



St. James School Weekly News

December 13, 2007

UPCOMING DATES

Monday, December 17th
Tuesday, December 18th
Thursday, December 20th
Friday, December 21st

Wednesday, January 9th

PTO Mtg – 6:50 PM – School Cafeteria
3rd – 5th Grade Christmas Program 6:50 PM
CiCi's Pizza Night – 4:30 PM to 8:00 PM
Noon Dismissal – Beginning of Christmas Break
Extended Care – 12:00 Noon to 6:00 PM
Classes Resume for Students

OFFICE NEWS

As we do not operate with buses, it is school policy to not dismiss early once we are in session due to inclement weather. However, if parents would like to come and pick up their children early, due to weather conditions you are free to do so. Our first concern is everyone's safety.

If the decision to close school is made we will post the announcement on numerous radio and television stations or on the website at www.stjames-school.org. Please refer to page 2 in your school directory. Our school will not be listed individually, but will be posted as **Clay County Catholic Schools**. When we are not in session due to weather all scheduled activities for after school are automatically cancelled.

CAFÉ NEWS

We have changed our cafeteria menu for Friday, December 15th as a result of school not being in session on Tuesday, December 11th. For **Friday, December 15th** the lunch will be as follows: Stuffed Baked Potato, Homemade Chili, Fruit, and Jello.

PTO MEETING

Due to school closing on Tuesday, December 11th, we were unable to have the PTO meeting that evening. The meeting will be rescheduled for **Monday, December 17th**, at 6:50 PM in the School Cafeteria. Please plan on attending this meeting as we will be discussing auction proceeds, the proposed 2008-2009 PTO budget, plus passage of our new by-laws. The by-law changes that were presented at the last PTO meeting for review and a first vote will have a second vote.

CHRISTMAS VACATION

We have scheduled the Christmas break for our students to begin at noon at Friday, December 21st and end when classes resume at 7:50 AM on Wednesday, January 9th. We will offer extended care for students from Noon to 6:00 PM on Friday, December 21st. If you will be using this program, please sign your student up in the extended care book. In addition, students need to bring a sack lunch as we do not serve lunch on days that we dismiss at noon.

AUCTION 2007 PARENT SURVEY

Attached to this newsletter is a survey that we would like parents to respond to in regards to our annual school auction. We ask that you complete and return the survey to the school office by **Friday, December 21st**. Please take a moment to fill out the survey objectively to allow us to compile the results and make the recommended changes necessary to improve our auction and the auction process.

EXTENDED CARE PAYMENT CHANGE

We have made a slight change in making payments for extended care, and now ask parents to make their payments directly to the school office. Payments can be sent into the school office in an envelope marked "Extended Care Fees". If you have any questions in regards to your extended care account, please contact Mrs. Cari Usera in the school office. Thank you. Miss Karen Biggs, Extended Care Director.

MUSIC NEWS

Intermediate Christmas Program

St. James School Christmas Concert is Tuesday, December 18th at 6:50 PM in the church. Come and enjoy an evening of Christmas instrumental and vocal music performed by our 3rd, 4th and 5th graders as well as the school Hand Bell choir and Rhythm Ringers. Students should be in their classrooms by 6:30 PM. Hand Bell students and Rhythm Ringers need to report to the church to help set up the bells and chimes. Students may be picked up in their rooms following the program. If anyone has access to a portable digital recorder please let Mrs. Barron know by contacting her at Cathy.Barron@stjames-school.org or calling the school to leave her a message. All students must be dressed in their Christmas best. No jeans please.

The School Choir will have a short practice on Tuesday, December 18th, after school, from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Hand Bells will practice Monday, December 17th, as usual. This is our **last** practice before the concert.

CONSTRUCTION NEWS

As you know over the Christmas break we will be remodeling several of our current spaces and relocating some classrooms to other areas temporarily until the new building is complete. In order to move classroom materials and other items currently stored we need temporary storage. We do have the pod containers donated from MO-CAN Containers for several weeks. As we will be charged a delivery fee for the pods, our out-of-uniform brainstorm to cover the fee, received the most votes as how to obtain the needed money. Next Friday, all of our students may wear their favorite Christmas attire and be out of uniform if they bring in a donation. All donations, a minimum of \$1.00 per student please, will be a great help. Thank you for your support. A special thanks to those of you who tried to help with a truck and delivery.

If you can help us move anytime after 9:00 AM on Friday, December 21st, please contact the school office with that information. Any help you can give, we appreciate.

In order to have adequate time to accommodate the renovation over our Christmas holiday, we have been asked to extend our break by two days. Students will return to class on Wednesday, January 9th, 2008, to allow time for the contractors to provide us with safe access to the lower level of the building. Thank you for your patience with this phase of the construction process, and your understanding about the time extension.

ST. PIUS X SHADOW DAY

Here is a helpful suggestion.....8th grade students can take advantage of our extended time off by shadowing at St. Pius X High School on either Monday, January 7th or Tuesday, January 8th. If they decide to do so, students should contact Missy Petite at St. Pius X, 453-3450, to schedule their shadow day.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST

On Saturday, January 12th, there are high school placement tests scheduled at Archbishop O'Hara, Bishop LeBlond, Cristo Rey, Notre Dame de Sion, Rockhurst, St. Mary's, St. Pius X, and St. Teresa's. The tests are given annually by the Kansas City ~ St. Joseph Diocese as a requirement for entering Catholic high schools. At each location, the doors will open at 8:00 AM, and the test will begin at 8:30 AM. Please call the school of your choice to reserve space for the placement test. When registering, check with the school for cost and the items that students need to bring.

ADVENT GIVING

We wanted to inform you that the Northland Catholic schools were able to raise \$2,610.46 for the Clay County Clothes Closet. Thanks for all of your help for this worthy cause!!!