



July 16, 2014
Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Dear Parents,

I hope and pray that you have had a wonderful, grace-filled summer and that you are looking forward to the remaining days with expectant joy. We have had much going on at St. James School and I wanted to let you know about some of the things to come in August, as we prepare for another school year.

We welcome four new members to our staff: Miss Megan Kopetzky (Kindergarten), Sister Regina Marie (3rd grade), Miss Jennifer Wegener (4th grade), and Mrs. Rocio Donjuan (Food Service Manager).

Our theme for this coming year will be to help the children to answer the question that Jesus asks us all: "Who do you say that I am?" (Matthew 16:15) This is an important question that all of us should be able to answer. For some, the answers come quickly; others, the answers require a bit of thought. Each one of us should be able to answer this question, and answer it in every moment of our lives. We also need to be able to share the answers with others. As we begin looking towards the new school year, I encourage you to take a moment to reflect prayerfully the answer to the question by itself. How do you answer the question, and how do you share this response with others?

As we look forward to another school year, please consider the many ways that you can help St. James School during the year. We have many volunteer opportunities - some are listed in the volunteer sheet sent home with this newsletter. Others will come throughout the year. Please be generous in responding when there is something we need help with! St. James School cannot function without you! We need you to be involved in different projects, plans and activities. The children need to see you involved in school.

As journey through these days of summer, please keep St. James School in your prayers.

God bless you,
Sister Mary Cecilia CK

Important Dates

August 14 - 2:00 to 3:00 Preschool Open House
August 15 - School office closed
August 18 - First Day of School (3:20 Dismissal)
4 year First day of preschool
August 19 - First Day of Preschool 3 years
August 26 - 6:30 Night Back to School
September 1 - No School (Labor Day)
September 2 - No School (Faculty in service)
September 26 - School Photos

Sent this Letter

COMING HOME: Volunteer Opportunities, tuition agreement (for those who did not already complete one), flyer for schoolstore.com, school supply list

HELP NEEDED! We are looking for more volunteers dedicated to helping our preschool program, especially on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you can help, even once or twice a month, please let the school office.

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE 1:00 to 2:00, Thursday, August 14. Take your child to meet Mrs. Tranmer and tour the classroom! We invite you to come back, even if you came to the open house in the spring. If your child is not yet registered or you know someone who might be interested, please request the registration documents of the school office. You are our best advertisers!

Important Information

A **FINALIZED CALENDAR** will be sent home when school starts. It won't be long now!

VACATION Remember not to take a vacation from the practice of your faith over the summer! Make Sunday Mass a priority and perhaps you can even find extra time to worship and praise God at daily Mass. On long car trips consider praying the rosary for safety - asking for Mary's blessing on your journey. It can also set a positive, peaceful tone for the trip.

FIRST TUITION PAYMENT

is due from each family by **Aug. 1.** Thank you for paying promptly; this is very helpful with summer bills! Enclosed is a tuition agreement form for those who have not yet completed one.

UNIFORMS Be sure to have your child(ren) in uniforms on the first day of school. If you want to trade, buy or give away school uniforms please come to the school office Wednesday mornings during the summer or 9:00-3:30 in August. Jumpers are \$5; pants, sweaters and shirts are \$1. Unused jumpers are always needed. **Handbook:** "Hair should be clean, well-groomed and its natural, God-given color (no hair extensions/feathers). Extremes in hair styles are not acceptable. Boys' hair may not go below the collar, ear lobes or eyebrows." Please be aware of this as we approach August 18th that hair needs to be its God-given color. Also, make sure pants do not have outside pockets.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT is Tuesday, August 26th. The School Family Association meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. in St. James Hall followed by Open House in the classrooms and a Title I meeting in St. James Hall for parents of students who participate. This is a great opportunity to meet the teacher, to learn about classroom policies and procedures and important events for the upcoming year, as well as what is expected of your children. We hope to see all of you there!

BUY \$CRIP You buy **gift cards** for your favorite places to shop at face value and a percentage goes to the school. \$CRIP is a wonderful way to support the school with no cost to you, since everyone needs to shop, eat, buy gas, etc. anyway. Stop by the office to find out more.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Please take a look at the volunteer brochure to see ways that you can be involved. Don't wait to the end of the year to cram in your service. Send it back to school to give us an idea of what your interests are! We will still send home sign up sheets closer to the events.

OFFICE DEPOT will give 5% of your purchase of school supplies back to our school if you give them our school ID number – 70063784.

GOODSEARCH & GOODSHOP Support St. James School as you search the internet and shop. We've made almost \$100 and have 75 supporters. Add goodsearch.com to your favorites bar! Amazon gives a 1.5% donation when you go through Goodshop.com.

MAGAZINES SALES You can purchase or renew magazines at SchoolStore.com. Enter St. James School and the child's name you wish to support. Students will win prizes for magazines purchased in this way and a percentage of the money goes to the school!

SCHOOLSTORE.COM SchoolStore.com is an online shopping mall where over 200 nationally-known online merchants have agreed to give a percentage of sales to K-12 schools. Companies like Walmart.com, Sears, Target, iTunes, and Oriental Trading Company participate. SchoolStore is a great way to support your school when you shop online.

WORLD BOOK ENCYCLOPEDIA ON-LINE You and your children can now access a variety of encyclopedias and their content through the online World Book Encyclopedia.

<http://www.worldbookonline.com>

Username: StJamesCrete

Password: Crete@NE

SUMMER SAVERS

Please continue to save the following items during the summer: Campbell Soup labels, pop cans, ink jet cartridges, Box Tops for Education (General Mill products), & Tyson Project A+. The labels can be dropped off at school in August.

Coke Rewards Please continue to save the Coke Rewards for St. James School. Bottle caps as well as the labels from the insides of cardboard cases of Coca-Cola products have a code listed. Send these labels and caps to the school. We enter the code and earn points.

NEW!!!! Online Supply Lists: Our school supply lists are also posted on www.teacherlists.com. Search for St. James School in Crete and the lists should be there. This might be of help when you forget the list when you go to the store! They should also be on the school website.