



THE COUGAR



Greetings from Mrs. Gardiner

Dear St. Jude Parents/Guardians,

As we continue our journey of growth and excellence, we invite you to share your voice through the **LUMEN Accreditation Survey for Parents and Guardians**.

This brief, 5-minute survey plays a vital role in helping us reflect, improve, and plan for the future of our school community. Your insights directly contribute to:

- Celebrating what we're doing well
- Identifying areas for improvement
- Shaping our yearly Continuous Improvement Plan
- Guiding the development of our 5-Year Strategic Plan

Your feedback truly matters. We're aiming for every family to participate so we can make informed, meaningful progress together.

Please complete the survey by Friday, October 24: [Click here to take the survey](#)

If you have any questions or need assistance accessing the survey, don't hesitate to reach out to our school office.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for being an essential part of our Blue Ribbon school community.

One in Christ,
Michelle Gardiner, M.ED.

Important Upcoming Dates

October 23-26: Developmental Girls Basketball Tournament (Grades 3rd-4th)

October 28: St. Jude Feast Day and Alumni Mass at 8:15 a.m. - Mass uniform required

October 28: Junior Beta Club Induction following Mass

October 30: Fall Pep Rally at 1:45 p.m. - **St. Jude Spirit Shirt Attire with uniform bottoms**

October 31: Fun Run and Class Halloween Parties - **Fun Run shirts with Halloween accessories and uniform bottoms**

November 4: All Saints Day Mass at 8:15 a.m. - Mass uniform required

November 10-14: Beta Club Food Drive

November 20: Grandparents Day - Parent Performance at 1:00 p.m.

November 21: Grandparents/Special Friends Day Performance at 9:00 a.m. **Students are dismissed at the conclusion of the performance. No after-school extension on this date**



THE COUGAR



Identified Stewardship Giver Status for 2026-2027 School Year

In order to qualify for the **Identified Stewardship Giver (ISG) admission bracket and corresponding lower tuition rate** for the upcoming 2026-2027 academic year, you must have met the minimum identifiable amount of \$300.00 given through the Church offertory collection using the envelopes or through the online giving portal. Contributions must be made between January 1, 2025, and December 20, 2025 to count towards the 2026-2027 school year.

A Catholic family, whether in-parish or out of parish, is defined as "a family in which one or both head(s) of the household are baptized Catholic or registered in a church parish." A Catholic in-parish family (in other words, members of St. Jude parish) is defined as "a family in which one or both head(s) of the household are baptized Catholic and registered in St. Jude Parish, by way of our Parish Census Process."

A non-Catholic family is defined as "a family in which neither of the heads of household are a baptized Catholic." Please note that a non-Catholic family cannot register as a member of St. Jude Parish. Also note that a non-Catholic family cannot request to have their child baptized simply in order to be eligible for the Catholic, in-parish rate.

If a Catholic family residing in the geographical boundaries of a church parish other than St. Jude wishes to register in our parish, they must receive a letter of permission from the pastor of the parish in which they do reside geographically.

If you have any questions about your contribution amount for 2025, please contact **Mindy Coogan in the Church office** at 225-766-2431 or by email at mindyc@stjudecatholic.org.

Accelerated Reader 100 Points Club

Congratulations to the following students who have made the Accelerated Reader 100 Points Club for this year!

3rd Grade: Cade Mabry

5th Grade: Andi Baker, Callen Gary, Jay Griffin, Nelson Rogers and Audrey Hart

7th Grade: Sydney Gary, Ty Prather and Emily Walters

8th Grade: Emma LeFebvre



THE COUGAR



Home and School Association

FUN RUN: It's a tight race in the Fun Run competition, and any grade could be the winner! As of now, kindergarten is in the lead with 8th and 4th in hot pursuit. Some grade levels are separated by less than \$100. Who wants a full day of fun for their class?! Keep those donations coming, and remember—points are also awarded for grade levels with full participation. No grade has reached that goal yet, and no donation is too small. Weekly prizes are still up for grabs too. Donations are due by October 29th! Remember that you can donate using the packet or by visiting our [Auctria site](#).

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING SUBS: Please help Home and School continue the wonderful tradition of providing a half-day substitute for our teachers during the Christmas season. It's a little "thank you" for all they do. Use the [Sign Up Genius](#) to view slots that need to be filled. You sign up as many times as you would like!



Thank You from Mrs. Turner!



