

# ST JAMES-ST JOHN SCHOOL

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## From the desk of your Principal

Welcome Back to the 2016-2017 school year! As partners in your child's education, we will help each child reach his/her full potential at SJSJ. 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.

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## NOTES FROM NURSE ANNA

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

My office is a very busy place during the first weeks 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 the first day of school.
- If you received a notice from me at the end of the school year requesting recent physical or updated immunizations, please make sure that I have it by the first day of school.
- 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

The staff and I are so happy to be back, and are working hard to prepare for the children's arrival on August 24, 2016. 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; a special thanks to Ms Tavares and Mr. Rivet who have worked hard all summer. Thank You!! A special thank you to Mount Carmel Parish and Our Lady of Guadalupe at St James Parish who helped the school with the cost of the tiles in the hallways, they look GREAT!!

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.

## PK News



Welcome to the 2016-2017 preschool school year! We hope you had a wonderful restful and rejuvenating summer break. We would like to welcome all of our returning preschool students and families with a special greeting to those joining us for the first time.

Now that school is back in session, there is a lot going on in preschool. The students are settling in to the classroom routine. They are making new friends and finding their way around the class. These first weeks will be spent getting to know names and faces inside the classroom as well as throughout the school. Together we will go over classroom rules and expectations. Don't be surprised if your child returns home exhausted!

Our daily schedule this year will change a little. We will be separating the students by age for a portion of the school day, allowing us to address the academic needs of each group. An extra classroom Aide has been added to ensure safety at all times.

We are excited to begin a new school year and look forward to working with you and your children.

## Kindergarten

Our 2016-2017 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. 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.

## Grade 1

The bell has rung and school has begun!! Where did the summer vacation go--but we still have more summer to come. I would like to extend a happy welcome to all my new first graders, especially Maria and Jamahl who have joined our St. James St. John family. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to their families too. So let's begin--lets open the books, open our hearts and minds, renew old friendships, and make new ones with a year that is filled with fun and learning.

## Grade 2

Welcome back to St. James-St. John School. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. I hope everyone has enjoyed the summer reading book and the summer review packet. I am anticipating a wonderful school year and getting to know my students and their families. The second grade curriculum will include reading, spelling, math, religion, science, and social studies. We will have many fun projects to go along with our lessons. This is also an exciting year for many of our students who will be preparing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion. I wish you all a happy and prosperous school year.

## Grade 3

Welcome Back from Grade 3! We hope everyone had a restful summer. We are enjoying coming back together as a class to rekindle old friendships and begin some new ones. We would like to welcome a new student to our class, Timmy Wang. Welcome to the SJSJ family and we hope you have a wonderful year. We will begin our year by completing some Getting-To-Know-You activities and by reviewing some of our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade skills, but it won't be long before we quickly move into our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade material. We have a lot to learn this year! The children will be introduced to textbooks they have never had before in Social Studies and Science. We also have new Vocabulary and Grammar Workbooks that are very challenging for the children. We will work hard this year, but we will learn a lot and have an amazing time doing it! 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade is going to be a lot of fun!

## COMPUTER GRADES 4-8

Welcome back! I'm excited to return to school and get started with computer class. During the first few weeks of school, all grades will review internet safety and the features of our Google Chromebooks. I have some exciting lessons planned for this year. Some of the things we will be working on include a digital character scrapbook, a historical journal, creating a floor plan using Google Sheets and creating a comic strip using Google Slides. I hope everyone had a great summer. I look forward to welcoming back our returning students and meeting some new faces.

## ART AT SJSJ

Welcome back to school and to **Art** class!!! I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer so far and if by chance any of you have been painting, drawing, sketching, crafting, any sort of art, and I know some of you have been this summer, bring in your work so we can see what you have been up to. I and your fellow students would love to see your work.

It is going to be a great year in **Art** at SJSJ School this year. I love the Fall theme for **Art**, full of the vivid fall colors and autumn feeling. I will have some exciting new projects to work on in each grade. We will start off by making our 2016-2017 school year **Art** Folders. It would be great if all of the students could come into the first day of **Art** class with an idea for their folder and therefore get started on drawing it out right away.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and I am looking forward to seeing all of you in the Fall.

