

ST. JAMES NEWSLETTER #11

February 5, 2014

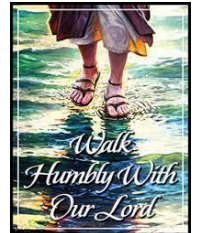
School website: www.stjamesvernon.com

Walk Humbly with Our Lord

Upcoming Events

February 6	Ishmael's "Spear-it" 6:00pm pot luck supper for the registered contestants only; 7:00pm for the start of the "contest" (open to spectators)
February 7	First Friday Mass at 9:00am; parents are welcome to join us at St. James Church
February 9	Celebrate the end of Catholic Schools Week by joining us at the 8:30am Mass at St. James Church; the choir will be singing
February 10	BC Family Day; NO SCHOOL
February 14	Wear Valentine's Day colours to school ; Family Fling from 5:30pm to 9:00pm
February 18	Grade 6/7 ski trip to Silver Star
February 24	School Council meeting at 6:30pm in the staff room
February 25	Grade 6/7 ski trip to Silver Star
February 27	Student Led Conferences from 3:00 to 7:00pm
March 1	VEGAS PUB NIGHT
March 4	The school choir will be performing at the Vernon District Choir Festival. The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper in the school gym; look for details in upcoming parish bulletins and school newsletters
March 5	Ash Wednesday; the start of the Lenten season
March 7	First Friday Mass at 9:00am; parents are welcome to join us at St. James Church
March 14	Our celebration of St. Patrick's Day starts at 10:30; wear green and join in the celebration; last school day before Spring Break!
March 15-30	Spring Break
April 18-21	Easter weekend; NO SCHOOL

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK has been off to a great start. Thank you to all the families and parishioners who joined us at Our Lady of the Valley Church for Sunday Mass and who came to participate in the Living Rosary on Monday morning at the school. On Tuesday, our Ready Set Learn was an amazing success as we had 23 pre-schoolers and their parents join us for this event. Today, we will have lots of fun at our own version of the Winter Olympics. Check out the schedule above for the remaining activities.



ISHMAEL'S "SPEAR-IT" St. James' Reading Extravaganza

Tomorrow night is Ismael's "Spear-it" Reading Extravaganza! Even if you are not on a team, you are welcome to be a spectator of the extravaganza beginning at 7:00pm in the gym. A cheering crowd adds to the fun and excitement.

REGISTRATION AND RE-REGISTRATION

Registration packages are available at the school office so if you know of interested families, encourage them to drop by or call the school office soon. A big thank you goes to our families who have already been spreading the news about our wonderful school community!

Re-registration information will be coming out to families **next week!**

Winter Carnival Family Fling on Valentine's Day

Ready to have fun and excitement? Come purchase your tickets for the upcoming Fling. The cost of the tickets is \$5.00 each. Children under 5 are free. The tickets can be purchased at the school or the Winter Carnival office. This is a great way to have fun and to meet other families.



On **Thursday, February 27** all our students from Kindergarten to Grade 7 will have the opportunity to share their work with their families.

WHAT ARE STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES?

- Student-led conferences are exactly what they imply; students take the lead in sharing examples of their work, discussing next steps in their learning, and setting goals for further learning

WHAT IS THEIR PURPOSE?

- To encourage students to accept personal responsibility for their learning
- To teach students the process of self-evaluation and reflection

- To promote an open dialogue between parents and students about the students' learning
- To provide students with the opportunity to showcase their work and explain their academic achievements

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- Greater accountability in students for their own learning
- Increased pride in their achievements
- Increased confidence and independence
- Furthering positive parent-child communication in a relaxed, non-threatening atmosphere

Details about scheduling of the conferences will be sent home next week! The beauty of this type of structure is you can take as much or as little time as you have (we recommend a minimum of 20 to 30 minutes for each student-led conference; some students love to take longer and this structure allows for that). Parents, please remember that these conferences provide your child with an opportunity to shine! If you need to have a serious discussion with the teacher, please schedule another time for this meeting. Your engagement is with your child not the teacher during student-led conferences.



BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Boys

- Feb. 5 at Mission Hill
- Feb. 12 at Hillview
- Feb. 19 at Alexis Park

Girls, Tier 1

- Feb. 6 at VCS
- Feb. 13 at Ellison
- Feb. 20 at St. James against Hillview

Girls, Tier 2

- Feb. 6 at St. James against VCS
- Feb. 13 at St. James against Ellison
- Feb. 20 at Hillview

We have a collection of pennies
You can take the pennies home to
Thanks.



that needs to be wrapped. We have the wrappers in the office.
wrap! Please let us know in the office if you can do this job for us.

A Reflection on Catholic Education by Keira, Grade 7

A Catholic education for me means I am able to express my faith openly. In this school teachers can teach me about my faith and I don't have to hide it. Also, since it [the school] is smaller, I find teachers and classmates are kinder and know each other better. In a Catholic school, I also get to work on my moral self, as well as learning academically, which helps me to become kinder and build stronger friendships.

Overall, I find a Catholic education an amazing opportunity to come closer to God and am thankful that I get to attend this amazing school.

A Personal Faith Formation Opportunity

Annual Lent Retreat at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Shrine in Cache Creek March 14-16. The retreat is open to all adults and will be directed by Bishop Monroe. Registration forms are available at www.rcdk.org.

Volunteer Callout

Vegas Pub Night & Silent Auction – March 1, 2014

This is our biggest fundraising event of the year! In order for it to be successful and raise money for the students of St. James we need your help. We require volunteers for the following areas: decorations, ticket selling prior to the event at Mass as well as at the door the evening of the event, food preparation the day of Pub Night as well as people during the event to help with the food table.

All shifts will be a minimum of 2 hours.

If you are volunteering for Vegas Pub Night you will receive one (1) free admission into the event for yourself only. Ticket prices are \$15/ticket or 2 for \$25.

Please contact the following co-ordinators to volunteer:

Decorating – Kim Louis @ 250-938-1697
Food - Lydia Harrison @ 250 306-9684
Tickets - Laura Corduff @ 250 558-8872

Thank you for helping to make this a successful and fun evening!

PSG Minutes are attached to newsletter