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J.M.J.A.

Dear Parents

August 23, 2023

Smiling faces abound during these joyful beginning days of the new school year. What is making everyone so happy? Yesterday, for one thing, Padre Claudio from Italy came to be with us once again. A good friend of our PE and Resource teacher, Mr. Teixeira, Padre Claudio visited each classroom and had the children singing wonderful songs from Italy.

Padre Claudio had the gift of being able to engage every child in the school from the youngest three-year-old right up to our great big sixth graders. One of the children's favorite melodies was *Viva La Compagnie*. Besides being lots of fun, this peppy song contains a good message.

*We're all together for only a while
Vive la Compagnie,
Sharing a laugh a book and a smile
Vive la Compagnie,
Vive la, vive la,
Vive l'amour.
Vive la, vive la,
Vive l'amour.
Vive l'amour, vive l'amour,
Vive la compagne*



The song teaches that while life goes quickly (how true of childhood especially) friendship and love can live forever. We know this is accurate because God is an eternal communion of love who draws us into an everlasting life of friendship with Himself and others. Sacred Scripture teaches, "God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him." Jesus also says, "I have called you friends. . ." See 1 Jn 4:16 and Jn. 15:15

Smiles, love and friendship are not only for children as was evidenced at our St. James Back-to-School Night last evening. There was such a congenial feel to the evening as we shared the successes of the summer food sales, the blessings of a newly renovated school interior, and the high hopes for a strong spiritual and academic school year. Thank you to the SFA Board and to all who attended. Please keep coming! Viva la Compagnie!

In the Heart of Christ the King,

Sister Mary Alma, C.K.

LB753 Please see the enclosed letter from our Bishop James Conley regarding the Opportunity Scholarship Act along with other pertinent information regarding LB753

Summer Food Sales: We offer a tremendous THANK YOU! to Mayra Garcia, Maria Murillo and all who helped with the summer food sales after Sunday Masses. The food sales made over \$4,000.00!

Picture Retakes: Sorry for the mistake. Picture retakes are now scheduled for Thursday, September 21.

UNIFORMS Be sure to have your child(ren) in uniform. If you want to trade, buy or give away school uniforms please come to the school office. Please call before you come (402) 826-2318 to be sure we are available to assist you. Jumpers are \$5; pants, sweaters and shirts are \$1. Unused jumpers are always needed. Uniforms may also be purchased new at Dennis Uniform in Omaha.

Drop Off and Dismissal Times St. James School day begins at 8:05 am. Children may be dropped off no earlier than 7:30 am. Dismissal begins at 3:20 pm on Tuesdays through Fridays. **Monday dismissals are at 2:20 pm**



HAIR STYLES: "Hair should be clean, well-groomed and its natural, God-given color (no hair extensions/feathers). Extremes in hairstyles are not acceptable. Boys' hair may not go below the collar, ear lobes or eyebrows." Please be aware that hair needs to be its God-given color and that shaved designs in boys hair are also not acceptable.

Coming Home Today: Letter from Bishop James Conley, LB753 information sheet, hot lunch balances, tuition envelopes, parent portal reminder, Crete Parks and Recreation flyer, Boy Scouts flyer.

Abraham Lincoln: This piece of artwork will soon come to St. James school and will hang in the 4th – 6th graders' hallway. Do you know these words from his second inaugural address? Our fifth grades will be learning them!

"With malice toward none with charity for all with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right let us strive on to finish the work we are in to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan ~ to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."