

St. James' News, May 14, 2010

Dear St. James' Parents:

Under the leadership of Executive Director Serena Beeks, the Commission on Schools of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles supports the efforts of the more than forty Episcopal schools in the Diocese. One way in which this support occurs is through a series of visits to each school every four years. Commission members spend a morning at a school speaking to different members of the school community. The visitors explore how each school maintains its Episcopal identity and lives out its mission of service of students.

Attached to this week's e-mail is the report from the Commission's most recent visit to St. James' in January. In the spirit of transparency, I want you to know that I am serving my second one-year term as Chair of the Commission. I also want you to know that I played no role in the drafting of this report and that I abstained from voting when the report came before the Commission at its latest meeting.

I am pleased to announce that the Commission renewed our Certification. I would be interested in your reaction to the attached report. Please e-mail me at sbowers@sjsla.org.

Stephen L. Bowers
Head of School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEALTH MESSAGE

An increasing number of mumps cases have been reported in Los Angeles County this year, per the Los Angeles Department of Public Health. Mumps is a vaccine-preventable viral illness that is transmitted by coughing and sneezing.

The best protection against the mumps is to make sure that your child has received the measles-mumps-rubella vaccination(MMR). We are encouraging students who have not yet been vaccinated to receive their MMR vaccine. If you do not have health insurance or a regular source of health care, you may be able to receive low-cost or free mumps vaccine through a Public Health center. For more information please check out the Public Health website at <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov> or by calling the LA County Information hotline at 2-1-1. Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you, Nurse Basham.

ALERT NOW SYSTEM

This past Tuesday we successfully tested our new Text Message Alerts, part of

the AlertNow Notification System. Parents who opt-in to this service can receive a text message from the School in the event of an emergency. In order to receive texts you must opt-in due to additional charges you may incur based on the contract with your cell phone company. Please see the attached letter if you would like to know how to opt-in to this great service. If you have any questions about this service, or about the AlertNow Notification System, please email Mr. Cordero at acordero@sjsla.org.

BE A MENTOR FAMILY!

We need some additional St. James' parents to mentor new families joining our School in September 2010. If you are able to help, please contact Mrs. Haines at khaines@sjsla.org.

FACTS SIGN-UP

All parents who opt to pay tuition for the 2010-2011 school year in ten monthly installments must sign up on the new [FACTS Tuition Management Service website](#). There is a link to the site from the PSF page of our school website at <http://www.sjsla.org/PSF>.

AUTHOR VISIT

Wednesday, May 19, Dallas Clayton, author of *An Awesome Book* and father of First Grader Audio, will visit our School and talk to students in Kindergarten through Grade Six.

ART SHOW

You are invited to our annual Art Show opening Wednesday, May 19 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. in St. James' Hall. Each student will have one or more samples of their work on display. We need parent volunteers to help mat and label artwork and set up the displays. Please contact Faith Foss, mother of Ty Mahar, at faith.foss@yahoo.com if you can help.

ST. JAMES' CAFÉ

The St. James' Cafe is open every Wednesday from 5:30-7:00 p.m. for your family to have dinner, cooked by our parish chef. The suggested donation is \$5 per person.

IN-N-OUT LUNCH

Our last In-N-Out Lunch of this school year will be Thursday, May 20. Parents are welcome to join their child for lunch on the playing field. The regular hot lunch will not be served on this day.

TALENT SHOWS

Our first Talent Show with musical performances by students will be Friday, May 21 from 1:40 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The second Talent Show with

dancing, singing, skits, and student bands will be Thursday, June 3.

MOMS' NIGHT OUT

The Eighth Annual Moms' Night Out will be held Friday, May 21 from 7:00 p.m. at the home of Lisa Hutchins at 415 S. Windsor Blvd. Join us for an evening of music, dancing, open bar, buffet, and fabulous prizes. Moms' Night Out is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen our sense of community as mothers. Tickets are \$60 a person: please invite your friends and neighbors and consider sponsoring a ticket for your child's teacher or a St. James' staff member. RSVP to Nancy Redford at 323-962-4848 or trueredford@mac.com. Send checks payable to "St. James' School" to the school office. Net proceeds benefit our School.

EARLY DISMISSAL

There will be early dismissal Wednesday, May 26 for Professional Development. You may pick up your child early to take advantage of our supervised activities on the playing field.

NO SCHOOL MAY 28 AND MAY 31

There will be no school Friday, May 28 because of parent and teacher conferences and no school Monday, May 31 for Memorial Day.

SUMMER READING BOOKFAIR

Our Summer Reading Bookfair will be at Barnes & Noble at The Grove Tuesday, June 1 from 3:30 - 7:30 p.m. The Bookfair is a great way for you to buy books on your child's reading list. A percentage of your purchase will support our School.

SUMMER AT ST. JAMES'

Registration is still open for our summer enrichment program, which will run from Monday, June 14, through Friday, June 25. Scroll down to the Summer at St. James' section on the [Academics](#) page of our website for updated information. Please note that some under-enrolled classes have been canceled.

JPL OPEN HOUSE

If your child is a budding astronaut or scientist, you may want to visit the Jet Propulsion Laboratory Open House in Pasadena May 15 and 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Scientists will be available to answer all of your child's questions about spacecraft! For more information, go to <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/events/open-house.cfm>.

SCHOOL WEBSITE TIP

Did you know that we post this weekly email and its attachments to the News page of the school website by the end of day each Friday? Go to <http://www.sjsla.org/news.html>.

Please contact me if you have questions about upcoming events or any of these announcements.

With best regards,

Julie Lovelock
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