



# The Cougar



Published every two weeks for SJS Parents

[www.stjudebr.org](http://www.stjudebr.org)

December 15, 2016

*St. Jude the Apostle School provides a Catholic family environment, dedicated to the formation of each student's relationship with Christ through faith, academics, and excellence.*



## SCHOOL CALENDAR

Thurs., Fri., Mon. Dec. 15th, 16th, 19th 8:00am-11:00am  
 Monday, December 19th  
 Tuesday, December 20th 8:15am  
 Tuesday, December 20th 2:00pm  
 Wed., Dec. 21st-Wed., Jan. 4th  
 Thursday, January 5th  
 Thursday, January 5th  
 Friday, January 6th 7:30am  
 Wednesday, January 11th  
 Friday, January 13th  
 Monday, January 16th  
 Tuesday, January 17th 8:15am  
 Tuesday, January 17th 6:30pm  
 Wednesday, January 18th 8:15am  
 Thursday, January 19th 6:30pm  
 Friday, January 20th  
 Saturday, January 21st 7:30am-10:00am

7th & 8th Grade Exams (Dismiss from parking lot)  
 Box Tops Collection Forms Sent Home  
 Christmas Liturgy (Service Org.) **DRESS UNIFORMS**  
 Class Christmas Parties  
 Christmas Holiday Break  
 Return to School  
**Report Cards**  
 Donuts & Devotion (8th Grade– Ministry Building)  
 Box Tops Collection Forms Due  
**Elem. Conf. Day– NO SCHOOL PK-2nd**  
**MLK, Jr. Holiday– NO SCHOOL**  
 4th Grade Level Liturgy (Dress Uniforms 4th Grade)  
 Advisory Council Mtg. (Ministry Build.)  
 School-wide Liturgy (5B) **Dress Uniforms**  
 SJMC Meeting (Parish Hall)  
 Re-Registration Packets sent home  
 Used Uniform Sale (Cafeteria)



*Merry Christmas from the Faculty and Staff of St. Jude the Apostle School*



### COUGAR DEADLINE:

Submissions for the next issue of *The Cougar* are due by **Tuesday, January 3rd, 2017** E-mail [sdriesse@stjudebr.org](mailto:sdriesse@stjudebr.org)

## **SCHOOL NEWS & INFORMATION**

**ATTENTION 7th & 8th GRADE PARENTS:** Mid-Term exams are Thursday, December 15th, Friday, December 16th and Monday, December 19th. All students in these grades must be picked up at 11 am.

**SCHOOL CHRISTMAS MASS:** Our school-wide Christmas Liturgy will be held Tuesday, December 20th, at 8:15 a.m. This liturgy will be facilitated by our service organizations. Parents are always welcome at our liturgies. Please be sure that your child is wearing dress uniform. If you are able to send a canned food item for the needy, please do so.

**BUS REMINDER:** We WILL HAVE bus service on Tuesday, December 20th! Please remember this is a full day of school, and students should be in dress uniforms for our Christmas liturgy! Buses will also be running when we return to school on THURSDAY, JANUARY 5th, 2017!

**NEW STUDENT/SIBLING APPLICATIONS:** Please note the application for new students (including siblings!) is posted on the website, and also available [here](#). Applications are due to the school office by Friday, January 27th. Children wishing to begin Pre-K next year must be 4 years old on or before September 30th of 2017.

**REMINDERS ABOUT RE-REGISTRATION:** As we move closer to the end of the calendar year, please remember the school policy on tuition rate levels. In order to qualify for the Identified Stewardship Giver (ISG) tuition rate for the upcoming school year, you must have met the minimum identifiable amount of \$250.00 given through the Church offertory collection. Contributions must be made by December 29, 2016 to count towards 2017-18 tuition rates. Contributions made after that date will not be counted toward the 2017-18 ISG status. As another reminder, determination of Catholic versus non-Catholic status is based upon the child's baptism in the Catholic Church.

**ATTENTION PRE K-2nd GRADE PARENTS:** Pre-K, 1st, and 2nd Grade Conference Day is Friday, January 13th, 2017. Students in these grades will not attend school on this day.

**MLK HOLIDAY:** Please note there will not be school on Monday, January 16th (all grades) in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

**FALL SPORTS PHOTOS:** Please note that Barberito Photography made an error in the 7th/8th and 5th/6th football packages. The packages are being re-printed and will go home as soon as they arrive. We apologize for this inconvenience.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT THANK YOU:** Our 2016 Christmas concert was a huge success! Thank you to Mrs. Littleton, Mr. Hurtado, and Mr. Peterson. Also, thanks to Celeste Robin and Ashley Gravois for their help with the Santa pictures! Packages are coming home today!

**HISTORY BEE:** Congratulations to the ten students who qualified to advance to the next round of the National History Bee. They are: 8th Graders: Liam B., Peyton C., Conner G., Jacob B., Caroline D., and Landen A.; 7th Grader: Anthony C.; and 6th Graders: Maria H., Kyle O., and Caroline L.

**GEOGRAPHY BEE:** St. Jude the Apostle School held its National Geographic Bee on Thursday, December 7, 2016. Anthony C. placed first and West B. placed second. Anthony will take the qualifying test in January to go to the Louisiana state Geographic Bee. Congratulations to both Anthony and West!



