

# MARCH 2021

CAMPUS  
*Connections*

 SAINT JOHN PAUL II  
CATHOLIC ACADEMY

## A Message From The Regional Director

Dear Parents,

Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning" (Joel 2:12, Lectionary)

March is a month that holds one of the holiest times of the liturgical year, Lent. The purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer through prayer, doing penance, repentance of sins, almsgiving, atonement, and self-denial. This event is observed in the Anglican, Eastern Orthodox, Lutheran, Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches. It is a 40 day time of spiritual renewal and retreat through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It is a wonderful time to slow down and reflect on God's place our lives and how we live out His love for us.

COVID has truly disrupted our lives, yet it has reminded us of the importance of caring for one another. This Lent let us be intentional about loving those who are on the fringe of society, the sick, the lonely and those who are often overlooked. To remember to be the eyes, ears, arms and heart of Jesus each day to those around us and to be peacemakers and the light of Christ. Our students and staff will give witness to God's love through their actions of spiritual and corporal works of mercy. We will focus on our renewal through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Please join us as we journey in the footsteps of Christ through the Prayer of St Francis and our activities.

Sr Gail Donahue, our campus minister, shares these words, "The book of Deuteronomy 30:19-20 asks us to choose life and hold fast to God. When we hold fast to God we choose not to be separated from God, the one who embraces us with love and compassion. As the days of March proceed, may you hold fast to your Loving God with a trusting heart, ready to listen to God's voice, recognizing you are in God's care".

**Kate Brandley**, Regional Director

*Lord, make me an instrument of  
your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me  
sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.  
O divine Master, grant that I  
may not so much  
seek  
to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to  
understand,  
to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are  
pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are  
born to eternal  
life.  
Amen.*

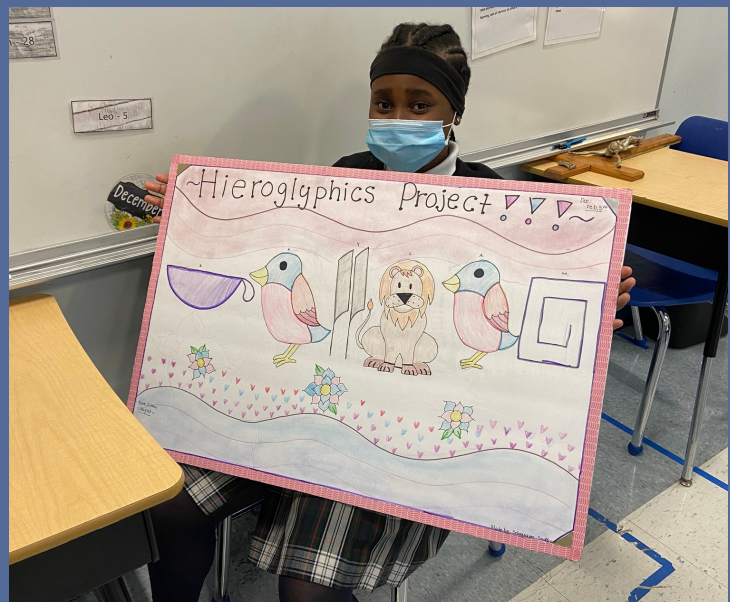
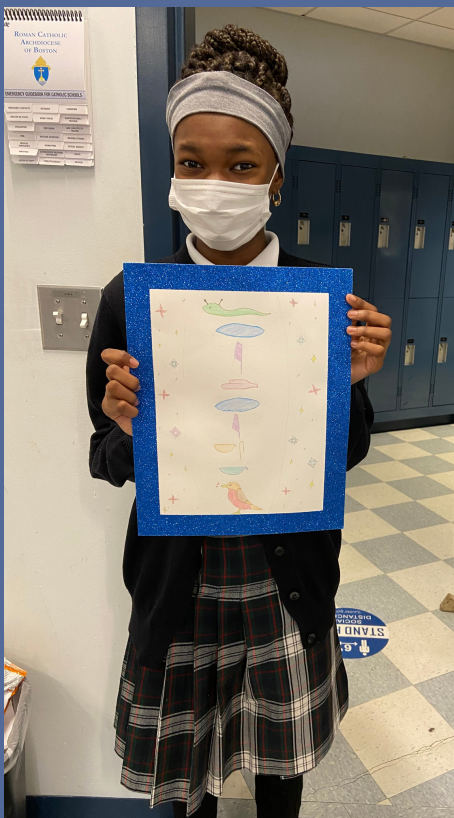
# Lower Mills News



The 2.9 class has been very busy learning many new things such as letters, numbers, shapes, and colors. In addition to all this, they have also been learning about the Church, Church Leaders and their roles. They can identify their "Church Friends" in pictures, and, can also explain their "jobs." For example, they know Pope Francis lives in Rome and takes care of all the Churches, Cardinal Sean lives in Boston and takes care of the Churches in Boston, and that our school is named after Saint John Paul. They even know that Father Jack lives across the street at Saint Gregory's, and when asked what they know about our very own Sister Gail, they overwhelmingly respond with "We Love Her!"

