



“Persevere. I would say persevere.”

- Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, when asked what advice she would share with young people.

April 18, 2022

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Last week we celebrated **Holy Week**, marking the days leading up to Jesus’ death and resurrection on **Easter Sunday**. The resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday reminds us of the power of hope, that light conquers darkness, and eternal life prevails over death. **Happy Easter!** For our Muslim Siblings, we hope this **Ramadan** enlightens your soul and brings your heart much closer to Allah. Ramadan Kareem to you and your family! We pray that Allah grants you patience and good health! May Allah answer all your prayers in this holy month of Ramadan.

Admissions for School Year 2022-2023: We are taking applications for new students entering grades 4-8. Do you know someone who might be interested? The deadline is May 1. The application can be accessed using the QR code to the right. Questions? Ask Ms. S. Carroll at admissions@stjamesphila.org or 215-226-1276 ex 105.



8th Grade Families - please save the dates, more details to come in the upcoming weeks:

- Thursday, June 16 5:00 PM 8th Grade Baccalaureate Mass & Graduation rehearsal
- Friday, June 17 5:00 PM 8th Grade Graduation !

Music Survey: Ms. Stewart and Ms. Sinatra will be sending home a Music survey this week. Please discuss Music options with your child and complete the survey.

Student Uniform: Thank you to all who replied to the Uniform Survey. Last week was a full school uniform reset... goodbye hoodies & hello ties! Students look sharp in their grade specific ties. With warmer weather, we are back to school shoes, school pants & school sweaters. Please make sure your child is in full uniform when arriving at school. Questions? Call Mr. Yun at 215-226-1276 ext 101.

School Shoe Options	 <p>Oxford Dress Shoes</p>	 <p>Mary Janes</p>	 <p>Bucks</p>
---------------------	---	--	--

Health & Safety Committee information - decisions are based on three factors:

- The current community spread is very low (19132 ZIP code and within our school community)
- The survey results from families and staff
- The impact of the pandemic on mental health. We recognize the pandemic is not yet over and we will continue to make changes as necessary. Four updates:
 - **Rapid Testing:** all students & staff were tested on Monday, April 11. 100% negative results!

- **Masks:** We are not moving to indoor “mask optional” at this time. We will revisit indoor “mask optional” on Thursday, April 21.
- **Philadelphia Department of Health** reinstated the city-wide *Indoor Mask Mandate* for April 18
- **Lunch / Recess:** 6th, 7th & 8th grades began eating together under the Tent last week at lunch
- **Vaccine Clinic flier** in today’s Black Excellence folder - another chance for student vaccinations

A Special Family Guardian Meeting:

Tuesday, April 19 from 6-7pm. Location: The Tent!

All Families Invited to A SPECIAL DINNER FAMILY DINNER

Raffle Prizes! Tours of the new building! Hear about Exciting News!



Important dates:

- April 19 Guardians of St. James meeting and BBQ
- April 23 9am-10am Honor Roll Breakfast
- April 23 10am-1pm Saturday Academic Clinic (6th Grade)
- April 23 10am - 12pm Community and Family Service Day
- April 30 12-2pm St. James Day
- May 1 new student applications due
- May 6 Family First Friday
- May 7 Saturday Academic Clinic (5th Grade)
- May 10 6pm Guardian of St. James meeting
- May 14 10am - 12pm Community and Family Service Day
- May 16-21 Theater Week
- May 21 Saturday Academic Clinic (8th Grade)
- May 21 Art Showcase
- May 23- June 3 Family Teacher Conferences
- May 24 5-8pm Scholarship Benefit
- May 27, 30 Memorial Day weekend, NO SCHOOL
- June 3 Family First Friday
- June 4 Saturday Academic Clinic (6th Grade)
- June 6-9 MAPs
- June 11 Saturday Academic Clinic (8th Grade)
- June 11 Family Service Day
- June 16 House Cup and Last Day of MP4
- June 16 5pm 8th Grade Baccalaureate Mass
- June 17 5pm 8th Grade Graduation !
- June 21-July 2 Student Vacation
- July 5-July 30 Summer programming for 4th-7th graders (mandatory)

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

Sincerely,

Mr. McDonough