

NEWS FROM THE HIGH HEAVENS

NO. 7

Friday, February 19, 2010

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE: [WWW.SJCSKS.ORG](http://WWW.SJCSKS.ORG)**

**“A CATHOLIC LEARNING COMMUNITY”**

**“BLESSED ARE THEY WHO MAINTAIN JUSTICE, WHO CONSTANTLY DO WHAT IS RIGHT.”-**

*Psalm 106:3*

Dear Jaguar Parents:

**OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL OUT ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup>.**

**ST. JAMES PARISH/SCHOOL AUCTION WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup>. THIS IS ONLY 5 WEEKS AWAY. PLEASE PRAY FOR THE CONTINUED SUCCESS OF OUR PARISH/SCHOOL AUCTION.**

**AUCTION TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE FOR \$30.00 EACH or \$240 FOR A TABLE OF 8 (table for 8 comes with 8 raffle tickets for the money give-a-way). Includes: Dinner, Live and Silent Auction, Alcoholic and Non-alcoholic beverages. Come and enjoy the fellowship!!!**

**C.S.W. BALLOON LAUNCH**

On Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, of Catholic Schools Week, we celebrated the beginning of C.S.W. with a Balloon Launch. Three balloons have been returned so far. The letters that accompanied the balloons are posted on the bulletin board in the hallway near the breezeway to the church.

Balloons returned so far are listed below:

**Kiersten Lowe – Pre-4** - Found in Media, Illinois - returned February 10th.

**Kaitlyn Geist – Pre-4** – Found in Kansas City, Missouri - returned February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Tommie Schaffner – Kindergarten** – Found in Overland Park, Kansas - returned February 4<sup>th</sup>.

**FEBRUARY OPTIMIST STUDENT OF THE MONTH**

Khloe Woltemath is our February Optimist Student of the Month. Khloe has such a positive attitude. She works hard all of the time and really wants to learn. Khloe is a fantastic classroom helper as well. Congratulations Khloe!

**CALENDAR**

We try our best to communicate all activities that are taking place at your child/ren's school. We send home a monthly calendar that not only has the lunch menu; but also the calendar of events. Things do come up or change after the printing of the calendar and when that happens we do our best to communicate such changes in your Family Folders or by sending notes home with the children. We believe we do an excellent job communicating. If ever you need an additional copy of the monthly calendar of events or newsletters please just ask and one will be sent home.

### **KLEENEX SHORTAGE**

With the amount of colds that we have been experiencing this year, we are currently suffering from a kleenex shortage. If you would like to donate a couple boxes of Kleenex to the school, it would be greatly appreciated. Please bring any donations to the school office. Thank you to those who have been generous already with their donations.

### **LENT**

Lent at St. James Catholic School is always special. The splendid liturgies that Father Schemm and Father Lisle provide, with the Stations of the Cross, The Benediction, and the Rosary led by Mrs. Allen. By having the children attend Masses at St. James provides so many valuable and rare opportunities for preparing souls of our students for the graces of Easter. Such are some of the **UNIQUE ADVANTAGES OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION.**

### **RECRUITMENT TIME IS NOW!!!**

Education in Catholic schools is better education. We have high standards, effective discipline and a caring atmosphere, all of which encourage student achievement. Our students have freedom to learn cognitively, and to grow emotionally and spiritually. Individual needs receive the attention they deserve. This should not be news to you. When you enrolled your child in a Catholic school, you showed your desire to provide that child with the best education possible. You demonstrated your faith in our school community. We ask you to go one step further. As parents, you are public relations representatives of our school. Let other parents know what our school offers to students. When public education in America is criticized for its shortcomings, let your friends know that there is an alternative, a school committed to the mental, moral, and spiritual growth of every student. Brag a little about your participation in our school community. Show your pride in your child's achievements and in the school that helps to make them possible.

### **FOR PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN PARENTS**

St. James Catholic School is currently making contacts for preschool and kindergarten age children to attend St. James School during the 2010-2011 school year.

We use the current registration list from St. James to make parent contacts. If you're interested in sending your child/ren to SJCS for preschool or kindergarten and you have not currently registered at St. James Catholic Church this year please contact the school office. Children must be 3, 4, or 5 years of age by August 31<sup>st</sup>, before they can attend preschool or kindergarten.  
Hopefully classes will fill fast.

**Kindergarten Parents Night Out** *(for families who will have a kindergartner in 2010-2011)* will be held Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the school Community Room. The candle light dinner is served by the St. James Home and School Association. There is no cost. **Reservations need to be called into the school office by noon, Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. Babysitting will be provided as well. Please turn into the school office the number of children that will need childcare.**

**While there is no tuition for your children to attend St. James, you must be registered, be an active steward of time, treasure, and talent, and attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation.**

**PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

Preschool and kindergarten parents may register for the 2010-11 school year on Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup> during the following times: 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**PRE-ENROLLMENT NOW TAKING PLACE**

2010-2011 Registration forms are being sent home in the Family Folders. The registration form is pre-printed with information that is currently entered into Powerschool. Please look these over carefully and make any changes that need to be made...some of the information has changed and we need the updates. **Registration fees are \$130.00 per student K-4<sup>th</sup> and \$155.00 per student 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, and a \$5.00 Home & School fee per student.**

If *you choose* to make payments in advance prior to next fall you may do so. Send the payments to the school office or put them in an envelope marked "St. James Catholic School" and place them in the collection basket at Mass.

