Parent Newsletter – November 2019



St. James School Giving children WINGS to fly!

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Principal's Message Dear St. James Families,

As you will see in this newsletter, we have many reasons to be thankful at St. James. Each of your children bring unique gifts that fill our days with blessings. The small acts of kindness, performed with a loving spirit by parents, teachers, and staff fill our school with joy. The strong support of Fr. Joe and St. James parish strengthens our faith and encourages our daily work. The generosity of friends and businesses in the community give us validation that others recognize and share in our mission to build the kingdom of God's love through our school.

Everyday I wake up in the morning with gratitude for each of the wonderful people at St. James, who touch my life every day. I encourage each of you to develop a spirit of gratitude, noticing the simple gifts in your life. If you wake up in the morning with gratitude on your mind, it's pretty difficult to feel anything but peace.

May you have a blessed day, Kathy Kettler

Dates to Remember:

11/17 Parent mtg. First Reconciliation 6pm in All Saints Rm

11/22 School Mass 9am

11/27-12/2 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break

11/29 Craft Show 11am-4pm

11/30 Craft Show 10am-4pm

12/11 Christmas Carol field trip

12/18 Christmas Program 6:30pm



SCHOOL NEWS

HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to the following fourth, fifth, and sixth graders who earned Honor Roll or Merit for the first nine weeks:

Honor Roll

Fourth Grade Bray Jones Friedman

> Owen Mucci Lilly Rine Angelo Rossi Logan Tullos

Fifth Grade

Lauren Jones

<u>Sixth Grade</u> Madison Barber

Yovani Gonzales Kendall hadden Merit Roll <u>Fifth Grade</u> Leo



NOVEMBER STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Our Student Council voted to begin honoring a Student of the Month in each class. The student of the month will receive a button, certificate and treat. The students for November, chosen by the classroom teachers, are: **Kindergarten – Evan Mockerman** because he helps his teacher and classmates. He follows directions and follows school rules.

First Grade - Emilie Edwards has made the new student feel welcome and helped her adjust to her new school. Emilie tries to do her best and doesn't give up.

Second Grade – Andrew Bolanz does his very best. He listens carefully, is a great helper and makes the classroom fun.

Third Grade – Dakota Broad works hard and is kind to everyone.

Fourth Grade – Leo Friedman is kind to everyone. He is a class leader and is very compassionate. He was referred to by a classmate as being an example of a living saint.

Fifth Grade – Logan Tullos works patiently and quietly, helps others, and works well with younger children. **Sixth Grade – Yovani Gonzales** has been a great friend to his new classmate. He is always wiling to help classmates and works hard on his assignments.

YOUNG WRITERS AWARD

We are excited to announce that 11 of our students were chosen to have their stories published in the Young Writers Crazy Creatures 2019 book. The stories were chosen based on imagination, creativity, expression, originality and use of language. The following students will have their writing published:

Lilly Rine Brianna Casto Logan Tullos Madduxx McCort Angelo Rossi Landry Steiner Owen Mucci Madison Barber Kendall Hadden Yovani Gonzales Lauren Jones

STUDENT COUNCIL

Our Student Council has been working hard planning the Veterans Day Prayer Service. We are pleased to have the following fourth, fifth, and sixth graders taking on a leadership role as Student Council members:

President – Kendall Hadden

Vice President – Yovani Gonzales Secretary/Treasurer –Landry Steiner Lauren Jones Doc De Lilly Rine Leo Frid

Doc Dexter Leo Friedman Bray Jones Jayden Leasure Tommy Paulin Irvin Roman



DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

Winter has arrived! It's time to get out the winter coats, hats, mittens and boots. Please be sure to send your children to school dressed according to the weather. We will go outside for recess if the weather is above 25 degrees.

SNOW DAYS

Aydyn Wilkin

When Sandy Valley Schools are closed due to bad weather, St. James is closed. You will receive a text from St. James, normally by 6:30am, alerting you that we are closed. If the text doesn't come through or you are wondering if we are open, check our facebook page at St. James Catholic School – Waynesburg for the latest school closing info. If we are open but Malvern, Minerva, or Carrollton are closed it is up to parents to bring your children, depending on your assessment of the safety of the roads in your area. Please call the school if you decide not to bring them so we know they are safe with you.

