



ST. JAMES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1010 Belmont Avenue
Augusta, Kansas 67010
(316) 775-5721

NEWS FROM THE HIGH HEAVENS NO. 2

Friday, September 30th, 2011
"A CATHOLIC LEARNING COMMUNITY"

Dear Jaguar Parents,

We are now in our seventh week of shared responsibility in building Catholic Christian values and educational skills in the young people God has placed in our care.

The unique partnership developed between parents and school staff has been a fundamental reason for the success of our school program. We appreciate your ideas, your cooperation in helping with many activities, and your support. As role models for our students, you are far more important than you may have realized.

We adults are "on stage" much of the time, and the way we respond to a situation certainly affects our children. How do we react when another driver cuts in front of our car? What do we do or say when we are delayed in the grocery store checkout line? Do we take responsibility for our mistakes? Does our language when we talk to or about others reflect the love Christ expects of us?

Those of you who can take an active part in our home-school partnership by volunteering become role models for other students as well as your own children. Whether you can be available a few hours each week or only occasionally, there are many opportunities for you to share in our activities. Please talk to your child's teacher or come to the school office. You are vital and valued members of our school community.

LUNCH GUESTS

Parents/Siblings/Grandparents are always welcome to eat lunch with their child/ren. Please, call the school office (775-5721) by 8:45am to make those reservations. We have to call in our order and do not order extras to cover. Thank you so much for assisting us in this matter! Remember to check-in at the school office when you arrive!

ALSO, FAST FOOD AND POP SHOULD NOT BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL FOR SCHOOL LUNCHESES (I.E. HAPPY MEALS, ETC.) PER CAFETERIA RULES #8 & #10, PG. 17 OF THE PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK). This includes ALL Fast Food.

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE PUMPKIN PATCH DRIVERS

Miss Yates and the St. James Kindergarten class would like to send a special THANK YOU to all the parents who drove them to Applejack's Pumpkin Patch on Monday, September 26th –

TRAVIS & AMBER BRUNDEGE, SHAWN & ANDREA DAVIS, ALEX KARKINS, and KATI RENVILLE. Thank you also to those parents who came to join us – **NICK McCLURE, ANGELA PENNYCUFF, JOYCE STANDFAST, and JOY STEPHENSON.** It was a FUN day for all of us!

"HOME OF THE JAGUARS"



Preparing Minds for a Lifetime and Souls for Eternity.

ICE

St. James has the luxury of having a quality ice machine. If any family would like to fill up their ice chests or bag some ice you may do so free of charge. Please contact the school office when doing so. We already have some bagged ice in the walk-in freezer...please use this first!

PARENT/GRANDPARENT/VISITOR CHECK IN-CHECK OUT

Please make sure to check in and to check out of the school office anytime, you are visiting or going to lunch with your child. There is a Check-in/Check-out (red) folder in the office. You will also need to get a visitor's button to wear while you are in the building. Please let anyone who might be visiting the school know about this policy. Thank you for your cooperation!

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ST. JAMES SCHOOL TEACHERS

Name: Corrie Meyer

Grade Teaching: 1st grade

Where did you get your degree(s): Wichita State University and Ottawa University

Where is your hometown: Garden Plain, Kansas

Do you have any children/grandchildren: No

How do you spend your spare time: Reading, exercising, with family, and photography

What quality do you most like about yourself: My sense of humor, honesty

What quality do you least like about yourself: Perfectionist

What kind of music do you listen to: Country, alternative, and Christian

What is your all-time favorite TV show: American Idol

Name your favorite place in the world: Colorado/mountains

When I was little, I wanted to be... a teacher.

What has surprised you the most about your adult life: How quickly the years go by

What's the most important lesson you have ever learned: Never judge a book by its cover

What is your guiltiest pleasure: Candy

What is your life's motto: The Golden Rule

CAMPBELL'S, TYSON, BOX TOPS, BEST CHOICE LABELS

One of our school service projects for the year is collecting, cutting, and counting labels from Campbell's, Tyson, Box Tops for Education, and Best Choice Labels! If you have been saving them, there are collection bins in front of the school office and in the church foyer. Box Tops are worth 10 cents each, Tyson labels/UPC's are worth 17 cents each, and we get points for Campbell's labels. Please help out our school by saving what you can!

