

"In whatever distress you may be, I beg you to let me know. And I will help you, according to my ability." ~St. John Neumann

Dear St. James Families,

Happy Friday! What a week it has been! I can't believe the Martin Luther King holiday was only four short days ago. It feels like a lifetime ago! As fun and exciting as a snow day can be, we all know there is a great deal of disruption that comes along with it. It is amazing, however, to be a part of a team of people who spring into action to get things done and to support one another. I felt that support this week, and I am incredibly grateful for it.

Consolations- Week 20:

- As always, our teachers outdid themselves in preparing for a virtual learning day even though they only learned about the possibility of it happening on Wednesday afternoon. Their dedication, creativity, and care for our children never cease to amaze me.
- The glorious, quiet beauty of a snowfall.
- I experienced community and friendship in many different ways this week. I'm grateful to be a part of this one and to have met some really good people that I now call friends.
- Collegiality was on display often this week as our teachers and staff managed a short week with many disruptions, and supported one another in preparation for today's virtual day.
- Our students are smart, creative, loving, kind, faith-filled, funny, thoughtful, respectful, and amazing in so many ways. I feel blessed to experience their gifts on a daily basis.

Desolations -Week 20:

- The bitter cold that we experienced and the knowledge that there are people who don't have what they need to stay warm and dry.
- Some of our students don't recognize their own gifts and talents, even though they are many.
- Disruptions in our learning were plentiful this week.
- Having to make the decision to delay the start of school or close for the full day knowing that it will inconvenience and cause stress for many families.

I hope that your student's virtual day was not too stressful and that they were able to find some time to enjoy the snow. I hope that you are able to see through the many stressors that can come with winter weather and school closings and find joy in the wonder of a snowfall.

I am blessed. I am happy.

Many blessings,
Mrs. Colleen McManus

News and Information for the Coming Weeks -

Time is Running out on our Ornament Scholarship:

Ornament Scholarship Raffle has been extended until Catholic Schools Week. The winner will receive 50% of the proceeds toward their 2024-2025 tuition. To purchase an ornament please click [HERE](#).

Catholic Schools Week - January 28-February 3

Catholic Schools Week is an exciting time for us to celebrate our community and all that makes us unique and special. There will be many activities throughout the week in honor of our volunteers, our families, our surrounding community, our awesome teachers and staff, and our equally awesome students.

Sunday, January 28 - *Celebrating our Parishes* - all families are invited and encouraged to join us at 11:00 Mass at St. Madeline's followed by an Open House at the school.

Monday, January 29 - *Celebrating our Volunteers* - to all of our generous volunteers, look for an email inviting you to an appreciation breakfast.

Tuesday, January 30 - *Celebrating our Families*.

On this day we would like to invite Grandparents, or a person who is "Like a Grandparent" to our students, to join us for a brief visit. During their time here they will be treated to a short student performance, a visit to the Book Fair, and a visit to their special child's classroom. There is a morning session for the friends of our PreK-1st graders and an afternoon session for the friends of our 2nd-8th graders. As much as we would love to host all of the special people in our lives, we have to limit the amount of guests. Thank you for your understanding and please look for other opportunities to visit in the future!

A registration link is available on the [Current Families Tab](#) of the website.

Wednesday, January 31 - *Celebrating our Faculty & Staff*

Thursday, February 1 - *Celebrating our Community*

Friday, February 2 - *Celebrating our Students*

[Click here for a full agenda.](#)

Job Opening: As you know, Mrs. Dunn has moved on from her job as Music Teacher at St. James Regional. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please share the below job posting with them.

St. James Regional Catholic School is seeking a certified, part-time (2.5 days) teacher to teach Music in grades PK3 to 8 for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year. The position begins on Tuesday, January 23, 2024. The resigning teacher also moderated a Children's Choir and a Ukulele Club outside of class. The ideal candidate will be someone who can share their love and appreciation of music with the students of SJRCS while also expanding their knowledge of basic musical skills and concepts.

Qualified and interested candidates please send your resume and cover letter to the

Principal, Mrs. Colleen McManus, at cmcmanus@stjamesregional.com.

Calendar Events:

January 19 - Dress Down Day (Sports Teams) - Cost \$1 **This dress down day will be rescheduled. Stay tuned for a new date.**

January 22

- PreK-3&4 Report Cards Issued
- Winter Concert - 9AM and 6PM School Gym

January 25 - Pre K 3&4 Parent/Teacher Conferences 4-7PM

January 26

- Pre-K3&4 Conferences - **(No school for Pre-K)**
- Family Bingo - 6:30-8:30 More information below

January 28-February 3 Catholic Schools Week!

Full calendar can be found on our [website](#).

Home and School News and Events

Family Bingo !

There are only a few tickets left!

Come join the fun on Friday 1/26 for just \$8 per person. Some amazing prizes are waiting for you and, of course, the return of everyone's favorite Bingo Caller !

Visit the school [payment tab](#) on the website to secure your spot.

Doors open at 6pm and the fun will start at 6:30pm.

If you would like to volunteer to help us during the event please use the link below, your help is much appreciated as always.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CA4A728AAFAC70-47184879-family>

If you would like to donate any items to the raffle baskets please see link for requested items. Thank you in advance.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CA4A728AAFAC70-46954874-family>

Joe Corbi's

Please check your children's book bags for all information on our Joe Corbi's fundraiser. Some great prizes to be had for our kids.

Pick up will be Thursday February 29th from 4-6pm.

Play Art Contest

Please [see information and requirements](#) from our fabulous Art Teacher, Mrs Doerr.

Information about this was sent home before Christmas break. Please contact Home & School at SJR.homeandschool23@gmail.com with any questions.

Can't wait to see what our Bulldogs design.