



Villa Angela-St. Joseph  
HIGH SCHOOL

*Faith. Family. Future.*

# Parent Newsletter

## Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School Mission Statement

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School is a Catholic, comprehensive college-preparatory school rooted in the Ursuline and Marianist traditions and committed to the spiritual, academic and personal growth of each student.



**October 10, 2025**

### Upcoming Events:

- **October 12:** VASJ Fall Open House 12:00-2:00 p.m.
- **October 16:** Senior Sunrise
- **October 17:** NO SCHOOL - Faculty/Staff Retreat Day
- **October 20:** L.I.F.E. All School Event 3:15 p.m.
- **October 21:** Art Club Meeting 3:15 p.m.
- **October 22:** G.E.M. Meeting 3:15 p.m.
- **October 23:** Bishops Mass & Rally - Public Auditorium (More details to follow)
- **October 24:** End of Quarter 1
- **October 31:** Halloween on Campus (more details to follow)
- **November 3:** All Souls Mass 9:30 a.m.  
L.I.F.E. Leaders Meeting 3:15 p.m.
- **November 7:** Goodies with God 7:30 a.m. (Chapel)
- **November 10:** No School - Teacher In-Service Day
- **November 12:** Oarsman Club Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- **November 12-15:** Kairos
- **November 13:** VASJ Entrance Exam 6:00 p.m.
- **November 19:** G.E.M. Meeting 3:15 p.m.
- **November 24:** L.I.F.E. All School Event 3:15 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
- **November 26-28:** Thanksgiving Break

**\*Check the VASJ website for up-to-date athletic events.\***

To view the VASJ calendar: Please visit [www.vasj.com](http://www.vasj.com) and click on News & Events → Calendar.

**\*\*Spirit Store is open 11:30 - 3:30pm When school is in session\*\***

**\*\*Attendance Office 216-481-8414 x207\*\***

**\*\*NO SCHOOL – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17\*\***

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

The Rosary Prayer Service was a wonderful experience this school year as it was last. It took place on Tuesday, 7 October, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The feast commemorates the victory of the Holy League at the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. That victory was attributed to the Blessed Virgin by Pope Pius V, through the collective prayer of the rosary. The whole month of October is time to devote to praying the rosary. We hope our families consider taking an evening or two and praying the rosary together. Thank you to our seniors for leading us in prayer this past Tuesday.

Next week on Friday, October 17, there is a day off school for our Faculty/Staff Retreat Day. It's a time for VASJ's faculty and staff members to pray and reflect on the school year so far and the months and activities ahead.

Mr. Sedmak

[gsedmak@vasj.com](mailto:gsedmak@vasj.com)

## **FROM THE DEAN OF ACADEMICS:**

Our first quarter of school is quickly approaching. It ends on Friday, October 24. Please make sure you are logging into PowerSchool and checking your students progress daily. Report cards will be out by the end of the following week.

Ineligibility for the quarter will be determined by October 31 and communicated to the Athletic Director and club moderators. A student will be deemed ineligible for the entire second quarter if their grade point average is below 1.7 or if the student is not passing five (5) one credit classes or equivalent. Any ineligible student will not be able to participate in any sporting contests or in any activities that occur during the school day.

On Thursday, October 23, the WHOLE school will be attending the Bishops Mass & Rally at Cleveland Public Auditorium.

***This will NOT be a late start day. All students are to be in full dress uniform and in the building by 7:45 a.m. Students will have an early dismissal at 2:00 p.m. that day.*** Think of this as a whole school field trip.

Remember that we do not have school next Friday, October 17. Have a great weekend Vikings!

Mrs. Marxen

[pmarxen@vasj.com](mailto:pmarxen@vasj.com)

## **FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS:**

As Halloween approaches, it is imperative to engage in discussions with your students regarding the prohibition of wearing masks or Halloween makeup on school premises. Notably, young children will be present at our annually scheduled "Halloween On Campus" event, where our seniors participate in costume-based activities to entertain and collaborate with our young ghouls and goblin guests.

It is crucial to emphasize that ONLY SENIORS are permitted to dress up for this day, as it constitutes a community service obligation and a rite of passage for our students. Furthermore, preventing the entire school from wearing costumes and masks serves as a safety measure, enabling faculty, staff, and administrators to readily identify your child without any ambiguity. Students who decide to disobey this policy will face strict penalties that may include suspension.

Lastly, Have you noticed a sweet smell coming from your child's room or person? Chances are, they are not baking cupcakes but may be in possession of a tobacco vape. The use of an e-cigarette is often referred to as "vaping." An [electronic cigarette](#), or e-cigarette, that comes in a variety of sizes and shapes, has a liquid substance to heat, a place to hold the liquid, and a battery. Some e-cigarettes look like pipes or cigars while others may look like USB sticks and tubes known as pens. These devices have no place in our school and I'm sure you would agree that they have no place in your child's room, pocket or purse. In a proactive effort to foster a drug-free learning environment, we are pleased to announce the hosting of a Vape Prevention Event for students and parents. The specific date and time of this event will be communicated at a later date.

Regards,

Mr. Latimore

[ilatimore@vasj.com](mailto:ilatimore@vasj.com)

## **HAPPENINGS IN THE VILLAGE:**

**SENIOR SUNRISE:** On Thursday, October 16 the Seniors will continue the tradition with the Senior Sunrise.

The sun should be rising around 7:20 a.m. Students should arrive at school and meet on the football field at 6:30 a.m. If your student plans to attend, please be aware that they must stay for the entire time and cannot leave after the sunrises even though this is a late start. All students will head to the cafeteria after and wait for the school day to start. Any questions, please contact Mr. Lambo at [plambo@vasj.com](mailto:plambo@vasj.com).

