



# The Royal Reporter

November 2011

A Welcome Note From The Principal *Mr. William Cardone*

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## Royal Notes

### December 3

Breakfast with Santa

### December 4

Grandparents Tea

### December 5

Parents' First Reconciliation Workshop

### December 13

Christmas Show

### January 6

Basketball Blowout

### January 7

Kindergarten Social

### January 8

Polar Plunge

### January 11

PTA Meeting

### January 19

Ice Skating Party

### January 27

Royals Family Game Night

### January 30

Catholic Schools Week

### January 31

Open House

I would like to begin by thanking everyone in the Saint James school community for the warm welcome that I have received as I begin my time here as the new principal. I would especially like to thank Monsignor Lowery and the search committee for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful school. I would like to congratulate Mrs. Janet Dolan on her retirement but more importantly for her outstanding career and accomplishments here at Saint James and once again publicly thank her for all the work that she did to help me transition to this position.

Each day I am lifted up by the beautiful smiles and

spirits of the children here at Saint James. I have been humbled by the dedication, commitment and effort of the teachers and I am inspired by the loving Catholic community that together they have created. The Holy Spirit is most certainly at work here at Saint James.

I have said so many times that I try to live my life by treating others with kindness and respect. It is in fact the theme that I have brought to the school, announce each day to the children and expect of them as they live each day as well. I also believe that doing the right thing is always the right thing to do. It is often not the easiest thing to do and most certainly not always the most popular thing

to do. However this in fact is Christ's message and the one that I am committed to follow.

I will work hard each day to help provide a safe, warm and welcoming learning environment for the children and to lead by example. I hope you will continue to support our efforts here at Saint James so that together we can strengthen the children not just academically but faithfully and spiritually as well.

Respectfully,

William A. Cardone

## Letter from Mrs. JoAnn Giordano, SJSVP

Dear Students and Parents,

I am thrilled to be a part of the community of Saint James Elementary School and to serve as the new Vice Principal.

I have been often asked: "How do you like it here?" My response has always been, "I like it very much." From the very first day, I was warmly wel-

comed by the staff, parents and students. I immediately felt at home. Everyone has been so helpful, from showing me where to find classrooms to guiding me through the day-to-day activities. God has blessed me with a wonderful opportunity.

As the year progresses, I am looking forward to knowing all

of the students and working collaboratively with their teachers to identify and address the school's needs. Together we will all work towards ensuring that each student can experience academic and social success.

Thank you all again for an inviting welcome,

*Mrs. JoAnn Giordano*

Vice Principal

# The Royal Reporter

## PTA News

Mary Jane Manners and Denise Burke Co-Presidents

It is so wonderful to be back at school! The children will never admit to it but they too are glad to be back into a daily routine. We would like to welcome our new principal, Mr. William Cardone, and our new vice principal, JoAnn Giordano. We are very blessed to have you both and looking forward to a great school year. We had our New Family Orientation along with the used uniform sale.

The sale was a great success! Thank you Stacey Lonergan for all your hard work and thank you Kirsten Rennard for being on hand to provide Hospitality for all those new families. Thank you to all of our Committee Chairs for organizing all of the needed volunteers that help with the daily operations of school: Carol Guido (AM Monitors), Siobhan Fay (Kindergarten Lunch), Kim Olsen (Lunchroom), Alison Zucosky (Playground), and all of our Nurses Office Assistants.

We have had our first PTA Meeting, our first Royals Meeting, and our first Development Meeting in the month of September. Back to School night and the New Family Social was well attended. The New Family Social was held at the RBC Meeting Room on Broad Street, September 23, 2011. It is always so wonderful to see so many new faces and personalities that give our school such great character. Thank you Deanna Ryan, you did a fabulous job pulling everyone and everything together. The children attended the kick off of the Fall Fundraiser. Many thanks to Laurie Miller for a job well done. We used a new vendor this year, Kastle Kreations. They provided wonderful prizes for the children as well as for the teachers. Participation is the key to success. The money we raised from this goes to pay for children's programs and

functions, Technology, Nurses supplies and equipment. We also had Entertainment Books for sale and 50% goes back to the PTA. There are many fundraising opportunities **through out** the school year. Please support whatever you can. **With out** fundraising we can not provide the much needed Technology software and hardware to keep our kids up to date.

