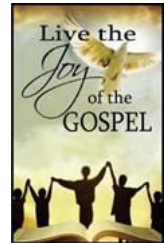


ST. JAMES NEWSLETTER #16

April 29, 2015

School website: www.stjamesvernon.com

Live the Joy of the Gospel



Upcoming Events

April 29	Cross County run in Lumby at JW Inglis School @3:00pm
April 30	25 th anniversary of JEANS DAY - support BC Children's Hospital by bringing a loonie or a toonie to school; bike safety rodeo at school
May 1	First Friday Mass @9:00am. Students must wear their MASS dress NOT summer uniform
May 3	First Communion Mass at OLOV @3:00pm
May 4	Aboriginal dance troupe performing from 1:30 to 1:50pm; further details to follow! PSG meeting @ 6:00pm in the staff room
May 7	Hot lunch day
May 12	Bloom Thyme flower basket & hangers: Pick up your order after 1:30pm
May 15	Staff Pro-D Day; NO SCHOOL for students
May 18	Victoria Day; NO SCHOOL
May 21	Hot lunch day
May 22	Wear your favourite sports jersey
May 23	Confirmation Mass at OLOV @7:00pm
May 27	School Council AGM and Barbecue - beginning at 5:00pm

Dear Parents of St. James School Students

It's that time of year again when we make our request for parents to come forward to be members of School Council.

School Council is a vibrant, strategically oriented group, assisting our Pastor and School Principal with various operations within the School. From marketing to budget setting, from policy making to technology development, from repairs to maintenance, and some other items in between, members of School Council share their expertise in developing plans and programs for our School.

If you feel that you have something to contribute (and everyone does) to the growth and development of our School, we need you on School Council.

The time commitment averages approximately 2 hours per month, and the "take away" is priceless.

Please give this request your consideration; we would be most grateful for your participation. Please call Deacon Paul Murphy, School Council Chair, to discuss, or to have any of your questions answered.

Thank you. Deacon Paul Murphy



Summer Uniform Policy

The Athletic Uniform (St. James t-shirt and shorts) may be worn during the day for all students during the months of May, June, September and October.

In the warmer months, in keeping with the requirement of students wearing at least one piece of CRESTED clothing, it is recommended that students have either a CRESTED 'golf' shirt or two St. James t-shirts.

Students are encouraged to wear a hat and sunscreen for outdoor play. Ensure that your child can apply their own sunscreen! Please label hats and sunscreen containers.

Uniform Sale Times

Uniform sales are held the last Tuesday of each month. The next sale will be on TUESDAY, MAY 26th from 2:30-4:30pm & 6:30-7:30pm. If you can't attend during that time, call Jan Barnard at 250-308-0567.

CROSS COUNTRY NEWS

Congratulations to all our cross country runners who participated in the commonage run last Wednesday. Our St. James students did very well!

We acknowledge the following teams and individuals for their outstanding show at this run.

Congratulations to: the K/1 girls' team - placing 3rd overall, the grade 2/3 boys' team - placing 2nd, and the grade 6/7 girls' team with a 3rd place ribbon!

A big congratulations to the following individuals for their ribbon placement in their run:

Anderson Bicknell - 2nd place for 2/3 boys, Carter Leahy - 1st place for 4/5 boys, Mia Hyer - 2nd place for 4/5 girls. Outstanding results!

A big thank you to all the parents who pitched in and helped out at the field warming students up, recording results, and organizing wrist bands.

Next race is April 29th at 3pm at JW Inglis School in Lumby. Please pick up your child no later than 2:20pm at St. James School in order to get them to the race on time. See you there!

Go St. James Go!



PSG NEWS!

- If anyone has **fundraising ideas** for the 2015-2016 school year, please bring your ideas to the PSG meeting on **MONDAY, MAY 4th**. All suggestions for fundraising also need to have the name of a person willing to coordinate the event. The PSG members (executive and any other parents who attend the May meeting) will vote on the fundraising events for the upcoming school year.
- The revenue from the Vegas Pub Night was \$9259.00 with expenses of \$3193.33, and a net profit of \$6065.67. A huge thanks goes out to all the organizers, to the many parents who brought in donations for the auctions and other gift venues, and to the people who attended the event.
- The Bloom Time Flower fundraiser had revenue of \$5500.00 with expenses of \$4300.00, and a net profit of \$1200.00. This was the first year we have done this particular fundraiser and the response was terrific.

Mental Health Matters - Presentation on May 14th at OLOV

Mental health issues affect all of us, either personally, socially or economically, and that is why we are hoping that everyone will join us for a most valuable and important presentation on this, one of the most widespread health issues in the country.

This subject has often been a social taboo, not to be talked about, but it is important that it be brought out into the open - that we become aware of, and educated about, mental health issues. Some of these issues include depression, anxiety, grieving and loss, suicidal thoughts, alcoholism/drugs or schizophrenia. One in five Canadians experiences a mental health concern each year. Even though we may not personally experience mental illness first-hand, it is likely that we all know someone who has, or will have, a mental illness.

For anyone facing mental illness, the stigma may be harder to deal with than the illness itself. It can seriously damage how people feel about themselves and how others see them. In fact, it is the leading reason why two-thirds of people living with mental illness don't seek help. Through open conversation, we will be able to find ways to change the stigma and fear of mental illness.

The St. James CWL council will be hosting a presentation by the Mental Illness Family Support Centre on May 14th from 7:30 to 8:45pm in the Narthex of Our Lady of the Valley Church. We will hear the personal stories of a person living with a mental illness, a family member and a mental health professional. They will present valuable information about the resources available to us here in Vernon. The CWL encourages you to attend this presentation and invite others to come as well, in order to challenge our understanding and attitudes about Mental Health and Mental Illness.

SPREAD THE WORD

We are thrilled that our Kindergarten class is almost full for the 2015-2016 school year! We still have a few openings in Kindergarten and openings at most other grade levels. If you know people who value a Catholic Christian education in a small community school setting, St. James is the place for them! Registration forms are available at the school office or on our web site.



The School Council **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** and Barbecue will be held on **Wednesday, May 27th**. The event will start at 5:00pm in the gym. Please mark this date on your calendar. Barbecue order forms will go home with the next newsletter.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There is a lot of 'clean-up' that needs to be done in the school. For example, some of the following are needed:

- Disinfecting toys in primary classrooms
- Washing down shelving and cupboards
- Dusting photo frames
- Washing down artificial plants
- Washing out interior recycling bins

These are but a few of the possibilities for volunteer support. If you need more volunteer hours for this school year (or already have your hours and would love to help more) contact the school office and we will get back to you!