@sjp2ca.org](mailto:jwalker@sjp2ca.org) to make your appointments.

## **CONTACT US:**

Tuition Payments: 617.265.0019 x 7004, 7202 or [jwalker@sjp2ca.org](mailto:jwalker@sjp2ca.org) or

[mhegarty@sjp2ca.org](mailto:mhegarty@sjp2ca.org)

Vouchers: 617.265.0019 x 7004, 7202

[jwalker@sjp2ca.org](mailto:jwalker@sjp2ca.org) or [mhegarty@sjp2ca.org](mailto:mhegarty@sjp2ca.org)

Lunch Verification: 617.265.0019 x7007

[kduggan@sjp2ca.org](mailto:kduggan@sjp2ca.org)

Financial aid: 617.265.0019 x 7004, 7202

[jwalker@sjp2ca.org](mailto:jwalker@sjp2ca.org) or [mhegarty@sjp2ca.org](mailto:mhegarty@sjp2ca.org)