This month 7th grade students at Lower Mills have been working on parts of a circle in mathematics and Egyptian culture in World History. We learned about finding the circumference and area of a circle. Also, we have identified how circumference and area of a circle can be compared to another type of shape. We have worked through visuals and representations of breaking down a circle to make it look like another polygon. #LowerMillsLEADERS in grade 7 have also completed a Hieroglyphics Project. This project included their name written out on a poster

board in Hieroglyphics. On top of this project, we explored the Egyptian Culture through an interactive website. They were able to explore tombs and other types of architecture, rather than just read about them. The interactions and visuals have been a highlight throughout the school year!





The week before vacation in PreK, we read some Valentine stories, practiced making patterns and talked about being kind to others and making people happy. We completed our Black History Month door. Our class chose to highlight Amanda Gorman, so we used a line from her poem The Hill We Climb to discuss how we can make people happy and “be the light.” On Friday everyone wore red for Valentines Day and Asian New Year. Although we couldn’t celebrate Valentines Day in the usual way, the students did a sorting activity with Conversation Hearts and we did some exercises and movement to valentine songs. The children went home with a small treat in their backpacks.



In K1A this month we celebrated Valentine’s Day and talked about the different ways to show kindness. We discussed the origin of the first Valentine and how it is a way to keep in touch with friends and family. We read our religion lesson about Valentine’s Day and love. Then we created our own cards to give to family members! Students made card holders and were able to take home cards from their classmates before the break.

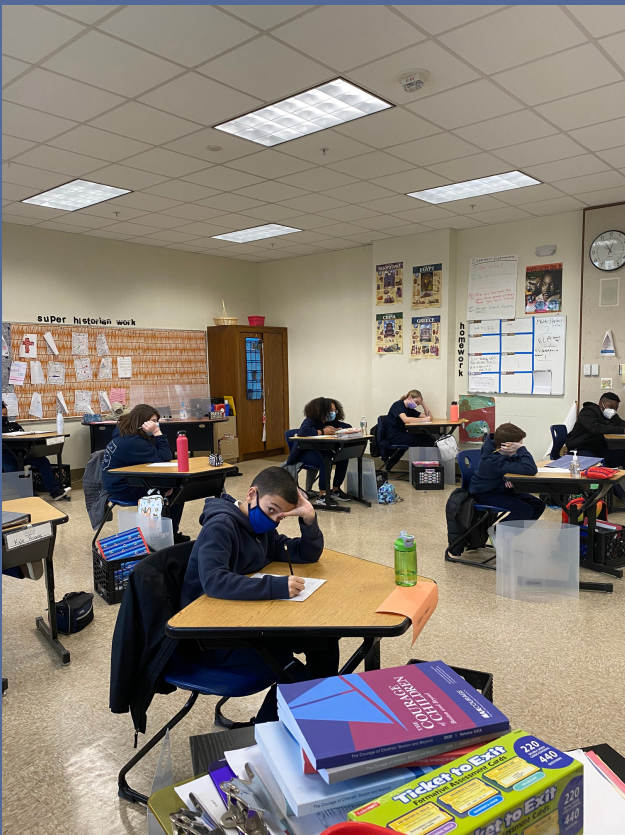


This year it is especially hard to come up with different ways to show friendship and love without touching or sharing. Students learned to exchange compliments and use kind words. As a class we demonstrated elbow touches, and toe touches, parallel play/dancing as ways to still have a connection.





Students at SJP2CA Neponset celebrated their 100th Day of School! K2B created necklaces with 100 Fruit Loops, 2A solved 100 math problems in class, and First grade had fun dressing up as Senior Citizens! The Kindergarten class at Neponset celebrated with lots of fun and mathematical activities. We created necklaces made out of 100 fruit loops, we created a poster of 100 animals, we did 100 body moves, and finally we had a show and tell of the 100 items we brought in from home. We are 100 days smarter!

