



St. James School Weekly News

January 24, 2008

UPCOMING DATES

Saturday, January 26th

Catholic Schools Week: Open House – 4:00 PM

CSW Celebration Mass – 5:00 PM

Knights of Columbus Chili Dinner/

Teacher Cake and Pie Auction Dinner – 6:00 PM

Catholic Schools Week

Monday, January 28th to
Friday, February 1st

Thursday, January 31st

CiCi's Pizza Night – 4:30 PM to 8:00 PM

SCHOOL PIZZA NIGHT UPDATE

CiCi's Pizza Night for our school has been changed from **Thursday, January 24th**, to **THURSDAY, JANUARY 31ST**. Please make the change on your calendar and plan to attend pizza night at CiCi's on the 31st. See you there!!!!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK (CSW)

This coming Saturday, January 26th, begins our weeklong celebration of "Catholic Schools Light the Way". We are looking forward to sharing and participating in a variety of activities. During the week, we consider the influences on Catholic education and how we as a Catholic school are a blessing to others. **Please read the attached CSW information flyer as it contains a schedule of the week**, and important details regarding the scheduled events---including the popular 8th grade vs. Staff Challenge!!!!

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS: PAJAMA DAY!!!

Student Council is very happy to announce that Tuesday, January 29th, will be a pajama day. We have come up with some guidelines we would like to share with our fellow students to make the day safe and fun for everyone. Pajamas need to be weather appropriate, which means no shorts allowed, unless you are wearing them underneath a nightgown. **You should also not wear "houseshoes" or slippers, tank tops, or spaghetti strap garments.** You can wear capri-length sweats. We hope to see you in your pajamas!!

VALENTINE LOLLIGRAM SALES

The 8th grade class will be selling Valentine Lolligrams before and after school in the school lobby, and afterschool in the carline as weather permits from Monday, January 28th, until 8:05 AM on Wednesday, February 13th. We cannot accept **any orders after** that time, and we must enforce this deadline as we have numerous orders to fill and want to insure that all items are delivered in an efficient manner. We would prefer that a majority of the orders are received before 4:00 PM on Friday, February 8th, as that is the time we will start the bulk of our assembly work and would have the weekend to work on the Lolligrams.

The price for a “standard” Lolligram is \$1.00, which includes three lollipops and a card, or \$5.00 for a “deluxe” Lolligram, which includes five lollipops, a balloon, and a card. Please note that the Lolligrams will be delivered at school on Thursday, February 14th, and that proceeds go to the 8th Grade Graduation Activity Fund.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GEOGRAPHY BEE

Congratulations are in order to celebrate the geography skills of our Middle School students. We held our national Geography Bee a week ago with the following students qualifying to compete: Stefani Bradley, Jimmy Carmichael, Maggie Carmichael, Madeline Essig, Nils Haugen, Brandon Hearn, Alex Mahmood, Bryce Presko, Ian Schneider, and Brandon Simmons.

The finalists were Stefani Bradley and Brandon Hearn, with Stefani qualifying to represent St. James School. Good work students and good luck to Stefani who will continue onto the next level of competition!

MUSIC NEWS

Middle School Spring Musical

This year’s Middle School musical will be “Godspell Junior”. This play was chosen from a group of plays specifically adapted to be performed by Junior High/Middle School aged performers. It has been described as a great show for students to perform, covering all of the basics of story theatre using music with a truly contemporary feel. The story is based on the Gospel of St. Matthew. Godspell Junior is a celebration of the life and teachings of Christ with a message of kindness, tolerance and love. You can find more information on their website, including auditioning tips at www.broadwayjr.com. The play boasts a string of recognizable songs, such as the international hit, “Day by Day”.

All Middle School students will be participating in some way with this production. The students will be provided a choice in how they participate. For those who are interested in an acting or singing part of the play, there will be a whole group audition on Monday, February 4th, from 3:15 PM to possibly 5:00 PM in the music room. These will be whole group auditions. As this is a musical production, all students with an acting role will need to sing as a group, with an opportunity for up to 10 students to have solo performances. Each person auditioning should be prepared to speak alone and possibly read a small part from the script.

Each person interested in trying out for a solo part (that includes Jesus and Judas/John the Baptist) needs to see Mrs. Barron to obtain a recording of a song to practice at home. All rehearsals will be after school starting with a first reading on Friday, February 8th, from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Several off-stage production jobs other than acting are available for students to choose from also. A selection form went home this week explaining the choices and completed forms are to be turned back in by Friday, January 25th.

We are privileged to have Jourdan Turntine, a theater education major from William Jewell College, as our director this year. Mrs. Barron will be directing the music and the Middle School teachers will be working with the off stage jobs.

Look for more information to be coming home via upcoming newsletters or the St. James website. Questions may be directed to Mrs. Barron at cathy.barron@stjames-school.org or by calling the school office at 781-4428, extension 216.

Vocal and Hand Bell Choir

Both vocal and hand bell choirs will be performing on Saturday, January 26th, at the 5:00 PM Mass for Catholic Schools Week. Choir students need to be in the music room ready to practice by 4:00 PM. Choir members need to wear their school uniform to celebrate CSW, and those choir students who wear their uniform to Mass that day will earn the privilege of being out-of-uniform on Monday, January 28th. Mrs. Barron is asking those who plan to perform at the Mass to RSVP to enable her to prepare the music ahead of time. Send your RSVP to cathy.barron@stjames-school.org or call her at 781-4428, ext., 216. We are excited about our performance and are looking forward to sharing our musical talents with other Mass attendees.

UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE:

Please join us for our first blood drive of 2008 on Tuesday, January 29th, in the Social Hall from 12:30 PM to 7:00 PM. Recent ice and snow storms had forced many area blood drives to be cancelled. As a result, the Community Blood Center (CBC) is critically low on all blood supplies, especially Type 0 and Type B blood. Contact Joe Barry at 781-6411 or jbarry@kc.rr.com to make an appointment, or go to www.esavealifenow.org and use sponsor code **stjames** to sign up. Walk-ins are welcome, however, appointments help determine the staffing and supply needs of the CBC. Childcare is provided and if you would like to volunteer to help with this, you may call Nikki Power at 407-1208 or email her at kpower@kc.rr.com. With the current construction taking place at St. James, the childcare will be offered in the Mallen Room instead of the Social Hall. There will be activities, refreshments, and videos for the children. Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help make this blood drive a success and save lives of many people in our area who will be counting on your generosity.

YEARBOOK PICTURES NEEDED

We are in need of snapshots to include in the 2007-2008 yearbook. If you have any digital pictures from sporting events, study trips, class parties, etc., please send them to nancy.christifano@stjames-school.org or julie.miller@stjames-school.org. We are especially in need of pictures of 2nd grade and middle school pictures.