



# St. James School Weekly News

February 14, 2008

## UPCOMING DATES

Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>

**NOON DISMISSAL/Extended Care**—12:00PM—6:00PM

**Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences**—1:00PM—9:00PM

Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>

**NO SCHOOL**

**Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences**—8:00AM—1:00PM

Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>

**NO SCHOOL/PRESIDENT'S DAY**

Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>

STUCO Skating Party – 6:00PM - 8:00PM

Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

CiCi's Pizza – 4:30PM to 8:00PM

## STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

School will be dismissed today at noon due to Student/Parent/Teacher conferences. Conferences will be held today from 1:00PM to 9:00PM, and Friday from 8:00AM to 1:00PM. Extended care will be offered today from Noon to 6:00 PM at half-day rates. School is closed on Friday as teachers finalize conferences and participate in professional development opportunities with Liberty Public Schools.

## PRESIDENT'S DAY

In observance of President's Day, **Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**, everyone will be out of school. Please enjoy the extended weekend. We look forward to seeing everyone back to school on Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

## STUDENT COUNCIL SKATING PARTY

On **Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**, Student Council is hosting a skating party at the Northland Rolladium from 6:00PM to 8:00 PM. Fun awaits students and parents alike.

## RESTAURANT NIGHTS

The next scheduled school pizza night is on **Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**, at CiCi's Pizza in Liberty from 4:30PM to 8:00PM. Please note that is a change from our calendar, which indicates that February 21<sup>st</sup> had been our scheduled date.

## PTO MEETING

We would like to thank everyone who attended the PTO Meeting this past Tuesday. We appreciate the opportunity to discuss issues and brainstorm ideas together. We encourage everyone to take an active role in continuing to build our PTO. The next meeting, scheduled for Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, will be held in the Church. PTO will host a special guest speaker, Robert Rogers, who will address school and parish families under the theme of "Live a Life of No Regrets". Mr. Rogers can be remembered as the Liberty area resident who lost his wife and children several years ago in a tragic flooding accident. Please mark your calendars now so you can join us for this powerful message and do remember to call ahead for babysitting needs. Thank you.

### **HOPE/DREAM COMMITMENT**

The HOPE/DREAM commitment period for this school year ends February 29<sup>th</sup>. Each family has been emailed a report showing their HOPE/DREAM purchases. If you have any questions about your account, please contact Ruth Weinzerl in the school office at 781-4428.

### **DIOCESAN OFFICE NEWS**

With great enthusiasm, we want to share that Bishop Finn has accepted the unanimous recommendation of the Superintendent Search Committee and has designated Mr. Marlon De La Torre as Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Kansas City ~ St. Joseph. His position will be effective Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please join us in welcoming Marlon to the leadership position of our Catholic schools.

Marlon served in a number of capacities in the Diocese of Memphis. As Diocesan Director of Religious Education, he developed and implemented a religious education curriculum for parishes and schools in the diocese. He also served as headmaster of a newly-established Catholic high school in Jackson, Tennessee. Marlon's bi-lingual and bi-cultural experience will equip the Diocese to better meet the needs of our growing Hispanic population.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Dave Woolwine, our current Associate Superintendent of Schools, has accepted a new full-time position within the Diocese to work with Strategic Planning. He will begin his new job as of March 3<sup>rd</sup>, and we want to congratulate him and wish him well in this new endeavor.

### **BUZZIN' WITH SPELLING BEE RESULTS**

We want to congratulate all of the students who represented St. James in the Northland Catholic School Spelling Bee this past Monday.

Fourth Grade: Peter Boos, Austin Mendez, Logan McCune

Fifth Grade: Lance Boehm, Brendan Heinzler, Olivia Wilson

Sixth Grade: Alexxis Burroughs, Carmen Peery, Nick Ward

Seventh Grade: Mitchell Cissell, Ryan Doherty, Bryce Presko

Eighth Grade: Stephen Jackson, Lexie Oak, Corey Simmons

We are proud to report that all of our St. James representatives competed with perseverance, but especially we are pleased to announce that Mitch Cissell, 7<sup>th</sup> grader, won first place at the spelling bee and was the overall winner of the *entire* competition. Again—"c-o-n-g-r-a-t-s" to Mitch and his classmates who participated!

### **BOY SCOUT AWARD**

Congratulations to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, Josh Coday and Zach Ildza who received the *Ad Altare Dei Award*, a religious award given by the Boy Scouts. What an honor it is to have these fine young men as leaders in our school. We are always thankful for all the efforts our scouts take to enhance our parish community.

