



Welcome to Parent  
Information Night

Kindergarten

2020 – 2021

# Introduction



**Ms. Rebecca Pontarelli**

- First year teaching at Saint James School, 17th year teaching
- M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction in Elementary Education



# Classroom Expectations



- Follow Classroom and School Rules
  - Individual Behavior Plan/Behavior Calendar - Keep in your child's Friday Folder.
    - Green (sticker indicates), Yellow, and Red
      - Parents will be contacted when student ends the day on red
  - PBIS – Positive Behavior Intervention & Support
    - Students earn 'Bulldog Bucks' when positive behavior is seen by the teacher.
    - Students can individually earn these toward a class reward



# Important Information

- Birthdays
  - Unfortunately, we cannot celebrate with a snack this year.
  - Birthday reader is welcome to share a story over Zoom!
- Scholastic Reading Club
  - Book order forms sent home at the beginning of the month.
- Friday Folders
  - Work done throughout the week will go home each Friday in your child's blue folder. Please check folder each weekend and send it back to school on Monday

At this point, the Archdiocese of Chicago is not allowing any parent volunteers to come in and out of the school. If this changes at all, we will let you know.

# Homework

- Read for 15-20 minutes every night
- Practice Jolly Phonics sounds
  - Sheets from the week will go home every Friday
- Practice high frequency words
  - Starts next week
- Word Box Homework
  - Starts in October
- Math Homework
  - Starts in November
- Spelling Homework
  - Starts in January





# Morning Schedule

- Calendar and Morning Meeting
- Jolly Phonics/Heggerty (phonemic awareness)
- Centers-all subjects
- Prayer/Snack
- Centers (continued)
- Daily Review
- Specials (Gym)

# Snack

- Healthy snacks are encouraged
  - Fruits and vegetables
  - Cheese
  - Yogurt
- The SJS Snack List must be adhered to
  - allergies





# Afternoon Schedule

- Lunch/Recess
- Brain Break
- Prayer Circle/Read Aloud
- Centers/Daily 5
- Recess/Gym & Music
- Prayer/Snack
- Free time
- Pack Up
- Daily Review
- Prayer & Circle Time





# Specials

- Music
  - Friday afternoon
- Gym
  - Tuesday afternoon & Thursday morning  
(make sure kids are wearing gym shoes on these days)
- Library and Technology
  - Integrated into curriculum

# Kindergarten Curriculum

- **Reading:**
  - Heggerty Phonemic Awareness (Blue Book)
  - Jolly Phonics
  - Comprehension
  - High Frequency Words
  - Small Group Instruction (Guided Reading, start in January)





# Kindergarten Curriculum

- **Language:**

- Six Traits Writing

- Ideas
- Conventions
- Organization
- Voice
- Word Choice
- Sentence Fluency

We will start Six Traits in  
November.

# Math Curriculum

- **Aligned with both Archdiocesan Benchmarks and Common Core Standards**
  - **Daily Practice and instruction towards mastery of concepts**
    - Number recognition
    - Counting/One-to-one correspondence
    - Addition and Subtraction
    - Reading a Calendar
    - Geometry (2-D,3-D shapes)
    - Measurement
  - **Use of manipulatives**
    - Cubes, dice, counters, pom-poms
  - **Introduction of common terms**





# Science and Social Studies Curriculum

- **Science:**
  - Mystery Science
  - Scholastic News articles
  
- **Social Studies:**
  - Community helpers
  - Presented through informational nonfiction texts
  - Scholastic News articles

# Religion

- Introduction to prayers
- Creation
- Noah's Ark
- Giving Thanks
- Advent/Christmas
- Angels
- Family
- Lent/Easter
- Mary
- Bible Stories



# Seesaw

- Online student portfolio
- Students share work with parents & teacher
- Easy way to communicate, send out reminders, see photos of what is going on in the classroom
- Each child has unique QR code - only parents can see what their child is doing!

Intro to Seesaw video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pzlrtdR84KY>



# Grading Policy

Grade	Description
O	Outstanding
S	Satisfactory
I	Improving
N	Needs Improvement
H	Having difficulty





# What can you do to help?

- Encourage your child to read daily or read to you
- Practice reading letters and making its sound at home
- Practice high frequency words at home
- Check e-mail frequently for communication
- Read through the weekly newsletter
- Do not hesitate to contact me with concerns or questions



# Contact Information & Handouts

- Ms. Rebecca Pontarelli
  - [rpontarelli@stjamessschoolah.org](mailto:rpontarelli@stjamessschoolah.org)
- We will be sending home a Seesaw QR code & login information for IXL (a math practice application) in your child's folder. They may use this application at home for extra practice if you wish to.

