

March 31, 2017

Dear Families,

Happy Spring! I am writing this letter to inform you of the latest news at St. James Parochial School. You may also find this letter on our St. James Website.

- On Monday, March 27, 2017, I had the opportunity to visit St. Edwards School Open House along with other Catholic Schools in the vicinity. As you know, St. Edwards is closing in June and parents are searching for the best school for their children. We have 3 children from St. Edwards that have already visited our school for Grade 3,6,and 8 for next year.
- A special thanks to the Student Council members who prepared the Mass on Thursday for my dad. My father believed in Catholic Education and my sisters and I attended Catholic Schools. At the time, the Catholic High School closed due to financial reason so we had to attend public education. Otherwise, my parents would have sacrificed for us to attend a Catholic High School Education. Thank you for your prayers, cards, flowers, and attendance at the Mass.
- An Awards Assembly was held on Friday, March 31st in our school gym. A list of awards will be on our website. Congratulations to all the students who received a certificate for Honor Roll and Principal's list.
- Please return your Tuition Assistance Forms to me by April 7th. Thank you.
- Prime-Time Reading Night was held on March 30th. A special thanks to Laurie Barrette, Michelle Brown, and Kim Barrette, Ann Aulerich, Jim Weigel and Diane Barrette for organizing the event for the students.
- Eileen Eldridge and Mariann LaPointe attended a math workshop on instruction on March 23rd.
- Our prayers and thoughts are with Eileen Eldridge's mother who passed away on Friday, March 24th.
- The Diocese of Norwich will use the Iowa Assessments and the Cognitive Abilities Test for spring 2017 during the weeks of April 24-May 12th. Students will be tested during those weeks. Practice tests will be given to the students prior to the actual testing time.
- Please complete the Parent Survey for St. James School by April 7th. All the Catholic Elementary Schools will be having parents complete a survey. We had a choice of 2 surveys. I felt that the open-ended questions gave parents an opportunity to respond better. I will compile the results and share the information with the superintendent. In addition, I will share the results with you as parents as well. No names will be mentioned in the report. Thank you.
- St. James School Mother/Son Baseball Night is scheduled for Saturday, April 29th at MCCOY Stadium. A flyer has been sent home with your children. The form is due by Thursday, April 6th. Checks payable to St. James School. Please call the main office if you haven't received a form.
- Father John has arranged a Grade 8 Retreat for our students on May 30th. The retreat will be during school hours at St. James Church. He will have guest speakers for the students.
- Our condolences and prayers to Eileen Eldridge's mother who passed away last Friday. Her mass will be held at St. Patrick's Cathedral next Tuesday, April 4th.
- Students have the opportunity to begin wearing shorts on April 3rd to June (end of school). Grades 1-7 are required to wear Navy Blue Shorts and Grade 8 Tan Walking Shorts. Belts are required. Sneakers may be worn

with walking shorts, but boots are considered outerwear. No boots, clogs, high-tops, flip-flops or open-back shoes are permitted. On Mass days, you are still required to wear your Mass attire. No shorts!!!

- Mrs. Hanley will be attending a Two-Day Intensive Science Leadership Institute Workshop in Boston on May 4th and 5th. The program: ' Strategies to Enhance Your Program and Increase Student Achievement in Science' will be presented. The workshop is specifically designed for Grades 6-12 professional science educators.
- Reminder: We will have a practice Lockdown Drill in April. Our last drill went really well. We are required to have 3 Lockdown Drills per year.
- The Raffle tickets arrived on Friday. They will be distributed next week due to Professional Development and Early Dismissal today. Deacon Rene has indicated that it will be dollar for dollar against the tuition. All sold tickets with money must be returned to the main office to be tabulated. All stubs must be filled out completely. Parents will be the sole seller until June 7, 2017, at that time parish sales will begin. Any family wishing to donate to another family or who sell more than their tuition can name the remainder to another family. You will have 20 tickets in the beginning to sell. The cost is still \$5.00 per ticket. The main office will be tracking tickets sold and monies on a spreadsheet. The drawing will be held on September 17th.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the main office. Have a great weekend!!!

Sincerely,

Linda M. Joyal/Principal