



# St. James' Nursery School News



## January 2011 Calendar of Events

1/3: Back to school!

1/3: Annex Bookmobile Visit

1/6 and 1/7: **Closed for Parent/Teacher Conferences**

1/10: In-House Registration Begins

1/11: Three's Bookmobile Date

1/12 and 13: Chapel Times for 3's and Pre-K 4's

1/12, 13 & 14: Cuddle-up and Target Reading book selection days!!

1/17: **Closed. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday, Observed**

1/18: **AM Classes Only Closed and Full Day 3's Class Delayed Opening at 11:30 – In-Service Planning Time**

1/18: In-House Registration Opens to St. James' Church Members

1/19-21: Two's Mini-Chapel Times

1/20 & 21: Carroll County Library Puppet Show—  
"The Mitten"!!

1/28: Last day for In-House Registration

1/31-2/2: Alumni Registration Days

## *From the Director's Desk*



As the New Year approaches my thoughts, and work, have turned to preparing for another “calendar year” at St. James. With this comes preparing for the upcoming in-house and general public registration and planning next year’s calendar and program. Please remember that Sharon Hansen, our Business Manager, and I remain available to answer any questions about registration. Sometimes it helps to talk about the different class schedules that we will offer when planning for your child’s next year of school.

I am excited to report that together we raised over \$4,000 with the fall Joe Corbi Fund Raiser. We have already purchased several items: a new sensory table, four-sided easel, seasonal puzzles and child-sized computer mice for use in our Computer Learning Centers. I want to extend my appreciation to Mrs. Love, Mr. Wurster and Mr. Niner for their help with the fund raiser. Delivery day went smooth thanks to the help of these parents!

We collected 198 pajamas for The Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive!! Thank you to Mrs. Price and Mrs. Armagost for their help with this collection and thank you to all of our generous families.

Enjoy this time, the beginning of a new year full of exciting and love-filled family experiences.

*Pat*

## Preschoolers in the Kitchen Happy New Year Calendar!!

### **January**

We can make a lacy flake  
To decorate our snow-white cake.

### **February**

Heart-shaped cookies, yours and mine...  
Will you be my Valentine?

### **March**

Cold winds make fingers feel like ice –  
Heat up some chicken soup and rice.

### **April**

We stay indoors but don’t complain...  
We cook, and bake, and watch the rain.

### **May**

Homemade bread must rise for hours.  
While we wait, let’s plant some flowers.

### **June**

Picking berries, tasting some,  
Strawberry shortcake, yum, yum, yum.

### **July**

On Fourth of July we eat red cherries,  
With white whipped cream and bright  
blue berries.

### **August**

After playing in the sun,  
Homemade ice cream would be fun.

### **September**

I will make my preschool snack  
To take along in my backpack.

### **October**

See leaves change from green to red?  
Would you like some pumpkin bread?

### **November**

Grandma, Grandpa, Cousins stay,  
To eat and share Thanksgiving Day.

### **December**

Around the table, friends, relations  
Enjoy all kinds of celebrations.

## **Inclement Weather School Closing Procedures**

- When Carroll County Schools are closed due to bad weather, St. James' Nursery School, **both locations**, will also be closed.
- When Carroll County Schools open one **or** two hours late: All AM classes will begin one hour late and dismiss at the scheduled time and PM classes are held as scheduled.
- If Carroll County Schools dismiss early, we will not hold PM classes and the full-day classes will dismiss at 12:00.
- As always, your child's safety comes first. If you are uncomfortable with the driving conditions, we will respect your decision to keep your child at home or pick them up early.
- We will endeavor to contact parents in the exception of the above policy. If you are unsure of closings, please call the office at 301-829-0014.



## **School Calendar Date Change**

The Staff In-Service closing date that was scheduled for March 2 has been rescheduled for February 28. We will now be closed on Feb. 28 and open on March 2.

