



Nov. 3, 2011

# + Blessed Sacrament



## School News

 *Learning to Make a Difference* 

### A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

Thanks to all of our students, teachers, and parents who helped us with our Halloween celebrations! Thanks to our Builders Club, under the guidance of Mrs. Pierce, Mrs. Gregory, Mrs. Hinds-Greenwood, and many parent volunteers, for sponsoring the Halloween Carnival on Sunday evening. They provided lots of fun activities for our students while raising funds for the Holy Family Childhood Association. Thanks, too, to the room parents and other parent volunteers who helped with the Halloween parties on Monday. The parade and the classroom parties always make it a fun day for all of our students!

On Tuesday we celebrated the holy day, All Saints' Day, with an all-school Mass. Yesterday, on All Souls' Day, we remembered in our prayers all those who have died. Each day we also pray as a school and in individual classrooms for those who need God's healing. We ask you to join us and especially keep Danielle Loftus and Mrs. Valdez in your prayers.

Today six Junior Blues hockey players visited our school to read to some of the classrooms and answer questions about their experiences as a Junior Blues player. They have generously donated a free ticket for each child to this Friday's game. We will try to distribute those today, but if time does not allow that, we will send them home tomorrow.

We look forward to seeing you at parent-teacher conferences the next two days. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to meet with your children's teachers. For conferences you may enter the building through the front door off the parking lot, through the two doors of the school facing Laurel Street, and through the side door used for B.A.S.E between the church and the school. If you have any questions regarding locations of rooms, please feel free to check in the school office or with any staff member. If you are unable to attend your scheduled conference, please call the school office or contact your child's teacher(s) to set up another time to meet. Thanks for your continued support!

In addition to today's 11:30 a.m. dismissal, we do have an early dismissal at 1:30 p.m. tomorrow. B.A.S.E. is not available either day due to parent-teacher conferences. Friday, Nov. 4, is also a Spirit Day sponsored by PSA for our students. The students may wear any BSS Spirit Day t-shirt or sweatshirt with jeans. Wearing the uniform shirt untucked with jeans is also an option, but other team jerseys/shirts are **not** acceptable for this Spirit Day. Remember that the \$1 donation benefits PSA and all they do for our school.

Enjoy the weekend, and don't forget to set your clocks back an hour on Sunday morning!

Sincerely,  
*Mrs. Kathy Wear*

### Welcome to New Students!

We were excited to welcome three new students to our school this week. Ambz Negro joined Mrs. Kroner's second grade homeroom; Q. Negro is in Mrs. Taylor's fifth grade homeroom; and Leggy Negro joined Mrs. Alan's seventh grade homeroom. We are happy to have them and their parents, Bill and Lori, as the newest members of our Blessed Sacrament community!

### Additions to the Student Directory

Some family information inadvertently was not included in the student directory. Please add the following information to your copy of the directory. For Emily & Luke Birtch, please add Mark Birtch, 821 Williams Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704. Mark's phone number is 341-5827, and his email address is [birtch@comcast.net](mailto:birtch@comcast.net). Also, for Elise Caton, please add Dawn Shimkus, 1807 N. 22<sup>nd</sup>, Springfield, IL 62702. Her phone number is 622-7227, and her email address is [realsuper9@yahoo.com](mailto:realsuper9@yahoo.com). We apologize for any inconvenience!

### Masterpiece of the Month

Congratulations to sixth grader Hannah Bayer on her artwork being selected as the Masterpiece of the Month. In choosing Hannah's artwork, Mrs. Ficke noted, "The sixth grade class spent a large part of last quarter creating some terrific still life collages using a wide variety of mediums. Students designed their own bottles or containers with sketching and filled in their work with values of just one color. Hannah's work shows her very creative thinking with charming line designs and details and an excellent use of value. Be sure to stop and admire her work in the artroom this month. Congratulations, Hannah!"

### Bruins Catholic Classic

To celebrate the inaugural season in the new gymnasium, the Blessed Sacrament 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball team will be hosting a six-team tournament. The *Bruins Catholic Classic* will be held Friday, November 11, and Saturday, November 12. The tournament will open with a special tribute to veterans and a presentation by the VFW 755 Color Guard. Veterans are invited to attend, free of charge, and will be recognized during the opening ceremony at 5:30 p.m. on November 11. Admission is \$5/day for adults, \$2/day for students, and \$3/day for seniors. For a complete schedule of games, visit [www.bssbruins.org](http://www.bssbruins.org). Our Bruins will play at 6:00 p.m. on Friday and 9:00 a.m. on Saturday. Other games will be played based on outcomes of the first two games.

The tournament provides a variety of opportunities for family service hours. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Deann French at 971-4189 or at [deann.french@comcast.net](mailto:deann.french@comcast.net). We hope you will come out and

cheer on the Bruin boys and support our FIRST BSS tournament!

