St. James bids farewell to 100 years of experience



Ann Fitzgerald (from left), of Red Bank; Susan Walsh, of Monmouth Beach; Marsha Walsh, of Fair Haven and Neil Fitzpatrick, of Matawan, have a combined total of 100 years teaching at St. James School in Red Bank and are all retiring this year.

RED BANK — St. James School students celebrated the final weeks of school with sadness and joy as they wished four beloved, retiring teachers farewell while celebrating the end of the school year with parties and graduations.

On behalf of the students, parents, and fellow colleagues, St. James extended sincerest congratulations on their retirement. Together these four teachers have given over 100 years of dedicated service to educating students. These fine educators have been strong pillars of the elementary school and St. James would not have reached its prestigious rank without their unwavering loyalty, patience, faith, and commitment to education.

With so much joy, Saint James is calling for a celebration of a wonderful group of extraordinary teachers who have touched the lives of so many. Their legacy will remain forever as it inspires the young generation of students who look up to them with so much respect. Once again Saint James wishes each retiree congratulations and many thanks for their years of service to Saint James Elementary School.

- Mrs. Susan Walsh, of Monmouth Beach, has taught math, algebra, and religion at Saint James School for 11 years while also serving as a homeroom teacher. Mrs. Walsh has also been one of the forces behind the performing arts drama program, always encouraging the students to explore and develop their potential.
- Mrs. Marsha Walsh, of Fair Haven, has taught at Saint James School for 28 years, first, as a kindergarten teacher then as a first grade teacher and most recently, as a Resource teacher. Mrs. Walsh also was the Coordinator for the extended day program for 10 years. Mrs. Walsh has always patiently guided the young students on their learning journey.
- Mr. Neil Fitzpatrick, of Matawan, has taught music to students in Preschool to 8th grade here at Saint James for 31 years. Mr. Fitzpatrick has played either the piano or organ for all of the religious services, Christmas shows, and also moderated the school's Choral Club. One of the sweetest sounds is Mr. Fitzpatrick's playing the piano while the Kindergarten class is singing "God Bless America" with gusto.
- Mrs. Ann Fitzgerald, of Red Bank, has taught at Saint James School for 38 years. Mrs. Fitzgerald has served in 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grades, and an algebra teacher. She also taught Math Lab and High School Prep as well as acted as the Technology Coordinator for our school. Mrs. Fitzgerald has a wonderful sense of humor and could probably tell a good story about some of her former students.
- St. James School sends congratulations and best wishes to Mrs. Ann Fitzgerald, Mrs. Susan Walsh, Mrs. Marsha Walsh, and Mr. Neil Fitzpatrick.