



SAINT JAMES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

FAITH + FAMILY + RESPONSIBILITY + RESPECT

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

Dear Parents,

December 16, 2020

Here we are just two days away from Christmas break and the close of the first semester of our school year. I have to say, it has been a very good first five months. Yes, even with the COVID regulations and troubles, it has still been one of my most favorite years in school. I think this is because there is a happy spirit among children. I often check in with the classes during lunch and it is easy to see that these children truly enjoy each other. They are friends. Real friends. Many of them have been together day in and day out for years now. They know each other's strengths and weaknesses. They are a big part of each other's lives. As I hear them joke and tease and laugh and talk and talk and talk, I am reminded of Psalm 133: 1 "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!" That is exactly how I would describe the feel of St. James these days, good and pleasant.



If it is good and pleasant, then it must be because Jesus is present here too. Of course He is! No one desires the friendship of these children more than He. To win our friendship eternally is why Jesus came to dwell with us that first Christmas. To be with us in the day in and day out moments of our lives is why He came to dwell within in us at our baptism. In John 15:15, Jesus tells us that He considers us to be his friends. In John 15:13, He tells us of the extent to which His friendship will reach. There is no greater love than that which He already has for us right now.

I thank God that our St. James children are good friends and I pray that each one in his or her own time will form that most important of friendships – friendship with Jesus. Merry Christmas!

In the Heart of the Infant King,

Sister Mary Alma, C.K.

Christmas Programs: Special thanks to Mrs. Tranmer for her work on the Pre-K and Kindergarten Christmas program and to Mrs. Ward for her work on the 1st through 6th grade program. Both programs may be found on the school website and school Facebook page from December 17 – 31. www.st-james-crete.org It might even be there this evening. We will see how the technology comes together.

SFA Board Positions: Those running for a position on the SFA Board so far are:

Staci Tyma for Vice President

Jill Eberhardt for Treasurer

We still need someone who would like to run for the position of secretary, which involves taking notes at the meetings and sharing your ideas with the other Board members. The SFA Board meets about once a month to plan for the enhancement of the school and the support of the school families. Please let Sister Mary Alma know if you are interested in serving. Those in the new positions will be joining Chris Hobbs and Maria Orozco who are Co-Presidents.

Planning to Stay Open: St. James School is hoping to stay open with children in the classrooms until the end of May. Thus far, parents and school have been doing a great job. Currently, no students or faculty members have the virus though some students are quarantining to close contact exposure. Please help us to stay open by keeping your children home if they show any symptoms and by practicing good safety procedures.

New Quarantine Rules: If your child needs to quarantine, please call the school to find out details. Quarantining is no longer 14 days and may now be as few as 7 days with testing or 10 days without testing.

Winter Coats: Our parish's Knights of Columbus would like to provide winter coats, hats, and gloves for any child in need this winter. Please let the school office know if your child needs any of these winter apparel items.

Congratulations to Stella Havlat, Layla Jochum, Bryan Jaimes, and Abby Murphy who received the St. James "Kind Like Christ" signs in their yard this second quarter. We are proud of you and happy to have you at our school.

Coming Home Today: Tuition Envelope, Scrip Order Form, Christmas Program Flier, Strategic Planning brochure