Our Harvest Social was held in October. The children loved getting dressed in their costumes dancing the night away to the Jersey Girls DJ's. Many thanks to Lisa Goga and Linda Dolan for planning such a splendid event. Also, thanks to the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students as well as the parents who helped out with the Harvest Social. Red Ribbon Week was also celebrated in the last week of October. The week was filled with giveaways as well as a lot of information on drug awareness, thank you to Christian Buckman for your time and energy in supplying our children with this priceless information. Our first PTA Speaker Night was held on November 9th.

Many parents attended and were able to secure a "dress down" pass for their kids! Thank you to all who took time out of their schedule to attend. We will be holding additional speaker nights in February and April of next. Thank you Carly Deickmann.

November 28, 2011 marked the beginning of our first book fair of the year. The book fair will run through Sunday, December 4, 2011 (Grandparent's Tea). What a great opportunity to pick up a last minute gift or to keep up with those book reports! Proceeds from our book sale go back to the school and benefit our school's library. Thank you, Rita Apostolides for your continued hard work.

As Christmas rapidly approaches we will celebrate by having Breakfast with Santa. This event has always been very well attended. Breakfast with Santa will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2011. Adrienne Lamanno and Yvonne Ciccone do a fantastic job and look forward to seeing everyone that day. On Sunday, December 4, 2011 we will be holding our Grandparents Tea. What a lovely afternoon it will be to have your child spend special time with their grandparent or someone close to them. The only way parents can attend is by volunteering your time! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Sharon Matuszak. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our committee chairs for their time and effort., Deanna Ryan (New Family Social) Christian Buckman (Red Ribbon Week) Stacey Lonergan (Used Uniform Sale), Kirsten Rennard (Hospitality), Kate Niesz (Its OK to be Different Program), Laurie Miller (Fall Fundraiser), Carly Deickmann (Adult Programs), Lisa Goga and Linda Dolan (Harvest Social), Joe Deleo and all the Royals for a great start to a great year!

Please remember to look at the Saint James website [www.mysaintjames.com](http://www.mysaintjames.com) to obtain updates for any upcoming events.

NEED PFE POINTS?

We are still in need of volunteers, if you need points please us a call!

*Denise Burke & Mary Jane Manners*





## Freezin for a Reason

Save the date: Sunday , January 8, 2012

Saint James School will be participating in the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual AOH Polar Plunge.

The event will take place on January 8, 2012 at Merry Maker's in Sea Bright at

1:00pm. 100% of money raised will go to Saint James School.

**DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

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## SJS Birthday Gala

The Please join us on Friday, February 3 for an evening of fun, food, and dancing as we celebrate Mardi Gras Saint James style!



Our first annual Saint James Birthday Gala will be held at the Shadowbrook in Shrewsbury at 7 pm. Tickets are 85 dollars per person and includes four hours of premium open bar, cocktail hour, and dinner. Will you find the prize in the king cake and be the winner of PFE points or other great prizes?

So get your party dress on and those dancing shoes because the dj will be playing and the glasses will be clinking! Join your Saint James family or a wonderful night as we celebrate our historical and much loved school. Invitations coming home in backpacks!