We are also saving pop can tabs for Ronald McDonald House in Wichita...please make sure to save your pop tabs and bring them in to the school also. These are all great ways to help out your school and others who need it.

STREP AT ST. JAMES

We have been having a string of cases of Strep going around St. James. We have had 3 more confirmed cases this week...in 1st and 5th grades. Some of the symptoms of Strep are sore throat, headache, slight to high temperatures, and vomiting. If your child has any two of these symptoms, especially the sore throat, please take the time to get them checked out. This is a very serious disease and can lead to serious complications if not taken care of. If your child has a 100.00 or higher temperature or vomiting, please follow the rules above under HEALTH ROOM. This will help to keep the transmission from child to child down to a minimum. Thank you for your cooperation!

HEALTH ROOM

Remember that if your child has a temperature of 100.0 degrees or greater, he/she must remain at home until fever free for 24 hours without the assistance of fever-reducing medication. The same rule applies to vomiting or diarrhea; the student should be kept home until the vomiting or diarrhea has been gone for 24 hours without the aide of medication. If your child has a rash of any type, it must be covered and documented by a physician whether or not the rash is contagious. Thank you for your cooperation.

Also, remember that the nursing staff here at St. James cannot give your child any prescription or over-the-counter medication unless we have signed authority from your child's physician that it is okay. This goes for Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Neosporin, cold medication, etc. If a child comes in with a scrape or cut, all we can do for them is have them wash it out with soap and water and put a band-aid on. If they come in with a headache or sore throat...all we can do is take a temperature, and have them lay down for a while. We cannot give them any medication (even with your approval) without the doctor's consent. This is a Diocesan Policy, so we have to follow it. Please...before the severe cold season starts...we will need the medication form filled out before we can give any medications.

SPECIAL THANK YOU

We want to say a SPECIAL THANK YOU to CLARENCE MARTINEZ for doing such a wonderful job on the maintenance repairs and projects around the school and church...his stewardship is greatly appreciated.

A special thank you to CON OTTO and ANDREA PLETCHER for helping out during the Lifetouch Fall Portrait Session today. They made sure all of our children looked handsome and gorgeous for their pictures today.
Thank you to both for their stewardship!

DAVE RAMSEY'S FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Back by popular demand! St. James Catholic Church is pleased to once again offer financial expert Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University class on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. beginning October 3rd in the church classroom. The 13-week class is designed to teach you and your family a step-by-step process to get out of debt, stay out of debt, and build wealth. You'll actually have fun as you learn about saving, budgeting, investing, insurance, and more. Class fee is about \$100 per family and includes all materials, including Dave's famous envelope system.

Don't wait to reserve your seat! Call Chrissa Webster at 260-1243 or Megan Vittitow at 775-2388 to learn how to get registered.

HOLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION

Sr. Ursula Fotovich, CSJ, from Wichita and Director of Mission for the Diocese came to St. James on Monday, September 19th to visit with the children in each classroom. She spoke on the work in the mission field and of how appreciative the missionaries are working with the less fortunate in the United States and foreign countries through the donations that the H.C.A. receives.

WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Please join us on Tuesday, October 4th at 7:00pm in the Church Classroom. We will talk about the changes in the Mass. For more information call Allissa Smith at 775-2448.

OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun. October 2 nd	Life Chain – 2:00-3:30pm – 7 th Avenue
Mon. October 3 rd	Blessing of the Animals – 6:00pm – In front of Church National No Bullying Awareness – Blue shirts & Jeans Day
Tues. October 4 th	White Heart Rosary – 8:00am – Church – K-6 th & E-school Friends of Augusta Student of the Month Luncheon Home and School Meeting – 6:00pm Parish Council Meeting – 6:30pm
Wed. October 5 th	Stranger Danger Assembly – 8:45am – PreK-3 rd grades
Thurs. October 6 th	Sectional Principals' Meeting
Fri. October 7 th	October Birthdays Celebrated (Staff)
Mon. October 10 th	White Heart Rosary – 8:00am – Church – K-2 nd & E-school NUT Day Little Flower Girls Club – 3:15-4:30pm – School Community Room
Tues. October 11 th	Fire Safety Assembly – K-6 th grades – 2:30pm
Wed. October 12 th	Little Women Hospitality Group – 3:15-4:30pm – School Comm. Room
Fri. October 15 th	End of First Quarter – 42.5 Days
Sun. October 16 th	Knights of Columbus Breakfast
Mon. & Tues. October 17 th & 18 th	NO SCHOOL – Teachers Convention at KMC
Tues-Thurs. October 18 th -20 th	No Masses at St. James
Mon. October 24 th	White Heart Rosary – 8:00am – Church – K-2 nd & E-school
Tues. October 25 th	School Council Meeting – 6:00pm – School Library Parent Informational Meeting – “Risk Factors to Look for in Children with Substance Abuse – 7:00-8:00pm – School Gymnasium – Sponsored by Mirror, Inc. – Newton, KS
Fri. October 28 th	No Buses Running October Baptismal Celebration
Mon. October 31 st	White Heart Rosary – 8:00am – Church – K-2 nd & E-school Fall Parties Holy Day Vigil Mass – 6:00pm – Church
Tues. November 1 st	Holy Day of Obligation – School is in Session!!! All Saints Day Mass – 8:00am & 7:00pm

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

To honor the feast day of St. Francis, who was known for his love of all of God's creatures, Father will be offering a Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 2nd, at 6:00pm. This blessing is for any animal that you might have as a pet and would like to have blessed. They will gather in front of the Church main entrance. Please make sure that all animals are on leashes and secured in animal crates.

SCHEDULING CONFERENCES WITH TEACHERS

We all know there are times that you need to talk with your students teachers. The teachers are available for morning or after school conferences with parents on a one day advanced notice. You can reach them by email or by calling the school office. Please do not try to talk to the teacher that is on morning or afternoon duty. They are there to keep an eye on our children and keep them safe. All of our teachers would prefer not to have an impromptu meeting during the morning or afternoon which is normally their planning time for class or time to help a student if they need to. Thank you for your cooperation.

VIRTUS PROGRAM – PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN

What does it mean to be *Virtus* certified? This is a guarantee that all priests, religious, and lay people who work or volunteer in a Church apostolate involving contact with children and young people have participated in a live training session about the sin and crime of child sexual abuse, as well as how they can help to prevent it and respond appropriately to it. The program also provides periodic bulletins for ongoing formation in these areas.

The School Council passed this new VIRTUS POLICY on September 15, 2009: We ask that parents of children enrolled in St James Catholic School attend a VIRTUS, Safe Environment Session. It is our hope that parents will take an active role in their children's education and school activities. **It is a requirement of our Diocese that anyone who wishes to volunteer in school activities where they will be around our youth (school volunteer, school parties, school picnics, field trips, drivers ...), must attend a VIRTUS session and have a background check completed.** Attendance at a VIRTUS session is required prior to VOLUNTEERING or WORKING in our school. Training sessions are scheduled throughout the diocese as well as at St James (as needed). Per diocesan guidelines, **you will not be allowed to volunteer or work at St James Catholic School until you have attended a VIRTUS session and a background check has been completed.** Our children are one of our greatest gifts and it is important that we maintain safe environments for them. If you were unable to make it to the August & September training sessions here at St. James, there are several other dates throughout the diocese that you can attend.

