



February 2, 2012

# + Blessed Sacrament



## School News

 *Learning to Make a Difference* 

### A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

After several years of bad weather and cancelled events during Catholic Schools Week, we have enjoyed warm weather and a wonderful week of activities to celebrate Catholic education at Blessed Sacrament School. We began the week this past weekend with the celebration of Parish Appreciation Day. Student representatives participated in the Mass processions. At the end of the Masses, our eighth graders shared their experiences of attending the March for Life in Washington, D.C., as well as their thanks for the parishioners' support of our school. Thanks to all of our students who participated in the Masses to begin our celebration of Catholic Schools Week!

On Monday we celebrated Faith Appreciation Day. Our students enjoyed presentations about vocations by representatives from several religious orders, and in the afternoon the students participated in a Living Rosary, which was followed by a faith rally as our ending celebration of the day. The day received rave reviews from both teachers and students! We extend sincere thanks to our speakers for sharing their faith with our students, and a special thanks goes to Deena Bell, the God's W.I.S.H. Committee, and all of our parent volunteers who planned and supervised this day.

Of course, all of our students had an exceptionally good time during Student Appreciation Day on Tuesday. Thanks to Jannelle Megginson for overseeing this day. The lower grades had lots of fun learning new dances in the gym in the morning, and the upper grade students enjoyed the Minute to Win It games in the afternoon.. The students definitely loved the ice cream sundaes at lunch, and we ended the day with our faculty playing the eighth graders in volleyball. Thanks to all of the parents who helped with this day!

Yesterday we celebrated Parent Appreciation Day. It was so nice to see so many of you at lunch with your children yesterday, and we were happy some of you were able to join us last night in the cafeteria. Congratulations to Sarah Allen who won the tuition voucher donated by the PSA.

Today is Community Awareness Day. We started with an all-school Mass, and Father reminded the students that they are the light of Christ to others. We can certainly see that in their generous donations to our drives this week. We are extending the Progresso soup can contest until tomorrow, and we will continue to collect books for the library in Africa through the entire month of February. Thanks to all of you for your generous donations to the Westlake family through our Spirit Day today.

Tomorrow we will end the week with Teacher Appreciation Day. The teachers will be the guests of PSA at a luncheon after school. Please remember that students will be

dismissed at 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 3, and **no B.A.S.E. is available tomorrow.**

Thank you for the many ways you helped us celebrate Catholic Schools Week. You are one of the main reasons that Blessed Sacrament School is such a special place of faith, academics, and service! Special thanks to Denise Vespa, Melanie Verry, the PSA Board, and all of the parent volunteers for their planning and organization of Catholic Schools Week! Have a good weekend!

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Kathy Wear*

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Tristan Cano-Nelson, a sixth grader, on the birth of his baby brother, Aidan George Nelson, on January 3. Aidan weighed 8 lbs., 2 oz. and was 21 inches long. Congratulations to their parents, Tracy and Travis, too!

### Bruins Update

Two of our boys' basketball teams recently ended their seasons. Congratulations to our 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade SCAA team on a great finish to their season in a very close game in their league tournament. Great job! Special thanks to Ron Hobson and Sean Valenti for coaching the team.

Our eighth grade IESA team had a great season and were stopped just short of a regional championship on Tuesday. Despite many players battling illnesses, they played well, and we are very proud of them and their season. Special thanks to their coaches, Dave Farris and Chris Kohlrus.

Congratulations to our 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys' IESA basketball team on their win last night for the sectional championship! They play their first game of the state tournament on Saturday, Feb. 4, at 11:30 a.m. at Clinton High School. We will honor them at a pep rally tomorrow morning at 11:00 a.m., and we hope many of you will be able to make the drive to Clinton on Saturday to cheer them on!

### Masterpiece of the Month

Our February masterpiece artist is seventh grader Leggy Negro. In choosing Leggy, Mrs Ficke noted, "Seventh graders have been making unique and beautiful abstract painted weavings using watercolor prints they've designed. (Patience and creativity were a must!) Leggy's color choices, attention to detail, and thoughtful layout made for a stunning work of art! Congratulations to our new terrific artist, Leggy! Be sure to see all our talented Blessed Sacrament artists' work at CultureFest coming in March!"

### St. Martin de Porres

We have learned that St. Martin de Porres is always in need of forks and spoons for their patrons. They do not

have to be matching sets at all. We will be sponsoring an ongoing drive this month to collect forks and spoons for them. If you have any mismatches or some that you are replacing, we hope that you will consider sending them to school for the St. Martin de Porres Center.