**COMMUNITY COUGAR NEWS:** For their December service project, the Community Cougars sang Christmas Carols for the DMA Christmas luncheon in the Parish Hall and enjoyed a lunch of pizza and sweet treats. Thank you to Community Cougar mom, Andrea Blanchard, for assisting with lunch. A good time was had by all!

**3rd GRADE RETREAT:** Thank you to the following moms who helped out with our 3rd grade retreat: Kimberly McDaniel, Marie Johnson, Sarah Losavio, Danielle Mensman, Bonnie Schwing and Lindsay Seely. We could not have done it without you!



**IMPORTANT CHILD PROTECTION UPDATE:** Anyone who has completed child protection paperwork as an employee or volunteer is required by the Diocese of Baton Rouge to complete the most up-to-date on-line training entitled *Recognizing Child Abuse*. If you completed the training *PRIOR* to 2013, you will need to complete the “new” training. Anyone who has not completed this training will be considered NON-compliant and their files will be made inactive. Please feel free to contact Lori Layman at 769-2344 or email [llayman@stjudebr.org](mailto:llayman@stjudebr.org) if you have any questions. The website to complete the training and/or to log-in to see if you have completed the training is: <https://safeandsacred-diobr.org/login/index.php>

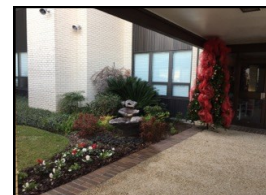
## **ATHLETIC INFORMATION**

**GIRLS ON THE RUN:** St Jude team (3rd - 5th grades) registration opens January 9th! Lottery registration closes January 20th and registration will reopen for any available spots. The season begins the week of February 6, 2017 and runs for 10 weeks, 2 meetings per week. Tentative meeting dates are M/W, after school from 3:00pm - 4:30pm. **WE ARE IN NEED OF PARENT COACHES** - you do NOT need to be a runner. For more information, email Jenny Hanks ([boot1@me.com](mailto:boot1@me.com)) or visit the GOTR website: [girlsontherunsola.org](http://girlsontherunsola.org).

## **HOME & SCHOOL INFORMATION**

**USED UNIFORM SALE:** Parents mark your calendars!! The next Used Uniform Sale is coming up on January 21st! It will be held in the cafeteria from 7:30 am-10:00 am. This is a great opportunity to stock up on sweatshirts, fleece, and other uniform items you may need at an amazing price. If you have any items to donate, you can drop them off in the office or contact Ginny Anderson 225-328-0630 to make other arrangements.

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE THANK YOU:** I hope you have all had a chance to notice the Christmas decorations and flowers around the school entrance. We would like to thank Molly Williams and Le Vu for their efforts to keep our school looking beautiful and festive. We would like to send out a special thank you to Lauren Brown for donating the beautiful Christmas tree. What a wonderful addition to our Christmas cheer!



**SANTA LAND THANK YOU:** We would like to give a big thank you to Santa Land Coordinators Bonnie Schwing and Jessica Neyland and their assistant "elves" Katherine Smith and Kynlee Cunningham for all of their hard work with Santa Land. We would also like to give a special thank you to a very dedicated elf volunteer, Mrs. Tammy Mire. Because of these dedicated ladies, and the help of so many parent and grandparent volunteers, Santa Land was once again a big hit! The children have so much fun picking out the "perfect gifts" for their loved ones!

**CHRISTMAS SHOPPING SUBS THANK YOU:** A HUGE thank you goes out Tamara Parboosingh for organizing the teacher half day subs for Christmas Shopping. Many, many thanks to the moms and dads who subbed for the teachers this holiday season! The teachers and the kids really enjoy this and we would not be able to do it without the help of our St. Jude family.

Our wonderful parent volunteers included: Mollie Frazier, Jaclyn Landry, Helen Stephansson, Stephanie Mayeux, Monica Broggi, Lauren Nero, Kristie Esteve, Carrie Tucker, Nikki Collette, Tamara Parboosingh, Karalyn Cass, Elizabeth Martin, Brittany Copeland, Achim Herrmann, Sidney Joffrion, Kimberly McDaniel, Kristina Funes, James Dubnansky, James Andermann, Michele Stuhmer, Diana Vincent, LeeAnne Tranchina, Carol Friedland, Erin Douglass, Christine Wesley, Taylor Camp, Kris Fernandez, Sheila Gordon, Tricia Fernandez, Pam Gautreaux, Amy Tatsas, Storie Melancon, Kate Besselman, Joanne Grantham, and Jenny Hanks.

**GRANDPARENT'S DAY DVD:** We are still taking orders for the Grandparent's Day DVD. They are \$10 each and will be sent home in mid-January. Thank you to Jason Mabile for volunteering his talents to help with this project! Please [CLICK HERE](#) if you would like to order one!

**CHRISTMAS WISHES:** With the holiday season upon us, we would like to wish everyone in our St. Jude Family a very safe and happy Christmas season. Let us keep in mind what a wise soul once reminded us... “Fear not! For, behold, I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all my people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ, the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.” And suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude of the Heavenly Host praising God, and saying, “Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth peace, and good will toward men. That’s what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown.” Merry Christmas!

