



Cougar Call Weekly News

Newsletter 24, February 26, 2015

Congratulations to our fourth grade team (Gabby Flores, Tex Hermes, Julie Kocian, and Anna Vu) for their second place win in last weekend's Archdiocesan *Innovate, Create, Discover* competition held in San Antonio. They were challenged to build a bridge of previously unknown materials that would support 10, 15, or 20 pounds of weight. This all had to be accomplished in ten minutes! Great job!

Please join me in thanking second grade teacher, Mrs. Christina Graziano, for her wonderful service and love to our students this past school year. Her husband, who is military, has been transferred, and her last day at St. James Catholic School will be Friday, March 6. We shall truly miss her.

The long term substitute for Mrs. Graziano and all the second and third grade classes she teaches will be Mrs. Carolyn Bennett. Mrs. Bennett is a St. James parishioner and a certified teacher with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. She has taught first and third grades and Middle School language arts at St. James in Seguin from 1991-2001 and at Sts. Peter and Paul in New Braunfels from 1985-1991. She will be working with Mrs. Graziano in advance of her start date on March 16 so that she is comfortable with all Mrs. Graziano does and with the children. We welcome Mrs. Bennett again to SJS and wish Mrs. Graziano and her husband well with their move back to New Jersey.

Online registration has begun! You should have received an e-mail about registration. If you are reregistering a current student, you will need to go through Parents' Web on RenWeb to re-register. Please remember to pay your registration fee of \$395 (K-8) or \$250 (PK2 - PK4) in the school office. The Early Bird Discount (\$20 voucher) for registration and at least one paid registration fee ends on Friday, February 27, and all registration and at least one fee are due by Friday, March 6, to save your spot and be eligible for tuition scholarship. Our primary grades fill up quickly; please don't wait to register.

If you wish to apply for tuition scholarship, the 2015-2016 Hope for the Future application for tuition scholarship, the St. James Scholarship, and the Glenewinkel Scholarship are all now online. The priority date for Hope for the Future is March 15, and the Glenewinkel is due March 18. Go to www.sjcstx.org and look under "Admissions---2015-2016 Registration." The first round of scholarship money will be distributed in April. To be eligible for tuition scholarships, your applications must be in by the 15th of the month prior to distribution. Four or five rounds of Hope for the Future and St. James tuition scholarships will be given from April to August. The earlier you apply, the more the funds are available for distribution. Please remember, in order to receive tuition scholarships 1) you must have registered for next year, and 2) your account must be current. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Next year, St. James will have a six man tackle football team. The Archdiocese has changed all flag football to tackle, so we will be joining eleven other Archdiocesan schools in fall six man tackle football competition. Right now, we are looking forward to the Archdiocesan track meet on March 27-28, PSIA Academic Competition on March 21, and One Act Play dinner theater and competition on April 18 and April 25 respectively. *Go, Cougars!*

Blessings!

Dr. Cindy Cummins, Principal

School News

STANDARDIZED TESTING: Standardized testing for all students in K - 8 will be in the mornings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays March 17 - March 26. Make up tests will be on Fridays of those weeks. Please be sure your child has a good breakfast, gets a good night's sleep, and brings number 2 pencils and a library book. Since this is a new form for the Iowa Assessments, we shall all take a short practice test on Monday, March 16. Testing will run two weeks instead of one. There will be LIMITED homework these two weeks, and we shall still have drama and track practice.

UPDATE ON MARCH OUT OF UNIFORM DAYS: Due to standardized testing, we are changing our three out of uniform days in March (the students are too distracted when they are out of uniform). The Green OOU Day (\$1.00 for eighth grade graduation) scheduled for March 17 will be on Monday, March 23. Spirit Day, scheduled for Wed., March 18, will be on Monday, March 30. The Stewardship OOU Day for those who attended the Stewardship Masses the weekend of March 22 will be on Tuesday, March 31.

Important Service Credit Information

REMINDER: April is the last month to earn school service credits. Please read the "Service Credits Opportunities" section of the Cougar Call each week to know of ways your family can earn credits before the cut off. Please remember, you can earn one service credit for each PTC meeting you attend.

Service Credit Opportunities: PTC is now accepting monetary donations for the concession stand at PSIA. If you would like to donate \$20.00 to earn service credits, please make your donations to the school office.

News from St. John Paul II Catholic High School

Congratulations to the Men's Swim Team for placing Second at the State Meet! To learn more about the SJPII Sports Program, visit www.johnpaul2chs.org.

Thank you to the St. James Families who showed up for the New Family Guardian Night. We are so glad you have chosen SJPII for your high school!

Support Our Parishes!

St. James Catholic Church: Lenten Vespers (Evening Prayer) will be celebrated on the Mondays of Lent beginning March 2nd. Sr. Cal will offer a short reflection on the Gospel of St. John and his "I AM" writings. Please join us for this wonderful Lenten opportunity. You will be out in 30 minutes. For more information, please call the church office at 830-379-1796.



Upcoming Events

Thursday, February 26

- School Council Meeting, 6:00pm in the Family Center

February, February 27

- Stations of the Cross at 2:30pm
- Early Bird Registration Ends
- Knights of Columbus with Eighth Grade Stations of the Cross, 6:30pm with soup supper served in the Parish Hall/Cafeteria afterward

Monday, March 2

- Dr. Cummins' Birthday!
- PTC General Meeting, 6:00pm in the Cafeteria/Parish Hall

Tuesday, March 3

- Safe Environment Training, 6:00pm, Family Center Meeting Room 1

Wednesday, March 4

- Nursing Home Mass, Grades 4 and 5K, 11:00am, Argent Court

Thursday, March 5

- Nursing Home Mass, Grades 5 and 3, 11:00am, Remarkable

Friday, March 6

- Stations of the Cross, 2:30pm

Sunday, March 8

- Daylight Savings Time Begins

Monday, March 9 – Friday, March 13

- Spring Break

Tuesday, March 10

- Father Greg's Birthday

Friday, March 13

- Father David's Birthday

Friday, March 20

- Quarter 3 Ends