

What's New at St. James

from the desk of Ms. Saunders

December Is the Month of the Immaculate Conception

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, for the salvation of souls, the reparation of sins, the reunion of all Christians, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father this month. Amen.

We Have Reached December

I have to admit, I am not a fan of winter. I dread the cold and driving on slick, snowy roads. But all of this aside, I do love the space before Christmas. There is just something peaceful and serene about it. One of my favorite things to do this time of year is sit in silence in the glow of my Christmas lights. I put them up earlier than I should've this year, but stressful times call for peaceful measures!

Speaking of stress (aka Covid), right now we have a bit less Covid pressure than we have for awhile. We currently have nine students out for exposure quarantine which is better than we were before Thanksgiving break. I do believe our decision to take a little extra time off before Thanksgiving was a good thing. We were having some issues with staff exposure, so I felt that creating some space between staff members might have helped us to keep us healthier than if we had gone to school those two days. I can't tell you enough how much I appreciate the patience of all of the parents and other family members throughout all of this. We are doing our best to make thoughtful decisions that hopefully allow us to have more days in school.

I've been hearing through the grapevine that many of you would like to see more communication coming your way from the school. I can honestly say that newsletters and updates have never been my strong suit. I will do my best to send you more regular updates. I can completely understand your concerns. I will say that it is a challenge to keep you updated when things change as rapidly as they have this year. But I can definitely do a better job! As always, if you have any questions at all please feel free to call, text, or email me at any time. I'll always get back to you.

I sincerely hope that each of you have a restful and blessed Christmas season. I would say this year, we have all earned it!

God bless and Merry Christmas,

Jenny

Class Christmas Presentations

Although we haven't been able to have our traditional Christmas program this year, several of our classes have been putting together their own presentations.

Mrs. McMillan's third grade classes performed their rendition of Our Lady of Guadalupe last Friday. They did a wonderful job, especially considering what little chance they have had to prepare. I am so proud of them!!!! Be sure to check out their play on our Facebook page.

Mrs. Goettemoeller's and Mrs. Fischer's preschool class have also performed their Christmas songs. You can definitely tell how hard they have practiced! There really isn't anything much more uplifting than preschoolers singing Christmas songs. Their performances are also on our Facebook page.

Finally, Ms. Simmons's fifth graders have been working so hard on Christmas songs and their recitation. I had the pleasure of watching them practice a few days ago. Wow!!! I was very impressed by all of their hard work. They will be performing and recording their performance this Friday. As soon as it is completed, I will put it on our Facebook page.

Please be sure to check out all of our presentations and let the kids know what a wonderful job they have done!



Eclipz Popcorn

Eclipz popcorn will be delivered to St. James in the next few days. We plan to send your popcorn orders home on Friday. If this is a gift, be sure to let Mrs. Helsel in the office know so that she doesn't send your orders home with your child. 238-0281

School Shop

We have new offerings in our St. James School Store. You can order at any time, but if you ordered by December 12, your orders will be ready to be picked up by this Friday. Again, if your order is a gift for

your child, give Mrs. Helsel a shout (238-0281), and she won't send it home with your child.

https://stores.inksoft.com/st_james_stjoseph/shop/home

1st Quarter Blue and Gold Honor Roll

In all of the chaos this year, we forgot to announce our Blue and Gold Honor Roll recipients. We are so proud of our St. James Scholars:

3rd: Gold (all As): Isabela Garcia, Romey Hann, Tag Helsel, Michael McNutt, Parker Ozenberger, Aleigha Shaffer, Creighton Thompson

Blue (A's & B's): Evan Charboneau, Joshua Green, Kaden Williams

4th: Gold Meadow Bartlow, Evynn Freund, John-Paul Goettemoeller, Evelyn Kretzer, Adam Mandracchia, Farrah Walters

Blue: Declan Daugherty, Liam Healey

5th: Gold - none

Blue: Grayson Flint-Ochoa, Pax Helsel, Syrianna Saxton, Jude Stewart, Blakeli Swope

6th: Gold: Brooks Flores, Haven Wright

Blue: Brennan Armes, Victorria Barron, Tiger Bartlow, Annistyn Gwinn, Chase Seiter, Sabria VanWicklin, Madelon Williams

7th: Gold: Dustin Duke, Sullivan Kamler, Marah Rocha

Blue: Rilyn Conard, Celeste Kelley, Brielle Pearce

8th: Gold: Jorja Lageschulte, Harper Wright

Blue: Tripp Helsel, Demi Swope, Gavin Weiland

Upcoming Dates

Last Day of 1st Quarter/1st Semester: December 18 (grade cards will be distributed the 1st week after Christmas break.

Christmas Break: December 21 - January 4

Back to School: January 5

School Board Meeting: January 6

Benchmark Testing Window: January 11-14

No School/Professional Development for Teachers: January 15

MLK Day: January 18

Catholic Schools' Week: February 1-5




St. James Catholic School


 Facebook


"And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

John 8:32

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