If you have any questions or would like to help out. please contact Emily Massell at [emaaved@yahoo.com](mailto:emaaved@yahoo.com) or Steph Murray at [skarlet944@aol.com](mailto:skarlet944@aol.com)

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## New Family Social

The annual SJS New Family Social was held on Friday September 23, 2011. It was held in the RBC meeting room where new families from kindergarten through 8th grade were welcomed by their mentor families. We had a great turn out this year with our new families and food was generously donated by our PTA families and other generous St. James families. The idea behind having a mentor family is help guide new families to St. James throughout the school year. Mentor families help to answer any questions that may arise throughout the school year, and to be a support system for them. The evening consisted of refreshments, lots of delicious food, music provided by Jersey Girls Dj's, and 2 gifts were raffled off for two of the new families, generously donated by St. James PTA. The left over food was donated to the convent and rectory. We thank everyone who came out and shared in our annual event, and who donated food to welcome our new families. This event was ran by Deanna Ryan, with special thanks going out to Denise Burke and Mary Jane Manners. We look forward to our 2012 event!



# The Royal Reporter

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## Welcome Back to School from the Royals Club

The Royals Club provides dads an opportunity to be involved in fun school activities with their children and earn PFE points at the various Royals Events throughout the school year for grades K-8. The Royals have planned the following exciting events for the 2011-2012 school year:

### Basketball Blowout

Friday, January 6, 2012 from 6:00 pm-8:30 pm. Come cheer the Royals Dads tip off against the Red Bank Police Department at 6:00 pm.

### Polar Plunge

Sunday, January 8, 2012 at 1:00 pm in Sea Bright. Do you dare to take the plunge to raise money for the school? This is a great fundraiser at no cost to the school! Please join us and “Freezin for a Reason!”

### Game Night

Friday, January 27, 2012 from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm. We have a variety of great games for the kids to have fun all night long!

There are also opportunities for dads to earn PFE points at the Breakfast with Santa and Grandparent’s Tea events!

We welcome all dads to join the Royals. We need you to get involved at the school!

**Please join us at our next meeting which is scheduled for January 4, 2012 at 7:00 pm**

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## Pre-theatre Club

The St. James new Pre-theatre Club for grades 2 through 5 has been meeting every Friday and rehearsing an exciting performance for this year's Christmas show. The club was met with an overwhelming response, and the children have been working tremendously hard to make this year's show spectacular! The performers have been singing and dancing in rehearsals, and the stage crew has been working on beautiful decorations. What amazing talent we have at the St. James School!



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## Donations needed at Birthright

Birthright is in need of gently used maternity clothes. We are located at the corner of Broad Street and Bergen Place. We are open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 AM until 4 PM. Clothing may be dropped off during office hours. Thank you!

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# The Royal Reporter

## Spirituality



Advent is quickly approaching starting Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. Angel Advent wreaths and replacement candles were offered to the families of St. James at cost by Good Sheppard Religious bookstore

store in Middletown. Many families took advantage of this call to pray together this Christmas Season.

Save the date for the Mother's Retreat, we are going to the

beach to leave our footprints in the sand on Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup> 2012. Please join us for a peaceful day to focus on nurturing your spirituality.

God Bless You and Your Families This Christmas.

### Save the Date...

#### Saint James Father/Daughter Dance

When: Sunday, March 4, 2012

Where: McLoone's PierHouse

Time: 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Enjoy a memorable afternoon...

Video DJ Bob/Great Music/Good Food and Raffle Prizes



### Prospective Family Open House During Catholic Schools Week

*Come join us, invite a friend and let's show the community how proud we are to be part of the Saint James School Family!*

Every year, Catholic Schools nationwide celebrate Catholic Schools Week. The 2012 celebration of Catholic Schools Week is January 29 - February 5. It is a celebration of the blessing of Catholic Schools and an opportunity to thank those whose generosity makes them possible. It is also a way to share the gift of Catholic education with families who may be considering making the investment for their children. The

highest compliment our parents can give us is the referral of family members, friends, or neighbors to our school. The trust and confidence that you place in us each day is paramount. Therefore, we would like to make you a part of our marketing team and ask you to spread the news regarding all our school has to offer. If you, or someone you know, are planning to enroll their child for the '12 - '13 school year, please note

that Saint James School is having an open house for prospective families on Sunday, January 22 from 1 -2 PM and Tuesday, January 31 from 9 -11 AM. Registration for the 2012-2013 school term will kick off during Catholic Schools Week. The school will accept registration for preschool 3's through the 7th grade at this time.

