



St. James Catholic School

Summer News

Growing Together:
Faith, Family and Friends

Volume: 1
July 8, 2010

UPCOMING DATES:



Friday, July 23rd

7:00 PM ~ Relay for Life—Liberty
Liberty High School

Sunday, July 25th

12:00 PM-3:30 PM ~ St. James Feast Day
Check the parish bulletin or website
stjames-liberty.org for details.

Sunday, August 8th

12:00 PM—3:00 PM ~Deep Cleaning Day
~Uniform Sales

Tuesday, August 3rd

7:00 PM ~ New Family Social

Sunday, August 15th

5:00 PM ~Meet the Teacher Night
~Back to School PTO Ice Cream Social
6:50 PM~New Parent Meeting, Library

Tuesday, August 17th

7:50 AM ~First Day of School~1st—8th Grade
9:00 AM Mass

12:00 PM Noon Dismissal
NO EXTENDED CARE

Wednesday, August 18th

7:50 AM~First Day of School~MWF
Preschool/Pre-K & Kindergarten
12:00 PM Noon Dismissal
12:00 PM—6:00 PM ~Extended Care Begins

Thursday, August 19th

7:50 AM~ First Full Day of School~TTH
Preschool/Pre-K
7:50 AM—3:00 PM Regular School Hours

SUMMER GREETINGS FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

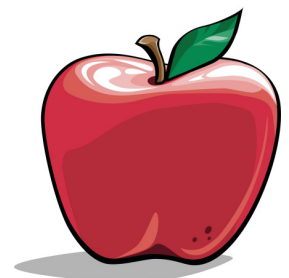
The summer months bring wonderful opportunities for children to develop new skills, and explore interests and simply enjoy time with family and friends. As we reflect on this past school year and plan for the upcoming one, we are reminded by our school theme, **“GROWING TOGETHER: FAITH, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS”**, that one of St. James’ greatest strengths is the dedicated staff and families who together create a warm, welcoming environment committed to Christ and our children. It is our hope that you and your family are having a safe and fun summer break.

In building on our theme for the upcoming school year, teachers have appreciated the feedback received from the parent surveys. As we believe that, “as good as we are, we can always get better”, our staff commits themselves to a level of excellence and values your assistance in the education of our children. We are thankful for our volunteers, helpers, and YOU who make a true difference in the impact we can make in creating the optimal learning environment. True success comes from the valued partnerships we have with our families.

OUR TEACHERS HAVE C.L.A.S.S

During our June meetings, teachers participated in a dynamic three-day workshop focusing on instructional best practices, which was held at our very own St. James School. Several other schools from our Diocese, as well as a school from Washington, MO. were present to share in the learning. This professional development was presented by C.L.A.S.S.—Connecting Learning Assures Successful Students from Indianapolis, Indiana. C.L.A.S.S. trainings are firmly grounded in brain-compatible instructional approaches, which compliment and build on our current program. We feel very privileged to participate in such high-quality trainings in order to cultivate our staff’s commitment to excellence in education. This professional development was a continuation from our two-day workshop held last August. The money earned from the sale of uniforms, as well as from our Teacher Cake and Pie auctions, Easter Candy sales, and trash bags directly benefits us, as these dollars fund our staff development.

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Thank you~



FOND FAREWELL



At the close of the 2009-2010 school year, St. James said good-bye to our Spanish teacher, Wayne Marble and middle school teacher Tiffany Sobotka. We also say goodbye to our support staff members Eunice Beukes, custodian, Cassie Claxton, custodian/guest teacher, and Nikki Power, café/classroom assistant. We thank them for their hard work and we wish them God's blessings on their future endeavors.

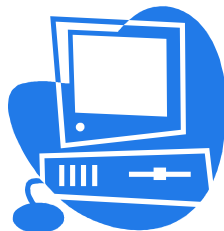
WEBSITE INFORMATION

As we continue to grow in our use of technology, we are thankful to be utilizing the school website and email to limit increasing postage costs and reduce paper usage. 2009-2010 Kindergarten—7th grade students received their class list assignment for the upcoming school year in their final report card. Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten families were subsequently emailed their class list. New families for the 2010-2011 school year have been added to our email list and class lists were sent out on Thursday, June 24th. As a new family, if you have not received the class list information by email please contact Vicki Fischer at Vicki.fischer@stjames-school.org.