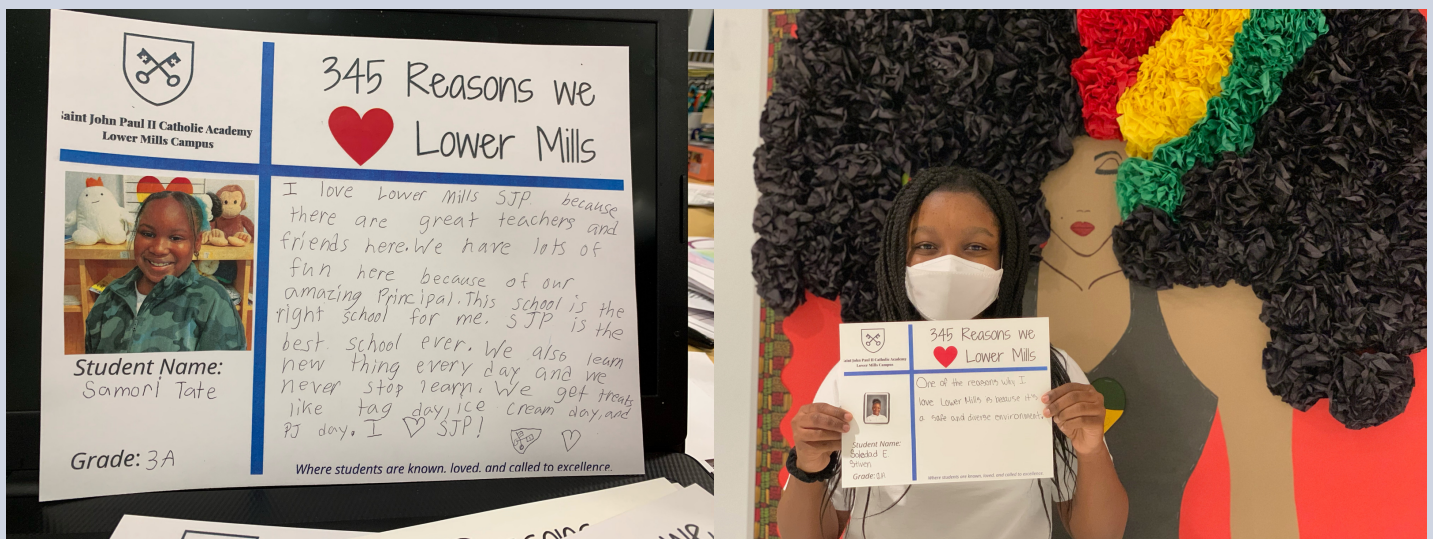
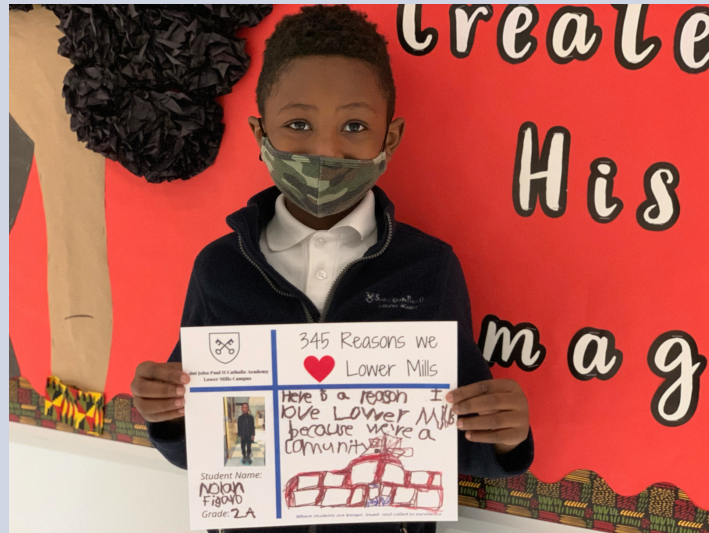
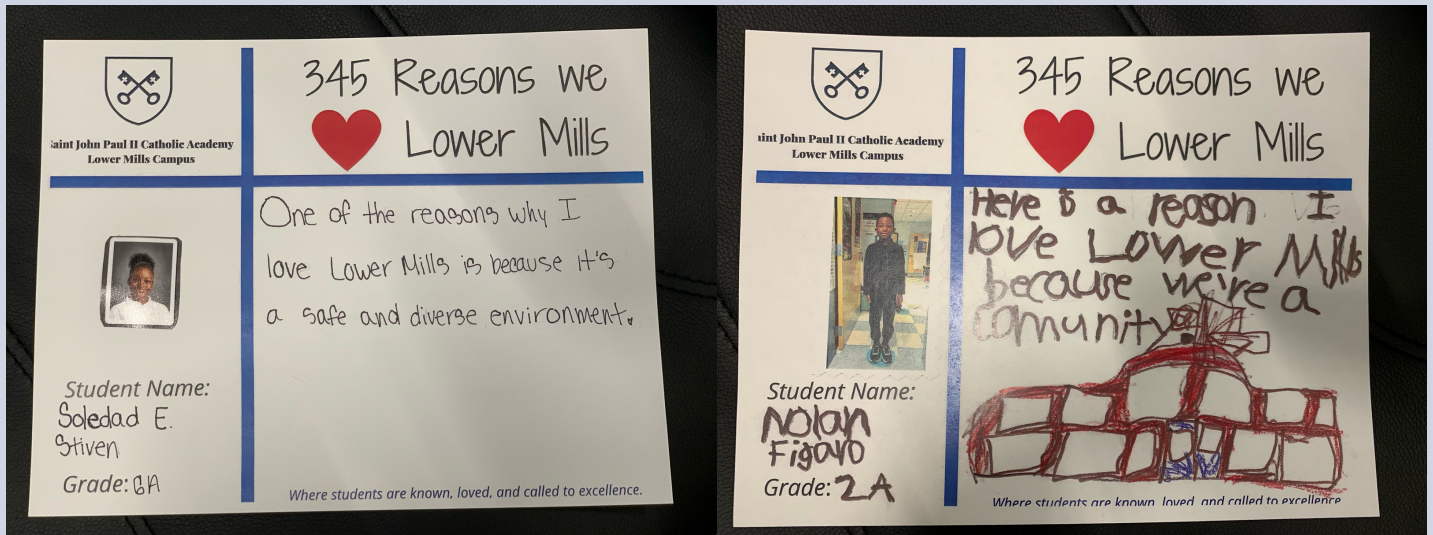


