



# SAINT JAMES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

FAITH † FAMILY † RESPONSIBILITY † RESPECT

525 E. 14th Street † Crete, NE 68333 † 402-826-2318

Dear Parents,

July, 2016

May Christ the King grant you and your family special blessings during these summer days. I hope you are enjoying the sunshine and the extra time you have with your children.

At the March 15 School Family Association meeting, the parents were asked to share what they liked about St. James School and then some hopes and dreams for the future. The teachers did the same at one of our last faculty meetings. The positives were numerous!

The parents mentioned appreciating: 1) the Christ-centered education with a focus on building character, 2) the prayer in the classrooms, 3) the teachers and staff, 4) the class size, 5) the fostering of respect 6) the opportunities for leadership among the older students, 7) the interaction between the classes, 8) the uniforms and, 9) the hot lunches.

The teachers' list of likes was even longer and included: 1) that the children have a sense of family and of shared responsibility for the well-being of the school 2) that the children are happy and friendly 3) that the children look forward to the school traditions, treasure their memories from earlier years, and often come back to visit after they graduate, 4) that there is diversity among the children and true friendships in the diversity 5) that the teachers receive support from parents, community members, and other faculty/staff members, 6) that the priests are involved in the school, 7) that the school values all aspects of education including the spiritual, social, emotional and physical as well as the academic, 8) that the school has an excellent reading and math curriculum, 9) that Doane University is involved with the PE program, 10) the I-pads, 11) the clean building, 12) the extra after school clubs and, 12) the hot lunches!

When it came to hopes and dreams, the sky was the limit. We covered the gamut from sports teams to mentoring programs, from a new roof with new gutters to bilingual education, and from family nights to a unified school discipline system.

Our next step is to do some strategic planning regarding our hopes and dreams. We need to zero in on our top priorities and find out who has the passion to work for them. This will be a major focus of our faculty and SFA meetings this coming year.

We have been talking about hopes for the future, but even now we have some exciting things underway which address some of the desires mentioned above. We expect to get a new roof and gutters for the school this summer. We had problems with water leaking into various hallways and classrooms of the school last year. After multiple attempts of repair with professional companies, it has been decided that a new roof over the lower section of the school is what is needed.

We also are having special training on classroom management skills from professionals at Boys Town. All our St. James teachers, plus guest teachers from six other Catholic schools (totaling 50 teachers!) will receive this positive and effective training on August 11 right here at St. James.

So wonderful things are in progress! We entrust them and our other hopes for the school to Jesus and our Mother Mary. Having confidence in their care, we can, even though there is much to do, be happy and peaceful, and, truly enjoy the summer!

In the Heart of Christ the King,

Sister Mary Alma, C.K.

## St. James Faculty and Staff for 2016/2017

### Faculty

Mrs. Karla Tranmer	Preschool/Pre-Kindergarten, Music, Computer
Miss Megan Kopetzky	Kindergarten
Miss Ashley Hecht	Grade 1
Miss Avery Morehead	Grade 2
Miss Jennifer Wegener	Grade 3
Sister Mary Jacinta, C.K.	Grade 4
Sister Mary Ruth, C.K.	Grade 5 and 6
Sister Fiat Marie, C.K.	(Assisting in Grades 5 and 6)

### Staff

Mrs. Debbie Hier	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Shannon Ward	Librarian and Teacher Assistant
Mrs. Rocio Don Juan	Hot Lunch Program
Mrs. Andrea Reyes	Hot Lunch Program
Genoveva Mendoza	Maintenance

### Administration

Sister Mary Alma, C.K.	Principal
Father Steven Major	Chief Administrative Officer

### Important Dates

July 28 – New Uniform Sale at St. Peter’s Vasa Hall

Lincoln, NE from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.

August 16 – K-6 First Day of School – 1:20 p.m. dismissal

- PreK Open House 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

August 17 - First day of 4 year old PreK 8:00 – 11:30 a.m.

August 23 – First day of 3 year old PreSchool 8:00 – 10:30 a.m.

- 6:30 Night Back to School

- 7:00 PM Title I Parent Meeting

**COMING HOME:** Tuition agreement (for those who did not already complete one) and school supply list.

**HELP NEEDED!** We are looking for more volunteers dedicated to helping our PreK and Preschool programs. Help is needed on Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

**PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE 2:00 to 3:00, Tuesday, August 16.** Take your child to meet Mrs. Tranmer and tour the classroom! We have room in both our PreK and Preschool programs.

**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 9:00-3:00 in August. Jumpers are \$5; pants, sweaters and shirts are \$1. Unused jumpers are always needed. Handbook: “Hair should be clean, well-groomed and in 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.” No tattoos in visible areas on the children, please.

**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.