



# THE ROYAL REPORTER

St. James Elementary School, Red Bank, New Jersey

October 2009

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## Royal Notes

- ❖ Halloween parties and parade take place October 30.
- ❖ Winter uniforms begin: Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- ❖ Basketball Blowout: Friday, November 6.
- ❖ Market Madness is Saturday November 21<sup>st</sup>, 9-4:30 in the cafeteria.
- ❖ The Book Fair will take place the week of November 30.
- ❖ Breakfast With Santa is on Saturday December 5<sup>th</sup>, followed by the Grandparents' Tea on Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ School is closed December 8<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.
- ❖ The Christmas Show is on Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Note from the Principal

Although it is the opposite end of the school year, I thought I would share with you my Graduation remarks to the Class of 2009, with a little adaptation. I think it defines what our ultimate goals are for our students whether they have just arrived, are half way through their journey, or about to complete it.

Chocolate milk...doesn't everyone enjoy it? When I was a child I loved chocolate milk...Yoo-Hoo, Bosco, Hershey, Brooklyn's own Fox's U-bet...it didn't make any difference. Just a peg below drinking it, I loved making it. I would take the container, turn it upside down, and raising my arm up high and then down low, I would watch the syrup slowly, ever so slowly descend in a steady stream into the glass of milk. All the while, a thick residue of delightful ooze built up at the bottom of the glass. Then came the fun

part...the big stir that created a gradual whirlpool of ever darkening liquid. And like magic, I could no longer tell where the chocolate syrup ended and the milk began. The two were one, never to be separated again.

Chocolate milk, in a sense, is what our goal is for our children...not just to drink it but to become it! For years, working together, we pour all we can into our children on all levels in all areas. We give them opportunities to explore, discover, learn, develop, adapt, and cross-reference their knowledge, and hopefully grow in wisdom and knowledge. All the while, we are adding the ingredients for a good life, building sound values, morals, ideals, self-sacrifice, faith, hope, and compassion. The goal is not for these just to build up inside them like chocolate sludge at the bottom of the glass, but to become them, never to be separated.

The miracle of the total chocolate milk conversion takes a life-time

to achieve. Every experience of life, good or bad, stirs the bottom of our respective glasses. We know that. What we hope to give our children, as they move through the educational process (and the educational process moves through them), is the fortitude and courage to withstand those occasional jolts that will come their way. As adults, we know from our own experiences, that, at times, we can get caught in a swirl of indecision and confusion. Staying steadfast to our commitment and mission, we can rest assured, that when the churning comes for them, they will have all the ingredients to sustain themselves.

God bless.

## Presidents' Postings

There has been a lot going on around St. James since August, when we held our New Family Orientation and the first Used Uniform Sale of the year. During the first week of school, each teacher and all of the office staff were greeted with a "Welcome Back Donut" and a gift card for a follow up visit to Dunkin Donuts. September proved to be a very busy month for students, parents,

and school staff alike. As students settled back into the school routine, parents attended "Back to School Night", new families and their mentors got a chance to meet at the New Family Social held at the Broad Street Auditorium, and students attended the official kickoff for the fall fundraiser where they had the opportunity to meet or get reacquainted with the infamous Mr. Bacon.

In October we had our first PTA Speaker Night, where we got the details on school inoculations, adult vaccines, keeping healthy, and warding off the flu. It was great to see so many faces at our first speaker program of the new school year. The Royal Masquerade Ball Event otherwise known as The Harvest Social was greatly enjoyed by all in attendance as children and adults in costume danced the night away. On October 19th, third grade students entered "the burning house," a children's program presented by the St. Barnabas Burn Unit Safety Unit. During the week of Oct 26-30 the students at St. James celebrated red ribbon week one of the oldest and largest drug prevention programs in the nation.