**THERE WILL BE A LATE REGISTRATION FEE OF \$50.00 PER STUDENT IF REGISTRATION FORMS ARE NOT IN BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> FOR CHILDREN CURRENTLY ENROLLED. FEES DO NOT NEED TO BE PAID, BUT THE FORM NEEDS TO BE TURNED IN. FINAL REGISTRATION DATE WILL BE IN AUGUST AND WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE CHURCH BULLETIN.**

The reason we're doing this is because of the reordering cost involved. Thus, it's very important that you state your intention as soon as possible. All fees need to be paid prior to the first day of school in order for your child/ren to attend. The first day of school hasn't been set yet. We will work on the new school calendar in March. **IF YOU AREN'T FOR SURE LET MR. GUY KNOW IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE SO YOU WON'T BE CHARGED A LATE FEE IN AUGUST.**

**ST. JAMES PARISH/SCHOOL AUCTION QUILT RAFFLE**

The St. James Parish/School Auction committee is raffling off your choice of eight quilts. From now until March 12<sup>th</sup>, you can buy chances to win your choice of eight beautiful quilts that are being displayed in either the school foyer or the church foyer. You can purchase chances in the school office or the church office for a donation of \$1.00 per chance or \$10.00 for 12 chances.

**HOT LUNCH PROGRAM**

St. James Catholic School provides a Hot Lunch Program as a service to the students and parents. Providing a Hot Lunch Program is not a requirement or mandated policy from the Diocese of Wichita. As a parent, if you have any concerns with the Hot Lunch Program please contact Mr. Guy in the office. We would also like the Hot Lunch volunteers to drop by the office after serving and let us know how things went.

### **ST. JAMES MOM'S GROUP**

The St. James Moms' Group meets every Tuesday of each month at 8:00am in the Church Community Room, unless the kids are out of school that day. Please come and join us at our next meeting this coming Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. **BOB VOBORIL, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, WILL BE A GUEST PRESENTER AT THE MOMS' GROUP ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>.**

### **SCRIP GIFT CARDS**

St. James School will continue to sell scrip gift cards. There are hundreds of gift cards to choose from (Apparel & Accessories, Department & Discount Stores, Electronics, Entertainment, Gas & Auto, Home Décor/Improvement, Sporting Goods, Travel, Online & Mail Order, Specialty Retailers, and Dining). These are great for birthday gifts, or they can also be used for just everyday shopping...everyone goes to Wal-mart, etc. There are no charges other than the card's face value. St. James Catholic School will get anywhere from 1.5% to 19% of these purchases, depending on the gift card that you buy. **The next order will be placed Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**, and the cards will be in on Thursday or Friday. We encourage you to contact the school office at 775-5721 to place an order! A GREAT way to help support your school while doing your everyday or gift buying.

### **PARISH/SCHOOL AUCTION NOTES**

The Auction Committees have been working very hard to make the auction a success. The children are the reason we hold the auction. It gives us the extra funds to provide for the children. Here are ways that you can help: sell tickets after Mass, selling raffle tickets, soliciting businesses that you work for or frequent regularly, donating items to be auctioned off, decorations the week of the auction, help set up tables and chairs, help clerk at the auction or help clean up; there are many ways that you can help. Please call the school office. **All help is appreciated.** Another way to help and have a great time is to purchase a ticket and come to the auction.

If you have never been to our Parish/School Auction this would be a great year to come and see how much fun it can be!!! For those of you who have come to the Auction and know how great it is, bring a friend!

***Whether working, bidding or just enjoying the dinner we guarantee a great time!***  
**Call Cathy Phillips in the school office at 775-5721 for more information or to volunteer.**

### **CLASS BASKETS FOR THE PARISH/SCHOOL AUCTION**

Each year the school children help out by putting together gift baskets for their respective classes to be auctioned of the night of the Parish/School Auction. Below is the list for your child's class, please help out by donating an item or money to help by items for the baskets.

**Pre4- Let's Pretend:** Boy/girl dress-up clothes, Puppets/theater, playhouse items, and workshop items. Anything to jumpstart the imagination!