VIRTUS training sessions:

- Saturday, October 1st, 2:00-5:00pm, St. Cecilia Parish - Haysville
- Monday, October 24th, 6:00-9:00pm, St. Peter - Schulte
- Tuesday, November 8th, 6:30-9:30pm – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - Wichita
- Monday, November 28th, 6:00-9:00pm – St. Peter - Schulte
- Monday, December 12th, 6:00-9:00pm, St. Peter - Schulte

AUGUSTA’S 16TH ANNUAL LIFE CHAIN

Augusta’s 16th Annual Life Chain is being held this Sunday, October 2nd from 2:00-3:30pm along 7th Avenue (Highway 54) between State & Lulu streets on the North side of the street. Please remain prayerful and respectful and keep driveway entrances clear and watch your children closely. We would love to see you out to support the unborn babies.

WHITE HEART ROSARY

As we reflect on the many gifts of our faith, the image of Mary comes to mind as the perfect model of Christianity. Our church and faith tradition teaches us not only to pray through the intercession of Mary for spiritual help from the Father, but to see her as an example of how to lead a holy life. The month of October is an opportunity to heighten our awareness of the roll of Mary in God's divine plan of salvation. In prayer and in action we need to model our lives after her humble service but also the steadfast faith of the life of Mary from her Immaculate Conception through her sorrow of the cross to her Assumption into Heaven. St. James Catholic School will honor Mary with White Heart Rosary being recited every Monday morning during the month of October (except for October 17th) at 8:00 a.m.

We are lead by Therese Allen and the students. Everyone is invited to attend the rosary. Feel free to sit with your child's class. Grades 3rd-6th will attend the White Heart Rosary the first Monday, but will opt out for an additional religion class the rest of the month.

ROOM PARENTS FOR 2011-2012

<p>Pre-3 Party Parent - Kelly Ebenkamp Yearbook Parent - Candace Ratcliff Auction Parent - Christina Sims Secretary Parent - Alicia Craft</p>	<p>Pre-4 Party Parent - Alissa Smith Yearbook Parent - Erin Sanger Auction Parent - Kathleen Fleming Secretary Parent - Chrissa Webster</p>
<p>Kindergarten Party Parent - Darci Phillips Yearbook Parent - Andrea Davis Auction Parent - Sheryl Litton Secretary Parent - ????</p>	<p>1st Grade Party Parent - Mendy Curry Yearbook Parent - ???? Auction Parent - Andee Kant Secretary Parent - ????</p>
<p>2nd Grade Party Parent - Michelle Bergkamp Yearbook Parent - Holly Schaffner Auction Parent - ???? Secretary Parent - ????</p>	<p>3rd Grade Party Parent - Jana Kohls Yearbook Parent - Nicole Weems Auction Parent - Joyce Standfast Secretary Parent - ??</p>
<p>4th Grade Party Parent - Chris Fisher Yearbook Parent - Teresa Reavis Auction Parent - ???? Secretary Parent - ????</p>	<p>5th/6th Grade Party Parent - Elaine Rogers Yearbook Parent 5th Grade - ???? Yearbook Parent 6th Grade - Therese Allen Auction Parent - Maria Hanson Secretary Parent - Laura Swan</p>

Dear Parents,

As you can see, we are still missing some class room helpers. We need your help to make this year successful. Please contact a Home & School Officer if you can help in any of these areas. To the parents that already have jobs, we will be contacting you with information about your class helper assignment that you signed up for.

Thanks, Home & School

NEW ADDITION TO OUR ST. JAMES FAMILY

Randy and Christine Simms are proud to announce their new addition to their family Evan Charles Simms, born on June 27th, 2011. He weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces, and was 22 inches long. Evan was welcomed home by his big sister Kirsten – Pre3. Congratulations on their new addition!

BLESSING OF THE NEW ASSUMPTION OF MARY STATUE

By a gracious donation of some parishioners, you will notice that a statue of the Assumption of Mary has been added to the rose garden on the east side of the Church. On Wednesday, October 5th, Father would like to take the school children out and bless our new Mary statue after Mass.

