

SAINT JAMES SCHOOL

What's New?

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Important Dates

- 9/20: 8th Grade Parent Meeting (6 PM)
Back to School Night (6:30-8 PM)
- 9/29: Fall Festival

A Back to School Prayer

God of wisdom and love,

*Thank you for another day of discovery
and opportunity.*

*Bless all of us who want to learn and
grow with the tools needed to do well.*

Give us strength to commit to our studies;

Give us patience to persevere in our endeavors;

Give us joy to foster good relationships;

Give us courage to reflect well on all that happens today.

May we prosper by what we learn and what we share this day.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Our school year is off to a wonderful start!

On Friday, we celebrated our back-to-school liturgy – what a wonderful way to start the year together! Our 8th graders hosted the Mass and our select Choir sang beautifully!

A few announcements:

- ❖ *Please be reminded that the school day starts at 8:30 AM and prayers begin at 8:40. Please make every effort to get your children into the school before 8:40 so they can get a good start to their day*
- ❖ *Parents are reminded that, during the school day, the front parking lot is for staff only. If you wish to walk your child to the door, please park in the lot in front of the white house.*
- ❖ *Save the date for our Back to School Night on Thursday, September 20 at 6:30 PM. This is a great opportunity to meet with your child(ren)'s teachers and learn more about the school.*

I found a wonderful prayer on Busted Halo, that I thought you might enjoy!

Mrs. Florendo



Home-School

Wanted: your old jeans and button down long sleeve shirts for our Scarecrow Making Booth at our Family Fall Festival. (children's and adults sizes.)

A box is located at the front entrance for your donations.



SAINT JAMES SCHOOL
PRESENTS

FAMILY
FALL
FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

12PM - 5PM
200 South Finley Avenue, Basking Ridge

\$3 Senior \$5 Adult/Child \$20 Family
Come join the fun, there's something for everyone!

- Kids' Battle of the Cupcakes
- Harry Potter Potion Making
- Family Scarecrow Making
- Carnival Games & Prizes
- Pumpkin Slings
- Pumpkin Painting
- Face Painting
- Slime Making
- Great Food
- Tricky Tray
- Sand Art

Sponsor the Festival!
Opportunities are still available!

Form on the website

**COMPETE IN
THE
KIDS BATTLE
OF THE
CUPCAKES!**

Form on the website!

 [pagesFamilyFallFestival](#)

Counselor's Corner

Getting Back in the Groove

I think most of us can say we enjoyed the carefree days of summer. Like most good things, though, it couldn't last forever.

And happy as we may be to be back at school and seeing our friends, it can be tough to get back in the groove for the new school year. Just like our muscles need to ease back into working out after time off, our brains need to ease back into full-scale work after a few weeks of relaxation.

Here are a few tips to get your child on track for a great 2018/2019 school year:

1. Be a Role Model With Positive Attitude

As a parent, you are probably the most influence in your child's life. Displaying a positive attitude towards school is extremely important as it will set an example that your child can adopt. Explain to them they have a clean slate to start the new year off.

2. Get Your Child Involved

Often kids think school is just about homework and hours spent in the classroom. However it's also about fun after-school activities such as sports and clubs. Encourage your kids to pursue their interests outside of regular school hours as this will give them something to look forward to once the school day is over. There are probably many possible activities, so there's bound to be something for everyone!

3. Don't Over-Schedule

On the flip side, it's also important that your kids aren't over-scheduled. Make sure they have a healthy balance of after-school activities, time to complete homework, time to socialize and a few hours to relax too. If they do have a different activity every day it might burn them out, which could lead to negative associations with school. If this is the case, ask your child which two activities/clubs they enjoy the most and cut the others from their schedule.

4. Have a Homework Routine

Homework is still a huge part of school for any child. Making sure your child has designated homework time as part of their everyday routine is crucial. It will ensure they have time to study and stay on top of their schoolwork, meaning they will always be ready for their lessons. There really is nothing worse for children than to know they're unprepared or haven't completed the work that's due — in fact, it will make them dread going to school even more. Having a fun, vibrant homework space for them at home will also make this assigned time much easier and — dare we say — enjoyable.

5. Encourage Meaningful Relationships

Remind your child that with friends, quality is much more important than quantity. Avoiding the word 'popular' is also a good idea- instead encourage your child to have a few meaningful friendships. Knowing they have a great circle of friends at school to talk to, play with and share problems with will make it much more fun!

6. Show an Active Interest and Be Involved and Positive

Always try and show an active interest in your child's school life and remain positive when discussing it with them. Ask about assignments, what subjects they are enjoying, who is their favorite teacher — anything school related, really. Doing this will encourage them to say out loud about all the things they love about school, which should help them realize that it's not as bad as they think and that many aspects are exciting! If you can, why not try and go the extra mile by volunteering or being aware of what's going on in the school community? Doing this shows your kids that you value the effort they put in at school and that you care about how they are progressing.

