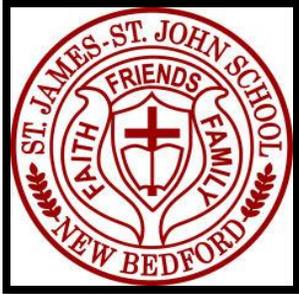


# St James-St John School Newsletter

August/September 2015

Ms. Cristina Raposo  
Principal



## Principal's News

Welcome Back to the 2015-2016 school year! As partners in your child's education, we will help each child reach his/her full potential. However, we will need your help! You can help us improve your child's reading skills by simply having your child to read at home each night. Nightly reading should be a requirement in your home, and is necessary for students to make improvements in reading. Good practice is that each student read about 20 minutes per night. Please make sure that you set aside time for your child to read each night. Remember, your child's overall success is our number one goal!

If you have not already done so, I would like to once again invite you to complete the Diocesan requirements to volunteer at St. James-St John School. The requirements involve completing paperwork and participation in Protecting God's Children. You may make an appointment with our office staff to complete the process.

Remember ALL St. James-St John families are required to be CORI'd in order to volunteer at the school or functions of the school.

The staff and I are so happy to be back, and are working hard to prepare for the children's arrival on August 26, 2015. A special welcome to all of our new families; we are so happy to have you as members of the St. James-St John School Community. I am looking forward to getting to know all of the children and parents during this school year.

The building has never looked better as our favorite custodian Mr Ferreira has worked hard all summer. Thank You!!

Stay tuned for more information about the great things happening at St. James-St John this year! May Jesus and the Holy Spirit protect and guide the students and staff of St. James-St John School always.

Blessings,  
Ms. Raposo

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## Nurse Anna's Corner

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a healthy and relaxing summer!

My office is a very busy place during the first week of school as I make sure that all student health records are up to date and that all medications and orders have been turned in. Please take a moment to read the following information in order to assure a smooth transition on the first day of school.

- If your child is new to SJSJ, I need a copy of their most recent physical exam and an up to date list of all their immunizations by August 21.
- If you received a notice from me at the end of the school year requesting a recent physical or updated immunization, please make sure that I have it by August 21.
- All students that will need medication during the school day, including Tylenol, Motrin, Inhalers and Epi-Pens, must turn in a completed physician order form, parental consent for medication administration form (forms may be found on our website) and the medication on the first day of school. All meds must be brought to school and given to me by an adult. These forms are available on the school website under "Nurse".
- SJSJ is a tree nut and peanut free school.

I am so excited to see all of you and hear all about your summer adventures! -Nurse Anna

## Computer News

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a great summer! We have some exciting changes for computer class in the upper grades. Thanks to the hard work and generosity of the PTO we will be acquiring Chrome books for use in the classroom. Combined with the use of Google for Education, we will be able to have state of the art technology for students to use. I look forward to getting started and working with students on this exciting new resource!

*“Do unto others as you would like them to do to you.”*

*Luke 6:31*



## Pre-Kindergarten News

Now that school is back in session, our preschool students are making new friends and adjusting to new routines. The first few weeks will be spent showing the students what they can expect on a daily basis. It is less stressful for the children if they know the routines to follow. We will also be working on having them become familiar and comfortable with their new teachers and the school staff.

Our daily schedule will include activities that will meet each child's needs and help support their learning. We are excited to begin a new school year and look forward to working with your children.

## Kindergarten News

Our 2015-2016 school year has begun. I am very excited for our upcoming year.

I believe that parent-teacher relationships are extremely important for maximum school success. Throughout the school year, parents are welcome to email/phone me, send in a note, or visit the school when there are questions or concerns about a student's progress. Please know that I will respond diligently but not during instructional time.

That is, I will respond after instructional hours either before or after school and/or lunch time.

I consider it a great privilege and responsibility to be your child's teacher and I look forward to meeting with all parents.



## First Grade News

It was a beautiful summer! Sadly, it is coming to an end and school has begun. Our room is ready and I am excited to welcome my new first graders. Our first day went extremely well. I welcomed in all the students including our new additions, Chloe and Mia. We are elated to have them as part of our First Grade Family and the SJSJ School Family. The students are very

eager and excited to be in first grade. Our turtles, Nick and Rocky, are a big hit and we are getting to know one another. I know it's going to be a great year that is filled with lots of learning and fun.



## Second Grade News

Hello and welcome back to SJSJ! We are looking forward to a busy and productive school year. The stories in our first unit in reading will help us to see what we can learn from exploring new places and things. In math, we will begin working on addition and subtraction fact families. We have many fun projects planned for learning about animal adaptations and habitats. In

religion, we will read and talk about the life of Jesus and how we should treat others. We are very excited for this new school year and helping each child become an independent learner.



## Portuguese News

Olá! I'm Mrs. Correia, the new Portuguese teacher here at St. James, St. John School. I am looking forward to introducing the students into the world of the Portuguese language or helping them strengthen their prior knowledge in Portuguese. I also am looking forward to meet all students and families!

## Third Grade News

Welcome Back everyone from Grade 3! We are looking forward to coming together as a class to rekindle old friendships and begin some new ones. We would like to welcome two new students to our class, Aaryana Gant and Zoe Teixeira. We hope you have a wonderful year! We will begin the year with some getting-to-know-you activities and worksheets that will review some of our 2nd grade skills. It won't be long before we quickly move into our 3rd grade material. We will be introduced to textbooks we have never had before. Science, social studies, and vocabulary books will challenge us and give us opportunities to learn new things. We will also enjoy our reading books filled with interesting stories that will take us all over the world and encompass our writing and grammar skills. In math, we will be introduced to many skills and focus on learning our multiplication and division facts. It will certainly be an exciting year! We can't wait to get started!



