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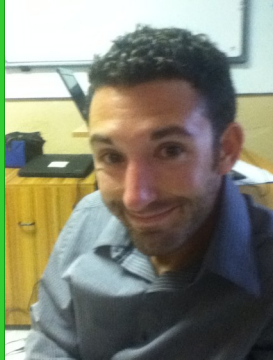
SJS HAWKS NEWS

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Mr. Routhier
- Hurricane Irene
- Pig Roast
- Say A Prayer
- Ribbons of Hope
- Gym Floor
- New Faces
- New Teachers
- Book Reviews
- AND MORE!



Mr. Routhier

Mr. Routhier is fairly new to computers. He recently graduated from Sacred Heart University in May. He likes it here at St. James. He finds everyone to be amazing, smart, kind, and welcoming. He wishes he had everyone for the whole year and not just half the year. Mr. R lives a busy life. He works at St. James, St. Ambrose in Bridgeport, and he also works on a boat on the weekends. This can make remembering names even tougher. Mr. Routhier already made some changes to the school's technology. He helped out with the laptop cart, made some small changes to the St. James School Website (www.stjamesstratford.org), and helped a few teachers with creating their new website pages. He likes to teach children about computers and wishes he could take the whole grade at a time, but in a small group it's easier to teach and learn from the kids. Each grade is learning something different- the mid-grades are learning how to type, the upper how to use Microsoft Office and how to work thumb-drives and the lower grades are learning the basics. The technology is just getting better and better!

LaptopCart

In this new school year we have lots of new technology. With the laptop cart, these grades can do projects or search the internet during school! There are about 25 IBM laptops, which are connected to an also new wireless Wi-Fi router. On these laptops you can surf the web, do presentations, and do reports on Open Office (similar to Microsoft Office but free).

HOW HAS HURRICANE IRENE AFFECTED US?



We heard about Hurricane Irene on the news and experienced Irene first hand, but do we really know how much Irene affected us? Hurricane Irene was more dangerous then it seemed. Hurricane Irene was a category 3 storm and raged around the eastern United States. The damage total was at least \$10.1 billion and the death toll 56 people. In Stratford there wasn't much damage, but on the coast many homes were destroyed or damaged. The power went out and most people didn't get it back for days. Most stores sold out of bottled water and ice. Sadly school was delayed for a week because of no power.

Hawks News Website Coming Soon!

Pig Roast



On September 16th St. James hosted its second annual pig roast. This was a great event experienced by many of our dedicated families here at St. James. Mr. Arauco was the chef cooking the 15 pound pig.

The pig roast is not just about eating; it is about coming together as a community. St. James was happy to see many new faces uniting with many familiar faces. This was a great opportunity for all St. James families to come and see how great we really are.

The kids at the pig roast had a blast! There was not only a pig, but there was plenty of other food they enjoyed, along with dessert, a bounce house, the playground, and the most popular, a tattoo booth!

Another year of great success here at St. James School!

RIBBONS of HOPE

On September 11th, St. James held a short prayer service in honor of those affected by the

terrorist attacks of September 11th. It was a very peaceful occasion in which the school came together to remember that unforgettable day. Although plenty of our students were very young, or not even born when this terrible event took place, all were still as prayers were said and flags were flown.

In addition to our school prayer service, St. James took part in "Ribbons of Hope." Students were given colorful ribbons and asked to write encouraging messages and prayers on each of them. Mrs. Kyburz and Mrs. Simon then delivered the ribbons to Battery Park in New York. The ribbons were tied onto giant canvases in remembrance of all those who lost their lives and in gratitude for those who helped. Mrs. Simon stated, "It was an honor just to be there."

SAY A PRAYER



Jesus told us to love one another as you'd love yourself, that's why when your going through bad times, think of others.

This month is the month of Halloween, the month of the deceased. I see Halloween as a time to think of those who have left us in a more cherish able way than usual.

Here are some people we should be thinking about:

Campbell Taft, Poor people, people with cancer, Tom Hotchkiss,

Tom Lynch, sick people, people going through hard times, Jack Lynch, and many others that we keep in our prayers.



BOOK: PERCY JACKSON AND THE LIGHTNING THIEF BY RICK RIORDON



SNEAK PEAK: PERCY JACKSON THINKS HE IS AN AVERAGE 12 YEAR OLD BOY. HE THEN FINDS OUT HE'S A SON OF A GOD AND IS ACCUSED OF STEALING A VERY DANGEROUS AND POWERFUL WEAPON. HE MUST GO ON A QUEST TO FIND THE REAL THIEF AND CLEAR HIS NAME BEFORE IT'S TO LATE...

Liturgical Dance

There are 11 girls dancing this year, all of them are from third grade to eighth grade. They practice every Wednesday from 2:15 to 3:15 right after school in the church. Anyone can join. A form is sent out in the mail and in an email.

Mrs. Popick and Mrs. Gloss run the show after school and before masses, to make sure they know what they are doing.