### **CLASS BASKETS FOR THE PARISH/SCHOOL AUCTION Continued**

**Kindergarten – Birthday Package:** Money for pump it up gift card, cake, neutral gender décor, goodie bags, etc.

**1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> grade:** Children's names will be put in a hat and drawn out to decide who helps with which basket. **Mom's Day out:** manicure, pedicures, massages, hair salons, lotions, bath salts, perfumes,

lunch gift certificate, babysitting gift certificate (maybe 6<sup>th</sup> grade kids could help with that). **Big Boy**

**Toys:** Golf, hunting, fishing, camping supplies, tools, etc....anything Dad would like.

**3<sup>rd</sup> – Whiz Kidz:** Anything for the science guru – ant farms, habitats, telescopes, microscopes, magic items, etc.

**4<sup>th</sup> grade – Dad’s Night to Cook:** Gift certificate to any food establishment (you can either get donated certificates or just by them), also grilling items, etc.

**5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade – Off to College:** Mini Fridge (several families could donated money to purchase larger items), small vacuum sweeper, pop-up hamper, Starbucks gift certificate, Kids could fill a jar with quarters from now till auction for laundry mat, fast-food gift certificate, bed raiser, power strips, etc.

### **DIAPER DRIVE FOR SINGLE MOM**

The St. James 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade class will be having a diaper drive in the month of February for Kayla Frakes, a single mom in our parish, for her new baby boy Easton. If you would like to help her out, there will be a box in the school foyer to put your donations. All sizes are welcome.

Thank you for your donations!

### **AUCTION QUILT HELP NEEDED**

Each year we try to make a quilt or other memory project for every class for the auction. This year we need help. We have commitments to make wall hangings or other projects for Pre3, Pre4, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, 4<sup>th</sup> grade, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade. We still need ideas for Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>. If you could talk to a family member or friend who sews who may be willing to make a wall hanging, or maybe you could think of a different project you could make. In recent years, we’ve had a decorative mirror frame, handprint tablecloths, and aprons, etc. The ideas are endless. If you know of someone or if you would like to help out...please call Cathy in the School office!

### **FEBRUARY JEANS DAY MONEY**

For the month of February the Jeans Day money went toward the “Pennies for Patients.” It is for the Wichita Chapter of the Kansas Leukemia Society. The amount raised was \$35.00.

### **RELIGION QUIZ BOWL PRACTICE AND TOURNAMENT**

There will be a practice meet at St. Anne’s Catholic School in Wichita on Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> for participants in the Religion Quiz Bowl. Drivers are needed. If you can help drive contact Mr. Guy at the school office. The practice meet will begin at 2:00pm and last till approximately 3:00-3:15pm.

Religion Bowl practices are held on Tuesday mornings at 7:20am and Friday after school. The Tuesday practices will be February 23<sup>rd</sup>, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, March 9<sup>th</sup>, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, and March 30<sup>th</sup>. Anyone that would like to ask questions to the students may contact Mr. Guy in the school office.

### **BATTLE OF THE BOOKS CLUB MEETINGS AND TOURNAMENTS**

Mrs. Hoffmann, Mrs. Standfast, and Mr. Guy will be working with the “Battle of the Books” team members as they prepare for their tournaments. The dates for the tournaments and locations are:  
Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – St. Mary – Derby

Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – St. Mary – Newton

Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> – All Saints – Wichita

Practices will be held after school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:15-4:00pm beginning next week. Volunteers are being requested to assist asking students questions pertaining to a series of books they have been reading. If you can assist contact Mr. Guy in the school office.



**From Left to Right: Annie Allen, Karla Miranda, Brittny Whiteside, Michael Hoffmann, Thomas Buchanan, and Lindsey Hallock.**

### **GREAT PLAINS HONOR BAND**

Congratulations to sixth graders, Annie Allen, Michael Hoffmann, Karla Miranda, and Brittny Whiteside, and fifth graders, Thomas Buchanan and Lindsey Hallock. These five St. James band students represented our school at the Great Plains Honor Band this past weekend in Andover. There were three fifth grade bands and three sixth grade bands made up of students from around the area. The bands were directed by various band directors from the tri-state area. They spent the day practicing 4-5 songs and then played them for an auditorium full of parents and relatives later that afternoon. Congratulations to these five students for representing St. James with their dedication and talent!

### **LITTLE HOUSE BOOK CLUB MEETINGS**

The Little House Book Club meetings will be announced next week. Students are to finish "The Long Winter" by the end of next week.

**LITTLE WOMENS HOSPITALITY GROUP**

There will be a Little Womens Hospitality Group meeting next Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 3:15 – 5:00pm in the Church Classroom.

**POPPING AND SERVING POPCORN**

St. James has two popcorn poppers and a lot of popcorn. If any parent would like to pop and serve popcorn to the children as they leave for the day may contact the school office. This can be any day(s) of the week.

**NEW GUARDIAN ANGELS DIRECTOR**

Hi, I'm Andrea Pletcher and am excited to be in charge of the Guardian Angels Program. I am a mother of two girls, Claire, who is 4 and Callie, who is one. My husband, Dane, and I moved to Augusta two years ago. I enjoy cooking, yard work, and taking care of my family. I am looking forward to watching your children for you after school.

Have a nice day!

Yours in Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,

Richard Guy, Principal  
St. James Catholic School