Thanks to everyone who supported the 2025 Book Fair! The event was extremely successful because of all the generous shoppers and helpful volunteers.

We especially hope you enjoyed our Family Kickoff Event. Use this [link](#) to view photos of that evening.



Champ's corner

Classic Images

The home of St. Jude School fleece jackets!

Enter "cougars" as the code

[Order your fleece here!](#)

SJS Home and School Store

Purchase SJS car decals, temporary tattoos, face glitter, key chains, stickers, earrings and hair bows!

[Visit the store here!](#)



The Roman Catholic Diocese of
BATON ROUGE
CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION

Concerns for Minors on Social Media

Cyberbullying

- 59% of U.S. teens have experienced it
- Can cause anxiety, depression, and withdrawal
- Often happens through anonymous accounts or group chats

Predatory Behavior

- Apps like Instagram, Snapchat, and Discord can be used for grooming
- Predators often pose as peers to gain trust
- Children may be reluctant to report

Mental Health Struggles

- Comparison culture can lead to low self-esteem
- Social media is linked to increased rates of anxiety and depression
- FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) increases screen time and stress

Exposure to Inappropriate Content

- Pornography, violence, and self-harm content can appear in feeds or suggested videos
- Algorithms don't filter as well as we think
- Private messaging can be a gateway to explicit content

Privacy & Data Risks

- Personal information is often overshared
- Photos, location, and identity can be used by scammers or identity thieves

What Parents Can Do

✓ Talk Early & Often

Open conversations build trust. Ask about their favorite apps and how they use them.

✓ Set Boundaries

Limit screen time. No phones at bedtime. Use parental controls.

✓ Follow & Monitor

Be present on their platforms. Use parental control software to monitor use. **Who are they texting? Who is texting them? What is the purpose of the communication?**

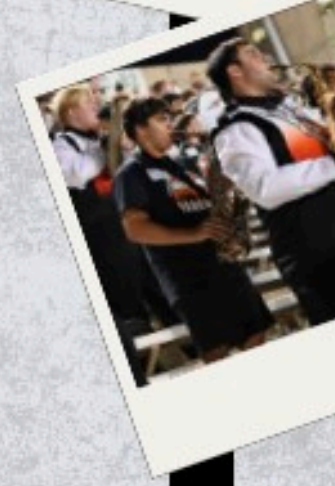
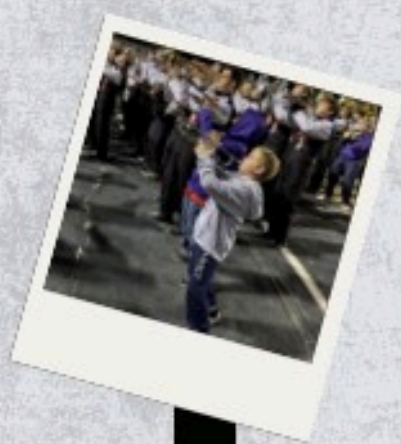
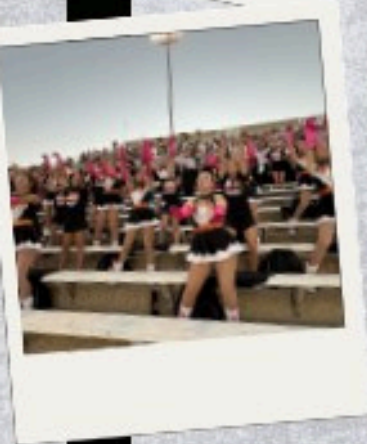
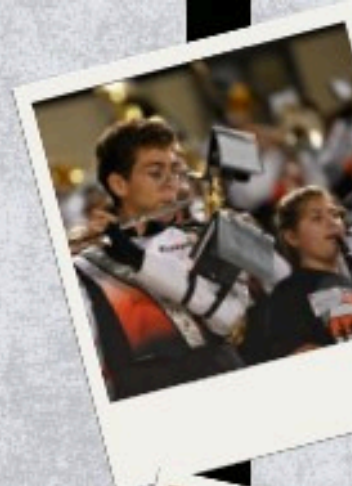
✓ Teach Digital Literacy

Help kids recognize red flags and unhealthy comparisons.

✓ Model Healthy Habits

Be a digital role model by limiting your own screen time.





BAND

 & *Bruinette*

4:30PM NIGHT

OCTOBER 24TH

MEMORIAL STADIUM