

## **St. James' News, March 12, 2010**

Here is a message from our former Director of Lower Elementary, Serena Beeks:

Dear Parent:

Thank you so much for your response to the request for seeds for our partner school students in Haiti! Several of you have asked if there are other ways in which you can help. Of course, there is a limit to the amount of luggage I can carry. The three most helpful kinds of support at this time are:

1. Vegetable seeds: The planting season begins in a few weeks, and the farmers are short of money to buy seeds. Needs have grown as the population in the countryside has doubled owing to the influx of refugees from Port-au-Prince. Seeds will be delivered to St-Jacques, probably by horse or mule as the rainy season has begun.
2. Funds: Checks to St. James' School with the memo, "Haiti Fund" will be used for the support of St-Jacques through the Partnership Program. All funds donated go directly to the program and will pay current teacher salaries at St-Jacques to meet the needs of additional students if possible, finish the construction of a cement-block latrine, provide food for the students, and meet a variety of other emergency needs.
3. "Trim": A friend in Haiti who runs a sewing school and craft center at the medical complex in Cange has designed a carry bag for adults and children who have had an arm amputated, worn across the body and the right size and length to manage with only one arm. The sewing school is manufacturing them for the patients at the hospital. I will be carrying lengths of braid, lace, and embroidered ribbon to "dress up" the bags a little bit and would be happy to carry your extra notions as well. Please no tiny bits or worn scraps -- only unused washable lengths of a foot or more. The aim is to make something useful and beautiful for people who have suffered a terrible loss.

I will be leaving on March 28 and will carry with me all of your prayers and good wishes for the people of Haiti, particularly at St-Jacques.

Serena Beeks

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **KOREAN SUNDAY**

Join us Sunday, March 14 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for a festive and colorful celebration of Korean culture with the school choir singing Korean anthems, the

Korean drumming group, Korean craft tables, and a lunch hosted by the St. James' Church Korean group.

#### EARLY DISMISSAL WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

There will be early dismissal for professional development Wednesday, March 17. You can pick up your child early or take advantage of our after-school activities on the playing field.

#### LOST AND FOUND

Friday, March 19, we will clear the Lost and Found of all sweaters, jackets, lunch boxes, and other items that have been lost on the playground. Please remind your children to stop by the Lost and Found tables to claim their possessions before end of day next Friday. Items with students' names will be returned to their classroom. All remaining clothing will be donated to Goodwill and lunch boxes will be thrown away. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Cordero at [acordero@sjsla.org](mailto:acordero@sjsla.org).

#### HUSKY HIGHLIGHTS SHORT STORY CONTEST

Our *Husky Highlights* editors are running a short story contest for Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Grade students. Stories should be no longer than 400 words and should be emailed to Lucy Norland at [lucybroad@mac.com](mailto:lucybroad@mac.com) by Friday, March 19.

The winning entry will be published in the next issue of *Husky Highlights* newsletter and on the school website. The writer will be recognized at the April Community Gathering.

#### SPRING BREAK

Spring Break starts Monday, March 22; students return Wednesday, April 7.

#### COMMUNITY GATHERING APRIL 16

Our next Community Gathering with presentation of Student of the Month awards will be Friday, April 16 at 8:15 a.m. in St. James' Hall (not April 9 as indicated on the printed wall calendar).

#### PARENT DISCUSSION GROUP

Join other St. James' parents for a lively and animated discussion of best-selling author Marcus Borg's *The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith - How We Can Be Passionate Believers Today*. We meet the following Tuesday mornings from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Meeting Room (2nd Floor, Parish Building): April 12 & 27, May 11 & 25.

#### SCIENCE FAIR 2010

Our annual Science Fair is Wednesday, April 14. All students are invited to participate and pursue any scientific topic that is of interest to them. Please register your project idea at [www.stjamesschool.oursciencefair.com](http://www.stjamesschool.oursciencefair.com) by Friday, March 19.

SAVE THE DATE!

Our School's exclusive event at the California Science Center will be Sunday, May 2 from 2:00 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, see the "Student Life" page of our website at [http://www.sjsla.org/student\\_life.html](http://www.sjsla.org/student_life.html) and contact the event chairs with any questions.

#### SUMMER AT ST. JAMES'

Our summer enrichment program will run from Monday, June 14, through Friday, July 23. Students can expand their knowledge in a wide range of areas – academics, technology, sports, and the arts, in small, safe groups in a familiar environment. Students may take as few or as many classes as they like, making our program ideal for those trying to fill gaps in their summer plans. Scroll down to the *Summer at St. James'* section on the [Academics](#) page of our website for more information, and look out for a flyer that will go home soon.

#### SCHOOL BOARD OPENINGS

For the 2010-2011 school year, there are openings for two St. James' Church parishioners on the St. James' School Board. Candidates must be members of the Church in good standing. The School Board meets five to nine times per year, and committees of the Board meet as required. In selecting nominees for Board vacancies, the Board tries to recruit persons with skill-sets and backgrounds that will broaden the expertise and experience of the Board as a whole. If you are interested in serving in this ministry, or wish to nominate someone, please call or e-mail Joy McManus, 323-939-4050, [joy\\_mcmanus@adp.com](mailto:joy_mcmanus@adp.com). Nominations should be submitted no later than May 2, 2010.

#### SCHOOL WEBSITE TIP

Did you know that the 2010-2011 tuition schedule is posted to our website? Scroll to "Information for Current Parents" on the PSF page at <http://sjsla.org/psf.html>.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding these announcements.

With best regards,

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