Special thanks to: Kirsten Sullivan (WIN Envelopes), Christian Buckman (New Family Social), Maria Torres & Sharon Matusak (Used Uniform Sales), Kirsten Rennard (Hospitality), Kate Niesz (children's programs) Carol VanSeveren & Laurie Miller (Fall Fund Raiser), Maryanne Riegelman (Adult Programs), Courtney Zatorski and Kathy Cleary (Harvest Social), Colleen Hennen and Jill Kozack (Red Ribbon week), and all of the Royals for a job well done.

As we head into November, be sure to mark your calendars for Nov 6th which will be jam-packed with even more St James fun. Not only is the sixth day of the month Spirit Day, it is also Basketball Blowout and St James Night at Brothers Pizza (whew!). Bring your whole family and come out to cheer on your favorite player whether it's Dad, your teacher, one of our priests or a student player on one of the SJS basketball teams. Of course, Mr. Bacon and his porky friends will be in attendance at the Blowout to provide some entertainment at halftime. Nov 30th marks the start of Book Fair, which will run

through Grandparents' Tea. Nothing encourages a reluctant reader like giving them the independence in choosing some of their very own reading materials! Proceeds for the Book Sale go right back to the school and benefit our school's library. PFE opportunities are available for fair volunteers: please contact Rita Apostolides.

Be sure to be on the lookout for more information on Breakfast with Santa (Dec 5), where Santa himself will join us for breakfast, and Grandparents Tea (Dec 6). We are already taking names for volunteers for both events, so please contact Adrienne Lamanno 732-544-0215 or Yvonne Ciccone 732-542-3425 if you are interested in earning your PFE points for Breakfast with Santa or Josie Cook 732-769-5207 or Kim Cottell 732-842-1469 if you are interested in volunteering for Grandparents' Tea.

#### **NEED PFE POINTS?**

We are still looking for volunteers for am monitors, playground, etc.

Beth and Linda  
Presidents

## **Development News**

### **TASTE OF RED BANK**

**T**he food was awesome, the entertainment was terrific, the day was exciting and the weather sensational! All combined to make Taste of Red Bank a sweet success!

Thanks to the many St. James School families and faculty who attended the event on September 20, along with people from 101 towns across New Jersey and beyond. **In all 1,855 tickets were sold, realizing a net profit of \$43,061!**



We are grateful for the generous partnership of our **33 participating restaurants**, including: **2 Senza, Ashes, Bienvenue, The Bistro, Brannigan's, Buona Sera, Carter and Cavero, Danny's Steakhouse, Dish, The Downtown, Front St. Trattoria, Gaetano's, Jamian's, The Melting Pot, Murphy Style Grill, Muscle Maker Grill, Oakbridge Tavern /Red**

**Bank Beer Garden, The Original Soupman, Racioppi's Kitchen, Readie's Fine Foods, Red Bank Chocolate Shoppe, Ricky's Candy Cones and Chaos, River's Edge Café, Siam Garden, Smoothie King, Surf Burger Island Grill, Teak, That Hot Dog Place, Torcello Restaurant, Via 45, Wine Cellar @ Red Bank, Zaitooni's, and Zebu.**

They rolled out the welcome mat and served incredibly delicious dishes. We hope you got a chance to return to your favorite places, but also discovered some outstanding new restaurants in Red Bank. Please patronize our participating restaurants next time you make a dinner reservation!

The support of our **sponsors and donors** was instrumental to the success of Taste of Red Bank. Words cannot adequately express our appreciation to the following for their generosity: **ICA Group, LLC; Greater Media Newspapers and Radio; Hatteras Press; the Mucerino Family; AJ Perri Heating & Cooling; The Atrium at Navesink Harbor; the Indelicato Family; AllSigns Direct; and John and Barbara Schimpf.**

Thanks to the **140 student volunteer**

**ambassadors from St. James Elementary School and Red Bank Catholic High School.** We are so proud of the way you represented your schools. The compliments have flooded in from attendees and restaurants alike about your friendliness, helpfulness and courtesy. We couldn't have done it without you!