We are going to have a small cookie reception to celebrate. Please send a dozen cookies to the school on Wednesday morning if you are able to help out.

OCTOBER FRIENDS OF AUGUSTA STUDENT OF THE MONTH

JAKOB BERGKAMP has been chosen as the October Friends of Augusta Student of the Month recipient. Jakob always comes to school with a smile on his face and a true desire to help others.

Jakob always tries his best on school work and never gives up!

Good work, Jakob!

STUDENTS CANTORING AT MASS

Next week, a schedule will be developed and given to Mrs. Webster who does the music and selection of songs for Friday Masses. Students in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades will be selected first. E-school students will assist Mrs. Webster as well.

LITTLE WOMAN and LITTLE FLOWER CLUBS

A special thank you to **SALLY KORTE** and **WENDY BECKER** for providing their stewardship by offering their services coordinating these two wonderful faith-filled programs. They both do a tremendous job!

NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH – BLUE SHIRT DAY!

October is National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month. On Monday, October 3, 2011 we are going to Participate in “BLUE SHIRT DAY” World Day of Bullying Prevention. Bullying comes in many forms and we want our kids to know what bullying is and to let them know that they aren’t alone if they are being bullied. We plan to have a speaker come later this month to talk to the kids about the different types of bullying and what to do if they are being bullied. If you would like more information please go to www.stompoutbullying.org .



NEW CAGES IN BASEMENT OF SCHOOL

A special **THANK YOU** to **JON PENNYCUFF** with assistance from **DALLAS KORTE** for building the cages to store items in the school basement. JON's idea of building the cages through stewardship saved the school approximately \$1,500.00.

OCTOBER FAMILY OF THE MONTH

This school year I will continue to recognize families for the STEWARDSHIP that they provide for our school. Each month I have a difficult time determining which family will be recognized.

We have so many families that can be recognized and do so much for our school and parish.

Sometimes families are recognized months later than they should be. This month, I am recognizing the RON and TERESA REAVIS family. This family could have easily been recognized last year. They have been on my list for quite some time.

Ron and Teresa have 3 children: Savannah, Leah – a senior at AHS; and Jacob – a 4th grader here at St. James.

Teresa has served as a Room Mother when Jacob was in Kindergarten; Lectors at Mass; serves on the Stewardship Committee – 2nd year; Arts and Environments Committee – 2nd year; an Altar Society Guild leader; serves as a volunteer at the Annual Ice Cream Social - coordinating the Cake Walk; serving her 3rd year on the executive committee for the Parish/School Auction; and has recently completed the school's new website with other committee members. Most importantly, she spends time each week for one hour in the Adoration Chapel. WOW!

Ron also serves as a volunteer at the Annual Ice Cream Social assisting Teresa in the Cake Walk; volunteers with the Parish Snow Removal; mowing the parish site and at the catholic cemetery; served as a Sound System Advisor with the Sound System Committee; runs the sound system for the Christmas Program each year, as well as other functions: Auction, Gosche/Hoefgen Retirement Party; is serving his 3rd year on the St. James Parish/School Auction Executive Committee, and has cooked lunches and served lunches during the past 3 years with Leah's help as well.

Overall, Ron and Teresa have been supportive of St. James Catholic School. They are excellent examples for their children and a great example of a Catholic Christian family for our school and church community as well as Augusta community.

THANK YOU FROM MR. GUY

I would like to extend a warm thank you to the students, parents, and faculty for keeping me in their prayers during the past two weeks. Your food, cards, phone calls, and visits all helped to make me feel better and heal quicker. Thank you!

I'm very thankful for all the parents and volunteers for making the last seven weeks very special. Our volunteers are priceless. Without you we wouldn't be able to make it a productive school year. **OUR TEACHERS and STAFF ARE WORKING TOGETHER THIS YEAR and WE ARE AFFIRMING OUR FAITH IN GOD.**

Have a nice day. ☺

Yours in Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,

Richard Guy, Elementary Principal

