

St. James Knightly News

“Boomerang”



This week, I had the privilege of interviewing our 4 year old preschool teacher, Miss Cole. Mrs. Stoutner, aka, Miss Cole started at St. James in 2002 teaching second grade until 2009. When asked about fond memories of SJS such as units taught, she said that her favorite unit was the human body. “We traced each student on large bulletin board paper and as we learned about each part of the body we would color, cut, and glue that part on their body outline. When they were done they had a tracing of their body with what it looked like inside. Another unit we learned about in Social Studies was themselves and where they came from. The students made a timeline of their lives with pictures and memories and they shared them with the class.”

Nicole left St. James, staying at home to raise her littles, Charlie and Nora. She also had in-home childcare where she could be with her children and with some of our SJS students. This is Miss Cole’s first year back. “Mrs. McBride and Ms. Love-Smith did a lot of sweet talking to get me to come back. I was very happy subbing. But their vision of the preschool and kindergarten looping was very similar to my own teaching philosophy. I prayed about my future and God led me back to St. James.” We are so blessed to have her back with us and part of a new adventure with looping!

Mrs. Stoutner commented that she loves school (and she is still a student herself)! She knew at an early age, kindergarten that she would be a teacher. “It’s in my blood and it’s in my heart to teach and help kids succeed.”

It has been a few years since Miss Cole left and there have been a few changes during that time. When asked about changes, Miss Cole said that the teachers and staff are somewhat different, but it is also good! “We all have great ideas on how to help our school and our students.” PBIS is one of the differences from past to present, it’s different, but great.

Here comes my favorite part of the interview, learning something new about our “Boomerang!” Miss Cole student taught on an Army base in Germany. “I was a student teacher, teaching on September 11, 2001. It was so scary being on lockdown and not knowing what was going to happen and being so far away from my family.”

Miss Cole says that, “St. James holds a very special place in my heart. I graduated from St. James and I always knew I would send my kids here. Our close-knit family like school is like no other. I am so happy to be back!” Welcome back Mrs. Stoutner!

Shout Out to Our Teachers

2 Corinthians 4:6

For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

This has been a challenging time for our SJS teachers and new educators at home. With that being said, I have seen the light in our teachers! I have seen their passion and determination to do what is best for their students and their families. Our SJS teachers want nothing more than to be back in the classroom with your children. I have seen so much growth in the use of technology, teachers going out of their comfort zones to do live videos. Teachers are working with new apps and collaborating together. They are finding ways to connect daily with students and provide meaningful learning opportunities. We have an incredible family of teachers who have Jesus in their hearts!

I also want to say thank you to Father, Mary Sue, Francisco, Becky, Gen, Lori, and John for their dedicated time at the school and parish. They are answering phones, responding to emails, printing and mailing, cleaning and sanitizing. Thank you for all of your time, effort, and energy!

With our distance learning, I am still able to see the impact teachers have on students. It looks a little different when I do a classroom walkthrough when I am watching Facebook Live. However, I can see the connections that students and how much teachers and students miss each other and want to be at school.

What You Need to Know

- We have a Distance Learning Plan in place. Our immediate goal is to maintain skills and keep students on track during the closure with meaningful learning opportunities and making connections daily with students. Teachers are using FlockNote and/or email to contact you about their grade level/classroom plans.
- The school board will meet for a closed session next week.
- We will have a public forum via Zoom (online meeting platform) on Tuesday, April 7th at 6:30 pm. Go to zoom.us on Tuesday, April 7 @ 6:30pm. Here is the meeting ID: 284-254-896 and password: 835857.
- Friday, April 3 was scheduled as a no school day for students and a professional development day for teachers. We will continue to do professional development work with *Teach Like a Pirate* by Dave Burgess through Google Classroom and Zoom meetings.
- Preschool conferences are scheduled for April 6th and April 7th. Mrs. C. and Ms. Cole will contact parents regarding their conference time. Due to social distancing, conferences will take place over the phone instead of in person.
- The Big Event is currently postponed. Once we return to school, a determination will be made in regards to a rescheduled date or cancellation.
- We have not yet received the WCSD school calendar for next year. Once I receive it, it will be shared.

Teacher Schedules

Below are schedules for our teachers, including specials of when they are available for questions, comments, concerns. Changes to schedules will be made known by individual teachers.

3 YO	Prek Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9am-12pm
4 YO	Prek 9am-12pm daily
Kindergarten	9am-12pm daily
1st	10am, 1pm & 3pm
2nd	9am-12pm daily
3rd	9am & 7pm
4th	9:30-11:30am
5th	10am, 1pm & 4pm
Faith Formation	Wednesdays 11am-5pm or by appointment
Title I/ELL	will have printed packets for students available; working with teachers
PE	8am-3pm Monday/Wednesday
Music	9am & 4pm Wednesday/Friday

Stations of the Cross

I asked Mrs. Fritz to provide resources for students to have for their learning of the Stations of the Cross. Here are Mrs. Fritz's 4 favorite online versions:

Go to YouTube and search using the title. The time for each is in parenthesis.

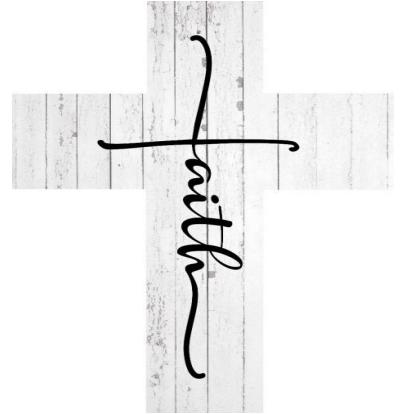
The way of the cross, calvary EWTN 2018 (25:54)

Children's Stations of the Cross Victor Hoagland (9:52)

Easter Step by Step- The Way of the Cross for Children Trideo (6:48)

Stations of the Cross The Episcopal Diocese of Texas (6:51)

Mass Family Schedule *(I am optimistic about our return, so I am keeping this here for you!)*



April 17 Ms. Baumert's Mass Family

April 24 Mrs. Marek/Mrs. Chalupa's Mass Family

May 1 (Bishop Zinkula) Mrs. Fritz/Ms. Lamb/Ms. Peiffer's Mass Family

May 8 Miss Miller/Mrs. Stoutner's Mass Family

May 15 Mrs. Kling's Mass Family

May 22 Ms. Love-Smith's Mass Family

May 27 Mrs. Sheetz's Mass Family

For the dates we will not be in session, I marked through. For anticipated dates, I am leaving them as they are. If there are changes, I will be sure to communicate that with you as soon as I know of them.



Tuesday, April 7 Preschool conferences
~~*Thursday, April 9* Early Out~~
~~*Friday, April 10* No School~~
***Monday, April 13* Class in session**
~~***Friday, April 17* BIG EVENT**~~

postponed

***Friday, May 1* Early Out: PD**

***Tuesday, May 5* Home & School 6:30pm**

***Wednesday, May 13* Spring Concert TBD**

***Thursday, May 14* 2nd Gr. Farm Safety Day
9am-2:45pm**

***Saturday, May 16* 5th Grade Graduation**

Please note that additions have been done in red.

Friday, April 3 No School; Professional Development

Monday, April 6 Preschool conferences