

SAINT JAMES SCHOOL
SEPTEMBER 4, 2019

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Important Dates

- 9/6: Back to School Mass, 10:15 AM
- 9/9: PreK 3 & 4 - First Day of School
- 9/19: Back to School Night (6:30-8 PM)
- 9/28: Family Fall Festival

back2school
prayer

"Dear Lord, use my eyes to **see** new friends.

Open my ears to **hear** my teacher.

Open my mind to **learn** new things.

Let my heart **remember** YOU are near when I'm afraid.

Help me to **love** others like you do.

I want to **shine** your light so bright in my school."

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Amen.

FROM
THE
PRINCIPAL



As we start our new school year, I want to welcome all of our returning and new students and families. As I walked around the school yesterday, I saw students who were excited and eager, ready to tackle the new year! The administration and teachers have worked very hard to prepare new programs, engaging lesson plans and activities, and challenging curricula. I am so excited for this year!

On Friday, we will celebrate our back-to-school liturgy at 10:15 AM in the church. We hope you can join us!

A few announcements:

- ❖ Please be reminded that the school day starts at 8:30 AM and prayers begin at 8:40. Please make every effort to get your children into the school before 8:40 so they can get a good start to their day
- ❖ Parents are also reminded that, during the school day, the front parking lot is for staff only. If you wish to walk your child to the door, please park in the lot in front of the white house.

It was nice to see so many parents at the Welcome Back coffee this morning. If you were unable to attend, please know that there will be many other opportunities for you to visit the school and get to know your fellow parents. One such opportunity is our Back to School Night on Thursday, September 19 at 6:30 PM. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other parents and your child(ren)'s teachers, and learn more about the school. We hope you can attend!

Mrs. Florendo

School Happenings

BACK

You may have noticed our “Hearts on Fire” logo.

This year, the administration and faculty have adopted a new program we’re calling “Hearts on Fire at Saint James School,” a structured virtue education program for our students:

- 12 virtues will be studied this year:
Courtesy, Patience, Honesty, Generosity, Perseverance, Humility, Gratitude, Self-Control, Listening, Patriotism, Kindness, and Respect
- On the first day of each week, teachers will introduce the virtue we are studying for the week.
- Teachers will brainstorm with the students what the virtue “looks like,” and what it “sounds like.” These will be recorded on a poster and the poster will follow the students to all of their classes.
- At the end of each week, one student from each class will be recognized for most-exemplifying the virtue. The students will receive a certificate and have their picture taken.
- At the end of the 12-week cycle, we will have a school-wide celebration to recognize all of our students’ hard work in living in virtue.
- At the end of the 12-week cycle, we will start at the beginning and study all 12 virtues again! And we will do the same for another 12-weeks at the end of the year.
- In the end, all 12 virtues will have been studied 3 times throughout the year.



We hope you will show your support of this program in the conversations you have at home. Each week, in News & Notes, I will highlight the virtue we are studying and provide glimpses into what the children are saying each virtue “looks like” and “sounds like,” so you can help to reinforce what they are learning in school.

I look forward to partnering with you in this new endeavor! Let’s work together to set our children’s hearts on fire!



Home-School

BACK



Donate your clean costumes in good condition and accessories for the costume sale at the Family Fall Festival! Drop off at the box inside the front office until **September 26th**. Contact Beth DiDomenico at bethdido@hotmail.com if you have any questions. Thank you!

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Would you like to get involved by being a parent volunteer for SJS recess or lunch periods? Now is the time to sign up! To be cleared for volunteering you'll need to attend a *Virtus Training Class* and also get fingerprinted. You must pre-register for the Virtus Training Classes using this link:

https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg_list.cfm?theme=0. Choose the "Metuchen" Diocese for a list of classes and locations.

There is a class offered at St. James Church on September 11, at 7pm. You can obtain a fingerprint form from Mrs. McDonald in the front office

Once you've obtained these clearances, just contact Cindy Galiani at sjsplayroundreminder@gmail.com to get on the schedule.

Spirituality Opportunities

BACK

Please Join Us... For a Back to School Coffee

Friday, September 20th

after Dropoff

Church Basement Library



Walking With The Lord:

A Mother's Journey

Featured Speaker Noreen DeMarco

Mother of 7 St. James Graduates

Sponsored by St. James School Spirituality Committee

Challenge Club Kickoff/Info Meeting


Challenge

Sunday, September 15, 2019

7:00-8:00 p.m.

in the pastoral center meeting rooms
(girls and parents all invited)

Challenge is a dynamic club for girls
ages 10-14 to grow in virtue, friendship,
and their Catholic faith. Girls will also
develop leadership skills and
a love of service as they participate
in apostolic projects to help
our community, near and far.

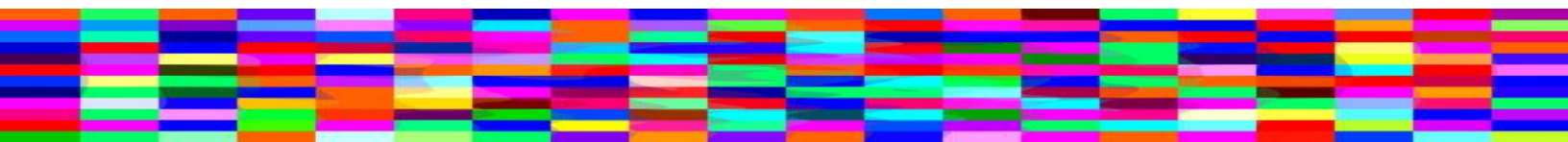
For more information, contact
Alison Wessels at (908) 208-4362 or
alisondwessels@gmail.com.

Counselor's Corner

BACK

Welcome to the 2019/2020 school year!! I hope you and your families had a fun and relaxing summer! I am looking forward to a great year ahead!

I will be in the office on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays this year and I can be reached via email at kmcinerney@sjsbr.org or by phone at 908.766.4774 ext. 224. Please reach out at any time with questions or concerns you may have.



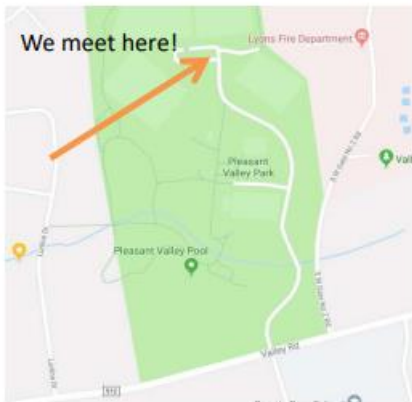


Who's Ready to Run?



**St. James Cross-Country Team Starts Practice on
Tuesday, September 10!**

SJS needs runners of all skill levels in grades 1-8 to join the St. James Runners.



- Practices are two times per week, every Tuesday and Thursday. Meets are typically on Saturday mornings.
- Practices are held from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM
- Practice is at Pleasant Valley Park by the baseball fields in the back of the park
- Registration Forms are available on the Team's Shutterfly site: <https://sjsspartansxc.shutterfly.com/>
- Bring your FAST!

**If you need any information about the program you can contact
Matthew Wizeman at 917.854.5012 or matthewwizeman@yahoo.com.**

**If you are new runner at St. James, reach out to me via email and
I will get you access to the Shutterfly site.**