



*“O God, whose most dear Son did take little children into his arms and bless them; Give us grace, we ask you, to entrust the souls of these children to your never failing care and love, and bring us all to your heavenly kingdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.”*

January 10, 2022

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Our city is struggling: we face COVID, gun violence, racial injustice and most recently, the house fire last Wednesday that claimed the lives of 12 people. Together we lift up prayers for the Brown family, who lost family members in that tragic fire, and pray that they find comfort in God’s embrace.

**Health and Safety Updates:**

1. Next week all students will be remote on Zoom on Monday, Jan 10 and Tuesday, Jan 11, with the goal being that students return to campus on Wednesday. This will provide extra time to assess staff health and COVID status.
2. A phone blast is being sent Friday at 6pm with this information as well.
3. Another phone blast will be sent Tuesday night ( Jan 11 ) to confirm Wednesday’s schedule.
4. On Wednesday, we plan to COVID rapid test all students at arrival:
  - a. Grades 4 & 5 will test at the Tent
  - b. Grades 6,7,8 will test on the Yellow Brick Road
5. The January 11 Family/Guardian meeting has been rescheduled for January 18.

**New Zoom links** have been created for each grade for Monday. This is due to non-St. James students “crashing” the classes and saying inappropriate things. Please speak with your child about never sharing these links and passwords with non-SJS children. Your child’s education and safety is paramount!

**COVID 19 Updates:**

1. Vaccine Clinic next week Jan 12
2. More than 50% of students are now vaccinated. We are safer and stronger together! All vaccinated students will be placed in a raffle for 76’ers tickets coming soon!
3. We recognize this is a challenging time for all. Please contact the school if you need any assistance re: tutoring, medical information, counseling, technology assistance, food or other needs.

**Family Teacher Conferences** are being pushed back one week and will start the week of January 17. Only three weeks remain in Marking Period #2. Please continue to communicate with your child’s

teachers now to ensure that your child is earning their highest possible grades. We look forward to celebrating your child's growth and achievements.

**MLK Day 2022** is Monday, January 17. Students should arrive at 8:45am and will be dismissed at 1pm. It is a required school day - we look forward to 100% attendance and engagement.

**Theater Week:** Has been rescheduled for the week of May 16-21... *"the show will go on!"*

**Family Guardian Meeting:** The meeting has been rescheduled for **Tuesday, Jan 18 from 6-7pm. The meeting is mandatory for all 5th Grade students and one family member.**

**Uniforms:** Students should be in full uniform when they arrive at school.

- **Masks** are part of the school uniform. Please make sure your child travels to and from school with a mask. Once at school, students are given their school mask. Our school masks are homemade by a local church, have double straps, and are of very high quality. They are washed every night. Replacement masks cost \$5.
- Uniforms can be requested on **Tuesday** and **Thursdays**. Each article of clothing is **\$10 each** ; **money orders** or **checks** ( no cash ). Please allow > **24 hours** for your request to be completed.
- Uniform questions? Please speak with Mr. Yun.

**Welcome Table** - Saturday from 9am-12pm and by appointment. Contact the school at 215.226.1276.

**Important Dates:**

Jan 15 9am-12pm Family Service Day (CANCELLED)  
Jan 17-28 Family Teacher Conferences  
Jan 17 MLK day of Service 1pm student dismissal  
Jan 18 6-7pm Family Guardian meeting  
Jan 22 Saturday Academic Clinic ( 8th Grade )  
Jan 25-27 MAPs  
Jan 28 End of Marking Period Two  
Jan 31 No School, Staff Professional Development Day  
Feb 1 first day of Marking Period #3  
Feb 5 10am-1pm 7th Grade Saturday Academic Clinic  
Feb 21 NO SCHOOL, President's Day  
Feb 26 10am-1pm 8th Grade Saturday Academic Clinic

Please contact me at any time with suggestions or questions. Be safe and be well.

Sincerely,

Mr. McDonough