The Taste of Red Bank **parent volunteer committee**, under the umbrella of the Development committee, took this germ of an idea back in April and ran with it, literally working hundreds and hundreds of hours collectively—even over the summer—to pull this off. This incredible group who cheerfully shared ideas and professional talents, and rolled up their sleeves to get the job done, includes: Sandy Abadir, Colleen Babnew, Merrill Butler, Tina Catapano, Josie Cook, Jerry Doherty, Karen Indelicato, Denise Ipsen, Lisa Mayer, Patti McKenna, Peggy Mucerino, Paula Pangilinan, Marci Perri, Lisa Pugliese, and Michele Walter.

We also acknowledge **the many other parent volunteers** who helped make everything run smoothly

before and during the event, including: Donna Campagna, Brian Campagna, Nancy Casey, Donna Flanagan, Elizabeth Mancuso, David Mayer, Kevin Milne, Ralph Mucerino, Lynn Murgia, Kelly Supp, Lisa Swabsin, and Debi Tamburri. Even former SJS parent Steve Colosimo pitched in!

**We are grateful to all the entertainers who donated their time and talents** to Taste of Red Bank, including: Red Bank Catholic High School Dance Company, musician Kevin Horn, Express Entertainment Productions DJs, Mrs. Red Bank USA Donnalyn Giegerich (a former SJS grad!), and the rockin' kids band Rock-it For Kids!

And last but definitely not least, we extend our appreciation to Mrs. Dolan who guided us throughout the process, and to Mrs. Schimpf, Veronica Alexander from the Rectory office, and Beth Coakley, Linda Murphy and Debbie Ryerson from PTA for helping us get our Paypal account up and running. And we are indebted to Mrs. Cavanagh, Mrs. Coscia, and Mrs. Dean in the business office for all of their help and support, and for never complaining when we added to their workload

during the already-overwhelming first three weeks of the school year!

If you have thoughts to share about Taste of Red Bank or ideas for next year, we'd love to hear them. Please email comments to:

[tellus@tasteofredbank.com](mailto:tellus@tasteofredbank.com)

### **MARKET MADNESS Saturday November 21<sup>st</sup>**

**I**ndulge yourself and spoil those you love on your shopping list this year by doing all your Holiday Shopping at Saint James's first "MARKET MADNESS" event! The date is Saturday November 21st from 9:30am-4:00pm. We will have over 70 vendors with a mix of home-based businesses and local retailers right in our own cafeteria. The Market will consist of selling a wide range of unique products such as custom jewelry, clothing, pet accessories, handmade baskets, home goods, gadgets galore as well as a local Jeweler who will pay cash for your gold!

We will have a 50/50 drawing, free gift raffled off hourly, food and drink! The event will be open to family and friends as well as the public. And all items purchased at the event, even if they need to be ordered, are **GUARANTEED** to be

delivered before Christmas!  
If you are in a business where it might make sense for you to sell items at the event OR you know of a local retailer where we can add value to their business by inviting them to participate, please contact Sandy Abadir, [Sandra\\_Abadir@yahoo.com](mailto:Sandra_Abadir@yahoo.com) / (732) 761-8076; or Kelly Graeff at [Kelly.Graeff@TechnologyMgmt.com](mailto:Kelly.Graeff@TechnologyMgmt.com) / 732-706-0637.

#### **DID YOU REMEMBER TO SEND IN YOUR BOX TOPS?**

Congratulations to our summer clipping contest winners: Troy Hill, 2A and Isabella Murrer, 5B. Both won gift cards to Barnes & Noble. Remember to send in your Box Tops, Campbell's Soup labels, Tyson labels, Acme receipts (does not include Fair Haven location), cell phones & toner cartridges. Our next contest is on now and runs through December 18, 2009. The top class will win a dress down pass in January. And for our Kindergarten classes, don't you worry. If they are our top collectors, we will have a special prize just for them.