### Red Ribbon Week

In honor of Officer "Kiki" Camarena, St. James School celebrated Red Ribbon Week October 24-28, 2011. Red Ribbon Week was created in the 1980s to bring about an awareness of the illegal use of drugs in our society and to prevent children from starting the use of any kind of drugs. At St. James, all of the children, from K -8, were introduced to the topic and pledged to "Never Ever Do Drugs" on Monday. They also signed a banner as part of their pledge that hung in the school's foyer for everyone to see each day. On Tuesday, the teachers did an exercise

in the classroom to make children familiar with what it feels like to be impaired by drugs. The exercise included opening a treat with oven mitts on their hands. During the week, all of the children were given HERO pencils, and the middle school children were given an option to write an essay about what a real hero is to them. Two special speakers came in for the children. Thank you to Officer Frank Fields of the Red Bank Police Department for meeting with grades 6 -8 & K-5 and talking about safety and saying NO. Officer Fields is

also our 5th grade D.A.R.E. officer. And thank you to Dr. Patrick Cuozzo who came to our school and shared with the 6-8 graders the story of how drugs touched his life. He provided a presentation about **choices**, and how each choice we make can effect our lives as well as the lives of those around us. It was very compelling for the children and should have left no question about whether or not they will ever do drugs. Just ask them about it.



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## CrAzY dReSs Down

CrAzY dReSs DoWn DaY is coming to SJS.... Friday December 2<sup>nd</sup>!!

Wear your craziest outfit's ever... crazy hats, socks, wacky pj's, inside out clothes... just be creative, but no masks or face makeup please!

There is a \$2.00 cost per child to benefit all the great children's programs that are coordinated through our PTA. Any questions, please contact Catherine Freibott at 732-241-4348  
Looking forward to seeing your crazy outfits!



## Secret Santa Shop

The Secret Santa Shop will be open for business! Please visit us on Saturday December 3, 2011 from 9:00 am -11:00 am during Breakfast with Santa and on Sunday December 4, 2011 from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm during The Grandparent's Tea. There will be fun gifts for the whole family.



## Harvest Family Social

Cowboys, Princesses, Ghost, Goblins and all their friends came out for this year's Harvest Family Social. The kids had a great time dancing with the DJ, hula-hoop contest, "Guess How Many" candy jar contest, crafts and coloring. Dance contest winner: Devyn Joseph. Costume contest winners: Kylie Hall (Peacock) Abby Schik (Brownie Zombie) and Anna Hunt (Progressive Girl). Thank you everyone who volunteered to create a wonderful fall festivity.

Everyone enjoyed the homemade desserts provided by the Baking Committee. Creative Moms helped decorate the cafeteria and strong Dads carried and set up the "live decorations". Saturday's front door helpers, "crafty moms", food & drink servers and the clean up committee; Your time and efforts to offer our children a safe and enjoyable night with their family and classmates are appreciated.



## St. James Development Committee

The St. James Development Committee's mission is to develop and maintain relationships with alumni, fundraise to secure new and increased sources of revenue to enhance and maintain structural improvements at SJS.

Your support of SJS Development projects this year is being earmarked to update and replace flooring and carpeting in various classrooms. Additionally, we are committed to building on the efforts of past years in maintaining a fund to maintain the school's infrastructure. We believe that a solid SJS building will continue to benefit our children in the years to come and will serve to attract new families to the "educational jewel" of SJS.

