



Portrait of the SJA Graduate



At Saint John the Apostle Catholic School, our focus is to foster the total development of each child as she/he grows spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally, and physically. This total mindset of growth empowers students to develop a personal relationship with God, a sense of self-awareness, an understanding of how they learn best, an appreciation of the gifts of others, a sense of responsibility in serving the needs of others, and an awareness of being called to lead others to deepen their faith. This mindset of growth encapsulates the “Portrait of the SJA Graduate”. Our intent is to enable students to be respectful, joyful and responsible leaders not only for our Church but for our country. Through this mindset of growth, our graduates will develop a moral compass that will guide them in being compassionate contributors in making a positive difference wherever they may be. The entire school community is dedicated to the total development of students as they continue their educational journey at Saint John the Apostle Catholic School.

Mindset of Spiritual Growth: Developing a Personal Relationship with God

SJA students will develop a personal relationship with God through prayer, sacraments, scripture, and service. The SJA graduate will have:

- Demonstrated a knowledge of the Catholic faith - its teachings, traditions, tenets, precepts, and history;
- Demonstrated a desire and reverence in participating at Masses, liturgical seasonal devotions, sacraments, and prayer partner activities;
- Articulated their faith journey in prayerful testimonials;
- Demonstrated their commitment to reach out to the needs of the underprivileged and underserved, locally and globally;
- Expressed the importance to continue to seek greater understanding of the Catholic faith;
- Demonstrated making good moral choices and commitment to social justice;
- Understood the importance of evangelization by leading others to a greater understanding of living out their baptismal promises.

Mindset of Academic Growth: Developing an Understanding of being a Life-long Learner

SJA students will develop an understanding of how they learn best and the responsibilities of being a successful learner. The SJA graduate will have:

- Demonstrated an understanding of strategies that lead to success – put first things first, begin with the end in mind, be proactive, be authentic, seek assistance when needed, be attentive, and be true to your own abilities;
- Demonstrated abilities to perform creatively, act collaboratively and think critically;
- Demonstrated an understanding of using technology wisely and prudently;
- Demonstrated an ability to clearly communicate in written and oral formats;
- Demonstrated an ability to solve problems and create solutions;
- Demonstrated confidence in public speaking;
- Developed an understanding of personal learning styles and how to improve for success.

Mindset of Social Growth: Developing Positive Relationships with Others

SJA students will develop an understanding of how to work well with others, appreciating the gifts of others, and coping with differences. The SJA graduate will have:

- Demonstrated an understanding to respect and accept others for the gifts and talents that God gave them;
- Demonstrated the ability to resolve conflicts peacefully;
- Understood the value of friendship and lasting relationships with others;
- Demonstrated the need to collaborate with others and to share responsibilities;
- Understood the rules for acceptable behavior;
- Demonstrated and supported SJA mission and acted in accordance with Gospel virtues.

Mindset of Emotional Growth: Developing an Awareness of Emotional Intelligence

SJA students will understand that how they feel affects learning, the decisions they make, how they treat others, and their personal well-being. The SJA graduate will have:

- Developed a sense of self-awareness, self-control, accountability, and resiliency to be successful in school and beyond;
- Demonstrated empathy towards others;
- Demonstrated the knowledge that how they feel impacts cognition;
- Demonstrated the skill of expressing emotions appropriately and effectively;
- Developed an attitude of accepting the differences of opinion and the diversity of thought in others.

Mindset of Physical Growth: Developing an Awareness of Living a Healthy Life

SJA students will understand the importance of maintaining a balance of exercise, nutrition and rest for a healthy life. The SJA graduate will have:

- Demonstrated the value of exercise and physical activity to maintain a healthy life style;
- Demonstrated the importance for making good nutritional choices to maintain a healthy life;
- Developed a sense of team spirit and sportsmanship while participating in sports and other collaborative activities.

THE CODE OF CANON LAW

Book III, Canon 795

“Since true education must strive for complete formation of the human person that looks to his or her final end as well as to the common good of societies, children and youth are to be nurtured in such a way that they are able to develop their physical, moral and intellectual talents harmoniously, acquire a more perfect sense of responsibility and right use of freedom, and are formed to participate actively in social life.”