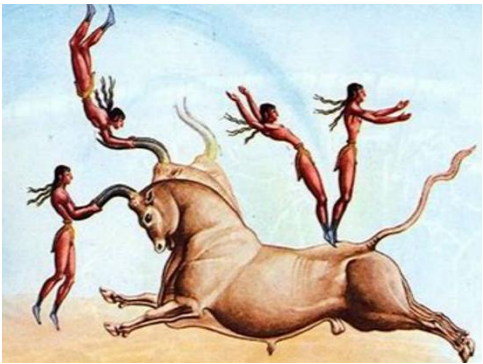




Dear Parents,

April 28, 2021

Two delightful events occurred yesterday at St. James School. The first happened at 11:20 am when we called classes to come outside to wait for a surprise announcement. Looking up, several wondered why there was a microphone set up on the south roof. Father Stoley soon answered this query as he stepped out from his high hiding place and pronounced with the Cardinal-like flair, “Habemus Assistant!” We have an assistant! Out came the new parochial vicar, Father Alan Phan, waving joyfully to the crowds below. Meanwhile, his dog Daisy danced around in a truck attracting her own crowd of St. James fans. Welcome, Father Phan! You and Daisy are already a big hit! You can see all the fun if you go to the St. James School or Sacred Heart Parish Facebook page. <https://www.st-james-crete.org/>



The second wonderful event happened in the evening at the SFA meeting when a group of about 30 parents and teachers met, pondered antiquity, and shared insights. We had listened to a history story of the ancient Minoan bull jumpers who lived on the island of Crete over 4000 years ago. The story came from one of the liberal arts history books which we will use with the children next year. These bull jumpers did the amazing feat of overcoming live charging bulls. The bull jumpers would grasp onto the deadly horns at just the right moment and somersault over the bewildered beasts. Language scholars believe that this is the origin of the expression, “Take the bull by the horns.” To “take the bull by the horns” means to deal bravely and decisively with a

difficult, dangerous, or unpleasant situation. Though not facing raging male bovines, our children and we do face difficult, dangerous, and unpleasant situations. The group shared some of what comes charging at them in life and how faith, family, and community can help to vault the bull. An exceptionally strong insight came from one of our mothers who declared that acknowledging our weaknesses is also way to dismantle the beast.

It was so enriching and energizing to hear from each other at the meeting. This should not be surprising, however, as God created us to be a blessing and a help to each other. We hope that the children will find similar blessings in their history lessons next year. We are certainly excited to begin teaching them!

In the Heart of Christ the King,

Sister Mary Alma, C.K.

No School on Friday, May 14th! Bishop Conley has granted a day off to all our diocesan Catholic School educators. St. James was not able to take off the day he proposed, however, (April 30) due to our involvement with the community in Pioneer Day. A replacement day was difficult to find as our spring days are full with field trips and other special events. The faculty and staff finally voted for **Friday, May 14**. We are also off from school on May 13, Ascension Thursday, which is a Holy Day of Obligation. This makes for a nice four-day weekend before we finish out our school year. May 19 is our closing day.

Calendar Lottery - Top Class Sellers First Place goes to our Kindergarten class! They will have a special class outing. More information to come. Second place goes to our fifth grade class who, to their delight, will receive an ice cream party with Lowly the guinea pig. Thank you to Anne and Chris Hobbs for running the Calendar Lottery! We made a profit of over \$5,000.00 for the school.

Pre-K Spring Program Guests are welcome to attend the Pre-K spring program at 10:30 am on Friday, May 7 in the Parish Hall.

May Crowning and K-6 Spring Program Please join us for annual May Crowning and Spring Program. The rosary begins at 1:15 pm in the Church followed by the crowning of Mary and some musical delights with the K-6 Spring program in the Parish Hall.

Volunteers Needed Join the fun! We need volunteers to help us run Field Day from 9:00 – 12:00 on Wednesday, May 19. Please call the office if you can help 402 826-2318.

Last Day We will dismiss at 1:20 pm on Wednesday, May 19, our last day of School. Come back to the playground at 6:30 in the evening for the SFA Ice Cream Social. Children may bring squirt guns!

Summer Food Programs *Check out Nebraska's Summer Food Service Program. The program which provides free summer meals to kids and teens (ages 1 – 18) may be available in your area at select locations. The meals help ensure children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is out for the summer. There are many open summer meal sites throughout the state of Nebraska. Call 2-1-1 or text FOOD to 877-877.*

For information about the program and summer meal sites, visit <http://www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks> or <http://www.education.ne.gov/NS/SFSP/index.html> Please note that the map has not been updated, yet.

Get updates via Twitter at #NESummerMeals and the Nebraska Department of Education-Nutrition Services' Facebook page.

Coming Home Today Tuition envelopes, Scrip Order Form, CK Workday flier.