

Voice of St. James'

St. James' Episcopal Church Newsletter
Glennie Burgess, Head of School

Challenges and blessings seem to go hand in hand. We at St. James' School are blessed with fabulous people. We have people who share their children with us, people who nurture and educate the children, people who raise money for the school buildings and operations, people who pray for us, and people who build for us. All these people bless us in so many ways. Without them, we wouldn't be who we are today.

And then, there are challenges. One of the significant challenges we faced this year was the timetable for the move to the new campus. It was our hope to begin the new school year at 1941 Webberville Road. However, the blessing of rain caused a delay in our timetable. We moved in late October. So, we started school in our MLK, Jr. Blvd. location and then moved.

Although our delayed move initially caused sadness, watching the progress on the site was great. The beautiful bright colors went up on the buildings, the deck planks were laid, and the parking lot was graded. I took pictures and shared them with the children, so they could track the changes in the new campus. Blessings.

In addition, our enrollment is higher than it has ever been. We will have the capacity on the new campus to have three Primary Montessori classes, and we intend to fill those classes with inquisitive, energetic students. Blessings.

Mr. David (Pulkingham), our music teacher, has a special way with the children, and they love to see him coming. David is a blessing to us. A song they sing begins, "Don't worry about a thing, because every little thing is going to be all right." I'm going to cling to that sentiment and count my blessings in the midst of the challenges . . . because every little thing is going to be all right!

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Kimberly Johnson, Admissions Associate

The St. James' family is synonymous with love and history. At times it is important to take a moment to reflect on both to understand our past, be appreciative of our present, and be mindful of our future.

The History. In 2006, we had our 10th anniversary. So many families have come and gone, children's lives have been changed, staff has become like family, and we are a school that makes a difference every day the doors are open. When we moved in October 2007, furniture, computers, materials, and supplies were packed in boxes and ready to be moved. But the most important part of this move was not the tangible; it was the soul and spirit of the school. No matter where we are, what matters is the difference we are making in the lives of our children. No matter how difficult some of our days may be, we believe in each and every child who comes to St. James' Episcopal School. We believe each child can make a difference, can rise to his/her own potential, and can be a positive contributing member of a community of learners. What a legacy . . . now, that's history!

The Love. There are many wonderful things said about St. James' Episcopal School, but the one I hear quite often is "you can feel the LOVE you have for these children." We do LOVE our children. Love is not only beautiful, but powerful. Love can give confidence to a child who didn't know how to believe in herself; love can empower a child to achieve; love can give a child the strength to do the impossible. It's not something we are required to do. We just do it and do it gladly, because we know God has bestowed upon us a magnificent blessing — to educate His children. And because we all know that these precious children are His, we feel honored each time a parent has chosen us as the school to educate their child. So, here at St. James', we don't just teach, model, and educate — we LOVE. We LOVE to the fullest and pray every day that what doesn't get through to our children through learning will get through with LOVE.

History and love make us stronger, give us focus, help shape us, and make our dreams become reality. We at St. James' want to share this legacy of history and love with others. Come and be a part of history in the making! We want to share the love.