### Diaper Drive

The preschool classes will be starting their February mission project next Monday, Feb. 6. They will be collecting disposable diapers or monetary donations to purchase them throughout the entire month. Donations will be given to The Parent Place. See the flyer being sent home today for more details.

### Junior High Dance

Christ the King School will be hosting this month's junior high dance for seventh and eighth graders in the Springfield Catholic grade schools on Feb. 10. The dance is from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the school gym, and admission is \$5 or \$3 and a minimum of 3 canned goods. The school that donates the most canned goods will receive the "spirit" trophy. Permission slips with details are being sent home today.

### Enrollment Sunday

Enrollment Sunday has been scheduled for our eighth graders. They will be indicating their intention to be confirmed at the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, March 4. Eighth graders should be in the vestibule of church by 8:10 a.m. on Sunday. Students are reminded to dress appropriately---no jeans, t-shirts, tennis shoes, or boots.

### Driving & Cell Phones in School Zones

In case you did not know, in January of 2010 the state of Illinois passed a law prohibiting use of cell phones by any driver of any age in school zones. We have noticed several drivers using their cell phones as they drop off and pick up students. For the safety of your children and to be in compliance with the law, we remind you to avoid talking on a cell phone on and around the school grounds when students are present. Thank you!

### Scrip News

Scrip customers will receive a report next week showing the amount of their rebate earned from July 1 to January 30. A couple of families have already earned over \$350 that can be applied to tuition next school year! There are still five months remaining before the rebates are distributed. Over the course of a year, buying a \$100 Shop & Save gift card and a \$50 Shell card every week would earn a family a rebate of \$143.00. Buying extra cards for clothing, eating out, gifts, and home improvements would increase this rebate substantially. If you would like to find out more about the program, call or stop by the school office any time during the school day.

### Additional BSS Flyers

Two flyers are being sent home today regarding the Girls on the Run program. One shares information about volunteer opportunities in this program, and the other provides information about registration in the program. An additional flyer is being sent home for any student interested in

participating in our Fine Arts Evening, which includes students' piano and instrument performances. Please see the flyers for deadlines and additional information.

### Looking Ahead

Friday, Feb. 3 –

**Teacher Appreciation Day – Non- uniform day  
11:00 a.m. – Pep rally for 7<sup>th</sup> grade IESA boys  
Last day for Progresso soup can contest (deadline  
extended to include one more day)  
11:30 a.m. dismissal; no B.A.S.E!**

Monday, Feb. 6 –

Pre-registration forms sent home with current preschool students

Tuesday, Feb. 7 –

2:15 p.m. – Character ed assembly in the cafeteria  
3:30 p.m. – Home Scholastic Bowl meet

Wednesday, Feb. 8 –

1:30 p.m. dismissal for faculty meeting; B.A.S.E. provided

Thursday, Feb. 9 –

Midquarter; progress reports mailed home

Friday, Feb. 10 –

**Pre-registration forms from current preschool  
students due back**

PSA Spirit Day - \$1 donation

Science Fair judging after school

7:00-9:00 p.m. – Junior high dance at Christ the King

Saturday, Feb. 11 & Sunday, Feb. 12 –

Science and History Fair in the cafeteria after  
Masses---current families, prospective families, and  
parishioners are invited to attend

**(No open house for prospective families from  
12:00 until 2:00 p.m., as stated in the handbook  
calendar; open house was held in January)**

Monday, Feb. 13 –

9:00 a.m. – Call-in for 2012-2013 preschool &  
kindergarten classes begins

Registration forms sent home with current students

Tuesday, Feb. 14 –

1:45 p.m. – Valentine's Day parties

### Please Remember!

#### Before School Patrols for the Week of Feb. 6 - 10:

Alex Mauntel

Sean McGinty

Michael Oh

Marisa Patten

#### After School Patrols for the Week of Feb. 6 - 10:

Mary Kroner

Clara Munyer

Preston Njapa Njeuha

Jack O'Connor

#### Mass Servers for Feb. 4 & 5:

(only BSS students listed)

**4:30 p.m. Saturday**

(no current BSS students)

**7:00 a.m. Sunday**

Kaitlyn Johnson & Matthew Keane

**8:30 a.m. Sunday**

A.J. Lust & Isabel Cross

**10:30 a.m. Sunday**

Lilly Coady, Michael Dailey &  
Olivia Hibbert

#### Daily Servers for Feb. 6 - 10:

**8:00 a.m. M & W**

Sophia Meier &

**8:20 a.m. Tu**

Will Moran

**8:00 a.m. Th, &**

Jack Murphy &

**8:20 a.m. Fri.**

Preston Njapa Njeuha