## **Registration for 2011-2012**

Currently enrolled students and their siblings may register beginning 8:30AM on Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup> and ending Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:00PM.

**Due to our class scheduling we are asking that our currently enrolled children, especially three year olds moving into our Pre-K 4's classes, register during the first week, January 10-14. We can only guarantee a spot for currently enrolled applicants whose registration forms, along with the \$75.00 nonrefundable fee, are received in our Main Street Office by January 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm.**

We will continue to accept registrations through January 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:00PM.

Applications are received on a first come first serve basis and while every attempt will be made to accommodate individual choices, we can not guarantee that you will receive them. Final class placement is at the discretion of the Director. Should you miss in-house registration, you will need to attend our community registration on Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup>.

Registration forms are available in our office or on our website at [www.stjamesmtairy.org](http://www.stjamesmtairy.org). Please be aware that no registrations will be accepted prior to Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:30AM. Forms presented in person will be processed first. In the event of inclement weather, please call the school for more information.

# Let Children Be Children

Do you worry that your children are growing up too fast? Do you wonder what to say when they talk about “going on a date”? Are you frustrated when they beg to watch television shows or movies with characters and activities that are just too old for preschoolers?

We worry too. Let’s work together to protect children and let them enjoy being preschoolers. Here are five ideas that may work for your family.

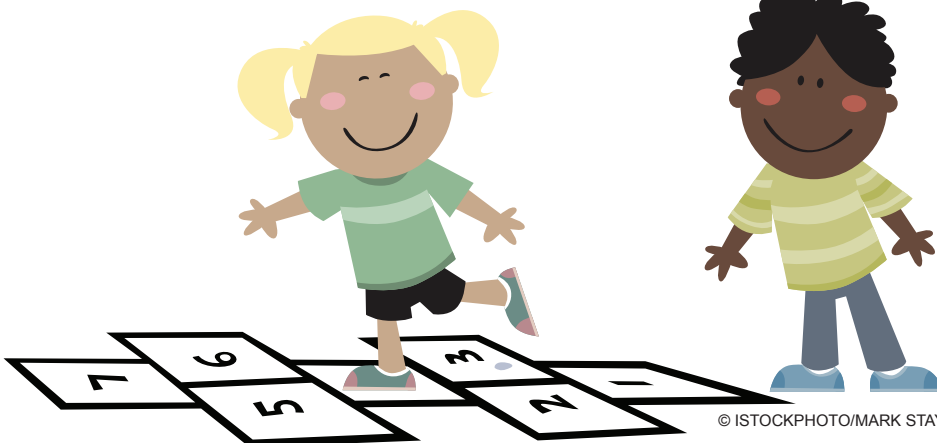
**Limit the time your child spends in front of a screen—television, computer, video game, and so on.** The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends limiting total screen time to no more than 1 to 2 hours a day for children older than 2 years.

**Make a list of things to do instead of watching a screen.** Ask your child to think of activities he or she enjoys—reading, doing a puzzle, tossing a ball to the dog, or helping to cook dinner. Use photographs or drawings to illustrate each item on the list. Include some activities you can do together. Use the list to help your child choose something to do instead of screen time.

**Schedule a weekly family night.** Include your child in planning what to make for dinner and what to do afterward. You might go for a walk around the block, play a board game, tell stories, organize family photos, or do any other activity your family enjoys.

**Help your child become a unique individual with varied interests and abilities.** One way to do this is by reading and talking about books in which both male and female characters are strong, confident, thoughtful, and sensitive. And you and the other important adults in your child’s life can do this by being role models—men and women who work, enjoy hobbies, take care of the home, and spend lots of loving time with their children.

**Work with other people who want to preserve childhood.** Talk with friends, neighbors, family members, and the parents of your children’s friends and classmates. Agree to hold birthday parties focused on fun rather than TV or movie characters; to dress your children like preschoolers, not teenagers; and to resist (rather than giving in) when children ask you to buy things you know are not good for them.



**A message from your child’s teacher**