NOVEMBER DINNER

We want to thank Ashley Paulin for doing a fantastic job as chairperson for the November Dinner. Working closely with Ashley was her mother, Cathy McKinney, along with Julie Blemler, and Francis Dierick. A big round of applause for our teachers who stayed after school on Friday to prepare turkeys, and those who cooked and prepared at home - Marybeth Cordes, Bendina Stanford, and Kathy Kettler. We also want to thank the parishioners and parents who donated food, made desserts, or attended the dinner. The team received abundant compliments on the wonderful food and service! We also want to thank Sarchione Ford and American Landfill for their generous donations. This outstanding team raised \$2775.00 to support the school.

Pictured cleaning turkeys are:

Cathy Boggs (3rd grade teacher), Ashley Paulin (Chairperson), Maureen Merrill (4/5 teacher), Francis Deirick (Chief cook and bottle washer), Beth George (1st Grade teacher), Donna VanTilburg (Science and Phys Ed teacher)

VETERANS DAY APPRECIATION SERVICE



We want to thank all veterans for their honorable service and express sincere appreciation to those who attended our prayer service. With their help, our children learned about patriotism, self-sacrifice, pride in our country, and the importance of honoring



those who have served in order to protect the ideals our country was founded on - life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for every person.

THANKS TO SOCCER COACHES

We want to express our appreciation to Alex Blemler and Josh Farber for coaching Soccer camp during October. We admire their dedication to the children and are grateful for the gift of their time and experience to teach soccer fundamentals to our kids.

CHANGE FOR CHASE

We are happy to announce the students collected \$463.22 in change to support the Chase Faiello Scholarship. The sixth grade collected the most money per student. In second place was the second grade. Nice job by all who participated!

ATWOOD FESTIVAL BBQ BOOTH

We are fortunate to have a wonderful friendship with the owners of Flying Pig BBQ, which includes Dan & Cathy Page and Jim & Cathy Sloan. Every year they spend hours ordering, shopping, cooking, preparing a delicious menu, serving, and travelling back and forth to the Atwood Festival in October. Their selfless service is an inspiration. They donate all the profits to the school to ensure that every family who desires a Catholic education at St. James can afford to attend. This year they raised \$7,225.00 for the school. How awesome is that!

CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE

Once again, we will host "Christmas in the Village" Arts and Crafts show Thanksgiving weekend on Friday, Nov. 29 at 11am-4pm and Saturday, Nov. 30 at 10am-4pm in the school and Activity Room.

Crafters and Vendors Registration

Crafters and vendors may purchase a table for \$30 for the weekend. To reserve a table, send an email to stjamesrep@aol.com or call the school office.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

It is a tradition at St. James School for students and staff to contribute food for Thanksgiving baskets, which are distributed by Helping Hands Network.

This year we are starting our own Food pantry, as part of our Community Outreach, to help school and local families when they need help throughout the year.

We are kicking off collections for our food pantry with a Thanksgiving collection campaign from Nov.

15-25. Please open your hearts to share your blessings with neighbors in need. In order to provide for a variety of needs we have assigned each grade level a specific category.

Grade K: Baby items (food, formula, diapers, wipes, lotion, shampoo, etc)

Grade 1: Paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, napkins)

Grade 2: Personal hygiene (shampoo, deodorant, shower gel, toothpaste)

Grade 3 & 6: Canned goods

Grade 4 & 5: Breakfast foods (cereal, granola bars)

After Thanksgiving, we will continue collecting items throughout the year, in all categories, to replenish our pantry shelves. Simply send them to the school office.

If you know of a family needing assistance, call the school office and we will be happy to assist.

PHOTO GALLERY





BRIDDINGO

All Saints Day Mass

Pictured with Fr. Joe are St. John Paul II (Leo Friedman), St Pierre Georgio Frassati (Tommy Paulin), St. Maximillian Kolbe (Jayden Leasure) and St. Damion Molokai (Bray Jones). The boys did a wonderful job researching their saints and sharing what they learned with everyone at Mass on All Saints Day.

Veterans Day Prayer Service







Our fourth, fifth and sixth grade Student council members did a fantastic job planning and leading the Veterans Day Prayer service. They worked together as a team, under the leadership of Julie Blemler, with each member carrying out their own role. Some researched and found poems or prayers to read. Others helped greet guests and serve refreshments. We are proud of their excellent manners and willingness to honor Veterans.

In addition, the whole school sang the most beautiful patriotic songs. They made cards and gave them to the Veterans who attended. Again we are proud of the way the way they behaved and supported our guests.



Pictured above are Landry Steiner and Leo Friedman reading their poem and prayer. Above, Sheyanne Moore loves to see Dad in full uniform dress. It was a special treat to have him with us and to honor him for his service.



Preschool Pumpkin Carving

Sticky, gooey pumpkin guts! The pre-school classes are immersed in scientific discovery!