#### **S.H.O.P.**

Shopping Here funds Our Programs  
The Development Committee has launched

S.H.O.P., which now encompasses the Vendor program and all online shopping opportunities. Please take a moment to visit the newly redesigned St. James website ([www.mysaintjames.com](http://www.mysaintjames.com)) and click on the Support our School tab on the left-hand side. All available shopping programs are fully explained, plus any forms that one might need are available for download. Please be sure to check back often. And remember to S.H.O.P. for St. James!

#### **BROTHERS NIGHTS ARE BACK**

Our first Brothers Night held on Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> was a great night out for all that attended. It was a lot of fun seeing everyone and enjoying the wonderful food at Brothers Restaurant. Don't forget to mark your calendar for Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> immediately after Basketball Blowout. All St. James purchases after 8:00pm will count, and these include all take-out orders. Hope to see you there!

#### **Royals**

The Royals Club provides dads, step dads, uncles and grandfathers an opportunity to be involved in school activities with their

children and grandchildren and earn PFE points at the various Royals events throughout the school year for grades K-8. The Royals and the PTA have planned the following exciting events for the 2009-2010 school year:

#### **Halloween Parade**

On Sunday, October 25th Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and St. James students decked out in red, white and blue marched in the Red Bank Parade with the school banner to commemorate our soldiers.



#### **Basketball Blowout**

Friday, November 6th from 6:00 pm-8:30 pm. Come see the Royals Dads tip off against the Red Bank Police Department at 6:00 pm.

#### **Polar Plunge**

Sunday, January 10, 2010 at 1:00 pm in Sea Bright. Do you dare to take the plunge to raise money for the school?

## Game Night

Saturday, January 15, 2010 from 7 to 9 pm. We have a variety of great games for the kids to have fun all night long!

We welcome all dads, step dads, uncles and grandfathers to join the Royals; we need you to get involved at the school!

If you would like more information about the Royals Club, please join us at our next meeting, which is scheduled for November 5th at 7:00 pm in the cafeteria.

## SJAA

It is difficult to believe that warm September has come and gone so quickly, and the Annual St. James Golf Outing—which took place under beautiful skies at Bamm Hollow Country Club on September 14<sup>th</sup>—is being squared away for another year. The planning of the Golf Outing is a monumental organizational task. It involves countless hours and volunteers to assist with uncovering boosters from outside and within St. James, as well as hunting down some of the valuable auction items which are donated each year. The S.J.A.A. Golf Committee was able to raise a significant sum, all proceeds of which go directly to support St. James Athletics. The Golf

Committee looks forward to expanding the event, and is currently in need of new volunteers for 2010. As the S.J.A.A.'s largest fundraising event, the Golf Outing's success is pivotal to funding our Sports Programs throughout the year.

Special thanks to the tireless efforts of our many Committee Members, including Laura Duffy, Peg & Tim Fallon, Chris Ferrigine, Tony Flego, Jackie Guido, Sean Murphy, Ed O'Neill, Maureen Pace, Kris Rovell, D.J. Totland, Laura Shroba, and Kim Senkeleski.

Our many thanks to all those who donated to this worthy cause, with a special thanks to booster families and golfers, who brought welcome new faces to enjoy a spectacular day of golf, giveaways, and great fun. Next year, we would like to encourage the ladies to put on their spikes, pick up some clubs, and invite family and friends to enjoy the course!

### **St. James Athletic Association Q&A: What Fall Sports are available to students, and what grades are eligible to play?**

One of the terrific aspects of St. James Athletics is the wide variety of sports the

program offers students. The Fall Sports season has heated up, and St. James's teams have charged ahead. Boys and Girls Soccer teams are open, by tryout, to the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. The Boys Soccer Team had a challenging season, and look forward to 2010. The Girls Soccer Team has claimed a hard-won playoff position, and move into a highly competitive field for the Championship. St. James Cross Country Team, open to all students in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and higher, is still running strong, and has had both team and individual medals in the Pee Wee, JV, and Varsity Divisions. For a complete listing of all sports available to St. James students, please visit [www.mysaintjames.com](http://www.mysaintjames.com), check under Associations, then St. James Athletics. **Is it possible for me to become an Assistant Coach?** The growth in the St. James student body has been terrific this year—from our youngest Pre-School and Kindergarten to new Transfer Families. S.J.A.A. would like to encourage all parent volunteers to apply for **Coaching Positions**, and lend their individual strengths and talent to build healthy bodies and strong spirits in our students

through competitive sport. For Diocesan requirements to become a coach, or to volunteer within the school, please check with Athletic Director, Tony Flego, and obtain an application.