**BISHOPS MASS & RALLY:** On Thursday, October 23 our entire student body will be bussed to the Cleveland Public Auditorium to attend the Bishops Mass & Rally. All students need to be in full dress uniform for this event. We want to make a lasting impression on how great it is to be a Viking.

**\*\*\*THIS WILL NOT BE A LATE START DAY but WILL BE AN EARLY DISMISSAL AT 2:00 p.m.\*\*\***

**SERVICE INFORMATION:** Volunteers are needed for the annual **Alleluia Ball** on **October 25, 2025** from 2:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.! Roles needed include: Greeters, assisting those that need mobility assistance, spotters for auction, and "Hype Team" Email [emaher@vasj.com](mailto:emaher@vasj.com) to sign up and for more info!

8-10 volunteers are needed for the **Our Lady of the Lake Fall Festival** from 3:30-6:30 on **October 19th** at Our Lady of the Lake school. Email [emaher@vasj.com](mailto:emaher@vasj.com) to sign up!

### **FROM THE CAFETERIA: FREE & REDUCED**

**LUNCHES:** The application for free and reduced lunches can be picked up in the front office or it can also be found at <https://vasj.com/cafeteria>. Please click on the link "Free/reduced school meals application" to download and fill out the application. Return the application to school ATTN: Angela Russ. **Even if you received Free/Reduced lunches in the past, you must complete a new application for this school year.** If you have any questions, please contact Tara Reid at 216-481-8414 x159 or email at [treid@avisystems.com](mailto:treid@avisystems.com).

**AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING:** After School tutoring began September 9 and will be offered every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday after school in rooms 303, 310 & 315 from 3:15 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Students can receive help with their studies. Please make sure your student comes prepared and signs in.

### **FROM THE COUNSELING**

#### **DEPARTMENT: NCAA Eligibility Center: ANY JUNIOR**

**OR SENIOR** who is a student-athlete and is thinking about participating in sports at the college level, **MUST** register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. You should create a free Profile Page account if you are thinking of becoming a college-bound student-athlete. By creating an account, you will stay connected & receive the most current information from the NCAA Eligibility Center and it can help you decide what NCAA division might be right for you. Click on the Link for more information: <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/> or click on this video to help answer some of your questions with the recruiting process <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2CKtH6-nfc>

**COLLEGE NOW ADVISOR VISITS:** Our College Now Advisor for VASJ, Chloe Shafer will be at school on the following dates to meet with **SENIOR** students and their parents in person or through a virtual meeting, and over the phone:



**College Now**  
Greater Cleveland  
Developing Tomorrow's Talent Today

October 16 & 30, 2025  
December 4, 2025  
February 19 & 26, 2026

November 6 & 20, 2025  
January 22 & 29, 2026  
March 5 & 12, 2026  
April 16 & 23, 2026

College Now can assist you and your student with the following:

- Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the CSS Profile (if required)
- Exploring available financial aid resources for college, including scholarships, loans, work-study, and private funding
- Interpreting and comparing financial aid award letters
- Recommending students for scholarships administered by College Now (requires Pell-Grant eligibility and specific GPA and ACT/SAT test score guidelines)

To schedule an appointment, go to the electronic sign up at <https://cngc.org/VASJ-CNGC>. This will bring you to the Bookings scheduling page. (Follow the directions on the other side of this handout to schedule your College Now appointment on Bookings.) In the event of a school closure, College Now appointments will be held by phone or through a virtual meeting. You will be contacted via the email or cell number you provided during sign up if your appointment is adjusted in any way.



## WINTER CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS



Freshman



Junior Varsity



Varsity

Basketball Sideline & Competition

Oct 27th-Oct 28th  
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Location:  
Cafeteria

Final Day October 29<sup>th</sup> 5:30 -8:30 PM

 [vasj.cheerleading](https://www.instagram.com/vasj.cheerleading) [cheerleading@vasj.com](mailto:cheerleading@vasj.com)

**FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE:** Payment plans for the 2025-2026 school year have started. If you have not set that up, please do so ASAP as your child's tuition is now delinquent. You can access FACTS payment system by clicking on this link: <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3X1G4>  
Statements are going out this week, be sure to look them over.

## **GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP & PROGRAMS:**

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School accepts the following scholarships through the Ohio Department of Education:

- ❖ Cleveland Scholarship
- ❖ EdChoice and EdChoice Expansion Scholarships
- ❖ Jon Peterson Scholarship
- ❖ Autism Scholarship

Each family MUST renew their scholarship every year! Please visit our [State Scholarship](#) section on our website for the necessary forms to begin your renewal process. The sooner you complete this the better!

If you need assistance or have any questions, please contact Villa Angela-St. Joseph and Scholarships, Mrs. Sharon Taraska 216-481-8414 x210 or by email [staraska@vasj.com](mailto:staraska@vasj.com). Click [HERE](#) for more Information and forms.

**WORK PERMITS:** If you are in need of a work permit, please contact the front office at [nmiller@vasj.com](mailto:nmiller@vasj.com).

**POWERSCHOOL INFORMATION:** Information for gaining access to your students PowerSchool account will be going out next week. We are working on getting everyone set-up in the system. If you already have a PowerSchool account and need assistance please email [powerschool@vasj.com](mailto:powerschool@vasj.com).