



## ACADEMY OF ST. JAMES OF THE MARCHES

### *News and Notes*

*Mrs. Lelia Pappas*



Feast of the Epiphany, 2019

Dear St. James Families:

Happy New Year and Happy Epiphany to all of you!

It is my hope that everyone had a blessed and relaxing Christmas holiday and we will begin on Monday ready and raring to go! It was great we had a two day adjustment period for all children (and staff too) to get into the swing of school again. On to the second half of the year, and what a great year it will be! 2019...time is rapidly moving. I know it doesn't really move any slower or faster but it just seems like 2018 flew by.

The fifth grade started the New Year for us this morning at Mass. "This Little Heart of Mine" was sensational. Thank you to Mrs. Munson and her students, you looked happy to be on the altar and the singing was beautiful.

Which brings us to some "little" reminders for 2019! I put them forward with love yet stressing - these are still important.

- **Attendance at Mass:** this is one of the critical elements of ASJM. We, as parents/guardians need to "walk the walk." Students should continue to sign in at the back of the church.
- **Be on time for school.** School begins at 8:00 AM. There will be a sign in sheet for students who arrive late. The office will be diligent about this starting on Monday. It has been too casual.
- Please dress your children to go outside at recess. Unless it is super cold, it is good for children get some fresh air.
- **Be attentive to homework and school responsibilities.** This is the job of a student.
- **Communicate** concerns to the staff and me. We want to do what is in your child's best interest, but we must know what is happening at home if there is a change or concern. We work together - always. We will call you and let you know our thoughts, if needed.
- If you are behind with your **financial responsibilities**, we will be calling you. One thing I have learned as a Principal, at the half year mark all bills must be paid up to date - tuition, fees or lunch. Happily, most families are current but if you are not we should hear from you or you will be hearing from us.
- **Scholarships:** This is BIG. Tri-County and the Educational Trust Fund all have February 10th close dates. Any family who needs support or wants to apply for support **MUST** work and complete the applications in the next month! One way they limit their applicants is they hold fast to deadlines. I will send another email out this coming week with the information again regarding both of these scholarships. We had a meeting in November for all parents to keep you informed. If you received one of these scholarship last year, it is easier to apply as all of your information is already on file. **PLEASE APPLY.** If you are a new family this year and don't know about these scholarship opportunities, please call the office. We will assist you.
- **CATHOLIC SCHOOL WEEK:** begins the last week of January. There will be much more information coming about his week. I encourage you to let families who might be interested in sending their children to our fantastic, strong, focused GREAT school - let them come to see



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us during CSW. We will have an **Open House Sun. Jan 27th** after the 10:15 Mass - but students are welcome to visit any time.

- **TALK ABOUT ASJM!** Word of mouth is the absolute BEST way to keep our school thriving and strong. Our students are the best anywhere...and we are proud of them and our staff. It would be challenging to find a better teaching staff than is right here!

I am facing 2019 with joy, wonder and excitement! There are many great things on the horizon - all gifts from God. We cannot forget each day to stop, perhaps kneel down, and honor God. We do not know what is in store but if He is with us, who can be against us! (Romans 8:31)

God bless you and keep you in the palm of His hand.

Fondly,  
Lelia