## **GOLF ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE**

Set aside June 6<sup>th</sup> for our annual golf tournament which supports our education endowment. Lots of information will be coming in the next few months but we wanted to make sure you saved the date to join us. In August, we had a sign up sheet for parents who were interested in helping with this year's tournament. That box with the needed information is buried in the POD located outside! If you signed up to help would you be so kind as to call the school office and let us know who you are so we can contact you with the necessary meeting dates. Thank you so much.

## **SCIENCE FAIR RESULTS**

### **Middle School Students**

We were exploding with Science Fair excitement this week, as 6<sup>th</sup> grade Middle School students, and two additional 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, presented their Science Fair projects. The judging was difficult as so many entries proved noteworthy. We want to thank the students and parents of participants for the hard work, time and energy that was given to making personal best effort possible. Certificates were awarded and PTO guests were able to view the work this past Tuesday evening. First Place winners will move on to the Greater Kansas City Science Fair in April. The winners and their themes are: Jimmy Carmichael and Jack Cho for "Scary Fast Skateboard"; Brandon Simmons, Shelby Hennen, and Molly Benoit for "Jelly Balluza"; Anna Koesterer, Katherine Ross, Chelsey Purcell, and Kathy Yeum for "Which Disinfectant Works Best"; and Anna Coday, Olivia Jackson, and Jessica Jeong for "Race Car Road Rage". We wish all of these representatives best of luck in the next round of competition.

### **Invention Convention**

The 5<sup>th</sup> grade students have been busy as well with their annual "Invention Convention". Students came up with a project and invention to present and their projects were graded with the following first place winners listed by classroom:

#### **Miss Christifano's Room**

Hannah Power  
Olivia Wilson  
Marshall Mason  
David Beyer

#### **Mrs. Fiegel's Room**

Lance Boehm  
Caleb Kizzire  
Marissa Hearn  
Emma Pletcher

## **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN FISH FRY DINNERS**

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring Fish Fry Dinners during the Lenten season in the school gymnasium from 5:00PM to 8:00PM. The dinners are scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup>, February 29<sup>th</sup>, and March 14<sup>th</sup>. The Knights of Columbus are so supportive of our school endeavors and we hope you will be able to take advantage of this yummy offer.

## **MUSIC NEWS**

We are so excited about the Middle School production of "Godspell Junior". Auditions were held last week and we are thrilled to say that our cast consists of 44 middle school students. Our first cast meeting was last Friday and each student should have received a script and a vocal book. This is a musical, so the entire cast will be singing and some students will have solos, which will be assigned in the coming weeks.

A written schedule for practices will be sent out with our students by next week, but our normal rehearsal days are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday after school with variations in who attends each rehearsal. The schedule will be posted on the website, on the school calendar, and in the newsletter. The company and the crowd will also have some separate rehearsals and other rehearsals together with the entire cast. Rehearsal attendance is very important, as we are working hard to have an excellent performance and each person makes a contribution to the overall production. Therefore, if your child cannot attend a rehearsal due to an appointment or illness, please notify Mrs. Barron by either voicemail or email.

Each cast member will need (2) CDs of the songs in the play to practice at home. The first CD will contain all the songs in their entirety and those should be ready on Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. (Mrs. Barron made copies and passed them out, but it seems they do not have all the songs with lyrics as needed. If you are in need of a replacement CD, please see Mrs. Barron on Tuesday to pick up your new copy.) Students will also be given a CD that just has either part 1 or part 2 songs, so performers can practice their parts at home.

An all cast rehearsal will be held next Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, from 3:15 PM to 4:30 PM in the music room. Cast members need to bring their script, vocal book, pencil, highlighter, and water bottle.

The next rehearsal after that will be on Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. The company will need a change of clothes (gym shorts and a t-shirt), a good pair of tennis shoes, a water bottle (if desired), libretto, pencil, and the folder you will have received on the first day. The crowd will need their libretto, vocal book, pencil, highlighter, water bottle, and snack (if desired). Practice times will be from 3:15PM to 5:00PM. Students should be changed and ready to practice in the music room right after school, so that practices can begin at 3:15PM each session.

#### **VALENTINE'S DAY**

Thanks to everyone that donated and gave of their time with our special parties and treats today. We appreciate your help.

**HAPPY  
VALENTINE'S  
DAY! ♥**