



*“The capacity to learn is a gift; the ability to learn is a skill; the willingness to learn is a choice.” - Brian Herbert*

August 22, 2024

Dear Parent / Guardian,

It is the most wonderful time of the year - the start of a new school year! Welcome to our newest families and welcome back for our returning families. The promise and potential of a new year lie before us.

**New Staff:** Please welcome our newest members of the St James Schoolhouse team:

- Ms. Xenya Currie, Teacher and Servant Year member
- Ms. Tiffany Drees, ELA Teacher
- Ms. Cadie McNabe, Teacher and Servant Year member
- Ms. Jamese Newsome-Williams, Director of Community Art Programs & Environmental Initiatives
- Dr. Daryl Roland, Director of Music Education & Choral Music
- Rev. Walter Thorne, School Chaplain
- Mr. Trevor Weaver, Counselor



**Student Orientation:** Sessions are mandatory. Dates and times for each grade are listed in the chart on the back of this letter. Students must be in full uniform, and will receive their ties at school.

**Family Orientation:** Sessions are mandatory for your child to start the school year. One adult from your family must attend with their child. If your child will need to take medication at school, please bring it to this session. **NEW FAMILIES:** Please bring a copy of your child’s birth certificate, Social Security #, health insurance card, and immunization records OR send images of these documents to [frontdesk@stjamesphila.org](mailto:frontdesk@stjamesphila.org).

**Student Uniform:**

- For your convenience we have 2 uniform partners: one is in person, one is online.
- Students have 2 uniforms - the PE Uniform and the Formal Uniform. Both uniforms can be purchased at both uniform partners.

Formal Uniform	PE Uniform
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All Non-PE Class Days</li> <li>● Button-down, white SJS shirt with logo</li> <li>● Khaki pants or skirt</li> <li>● Optional: Sweater with logo</li> <li>● If pants have belt loops, students must wear a belt</li> <li>● Black or white socks</li> <li>● ALL black or ALL white sneakers - not black and white sneakers</li> <li>● Ties are provided at student orientation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Each grade has a different PE day.</li> <li>● <b>PE Days:</b> Monday-4th Grade, Tuesday-6th and 8th Grade, Wednesday- 5th Grade, Thursday-7th Grade.</li> <li>● SJS T-shirt - can include t-shirts from SJS events</li> <li>● SJS Shorts</li> <li>● SJS sweatpants</li> <li>● SJS sweatshirt</li> <li>● No hoodie, even if from an SJS program or event</li> <li>● Any color sneakers</li> </ul>

<a href="#">The St. James Swag Store</a>	The Uniform Closet Co.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Completely online</li> <li>● Items are custom made, delivery is 2-3 weeks</li> <li>● Uniform pieces are available as well as fun SJS attire to promote school spirit</li> <li>● <a href="#">Link</a> can be found at QR code below:</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In person store located at 2801 W. Allegheny Ave.</li> <li>● Phone Number: 267-228-8342</li> <li>● Items in stock to be purchased and picked up now</li> <li>● Bundles available at discounted rates!</li> <li>● Website: <a href="http://www.Theuniformcloset.net">www.Theuniformcloset.net</a>. QR code below:</li> </ul> 

	<b>Tuesday Sept. 3, 2024</b>	<b>Wednesday Sept. 4, 2024</b>	<b>Thursday Sept. 5, 2024</b>	<b>Monday Sept. 9, 2024</b>
<b>9:00-12:00</b>		<b>9:00-12:00</b> <b>4th and 5th Grade Student Orientation</b> - Both Dates are Mandatory - Students can arrive for Recess at 8:30, Attendance will be taken at 9:00.		This is the first full day of school! Arrival starts at 7:30.  You, Parents and Guardians, are invited to the <b>Opening Doors Ceremony at 8:45</b> , where we will honor and formally welcome our new students to the community. 🌟
<b>1:00-4:00</b>		<b>1:00-4:00</b> <b>6th, 7th and 8th Grade Student Orientation</b> - Both Dates are Mandatory - Students can arrive for recess at 12:30. Attendance will be taken at 1:00.		
<b>4:30-5:30</b>	<b>4:30-5:30</b> <b>New Family Orientation</b> This orientation is for all NEW families to SJS.	<b>4:30-5:30</b> <b>5th and 6th</b> Grade Family Orientation	<b>4:30-5:30</b> <b>7th and 8th</b> Grade Family Orientation	

### The School Day:

- **Arrival:** Student drop off starts at **7:30** with morning recess. Students are typically dropped off for this at the driveway on 33rd street. The front doors open at **7:45**, and attendance is taken at **8:00**. **Students should be at school by 7:45am.**
- **Dismissal:** The school day ends at **3:15**. On September 30, we will launch **enrichments** for grades 5-8. Enrichments run from **3:15-4:10**, and then **4:10-5:00**. 4th graders may join enrichments in Semester 2.

**Contact Details:** Please save 215-226-1276 the St. James School phone # in your contact info. Anytime your phone number changes please be sure to contact the school so we are aware.

**Jupiter Grades:** We will be using Jupiter for grades, communication and payment of Family Fees this year. Looking for a calendar, schedule, invoice? Check on your Jupiter portal! Login assistance will be offered at Family Orientations.

**School Supplies:** We provide all school supplies for students but always welcome donations of tissues, hand sanitizer and sharpened pencils.

**Calendar:** An *At A Glance* version of our school calendar and the September calendar are attached for your year planning purposes!

**You are invited! The Opening Doors Ceremony:** Join us to welcome new students and new staff as we launch the 2024-2025 school year on September 9 at 8:45 AM. All are welcome!

Sincerely,

Mr. McDonough  
Principal