



THE COUGAR



Greetings from Mrs. Gardiner

Dear Parents and Community Members,

Our school is participating in the Diocese of Baton Rouge District Accreditation Process. Cognia District Accreditation provides nationally recognized accreditation for the district and all its schools. To renew Cognia District Accreditation, the district must: 1) meet the Cognia accreditation standards; 2) implement a continuous process of improvement; and 3) host an external review team once every five years.

District accreditation is a rigorous process that demonstrates to our students, parents, and community that we are focused on raising student achievement, providing safe and enriching learning environments, and maintaining efficient and effective operations staffed by highly qualified educators. As a Catholic School, we utilize the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools protocol. As a system of Catholic Schools, we employ the Cognia Performance Standards for K-12 and Postsecondary Institutions protocol.

Your input is important to your school and to the district during the self-study process. Please take the time to **complete the brief online survey by February 23**. All responses are confidential, and only the group statistics will be reviewed and included in the data reports.

Please left click the link below and click open link.

[Parent & Community](#)

Thank you for your help with this important endeavor.

God bless,

Michelle Gardiner, M.Ed.

Upcoming Important Dates

February 26-March 1: Auction Free Dress Week

March 1: 1st Grade Famous Americans Day

March 2: Intramural Basketball Begins

March 4: Class Group Pictures

March 5: All School Mass

March 7: Pre-K STEM Day

March 13: 2024-2025 Building and Technology Fees Due

March 20: 4th Grade STEM Day

March 25: Winter Sports (Soccer, Boys Basketball), Cheerleaders/Cougarettes Picture Day

Follow Us on Social Media!

[Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [St. Jude BR Parents page](#), and our [NEW Fundraising Page!](#)

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Math Counts



Congratulations to the Math Counts team who won 6th place at their competition on Friday, February 2. Team members included: Joseph A., Kate B., Camille H., and Camille M.

Other participants included: Tripp S., Carter B., Belle C., Miles C., Hudson G., and Jack H.

Junior Beta Club



Our St. Jude School Junior Beta Club left for state convention in Lafayette on Wednesday, February 21.

Before the entire group left school on Wednesday, Hailey N. won the 8th grade Language Arts competition! Also, Anna-Katherine D., Camille M. and Parker L. have made it to the finals for the talent competition of convention. They are one of four out of 16 groups to make it to the finals, and they will sing in front of the entire convention on Thursday.



Our Beta Club also made the Large Group Talent Finals this Friday morning! We are planning to Facebook Live their performance if we can. If not, their performances will be on our Facebook after.

Auction Update and Free Dress Week

Thank you all again for your support and attending our 8th Annual St. Jude School auction! Because of all of you, **we were able to raise almost \$80,000** to go towards modernizing our school.

Auction Free Dress Week is next week! Another big thank you to our grandparents and parents who paid for their child/children to participate in this week out-of-uniform. Please follow the guidelines below when sending your child to school next week.

Free Dress	Tops and dresses may not be strapless or off the shoulder. No tank tops are allowed. No tight-fitting tops.	Bottoms may be jeans, athletic pants, or dress slacks. Girls may wear capri pants. No leggings or yoga pants are allowed. Dresses and skirts must fall at least three inches above the knees.	Tennis shoes, flats or boots with flat heels for girls. No cowboy boots, Crocs, cleats, or sandals.	No shorts may be worn unless they are the uniform shorts. No hooded shirts or sweatshirts Shirts and bottoms may not be ripped or have holes.
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Home and School Association

LUNCHROOM VOLUNTEERS: Looking for a super fun and easy way to get involved that doesn't require much of your time and energy? Consider lunch duty! The cafeteria relies on two volunteers to help serve lunch to our students every day. Volunteers can sign up for a 1/2 shift (9:45-11:15am) or full shift (9:45-12:15) by visiting our [Sign Up Genius](#).

CLASS PICTURES: Class pictures will be taken on Monday, March 4th. You can order copies by placing an order [here](#).

USED UNIFORM SALE: Thank you to Amanda Marshall, Kristy Gary, Cat Heard, Emily Rogers, Brittany Martin, Stephanie Horvath and Ashley Territo for volunteering their time for the Used Uniform Sale on February 4th. It was a great success! Be on the lookout for our summer Used Uniform Sale date in the near future.

Church News



St. Jude the Apostle Parish presents "You're a Good Man: My God-Given Dignity and Purpose" - a Men's Retreat on Saturday, March 23rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Deacon Michael Parker and Mr. Scott Losavio will be presenting.

Cost is \$15 per person. Registration is due by March 18th.

Register [here](#).

The 2024 St. Jude Men's Club Lenten Fish Fry is coming soon! Every Friday from February 16 to March 22 shortly after 5 p.m., the Men's Club will have the option of fried catfish or fried shrimp with fries, salad and a roll. Meals cost \$10, and you may eat in or drive thru. Hope to see you all there!



The 2024 St. Jude Parish and School Fair is April 19-21! As a reminder, there is no school on Friday, April 19.



Raffle tickets were sent home this week. As a vital part of our parish family, we depend on and encourage your support of the fair. Please assist us in a very small way by selling the book of \$1.00 raffle tickets. Please return the ticket stubs and money to your child's homeroom teacher **by Friday, April 12.**

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Athletics



Save the Date for our St. Jude School Athletics Booster Club Golf Tournament this fall! More information to come on sponsorship opportunities and when registration opens.

Winter and Spring Sports Senior Night is February 29th at 7:30 p.m. Come support our 8th graders at their final boys' basketball game!

COUGAR RUMBLE

BOYS 8TH GRADE BASKETBALL



The 8th Grade Boys Basketball Team was on a hot streak the week before Mardi Gras break!

The boys defeated St. John 47-22 on Tuesday, February 6th at Home.

They also defeated St. Alphonsus on Thursday, February 8th 43-26 in the Hornet's gym.

Way to go, boys, and Go Cougars!!



PLAYING IN BOTH DECISIVE VICTORIES WERE 8TH GRADE BASKETBALL TEAM MEMBERS:

BEN BROOKS
BRYCE NEWSOM
WADE SAIA
COLLIN TERRITO
BROOKS ULRICH
ALEX WILLIAMS

COACHES AND PARENTS - WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! SHARE PHOTOS, TRAINING UPDATES, GAME SCHEDULES, SEASON PLAY, VICTORIES, ETC. WE WANT TO SHARE ALL THE GOOD NEWS, EXCITING HAPPENINGS, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND ATHLETICS CELEBRATIONS HERE. PLEASE EMAIL PHOTOS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO [KATE@KBCOOKWEDDINGS.COM](mailto:kate@kbcocookweddings.com). INFORMATION WILL BE COMPILED AND SHARED VIA THE COUGAR.