## Fourth Grade News

Planning on a great start to a great year in Grade 4! This is the beginning of the intermediate grades, and academic expectations and responsibilities are very different now, but the students are ready and to handle the upcoming challenges. Fun projects and activities will also be a part of the learning process this year, especially in

Social Studies. One of the new responsibilities that Grade 4 students will take on is the role of "Big Buddy" to a Grade 1 "Little Buddy", something that students really look forward to! Also, to help prepare for this new chapter of school, please remember to review Math facts, especially multiplication facts as this beautiful summer winds down.

## Fifth Grade News

Welcome to 5th grade! I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer. I hope it was filled with lots of fun memories and relaxation! I am overwhelmed with the outpouring of support shown to me as I start my new journey in 5th grade. I have been looking forward to seeing and working with all my new students and parents! The room has gone through a new transformation with a fresh coat of paint and colorful accents; my wish is to create a warm and welcoming, learning environment that the students will enjoy. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns throughout the year; communication is a large part of our child's education and I am looking forward to working as a team to ensure their success!

## Art

Welcome back to Art class at St. James St. John School. I hope everyone's summer has been wonderful. I have been busy working on the Art Curriculum for the coming school year. Of course I will be doing Art lessons from years past, but I always love bringing in new ones each year as well. During the year I like to have each student use all of the Art supplies in their Art Boxes as well as some very special supplies I have on my Art Cart. Please try and have your children bring in their ART BOXES to school within the first week. Art classes will be starting on September 8th and 9th and they should have all of their supplies by then. I always begin on the first day of Art by having the students create their own Art folder/portfolio cover, which they keep throughout the year. It would be great if they could come into the first class with their idea in mind of what they want to put on this very special cover. We will also be doing the "Art to Remember" fundraiser this fall. We started this program last year and it was very successful. Flyers will go home explaining this awesome fundraiser which utilizes your children's own artwork.

There will be a slight change in the Art schedule this year. I will be teaching on Tuesdays and Wednesdays instead of Mondays and Wednesdays. Therefore, I will also be having After School Art Class on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Once school has started, I will be sending out an email regarding the After School Art program.

## Physical Education

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a great summer. I am looking forward to another great year of physical education classes also looking forward to meeting all of our new students! PE classes for grades 4-8 are on Thursdays and for grades Pre-K-3 are on Fridays. Children come to school dressed in their gym uniforms on those days, just a quick reminder that on rainy days and winter weather children need to bring an extra pair of sneakers with them, our school uses the CYO building behind the school and they do not allow them on the court with the shoes that they walked in with. Thank you, looking forward to another great! :)



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## Middle School English/Language Arts

I hope you have enjoyed the gorgeous summer as much as I have. It's going to be another busy year in middle school. I am looking forward to seeing all of our returning students and to meeting our new ones as well. Each student should have read two books over the summer- a mandatory selection and an optional selection. The summer reading test will take place on Wednesday, September 2nd. Each student will be expected to have his or her books on that day as the test is open book. It will consist of some discussion questions based on the books, and the students will be allowed to refer to their books in order to answer the questions. This test shouldn't cause any anxiety on the part of the students. It is acceptable to have a digital copy of the books.

## Middle School Math and Science

Math:

I will be assessing each student on his or her math skills. I feel it is very important to learn my student's strengths and weaknesses so I can better assist them succeed in math. I will also be showing the middle school students how to create an interactive math notebook. This will help them study and become more organized so that they can succeed in high school.

Science:

In science we will be learning about earth and space sciences, life sciences, physical sciences, and I will also be introducing some STEM into our program. The students will also be creating an interactive notebook along with group work and projects throughout the school year.

We're on the Web!  
[www.sjsjschool.com](http://www.sjsjschool.com)

and



## Middle School Religion and Social Studies

I would like to welcome all the 7th and 8th graders back to SJSJ for the upcoming school year, and I am looking forward to meeting the new 6th graders. The curriculum for the Middle School has stayed the same as have the Social Studies Assessments. In Social Studies Grade 6 will be working on Ancient World History. This includes the beginning of civilization and is very interesting. Grades 7 and 8 will be studying American History. Grade 7 will begin with the Age of Colonization and Grade 8 will start the divisions within the country which led to the Civil War.

In Religion Grade 6 will begin the study of the Old Testament. This is a very interesting topic and I hope that the students enjoy it. Grade 7 will study church doctrine with a great deal of work on the Commandments, the Beatitudes and the Sacraments. Grade 8 will concentrate on the History of the Catholic Church. This is a great topic and we will also look at current things that are happening in the Church today. I am looking forward to a great year, if you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

## Music

Welcome Back Everyone! I hope you all had a great summer! Though I love our vacations, it is always so nice coming back to start another year. I am looking forward to seeing all of you for another great year of music. We will be adding to our "Music Folder" of knowledge in so many different ways, so get ready for fun!

In addition to our music class fun, we will also be bringing back our "Choir". We had a great turnout last year and are hoping for another wonderful group. If you are a 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grader who likes to sing, we would love for you to join us. No tryouts necessary. The first "Choir" rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 2:30-3:30. Enjoy your first days back! Looking forward to seeing you all on September 16<sup>th</sup>!