

# Saint James School



2019 February/March Newsletter

Many blessings to you all for the New Year! Please let me thank you for all that you do for Saint James School! As I attend the many meetings of Saint James School, I truly feel that our school is so blessed to have such a caring and devoted group of parents that help the school in so many ways. Thank you for all that you do each and every day!

Catholic Schools Week was a resounding success and true to our mission. **Service** – We collected non-perishable items for local food banks. **Academics** – Our Academic Fair highlighted some of the wonderful things that go on at Saint James School daily. **Faith** – We started the week with a Catholic Schools Week mass and turkey supper. We also showed ways we walk with Jesus and celebrated with parishioners after the weekly mass. **Excellence** – In addition to these things, Saint James teaches the entire child so we made kindness rocks and a chain of the good deeds that we do for others. And we had fun by having a Disney vs. Superhero Day, having a whole school STREAM challenge and rock paper scissors contest. We ended the week with our Snowflake Dance. Saint James School celebrates our school and our students during Catholic Schools Week. Saint James School teaches the whole child to grow up to respectful young men and women who know how to succeed in high school and thereafter.

Our philosophy at Saint James School is that parents are our partners. All the teachers and I work together with you to come up with the best educational plan for your child.

Saint James School has such a devoted group of teachers that want the best for every child. We hold a lot of meetings before and after school to meet the needs of each child.

I am also delighted that we were able to fill our music and band position with two wonderful teachers. Racha Al Tesini and Andrea Wollstadt will be two great additions to the Saint James School family. Please welcome them when you meet them!

Please spread the word about our upcoming open houses that we will have on January 26<sup>th</sup>, February 26<sup>th</sup> and March 26<sup>th</sup>. You are truly our greatest advertising. If the new student writes that they came to Saint James School because of your referral on their application, you will get a \$200 deduction on your tuition.

Saint James School is going to be a part of a larger marketing campaign called **Witness the Difference**. The Diocese of Portland is paying for Faith Catholic to create a webpage for all Maine Catholic schools, a brochure for all Maine Catholic schools and an individual brochure for Saint James School. They will be sending mailings and Facebook posts that will talk about the value of a Catholic school education.

The Saint James School Finance Committee is currently meeting to review this year's budget and to budget and set tuition for the 2019-2020 school year. The largest increase in our expenses this school year was the cost of health insurance, which is negotiated by the Diocese of Portland. We anticipate the rising cost of health insurance to continue in the near future. Because of this trend, we expect that tuition will increase about \$200 per student next year. We do have financial aid and we give that to our families with the most need. Those families and amounts change from year to year depending on the pool of applicants. Some families give extra money to help those less fortunate and that is appreciated. Cost should never be a factor because we want to assist. Reenrollment for next year will begin soon.

I am interested to ask you three questions. First, what do you love about Saint James School and hope that it never changes. Second, what is your priority for change? Lastly, is there anything else that you want me to know? You can send it to me via email or anonymously through a letter. As we work on our strategic plan and set goals for the future of our great school, I want to know what is important to you. I will follow this with a survey.

Thank you again for all that you do and for allowing us to spend so much time with your awesome child(ren)! As always, please call or email me should you have any questions or concerns. [nancy.naimzy@portlanddiocese.org](mailto:nancy.naimzy@portlanddiocese.org) Peace, Nancy Naimzy