Reporter: How long have you been instructing the dancers?—> (continued on next page)



St. Francis of Assisi Mass

St. Francis of Assisi loved animals. Every type of animal that walked on this earth, St. Francis loved. Birds, cats, fish, dogs etc., St. Francis loved them all. On this day, we remember him and his love for animals. We celebrate with a mass and a blessing of our church goers pets. There the Priest blesses the pets as a prayer is said. One for healing the sick animals and another praying a simple prayer blessing the animals. We pray that God will watch over and protect the animals, sick or healthy. We pray that God will keep these animals in his loving care. Here is the prayer said by the Priest during the blessing:

Saint Francis,
You are probably best known for your love of the poor and all of God's creatures.
Help me to care for the poor by small acts of sacrifice. May I treat those I meet with kindness, always remembering that they are my brothers and sisters.



Norm Crosby-

"My school was so tough the school newspaper had an obituary section."

Mrs. Gelfand is our new music teacher. She loves St. James so far. She would describe it as a place with wonderful teachers and students that she enjoys very much. She says that St. James has a spiritual atmosphere. She says that it is very similar to other schools that she taught at, however, she says that the students here are more respectful and kind hearted. She has been teaching music for 19 years now. She loves teaching music and playing the piano. It is clear that this is her passion. She has her BFA (Bachelor in Fine Arts) in music. She graduated from Florida Atlantic University and she also has level one ORFF certification from the University of Florida. She has very high expectations for her students and pushes them to excel.



Gym Floor The school searched for many different types of flooring. The kind of floor they were looking for was durable, and took the least amount of maintenance. St. James, parents (Mr. Hines, Mr. Carfiello, Mrs. Zamachaj), and staff (Mr.G, and Mrs. Kyburz) looked through many samples and found that wood covered with silicone with the school colors was the most appealing and durable floor for us. Armando and Fred Palumbo donated their time to make the school logo on the floor. "It's easier to run laps around the gym now. I could run a mile without even being tired!" students say. A lot of money was donated to the school by alumni.

Helen Keller- *"If the only tool you have is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail."*



Continuation of Liturgical Dance

Mrs. P: I have been a choreographer for the Liturgical dancers for 6 years, since 2005.

Mrs.G: I have been singing hymns for the dancers for 4 years, since 2007.

Reporter: What is your favorite dance the girls have danced/what is your favorite song to sing?

Mrs. P: I love Breath of Heaven and Imagine because when we danced to Imagine it was devoted to my girlfriend's husband who died in a fire in Bridgeport.

Mrs. G: I just love to sing Imagine and Breathe of Heaven.

Reporter: How long have you been dancing Mrs. Popick?

Mrs. P: I started to dance when I was 3 and began to teach at 18. My first Dance Company was Zita Carrano School of Dance in Bridgeport. My first teaching company was Pat pall in Milford .I taught there for 11 years until I got married.

Reporter: Where did you study the art of music?

I studied at Jeanette Visokay in Fairfield. This was my only teacher and I had private lessons.

Reporter: Did you ever do any other sports other than Dance?

Mrs. P: I wanted to play basketball in high school, but I chose Dance over it.



Saint James Church

"An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you know and what you don't."

-Anatole France



Student Council

Recently our seventh and eighth

graders have elected their new student council representatives.

There are six positions. Our president Alana Merly, Elyse Politica our vice president, Audrey Joseph and Hannah Kubic are the eighth grade representatives, and Amanda Lopez and Alli Augustine are our seventh grade representatives. The student council works very hard planning dances, fundraisers, and junior high spirit week. The student council is for the seventh and eighth graders only because they have made it through the school and are now leaders of the school.

Miss Hartney

We asked Miss Hartney how 3rd grade was going and she said it is such a great grade. Every morning she holds morning meetings. This is a time for people to get to know each other. Right now she is teaching her students multiplication tables and how to write personal narratives. For a Halloween project she is having her students do a book review. On the day of their Halloween party they get to dress up as a character from their book. She would describe St. James as a big family. She said that everyone is very kind and welcoming. Miss Hartney would describe herself as fair but she has a very high expectation for her students. She graduated from Denison University and got her Masters at Fairfield University. She previously taught 5th and 6th grade at St. Catherine's in Trumbull. She taught language arts and history. Her theme for this year is "We're all part of the puzzle". She wants everyone to be active and successful.

See a face, learn a name, and hear a story



On the first day of school Father Tom gave us a wonderful homily about meeting new people

and making your small group of friends turn into a big group of friends. During the homily he explained, "See a face, Learn a name, Hear a story." This means if you see a new face, learn their name and then hear their story. Have you been doing this? If not then try to!

Our Uniforms and there Regulations Uniforms

Recently, Mr.G has changed the dress code back to button down shirts and ties. All boys have to wear the shirts and ties but, 7th and 8th graders are allowed to wear appropriate ties of their choice. 7th and 8th grade boys have to wear either khaki or navy blue pants and grades 1-5 have to wear navy blue pants. Also, girls grades 1-6 can't wear any nail polish and minimum jewelry (one or two bracelets). Most girls have to wear blue or white socks, but 7th & 8th grade girls get to wear colorful sock choices.