Grade 6 students participated in the Max Warburg Courage Curriculum. Students were invited to read novels with a focus on courage. Students then participated in a thoughtful exploration of their personal experiences of courage in their own lives. They wrote essays detailing their experiences and lessons learned! Neponset student writers have won this International Writing competition for the past 5 years! The winning essays are published in the annual publication of The Courage of Children. We are awaiting the announcement of the international fellow winners for 2020-2021!



# Why We Love Our School!

Lower Mills students shared the reasons why they love SJP2CA, check them out below!





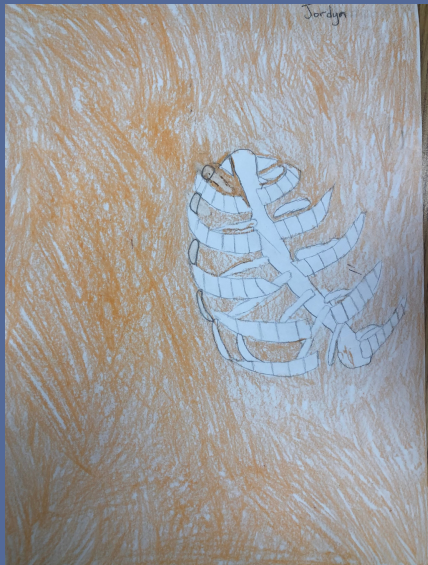
# Artists of the Month



Aviila Moore, Grade 2  
*Lower Mills Campus*

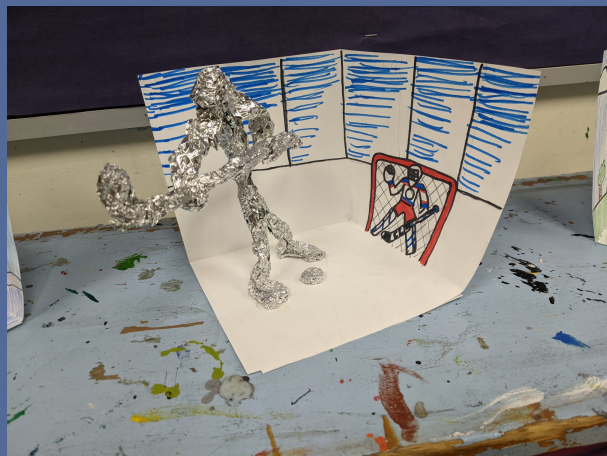


Gael Tiene, Grade 5  
*Columbia Campus*



Jordyn Peters, Grade 5  
*Columbia Campus*

Niyah Nelson,  
Grade 6  
*Lower Mills  
Campus*



Dominic Conte, Grade 7  
*Neponset Campus*



Jacqueline Tran, Grade 1  
*Neponset Campus*



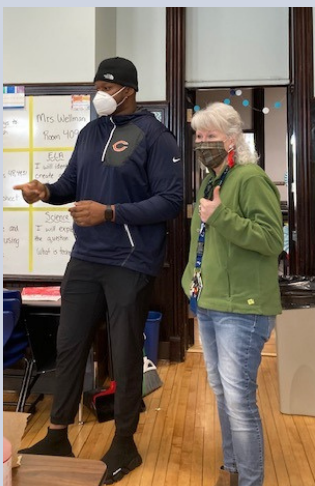
# Alumni Spotlight



Last month, Mrs. Sheridan was pleasantly surprised to be called to the office for a visitor. As she turned the corner, Badara Traore of the Chicago Bears was standing at 6 feet 8 inches waiting to give her a hug, which she promptly broke Covid protocol to do. He had come to visit his old school, and tell Mrs. Sheridan thank you for not giving up on him. She was in shock, since "give up" are not words we recognize here at SJP2CA.



The two spent time reminiscing on Badara's time at SJP2CA, where Mrs. Sheridan remembered him as a gentle young soul with great potential, who knew he wanted to be a football player. She recalled watching him transform from a quiet yet spirited student into a young man with purpose, especially after returning from a trip to where his parents grew up in Africa where he began to understand not taking things for granted and all that everyone was doing to help him achieve his goals.



Badara is extremely thankful for Mrs. Sheridan and SJP2CA for helping to get him to where he is today, and in return he is partnering with the school to give back to students and give inspiration and help them to understand that you really can do anything you put your mind to. Before he left campus, he gave Mrs. Sheridan a Bears jersey, asking if she would be wearing it to Gillette. She responded "of course!" -- it's safe to say she has a new favorite football team!



