



# SAINT JAMES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

FAITH + FAMILY + RESPONSIBILITY + RESPECT

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Dear Parents,

October 21, 2020

Report cards come home today! Do you remember what it felt like on report card day when you were a child? I remember being very excited, hopeful, and somewhat nervous. When my siblings and I arrived home, we showed our report cards first to our mother and then later in the evening, with a little more healthy trepidation, to our father. Their comments, be they words of approval, correction, encouragement, or some combination of the three made a big impression on us and it was for the good. What parents say to their children really matters.

I encourage you parents to look carefully at your children's report card and to talk with them individually about their accomplishments and struggles. You might ask them some questions. "What grades are you most proud of receiving?" "Why?" "Where would you like to try and improve?" "How do you feel about your report card?" "How are you feeling about yourself?"

Whether the grades be high, average, or low, assure your children of your love for them. They are far more important than their grades. Their worth is not determined by their performance. Children are of infinite value because they are God's, not because of their grades. Children who score high need to understand this truth just as much as those who score lower.

If grades are average or below, this does not mean that they themselves are average or below average persons. Teach them that they are absolutely precious, unique and glorious in God's eyes, for that is the truth. Also, tell them to *peacefully* keep trying to do their best. God always blesses and enriches children (and adults) who persevere with an honest good effort. If they persist in doing their best for the love of God, they are sure to come to the fullness of being which the Lord has planned for them. Finally, encourage your children to ask for God's help and blessing each day with their classwork, homework, and tests and to thank Him for the opportunity to learn and to attend school.

Some parents might not be familiar with what the various letters on a report card signify. The chart below may be of help to you. Kindergarten parents, please see Miss Kopetzky's explanation as grades in Kindergarten have a slightly different connotation.

## Grades

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| A or H  | Your child is performing above grade level and in an excellent manner, has mastered all the material taught, works carefully and diligently, and goes beyond expectations.                      |
| B or DW | Your child is performing very well, does classwork and homework well, meets expectations, and understands the material.   |
| C or S  | Your child is performing at grade level. Most of the work is completed in a satisfactory manner and the material is mostly understood.  |
| D or NI | Your child is just passing the subject at grade level and has weaknesses which need to be strengthened. Classwork and homework may be missing or not carefully done. More effort may be needed. |

F or E            Your child is not performing or understanding concepts at grade level. Classwork and homework are likely missing or not carefully done. Parents and teachers should be in communication and intervention is needed.

Don't forget that the character marks are just as important, actually more so, than the academic marks. Please have a good conversation over these important indicators of your child's Christian development.

If you have questions or concerns about your children's report card, please feel free to contact the teachers or me. When it comes to wanting the best for the children, we are all on the same team! Lastly, a big thank you to our faculty who have been doing an amazing job teaching these children this first quarter. May all be blessed!

In the Heart of Christ the King,

Sister Mary Alma, C.K.

**SFA Strategic Planning Meeting:** Thank you to the 38 people who joined the SFA strategic planning meeting in person last evening and the 10 who joined us through Zoom. We are excited about the various projects from the implementation teams. Some of them are already underway!

**After School Activity:** Thank you to parishioner Charlotte James for organizing the after school card making activity for our students. They enjoyed the craft and are excited about giving their homemade cards to their loved ones.

**Daily Mass:** Due to the demands of social distancing, children are to sit with their classes during daily Mass. This enables the daily Mass attendees to have enough seating room to safely attend Mass during this time of COVID-19.

**Hot lunch:** Hot lunches and milk that accompanies a hot lunch is now free. Milk with a cold lunch costs 40 cents per carton.

**First Grade Parents:** The first grade All Saints Parade is on Friday October 30 at 1:15 pm. First grade parents, please let us know if you plan to attend so we can arrange seating.

**Early Dismissal:** School dismisses at 1:20 pm on Monday, October 26 for a teacher faculty meeting.

**Coming Home Today**

Scrip Order Form

Tuition Envelopes

CK Outdoor Workday Flier

CK Outdoor Celebration of the Saints