Items to check on our website over the summer include: **Supply Lists**, **Auction Update** and **Auction T-Shirt Form**, **PTO Newsletter** and **Information regarding Meet the Teacher Night and Back to School Ice Cream Social**, and **important Café information, including the August Café Calendar**. **You will also be able to access the School Calendar for 2010-2011.**

We are happy to provide you an overview of critical dates, major events and dates that school is not in session. It is important to check the updated monthly calendar that is emailed via school newsletters throughout the school year. If there are changes to times, programs, meetings, etc., the updated calendar emailed monthly, will override this overview calendar.

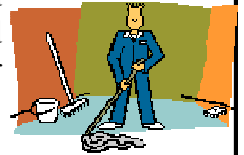
Don't forget our website address is:
www.stjames-school.org



BUILDING MAINTENANCE

The school environment is just one of the many components that we analyze and reflect upon consistently. At this time of the year, we note the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, which requires that we annually notify the staff and parents of our students that the Asbestos Management Plan is available in the school office for examination. Our school was not built with any asbestos containing materials. Our trained maintenance staff supervises materials brought into our school.

During the months of June and July, our Custodial and Maintenance staff diligently work to prepare the building for our students return. Classrooms and flooring are deep cleaned, along with the completion of minor repairs or touch-up painting. Our school will shine! We take a great deal of pride in our building and thank our custodial and maintenance staff for their efforts.



Pictorial Family Portraits!

Do you ever see people and wonder what their names are? Have you heard an announcement regarding a member of our parish family and wished you could put a face with a name? Help is on the way! We are producing a pictorial family album this summer! There is no cost to have your photographs taken; you will receive a complimentary 8 X 10 portrait and directory for participating. You also will be able to view your images electronically immediately after your picture is taken. At that time, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends. We plan to have LifeTouch Photographers here Tuesday through Saturday the last week in July and the first two weekends in August.

[Sign up ON-LINE NOW!!!](#)

Go to stjames-liberty.org and click on "portrait sign up" to easily schedule your appointment for your picture for the Pictorial directory.

UNIFORM STORE



Our uniform store continues to expand and improve the items we supply. On **August 8th, from 12:00 PM—3:00 PM**, the uniform store will be open for trying on uniforms in addition to placing any last minute orders necessary. We have a large inventory on hand. Please make arrangements to bring your child with

you to try on items needed to start school.

DEEP CLEANING DAY



Please make plans to join us as we get the school building ready for another year of classes and meetings. Our school board will sponsor the “Annual Deep Cleaning” event on **Sunday, August 8th, from 12:00 PM—3:00 PM**. Cleaning supplies will be provided, but feel free to bring your favorite dusting cloth with you. Students are welcome to come and clean, as they make great helpers and this is a time when they can become familiar with their new classroom. We ask that all students be accompanied by a parent. This is a great opportunity for middle school and high school students to earn service hours.

NEW FAMILY SOCIAL

Are you new to St. James and have lots of questions? Or are you a veteran and have helpful tips for new families?

Well if you answered “yes” to either one of these questions we have the place to be! Please join us on Tuesday, August 3rd at 7:00 PM in the school Café for our annual New Family Social. At this meeting we will be answering all your questions from drop-off/pick-up, to Auction/Bazaar, and much more. New families will be receiving a invitation via email. Child Care will be provided. **See you there!**

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

Be sure to mark your calendar for our [Meet-the-Teacher Night and Back-to-School PTO Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 15th](#). Feel free to come by anytime between 5:00PM—6:00PM for the opportunity to meet your home-room teacher, drop off your school supplies, and tour the facilities. Beginning at 5:30 PM, the PTO will host an Ice Cream Social. It is a great time for sharing conversation with new and old friends. If you are a new family and did not attend the new family meeting that was held in May, a short Pre-school—8th Grade **new family** meeting will be held in the Library at 6:50 PM. Be sure to check out the PTO news flyer for more information.



FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

We look forward to seeing our 1st—8th graders on their first day of school, Tuesday, August 17th, at our normal start time 7:50 AM. To help ease back into the routine, this will be a **NOON DISMISSAL DAY**. **Please note that EXTENDED CARE will not be offered on the 17th**, however it will be available beginning the 18th. The first day of school for M/W/F Preschool/Pre-K and Kindergarten will be the 18th, which is also a noon dismissal day. Extended care will be offered from 12:00 Noon to 6:00 PM. A sack lunch may be ordered from our Café for students attending Extended Care on the 18th. The first full day of school, and the first day of school for T/TH Preschool/Pre-K students is Thursday, August 19th.

As much as our school is growing, we do have some availability Kindergarten through 8th grade. As you know, you are our best recruiters. Thank you for all you do to positively share the wonderful opportunities St. James has to offer.

Our office staff looks forward to continuing their service to the families of St. James. If there is anything we can do to be supportive of you please do not hesitate to contact one of us. Our offices will reopen July 26th, however we will be checking voicemail weekly.

SCHOOL OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Ruth Weinzerl, Office Manager ext. 212
ruth.weinzerl@stjames-school.org

Vicki Fischer, Secretary ext. 211
vicki.fischer@stjames-school.org

Molly Doherty, Principal ext. 213
molly.doherty@stjames-school.org

Karrie Snider, Assistant Principal ext. 219
karrie.snider@stjames-school.org



St. James PTO NEWS

Questions...Comments...Email Us!

pto@stjames-school.org

Hello St. James Families!

We would like to take this opportunity to send you summer greetings! As your PTO Officers, we look forward to working with each of you. As stated in the PTO by-laws, the object of the PTO is to act as “the official St. James Parish organization for the promotion of parent-teacher activities...to unite parents and teachers for the purpose of coordinating the spiritual and educational forces of the home and school.” We believe in that objective and we are excited about the opportunity to help foster the parent-teacher relationship - one that has always been strong at St. James. This year’s PTO Officers are parents of children in classes that span every grade level. These various levels of experience should help mold a PTO whose work has impact in many ways and is representative of both new families and “veterans.”

Each of us, along with each of you, has made a decision to invest in our children’s education by sending them to St. James. We believe it is imperative that parents, students, faculty and staff work together to positively effect the St. James environment. Research shows that students whose parents are involved in their education have better grades and fewer discipline problems. Involvement at the school also makes it easier to establish positive relationships with teachers and other parents.

Our primary objective as a PTO is to provide the school funds to deliver programs, resources and services that will enrich and maximize the education of every child. To meet this important objective, and afford services that are not covered by our school budget, we ask school families to fundraise and volunteer. The PTO’s main fundraiser is the annual Auction and Holiday Bazaar. PTO also provides Room Parents, a Courtesy Committee and even coordinates “staffing” of “Donut Sundays,” which are all great ways to be involved in parish and school community building activities.

In addition to PTO fundraising and volunteering, we hope to continue to cultivate a PTO that engages parents in issues and ideas connecting the classroom with home, that are positive in the development of our children and thereby positive in the development of St. James. A huge time commitment from volunteers is not expected. An hour can be a big help and we have positions and tasks to fit all schedules and interests. The time given to PTO and the school will be worth while—and fun!

We know communication is critical, and we need parents to help us determine where the PTO can be most effective, as well as implement the tools and programs that help parents support teachers and staff. You will hear more detail about each PTO activity, and we will be asking you for information that helps us plan based on whether a program, event, or activity interests you and when you might be free to help. In this world of “green,” efficient and of course cost-saving communication, most PTO information will come to you and be available electronically. PTO can be reached by email at pto@stjames-school.org PTO sponsors the Back-To-School Ice Cream Social, which is held during Meet the Teacher Night on Sunday, August 15th. After your children have met their new teacher and dropped off school supplies, make sure to stop by the information tables in the gym, then spend some time with other parents socializing, swapping summer stories and enjoying a tasty treat.

The success of the PTO is dependent on parent involvement. St. James parents have always given above and beyond expectations, and we know we can count on you. Once again, we look forward to working with you. You’ll be hearing from us soon, and we’ll see you on August 15th.

Sincerely,
St. James PTO Officers

Rozanne Witherow, President
Rachel Richardson, Vice-President
Staci Bonderer, Secretary
Jeff Richardson, Treasurer