### **Girls on the Run 5K**

The participants in our BSS Girls on the Run program will be taking part in a 5K run on Saturday, Nov. 12, in Washington Park. Others are invited to participate. See the flyer being sent home today for more details. Registration closes on Wednesday, Nov. 9.

### **Sixth Grade Stewardship Project**

For their stewardship project the sixth grade class will be collecting food for the Senior Center. Please send donations of non-perishable food to the school any time until Tuesday, Nov. 22. A flyer is being sent home today to announce the drive. Please consider making a donation to help the less fortunate.

### **Latin Enrichment Class**

A flyer about a Latin enrichment class was sent home last week with students in third through eighth grades. The classes will be held after school on Wednesdays, and the cost is anticipated to be approximately \$25 per student. A parent informational meeting will be held in our school cafeteria on Tuesday, Nov. 8, at 7:00 p.m.

### **Joint Activities with Catholic Grade Schools**

On Tuesday, Nov. 15, our fifth graders will join fifth graders from the other schools at Little Flower to decorate gift bags and then visit and rake leaves at St. Joseph's Home. Permission slips will be sent out next week, but each fifth grader will be asked to bring a rake, if possible, to use that day. Also, boys should bring a puzzle book or word search book, and girls should bring small bottles of hand lotion. These items will be given to the residents of the home.

Also, on Tuesday, Nov. 15, our seventh graders will join the other schools' seventh graders for a retreat to be held at the Knights of Columbus building on West Iles Avenue. The students will need to bring a sack lunch and should wear a uniform or Spirit Day shirt with jeans. More specific details will be included in the permission slip, but please add that date to your calendar if you have a seventh grader.

### **Veterans' Day Concert & Reception**

The SHG Band and Springfield Catholic Grade School Bands will be honoring all area veterans at their eleventh annual Veterans' Day Concert. The program will be held on Sunday, Nov. 6, at 2:00 p.m. in the SHG cafeteria. The concert will feature patriotic music as well as comments and reflections from veterans. The public is invited to attend, and light refreshments will be served.

### **Flyers, Coupons & Tickets**

A flyer is being sent home today regarding a fundraiser for Boy Scouts at Bob Evans on Nov. 13. Also, look for a flyer with a free ticket to the Ansar Shrine Circus being held at the Prairie Capital Convention Center on Nov. 11-13. Today students will be receiving a coupon for a free treat from Cherry Berry in Montvale Plaza. As mentioned in the *A Note to Parents*, tickets to a Junior Blues game on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> will be sent home with students today or tomorrow.

### **Looking Ahead**

Friday, Nov. 4 –

**PSA shirts/sweatshirts orders due!**

PSA Spirit Day - \$1 donation

1:30 p.m. dismissal; **NO B.A.S.E**

3:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Parent-teacher conferences

Tuesday, Nov. 8 –

Tu/Th preschool trip to Illinois State Museum

7:00 p.m. – Parent informational meeting about Latin enrichment classes; meeting in the school cafeteria

Wednesday, Nov. 9 –

MWF preschool trip to Illinois State Museum

Thursday, Nov. 10 –

Lifetouch Photo Retake Day

Friday, Nov. 11 –

Junior high dance at St. Joseph School

8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball tournament at BSS (BSS vs. St. Joseph-Pekin at 6:00 p.m.)

Saturday, Nov. 12 –

8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball tournament at BSS

(BSS vs. Our Lady of Lourdes-Decature at 6:00 p.m.)

Monday, Nov. 14 –

6:15 p.m. – Last 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls' home

basketball game vs. Jacksonville Our Saviour

Tuesday, Nov. 15 –

5<sup>th</sup> grade Joint Service Day at Little Flower & St. Joseph's Home

7<sup>th</sup> grade Joint Retreat Day at Knights of Columbus Hall

Lifetouch fall team sports photos after school

Wednesday, Nov. 16 –

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

6:30 p.m. – First Reconciliation for second graders

Saturday, Nov. 19 –

9:00 a.m. - Joint Speech Meet at St. Joseph School

Monday, Nov. 21 –

6:15 p.m. - 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' home basketball game vs. Springfield Christian

Wednesday, Nov. 23 – Friday, Nov. 25 –

No school for Thanksgiving break

### **Please Remember!**

**Before School Patrols for the Week of Nov. 7 - 11:**

Nate Hamende

Sam Huston

Konnor Ingram

Matthew Keane

**After School Patrols for the Week of Nov. 7 - 11:**

Olivia Hibbert

Jack Jennings

Taylor Loftus

Anna Lewis

**Mass Servers for Nov. 5 & 6:**

**(only BSS students listed)**

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

Vinny Vespa

Cole Taylor

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

(no current BSS students)

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

Gabrielle Wood

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

Reanna & Kendra Ward

Clara Munyer

**Daily Servers for Nov. 7 - 11:**

**8:00 a.m. M – W &**

Jim Hollahan &

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

Matthew Keane

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

Kaitlyn Johnson &

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

Ace Keeley