### **How do I become a member of the S.J.A.A.?**

Just inquire (meetings are held in the Library at 7:00 pm), come to a meeting, and please, sign-up! We are always looking for volunteers for the many and varied tasks for which the S.J.A.A. is responsible—most of which do NOT require sneakers! Parent involvement is enhances the student athletes experience, and is crucial to carrying our mission forward.

Tony Flego, AD  
DJ Totland and Maureen Pace,  
Co-Presidents  
Chris Ferrigine, Treasurer  
Laura Shroba, Secretary  
Kris Rovell, Board member

### **New Family Social**

The evening of September 25th was warm and welcoming as new St. James families came together with seasoned families at the BSA, for a night of food and friends. There are 32 families new to our St. James community, and almost 50 children. What a wonderful opportunity to introduce the

incoming families to our school.

Thank you to all of the mentor families that gave their time so graciously to make the night a success! And a special thanks to the PTA and Baking Committee that provided delicious appetizers and delicacies for the evening, which were enjoyed by everyone. We are already looking forward to next year.

### **Fall Fundraiser**

The school year started off with the annual fall fundraiser. This event is PTA sponsored and the monies raised are used to support St. James PTA activities along with equipment needed for the children. This year we finished a little shy of previous years but still came in with strong numbers. A big THANK YOU to everyone who participated.

Our Grand Prize winners were:

- 1st place: The McGinnis Family
- 2nd place: The Hill Family
- 3rd place: The Brown Family

In addition, Mrs. Byrne's class was the winning classroom with the most sales, so they will be

treated to a pizza party for all of their efforts.

Grade prize winners include: Mia Ramsey (Mrs. Seslar); John Denza (Miss Mondello); Margaret Buckman (Miss Leth); Gianna Piroso (Miss Rose); Lucia Goumas (Miss Rhodes); Jessie Amdur (Mrs. Kelly); Owen Guido (Mrs. Signoriello); Jordan Fleming (Miss Bowles); Michael Mazzucco (Mrs. Walsh); and Liam Coffey (Mrs. Fleming).

Stay tuned for the upcoming Basketball Blowout, where you will be entertained by 15 "Mr. Bacons" (mechanical pigs) racing towards the finish line dressed in their uniquely made costumes.

Thanks again to all for your support,  
Carol VanSeveren and  
Laurie Miller

### **PTA Speaker Night**

Did you ever wonder why our children get so many vaccines? Are you concerned about the flu shot, the H1N1 vaccine and side effects of each? Did you think we didn't need immunizations after age 15?

To answer these questions and more, the PTA sponsored our first Speaker Night of the year on October 14<sup>th</sup>. We were

pleased to have Drs. Joel and Laura Jannone and Dr. Stephanie Reynolds here to speak about immunizations and influenza. Dr. Joel Jannone is a board certified Doctor of Internal Medicine, who has been a physician in Lacey Township for 24 years and the Lacey Twp. Schools Physician for 20 years. Dr. Laura Jannone, EdD, RN, CSN Doctorate in Nursing Education, has been in nursing for 33 years, a school nurse for 10 years. Dr. Reynolds is a board certified Physician, Doctor of Emergency Medicine at Riverview Medical Center. She is also the mother of two St. James students.

Drs. Jannone explained the target disease of each vaccine regularly given to our children, as well as when each vaccine is given and potential risks. They also listed vaccinations that should be given to adults and at which age. They explained that New Jersey requires the greatest number of vaccinations for our children, and that there are reasons that a child can be exempted from receiving specific vaccines.