### What We Have Done Thus Far This Year:

Progressive Raffle was a success. With your help we managed to stay near past levels earning St. James \$9130! We are truly appreciative of all the SJS families and parishioners that sold tickets. The Guido Family (Owen 7b, Lucas 5b, Cole KB & Kaleigh 4-1) were the top selling SJS family and won the IPad. The second place family sold over 70 tickets. We would like to thank the Cugliari-Joseph and DeRosa families for their countless hours helping with Progressive Raffle. The lucky raffle ticket winners were:

1ST PRIZE: Abygail Doherty's Family 1B \$4565

2ND PRIZE: Rich Gustavson (sold by Albrecht family) \$2282

3RD PRIZE: Sugrue Family (sold by Kasey Kennedy 1A) \$1369.50

4TH PRIZE: Our very own Mrs. Fagan (Courtesy of Rogers Family) \$913

*"We believe that a solid SJS building will continue to benefit our children in the years to come and will serve to attract new families to the "educational jewel" of SJS."*

## St. James Development Committee continued...

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, Development held what we hope will be an annual Ladies Night Out evening. It was a relaxing and fun night which concluded with the drawing of the Progressive Raffle winners. We had 91 SJS moms & friends come and take chances on over 45 donated baskets while enjoying dinner at Buona Sera. The success of the evening can be found in the generosity of the individuals, families and businesses that provided donated goods and services for the event. Development made over \$2000+ for the evening! A special thank you to: Barbara DeRosa and Diane Cugliari for their tireless efforts in seeking donations for Development events. Thank you also to Amy Dunfee and Red Bank Chocolates for the sweet favor provided to all attendees. Also kudos to Theresa Crespo, Merrill Butler and Kelly Supp for their creativeness in helping put together the baskets and our ad journal. A **big cheer the RBC** cheerleaders that volunteered at the check-in desk the night of the event. Thank you again to all that helped us at the event to make the evening run so smoothly!

### What We Are Going To Be Doing:

Each January, St. James families participate and cheer for those brave SJS students and supporters who dare to "Freeze for a Reason" at AOH's Polar Bear Plunge. Development has been asked to help the Royals make it a record-breaking year once again. We are looking for corporate sponsorship and need your ideas to make this a fundamental fundraiser for SJS! Contact us if you would like to help us and earn PFE points or provide corporate sponsorship of the event.



Our Little Effort, Big Money Programs are still in effect. PLEASE CONTINUE to clip those Labels for Education, Box Tops, save your used ink cartridges, recycle your old cell phones, register your Target Credit/Debit Card & Stop & Shop cards designating SJS as your school of choice. SJS will earn as you spend on your regular household purchases. Please continue to support our SHOP vendors including : Amazon.com; Brother's Pizza, Ricky's Candy, Doc Shop PLUS lots of others that can be found on the website. Keep purchasing your Foodtown gift cards prior to shopping at the courtesy counter. In two months alone we have earned \$205 for SJS on \$4100 in gift card purchases. Our hope is that we can continue to earn money for the school thru programs that are part of our SJS families' regular shopping routines. When you shop at our SHOP vendors, please let them know what their support of SJS means to you and grateful we all are for their continued support.

We will start our Annual Stocking Stuffers Sale shortly so keep an eye out for the order form! For \$10, your child will receive assorted dress down passes. Can't go wrong with this stocking stuffer!

We have also established with the support of Red Bank Chocolates several "Sweet" Holiday programs which will allow SJS families to buy hostess, corporate thank you gifts and holiday candy packages. These fundraisers will run for Thanksgiving, Valentine's Day, St. Patty's and Easter. Take care of that "sweet tooth" while helping SJS. Please see the Development tab and WIN folder for more info on our Development programs.

We are also in the process of establishing an Alumni program which will provide an ongoing means of financial support from those that have been blessed to call SJS their school in years past. More information on this effort will be forthcoming.

As mentioned in our Development meetings; we are going to need estimates and assistance in completing our infrastructure projects throughout the school. If your family business is interested in reviewing and providing an estimate or assistance for these projects, please contact [sandra\\_abadir@yahoo.com](mailto:sandra_abadir@yahoo.com) or [dohertyloans@gmail.com](mailto:dohertyloans@gmail.com) for more details.

We are sincerely appreciative of the support that SJS families have provided to our efforts to make SJS a wonderful place for our children to grow, thrive and learn. Your commitment and support of Development efforts does not go unnoticed.

With Sincere Gratitude,  
Sandy Abadir and Lynn Doherty

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