



# St. James School

The fear of the Lord is training for wisdom, and humility goes before honors. —Proverbs 15:33

## Dear Families,

The years in the principal chair go by very, very quickly. The days, the projects, the flow of ideas all run together, in an ever-moving tapestry. It is important, however, to take stock every once in a while to assess where we're at with plans and dreams, and to celebrate that which we have brought to fruition.

The year began with the formation of a Safety Committee, which pulled together effective carline, pick up, and drop-off solutions. This group has continued to meet and project more safe projects to be put in place next year.

We also announced a project to rejuvenate the gym. Through the herculean efforts of Mr. Terry O'Brien, the gym was painted from ceiling to floor. The floor was refinished and a new banner which highlights our community spirit now graces our walls. Plans for further developments and upgrades for the Athletic program continue to evolve. This summer, the roof will be redone, and sights are

now set on the school's fields in East Killingly.

We set technology as a goal for the 2015-2016 school year. I am so pleased by



what the team, led by the new Assistant Principal, Julie Fauxbel, was able to accomplish. The updating of the computer lab and the purchase of the mobile lab, complete with thirty new laptops and wireless printer was far beyond anyone's expectations. The great community spirit that was evident for this project was heartwarming, as well. Students, teachers, and donors all pulled in a unified effort to do the impossible. Great community spirit was also evident in the clean up

of the Early Education playground and the very delightful Teacher Appreciation Week. Many thanks to the families who came forward to share their joyful spirit.

The youngest of our community were not the only ones to see an upgrade in their playground area. Through the efforts of Mr. Greg Despathy, a rather formidable 10-foot tall basketball hoop was erected for the older students.

We have successfully hosted an accreditation visit by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. This was no small undertaking and countless hours were logged by staff members.

We have produced yet another wonderful play. *The Princess who had No Name*, directed by the multitalented Jim Weigel was a grand success!

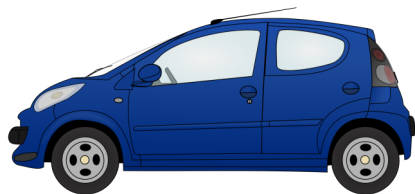
Jim also spread his wing this year, as always with the interest of the school at heart, to open the very successful, Pourings and Passages Book Store.

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SJS

June 3, 2016





Last day for hot lunch:  
June 7, 2016

## Drop-off and Dismissal notes

June 6-9, 2016

Due to the set-up of the tents for the Bazaar, there will be no morning recess this week, so rainy-day drop off will be in effect.

Also, there will be no carline dismissal. This will happen through the classroom as we do at Thanksgiving. Thank you.



Cont. from pg 1

This year, standing on the shoulders of what Jennifer Litke and Melissa Whiteley have done, we have moved from Development to an Advancement model for financial sustainability. Shawn Bertram, as the first sitting Chair of this committee brings a new vitality to this process and I am sure that we will all benefit from his vision.

The end of the school year can also be a time for good-byes. This year, we will lose Ms. Christine St. George, Ms. Regina Pragana, and Mrs. Pamela Ruff. We thank them for the gifts that they have brought to our lives, and we wish them well in their new endeavors.

Finally, I would like to offer my thanks for all that each of you and your children bring to our community. It is a privilege to know you and be your Principal. In closing off the school year, I offer the following blessing for you and those you love:

### ***An Irish Blessing***

*May the road rise up to meet you,*

*May the wind be always at your back.*

*May the sun shine warm upon your face,*

*The rains fall soft upon your fields.*

*And until we meet again,*

*May God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

*May God be with you and bless you:*

*May you see your children's children.*

*May you be poor in misfortune,*

*Rich in blessings.*

*May you know nothing but happiness*

*From this day forward.*

*May the road rise up to meet you,*

*May the wind be always at your back.*

*May the warm rays of the sun fall upon your home*

*And may the hand of a friend always be near.*

*May green be the grass that you walk on,*

*May blue be the skies above you,*

*May pure be the joys that surround you,*

*May true be the hearts that love you.*

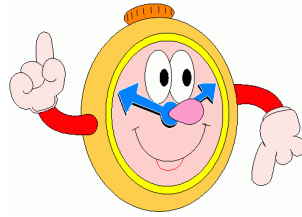
Peace,

Monique Almquist, Principal

120 Water Street  
 Danielson, CT 06239  
 Phone: 860-774-3281  
 Fax: 860-779-2137  
 Website:  
 www.stjamesdanielson.org



This summer we anticipate a new roof for our gym.  
 Watch for activity early in August.



**Last Day Schedule:**  
 10:00 a.m. Academic Awards  
 12:40 p.m. Dismissal  
 No Extended Day

**Summer Office Hours:**  
 Tues-Wed-Thurs  
 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.



# June



5	6	7	8	9 Awards Ceremony 10 a.m. Last Day of School	10 Bazaar	11 Bazaar
12 Bazaar	<i>Office Closed</i>			16	17	18
19	20 Summer Camp begins	21 Summer Of- fice Hours begin	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2