Dr. Reynolds spoke about the symptoms and severity of both the regular (or seasonal) influenza and the H1N1 (or swine) flu. She offered precautions

that should be taken by everyone to avoid the flu, especially effective hand washing, and actions that one should take after symptoms are present to reduce these as well as to prevent further spread of the flu. Finally, she spoke about the seasonal flu shot and its risks as well as the H1N1 flu shot and its target population and risks.

SJS Nurse Marie Lehmann was instrumental in arranging these speakers and the PTA would like to offer her our special thanks.

If you have a topic that you would like addressed in a future Speaker Night, please contact Maryanne Riegelman at 732-842-1655 or [megsuzjake@aol.com](mailto:megsuzjake@aol.com).

### **Harvest Family Social**

The finest costumes in the kingdom could be found at the Masquerade Ball/ Harvest Family Social on October 17. Witches, super heroes, and plenty of royalty danced to the D.J., played games and enjoyed a feast fit for a king. The evening was a great opportunity for St. James families to catch up with old friends and make new ones. We were especially pleased to see students of all ages participating in the fun; it truly made the evening more memorable.

There was such a large team of volunteers, both parents and students, who pitched in to make the Masquerade Ball a success. We want to thank all of the volunteers who helped with every aspect of the party including decorating, serving food, organizing games and crafts, and of course baking delicious Halloween treats. We would also like to thank Casola Farms, Foodtown and Shoprite for their generous donations, which made the evening complete. Start planning your costumes now; we hope to see you all at the Harvest Family Social next year! Happy Halloween!

### **Red Ribbon Week**

Saint James participated in Red Ribbon Week from October 24 – 31<sup>st</sup>. This is the nation's largest drug prevention program. During the course of the week, students signed a wall-sized Pledge Card and receive RED Treats. Each class from grades 2-8 created their own Red Ribbon Poster for a contest. Posters were judged at the end of the week, and winners were awarded on each floor. Winning classes will receive Dunkin' Donuts on Halloween! Students will once again receive a "Wear

Red Dress Down” for Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. Look for our Red Ribbons on teachers, staff, and outside Saint James School!

## Cub Scouts



Hello from the Cub Scouts of Pack 8 in Red Bank ! For those of you who are not familiar with us, we are based in Red Bank here at St. James School and service boys in Grades 1 through 5 from all 4 of Red Bank’s schools – St. James, Red Bank Charter School, Red Bank Primary School,

and the Red Bank Middle School. You do not need to live in Red Bank to become part of Pack 8 as long as you attend one of those schools. Our 1<sup>st</sup> Grade boys are called Tigers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders are Wolves, 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders are Bears, 4<sup>th</sup> Graders are Webelos I, and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders are Webelos II. Our Pack is run by a husband and wife team, Michael and Kelly Graeff, who have sons in 8<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the 3-Year old program at St. James. We have a very large St. James constituency and are looking forward to growing that number even more this year. Welcome to all of the new boys who have already expressed an interest in joining.

If you have an interest in joining the Pack

and have not yet done so, please contact Kelly Graeff at 732-706-0637 or via email at

[Kelly.Graeff@TechnologyMgmt.com](mailto:Kelly.Graeff@TechnologyMgmt.com). You can also visit the Pack 8 web site to learn more about us at [csp8.clubspaces.com](http://csp8.clubspaces.com).

This month we kicked off our Popcorn Fundraiser and are busy selling to keep the Pack going and the already low membership costs even lower. Get in touch with one of your friends who is a Cub Scout to purchase some yummy popcorn ! Stay tuned for other updates and achievements from our boys month to month and we thank St. James for allowing us to showcase the Pack in their monthly newsletter.

## THE ROYAL REPORTER

welcomes submissions from everyone in the St. James family. Our next deadline is Thanksgiving, for publication in the December issue. Please email your stories to [vera.hough@gmail.com](mailto:vera.hough@gmail.com) or put them in the Newsletter mailbox in the Business Office. Any questions? Feel free to call me at 732-224-0636

Vera Hough