*Mrs. Wilson - Art Teacher*

## GYM AT SJSJ

Welcome back! I hope everyone had an amazing summer, I can't believe it's that time again! I am looking to seeing all of the students and meeting all who have joined our SJSJ school family! I can't wait to get back into P.E classes and getting back into running, stretching exercises and plenty of fun games! Bring on another wonderful year.

God Bless,  
Mrs. DeMelo

## Grade 4

I am planning on a great start to a great year in Grade 4, and I hope you are too! I would like to point out that this is the beginning of the intermediate grades and academic expectations and responsibilities are very different now, but the students are ready 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. Hopefully good progress has been made on the Math review packet. A positive "I can do this" attitude is what is most helpful as this new school year begins!

## Grade 5

Welcome back from your SJSJ 5th grade family! I hope everyone has had an eventful and memory-filled vacation! September will be a transition month for 5th grade as we get used to new expectations and requirements of the class. Students will be introduced to different class resources, our textbooks we will be exploring, and review of my teaching approach. I hope to meet and greet all of our parents at Open House on September 1st at 6pm! Back to school student work will be displayed and our classroom will be open for everyone to view and explore!

Not only would I like to welcome back our returning 5th graders, but I would like to extend a warm welcome to our 2 new class members, Karly and Jayla! We hope you have found your second family within our school! I am looking forward to a great year!

## Grade 6

Greetings!

Though the school year is beginning a little....early, there still, nonetheless exists the same excitement that comes with every new school year. The school supplies are purchased, the uniforms are fresh, the sneakers are new, and we all have the expectation of a good year. This past summer was the best of my life, due to a few things. I had some wonderful new experiences with family and friends, and I returned to running, which has given me a real sense of well-being that I had missed for a few years. Let's hope I keep it up! Such positive momentum I expect will propel me to give my students their best year yet. I'm ready. I hope you are, too. I look forward to getting to know all the new students and parents, as well as reconnecting with the older versions of last year's students. See you soon!

## MUSIC AT SJSJ

**Welcome Back Everyone!** Even though the weather still feels like summer, the calendar says “We Are Back To School”! I am looking forward to seeing all of you for another great year of music. In addition to reviewing what we have already learned, we have a whole lot of wonderful new things awaiting us in music class this year. We will also be adding a few new instruments to our classroom so get ready for fun!

In addition to our music class fun, we will also be bringing back our amazing “**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 or can play an instrument, we would love for you to join us. No tryouts necessary. **The first “Choir” rehearsal will be Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup>** from 2:30-3:30.

Enjoy your first days back! Looking forward to seeing you all on **September 7th!**

## SPANISH AT SJSJ



**I am very excited for the new school year! Here’s what’s planned for the month of September:**

### Days of the Week and Months of the Year:



**Students will be introduced to Days and Months through songs, games, and a Calendar project.**



### Seasons:

**Students will learn the seasons and the weather for each season. Article of clothing will also be introduced with seasons.**

## Grade 7

I hope you have enjoyed your summer, I know I have. I am looking forward to seeing all of our returning 7th and 8th graders, meeting the new incoming 6th graders and welcoming the new SJSJ students arriving to our middle school. I will continue to incorporate finance into our math program with the 7th and 8th graders and I am very excited to integrate the new 8th grade algebra books. Students will be creating interactive notebooks in both science and math along with group work and projects throughout the school year. I am excited for another successful year at SJSJ.

## Grade 8

The summer passed very quickly as it always does and I hope everyone had a great vacation. As we look forward to a new school year here is a brief outline for Social Studies and Religion.

### **Social Studies**

Grade 6 will begin this year's main topic the study of the Ancient World and it civilizations.

Grade 7 starts a two year study of the United States. This will start with the colonization of the New World.

Grade 8 continues its study of the United States as it enters into the years preceding the Civil War.

### **Religion**

Grade 6 concentrates on the Old Testament and begins with the Creation Stories.

Grade 7 explores the laws and workings of the Church, taking time to explain how Gods laws help us to form a bond with both Him and the entire Church Community.

Grade 8 will be studying the history of the Catholic Church. We will begin with the work of the Apostles and follow the growth of the Church throughout the world.

