

Parent Newsletter – September 2019



St. James School

Giving children WINGS to fly!

400 W. Lisbon Street in Waynesburg, OH 44688

330-866-9556

Website: sjswaynesburg.org

Email: stjameselem@youngstowndiocese.org

Upcoming events:

9/6 Mass 9am
Library

9/13 Mass Gr. 5 leads
Bookmobile

9/14 Italian Festival 4-10pm

9/17 St. James Day at
Taggart's 11am-10pm

9/20 Mass & Library

9/25 Midterms go home

9/27 Grandparents Day with
Mass at 9:15.

Out of Uniform Dress
Up Day



Principal's message

Dear Parents,

The school year is off to a great start! We have grown by 20% thanks to referrals from you! We are excited to welcome our new students and their families. . And we are thrilled to be back together with our returning families. It is an honor to be your partners in educating your children

It is also our pleasure to welcome three new members to our staff.

- 1) Heather Brownsword is our sixth grade teacher. She is teaching first and second Social Studies too. Heather is a graduate of Kent State University and has earned Highly Qualified Teacher status in K-12 reading.
- 2) Mrs. Renee Knoy is our Title One Tutor. She is a graduate of Sandy Valley High School and Kent State University. She is enjoying being back in the neighborhood.
- 3) Mrs. Leslie Buck is a classroom aide and Latchkey supervisor after school on Thursdays and Fridays. Leslie is a St. James graduate and her son, Matthew, is in our third grade.

We are introducing two new programs this year: PAX and FACTS. PAX means peace in Latin. PAX was chosen because it fits well with our Catholic identity and Gospel values. Please read the school news below for details about the PAX Good Behavior Game and FACTS School Information System.

May the Lord richly bless you, Kathy Kettler

SCHOOL NEWS

ITALIAN FESTIVAL

Every year we host an Italian Festival for the community. People of all ages enjoy the event. So come join the fun **on Saturday, September 14 from 4:00-10:00pm**. Enjoy sausage sandwiches, pizza, pasta, pulled pork sandwiches, meatball subs, fresh squeezed lemonade, ice cream, fried dough and more! Special features include Italian dinner music from 4:00-6:00, DJ music from 6:00-10:00pm, Homemade Wine Competition, Wine Auction, Wine and Beer Garden, Bocce Tournament, Bounce Houses, Face Painting, Games & food for kids. For information call 330-866-9449 or 330-866-9556. St. James is located at 400 W. Lisbon St. Waynesburg, OH 44688.



To enter the Homemade wine competition, bring three bottles of wine. Registration is at 5:00-6:00pm the day of the event. First, second and third place prizes will be awarded.

We need families to help during the evening to sell instant BINGO cards, to monitor the bounce houses and sell ice cream. Volunteers are asked to work 1 or 2 hour shifts during the

evening. Special thanks to Alex Blemler, Julie Blemler, Mamie Gonzales, Kyla Higgs, Bonnie Hughes and the Rossi family for signing up already. A sign-up sheet was sent home yesterday. Please return the sign-up sheet to the office as soon as possible. We are looking forward to seeing you at the Italian festival!

GRANDPARENTS DAY

Mark your calendar for one of our favorite days of the year! On **Friday, September 27** we will celebrate Grandparents Day. The children in K-7 are encouraged to invite grandparents, an elderly friend or neighbor, or a parent to come to school for the morning. We will begin with Mass in the church at **9:15am**. After Mass, the children will present a short musical program. Then everyone will go to the cafeteria for treats provided by parents and visit the classrooms to see what the children have been working on.



Parents are asked to send finger foods for the children and their guests. Suggestions include cheese/crackers, fruit, veggies, cookies, muffins, cupcakes. Treats should be sent to school on Wednesday or Thursday morning. We will also need parents to set-up and serve.

HELP FOR THE HUNTS

The Hunt family needs our help! We are raffling a 32" HDTV, with the proceeds going to help Dave Hunt get home to his family. He has been trying to meet all the immigration requirements from Australia and the US in order to join his family in the US. Tickets are \$5.00 each. We are sending a ticket home to every family hoping you might buy it or sell it to a friend. Tickets will also be on sale at the Italian festival. The winner will be drawn on September 22nd after Mass. You can read more details on Christy Marie's Facebook and contribute to "Dave's VISA!!!!!!".