## Re-Registration is open for the 2020-2021 school year!

Please log into your ParentsWeb account to register. The fee is \$150 for our current students and \$350 for new students to register for next school year.

The tuition rates for the 2021-2022 school year are as follows:

### **K2 - Grade 8**

One child: \$5,500

Additional children \$4,800

### **Early Childhood**

Preschool (Age 2.9) \$8,800 per child

Pre-K (Age 3) \$6,900 per child

K1 (Age 4) \$6,900 per child

We are hosting financial aid open houses at each campus, by appointment only. Appointments are available between 3:00pm and 5:30 pm, please email Ali Foreman at [aforeman@sjp2ca.org](mailto:aforeman@sjp2ca.org) or call the business office to make your appointment. The dates are as follows:

#### ***Columbia:***

Tuesday March 2nd  
Wednesday March 10th  
Thursday March 18th  
Tuesday March 23rd  
Wednesday March 31st

#### ***Neponset:***

Wednesday March 3rd  
Thursday March 11th  
Tuesday March 16th  
Wednesday March 24th  
Thursday April 1st

#### ***Lower Mills:***

Thursday March 4th  
Tuesday March 9th  
Wednesday March 17th  
Thursday March 25th  
Tuesday March 30th

As always, we are available in the Business Office to assist you. Financial aid appointments via Zoom are available, please call (617) 265-0019 ext. 7004 or 7202 to book an appointment. Business Office hours are Monday through Friday 8am to 4pm.

### **The Deadline for Financial Aid Applications is April 15, 2021**

As in years past, the requirements are as follows:

1. The financial aid applicant must claim the student(s) on their tax return and students must be enrolling in grades K2 – 8 to be eligible. We need all families to submit the Grant and Aid application for the students that will attend the Academy even the Pre-K and K1 students. This will help SJPIICA when we apply for grants for education programs, technology, services, etc.
2. The federal tax return and W2's for 2020 must be submitted and/or proof of nontaxable income if not employed.
3. Anyone with a past due SY 20-21 tuition balance will not be awarded financial aid. If you have a past due balance you must reach out to the business office to make a payment arrangement for the balance.

To make an appointment for financial aid assistance or to discuss a payment agreement for your past due tuition please contact Judith Walker at 617-265-0019 x7202 or Mark Hegarty at 617.265.0019 x 7004 or [jwalker@sjp2ca.org](mailto:jwalker@sjp2ca.org) or [mhegarty@sjp2ca.org](mailto:mhegarty@sjp2ca.org)