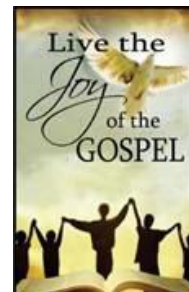


ST. JAMES NEWSLETTER #2

September 17, 2014

School website: www.stjamesvernon.com

Live the Joy of the Gospel



Upcoming Events

Sept. 19-20	CISKD School Council training at Cache Creek
September 21	Commissioning Mass for teachers and catechists at OLOV at 10:30 Mass
September 23	Second fire drill of the school year
September 24	NO SCHOOL - Erase Bullying ProD day followed by the start of the staff retreat
Sept. 25-26	NO SCHOOL - Staff members from all 5 schools attend the CISKD staff retreat
September 29	School Council meeting @6:30pm in the staff room
September 30	Uniform sales from 2:30 to 4:30 and 6:00 to 8:00pm
October 2	Hot Lunch Day
October 3	First Friday Mass in AM; WALKATHON in the PM
October 6	PSG meeting at 6:00pm in the staff room
October 7	Pizza Day
October 13	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Monday

What a great turn-out!

It was great to see so many parents come to the first PSG meeting of the year on Monday evening. We welcomed many returning parents and also new parents to our school community. Thank you to all the parents who came to the meeting; it really shows your dedication. Together we can continue to build a strong, vibrant school community.

To quote one of our students, "We are here to play with people, not things". With this in mind, we ask that parents and children consider the following (taken from the Grade 3-4 newsletter to families) when children ask to bring special toys or things to school.

Toys/Special Items: If you choose to bring toys or other special items to school with you, please keep the following in mind:

- **Be prepared to share!** Others may want to look at/play with your item, or play WITH you while you use it. We do **NOT** exclude people from our games/activities simply because they do not have the "correct" item or brand.
- **It may get broken or lost** - intentionally or otherwise, these things sometimes happen. We will all do our best to be respectful of other people's belongings, but accidents do occur and some things may not be replaceable/fix-able.
- **Items are for use during "free-time"**, NOT during class time!
****Consider the above carefully; if you are not prepared to live with these terms, please do not bring your item(s) to school with you!****

Another factor for families to consider is that one of our fitness goals is for children to be actively engaged in play during recess and lunch outdoor time. This is a time for children to be running, climbing, playing skipping or ball, etc.

Toonie Tuesday Pizza Every Tuesday, students can purchase slices of pizza from Dominos for \$2 per slice. Orders are taken first thing in the morning and pizzas are delivered to classrooms by 12:30. Proceeds go towards the Grade 7 year-end trip. Grade 7 thanks you for your support. The first pizza day will be held on Tuesday, October 7th.

School Supplies Reminder: We would appreciate it if the school supply fee of \$10/child (Grades K to 4) and \$15/child (Grades 5 to 7) could be handed into the office or the classroom teacher as soon as possible. Cash or a cheque made out to the school are accepted. Thank you.



St. James School Walk-a-Thon **on October 3rd**

Letters and Pledge forms are going home with today's newsletter. We are gearing up for the annual St. James School Walk-a-Thon. Help the students raise money to cover the cost of special student events such as field trips and much-needed upgrades to our computer lab.

When: Friday, October 3rd at 1:00pm in the park

Where: Polson Park Oval

Why: We like to have fun and foster school spirit in a healthy way! ALL parents and grandparents are welcome to join us at the school or at the park, help out, take pictures, and walk or run with our students. Let's hope for glorious weather.

Students are eligible for individual prizes (Village Green Gift cards) for pledge totals over \$50. There will also be great classroom prizes for every class that has ALL pledge forms returned (with \$5.00 or more pledged per student).

Saints of Service Program This year's coordinator is Stephanie Curtis. Families who have not yet handed in their forms and \$300 cheques are asked to do so as soon as possible. The goal is to have all forms and cheques into the office by the end of September. Stephanie will be contacting families within the coming few weeks. Any Saints of Service questions can be sent to Stephanie at:

saintsofservice.sjs@gmail.com

A few volunteer opportunities that are not included on the SOS form are:

- Sharpening pencil crayons for the younger grades
- Photocopying little books for reading support
- Checking the first aid/emergency back packs in the classrooms
- Making a listing of art posters
- Preparing learning materials for the Learning Assistance program
- Cleaning computer monitors and keyboards
- Using the paper cutter to cut paper to letter size

You can contact the office directly about these opportunities.

WOMEN'S SMALL GROUPS INFORMATION EVENING

In the midst of all life's busyness and the juggling act of daily life we often forget to feed our own spirits ... and then wonder why we are so burnt out and struggle to tend to the needs of those around us. One way some women find a way to improve the balance in their lives is to participate in a small group. Our small groups are communities of women in the trenches of motherhood who intentionally "do life" together by digging deeper into their faith journeys and supporting each other in all the madness of life today. You are warmly invited to join us in an information evening on Wednesday, October 1st at 7:30pm in the St. James School library to hear more about these groups and discover how you can get involved. If you are interested or even mildly curious about what this is all about, we'd love to have you join us. For more information contact Julie Boyle at 250-545-1308.

School Council Position

School Council has lost one of its valuable members due to her increased work load; we thank Lacey Gregoire for her dedicated service last year. If you are looking for an opportunity to really make a difference and also fulfill your volunteer hours, consider joining School Council. You will have input on various decisions that affect our school and will have additional opportunities to demonstrate your leadership qualities. The position is open to existing school families and parishioners. Please call either the school office or the parish office if you are interested. Meetings are held once a month on Monday evenings.



On October 10th from 5:00 to 6:00pm, school families are encouraged to participate in prayer and singing at St. James Church. The focus will be on praying for youth. Come and join other families and parishioners during that time. From 6:00 to 7:00pm high school students and their families are invited to join in prayer and song and from 7:00 to 8:00pm post-secondary students are invited to participate.

Exciting New "Mabel's Labels" Fundraiser

This fundraiser is starting early next week!!! Watch for more information on our Facebook page and in our newsletters. Purchases of high quality, personalized, waterproof labels, tags, child safety products, household labels and seasonal items will earn 20% for our school. Support our school and help make sure your children's items are labeled and not lost. Purchases are made online worldwide through their website; e-gift cards are also available for future use and gift giving. Please help our school and encourage friends and family to support us as well.

WEB SITE INFORMATION

Do you want to check on books, TV programs, computer games and other things of interest to families? Check out www.common sense media.org

ATTACHMENT:

- School calendar for the year

OTHER ITEMS GOING HOME TODAY:

- Walk-a-Thon letter and pledge forms
- Pizza order forms