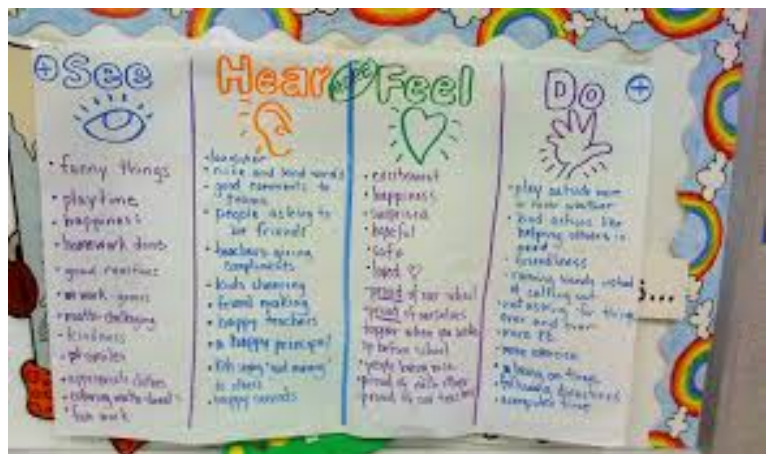
PAX GOOD BEHAVIOR GAME



In June, our teachers participated in PAX positive behavior intervention training, which was made possible by a grant from the State of Ohio. In Latin, Pax means Peace. In Christian churches, it refers to a ceremonial kiss, especially at a baptism or Eucharistic service, as a token of Christian love and unity. The PAX good behavior program creates classrooms in which love and unity become the focus of every activity.

The PAX behavior program is a preventive intervention used by teachers and schools to teach self-regulation, self-management, and social awareness in young people. When adults are equipped with the strategies to teach these skills to children in addition to academics, they create a nurturing environment that impacts positive brain development in young people with astounding lifetime effects. These effects have a dramatic impact on children, schools, and communities.

PAX trains teachers to create classrooms and schools focused on peace, productivity, health and happiness. Training children to be PAX Leaders empowers and motivates them to be better persons and together create a better world.



The children have already created a vision of what they want their classroom to be. They are striving to be PAX leaders by following the behaviors they want to see in their classrooms. When they play the PAX game and practice the skills that build a peaceful, productive, happy, and healthy environment, they earn rewards from Grannys' Wacky prize bag.



You can be involved by asking them how they were PAX leaders in school each day. Ask them how it made them feel. If it involved a classmate ask how the classmate might have felt.

The children are writing PAX notes when they see a classmate showing PAX behaviors. The notes are taped on the classroom door and then placed in the Offertory basket during Mass. In this way, they offer their good works to God and the whole community.

FACTS

All the schools in the Diocese are now using the FACTS School Information System. This system replaces OptionC. We have been trained to use it but have experienced many technical bugs that need to be worked out. Please be patient as we work with the FACTS team to fix the problems. When the system is ready, we will send instructions for you to view your child's progress.

UNIFORM CODE

This year Physical Education is on Fridays so there is no Mass uniform. Instead the children should wear their Gym t-shirt with nylon or cotton sports shorts or pants. Shorts should be fingertip length for girls. NO LEGGINGS are permitted. Attached is a copy of the Uniform Code for your reference.

GYM T-SHIRTS

Please send the gym t-shirt order form and payment as soon as possible. We want the kids to look sharp in their St. James t-shirts for Mass on Fridays.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We like to offer after school activities for our kids. Examples include Soccer Camp, LEGO Club, and Cooking Club. These activities teach skills, encourage creativity and provide time for fun with friends. Usually the activities are offered weekly for 4 weeks. If you have a skill, hobby or interest you would like to share with our kids, please let us know. Some of the ideas the kids have expressed interest in include Art Club, Book Club, Service Club to help others, and Science Club. We also welcome parents and grandparents during the school day to help at lunch or read in the classrooms. Call the office if you would like to get involved.

FAITH & FAMILY FESTIVAL

A day of fun and fulfillment for families, students and friends will be held on Sunday, September 22, 2019, on the West Quad of the campus of Walsh University at 2020 E. Maple St., North Canton. The day will begin at 11:00 a.m. with Opening Mass and then will feature Christian Comedian John Branyan, SingStark! from Voices of Canton, Inc., plus other talented musical acts, all with Michael Roberts of Living Bread Radio as emcee. In addition, there will be activities for kids and young people, prayer tent, vendors and exhibitors, confessions and affordable food by Café Augustine. For more information contact dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org or 330-744- 8451 ext. 272.

