



September 1, 2011

# + Blessed Sacrament



## School News

 Learning to Make a Difference 

### A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

We extend a special welcome to Mrs. Kienzler's preschool students who started their year this week. We know they are enjoying their new classroom in the preschool wing!

We have been closely monitoring the classrooms during this stretch of extreme heat. Our teachers have been taking advantage of the various air-conditioned locations in the building throughout the week, and today and tomorrow we have designated air-conditioned places for all of the classes to be at least during the afternoon. Of course, the students are using water bottles and frequent drinks at the water fountains, too. It looks like we will have cooler weather next week!

We ask you to please keep Mrs. Valdez in your prayers. She will be undergoing medical treatments that will result in her absence one or two days a week for an extended period of time. Mrs. Sarah Nelson will be the fifth grade substitute teacher during her absences. Although Mrs. Valdez is looking forward to being back in the classroom on a full-time basis as soon as possible, she is pleased that her students will have Mrs. Nelson as their teacher during any days she is absent. (Letters to fifth grade parents from Mrs. Valdez and Mrs. Wear were emailed yesterday. If you are a fifth grade parent and did not receive one, please call the school office.)

Today a calendar for September is being sent home. Please note that during the week of September 12 – 16, the students in grades 2 – 8 will be completing standardized testing. Plenty of rest and a good breakfast will help the students feel their best for the tests. If you can avoid appointments that week, especially in the morning, we would appreciate it. Make-up testing will be Sept. 19-23.

Don't forget that tomorrow is our first Spirit Day of the school year as well as the first day for nachos and popcorn sales at lunch. (See the related article and the PSA newsletter for more details.) We are not in attendance on Monday in observation of Labor Day. Enjoy the long weekend!

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Kathy Wear*

### Spirit Day

PSA will continue to sponsor Spirit Days. **Once again, the monthly Spirit Day will be the first Friday of each month.** For a \$1 donation the students will be allowed to wear BSS shirts, usually with jeans. **For tomorrow's Spirit Day, Friday, Sept. 2, only, students may wear any BSS or any sports team t-shirt/shirt/jersey.** (If a sleeveless jersey is worn, please have your child wear a **plain white or plain navy blue** short-sleeve shirt under the jersey.)

Tomorrow, due to the predicted heat, we do not want the students to wear jeans. The students may wear uniform shorts or skirts with their sports team shirts. (Please, no other shorts

are allowed tomorrow.) Another option for the \$1 donation is to wear the uniform polo shirt untucked along with uniform shorts. All other non-uniform guidelines apply.

Any students not in compliance with the guidelines may be asked to call home for a change of clothing or may forfeit the privilege to participate in next month's Spirit Day. Thanks for your help in following the guidelines!

### Arrival & Dismissal & B.A.S.E.

Thanks to all of you for your patience and help in making our arrival and dismissal procedures as safe as possible. We continue to evaluate our procedures and will let you know if we anticipate any changes.

At this time of year we do have an abundance of parents waiting for walkers to be dismissed. When walkers are leaving the building, we do ask that parents try to meet them closer to the sidewalk along Laurel rather than on the sidewalk leading to the school doors. The congestion has made it difficult for students to exit the building. We appreciate your help!

Also, we ask that parents follow our guidelines and safety precautions for entering and exiting the building to keep all of our students safe. Last Friday after school, we did have an adult let someone into the building, assuming the person was picking up from B.A.S.E. Our staff quickly approached the gentleman, escorted him out of the building, and reported the incident to the police. Our security equipment is among the best, but human error can make it less effective. Please do not be offended if we ask you to use the appropriate but less convenient entrances, ask for identification, or ask that a school staff member escort you to a location. We want to do everything possible to keep our students safe at all times. Thanks for your attention and help!

### PSA Fundraiser/Wrapping Paper Sale

Don't forget to participate in the PSA fundraiser! See the PSA newsletter for more information, but remember that you can place a portion of your order on-line at any time and then add to it as many times as you want to do so. The deadline for placing orders online is Tuesday, Sept. 13.

### Spirit Day T-Shirt Orders

Don't forget that order forms with payment for new Spirit Day t-shirts are **due tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 2.** There are two new t-shirt designs specifically for girls and mothers, and t-shirts of last year's design are also available. Remember that these items cannot be worn as part of the regular school uniform but are perfect for Spirit Days and non-uniform days.

### Mandatory 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting

There will be a meeting for eighth grade parents on Tuesday, Sept. 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory basement. At

least one parent should attend as important information about the eighth grade year will be discussed.

### Hot Lunch Reminders

Our Tuesday/Thursday hot lunch program begins next Tuesday, Sept. 6, and the pizza lunches begin next Wednesday, Sept. 7. Hot dog lunches will begin on Monday, Sept. 12. **Don't forget that Monday (hot dog) and Wednesday (pizza) lunch order forms are due tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 2!**

### Band Meeting

There will be an informational meeting for all parents and students interested in participating in band this year on Wednesday, September 14, in the Sister Rachel Conway Auditorium (band room) at SHG. Parents and students who have already participated in band will meet from 6:30 - 7:00 p.m., and new students and parents will meet from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Mission Project

The fifth graders are selling garden mums as their mission project to benefit the Holy Childhood Association. The 10" mums come in four different colors and are \$7.50 each. **Orders with payment are due next Wednesday, Sept. 7.** Pick-up date is Friday, Sept. 16. Buy the mums for yourself or as gifts!

### AUCTION NEWS!!

The 2011 Blessed Sacrament Auction preparations are underway! Parents, if you need service hours, we have plenty of opportunities for you to meet those requirements. Please return to the school your completed **YELLOW VOLUNTEER FORM** found in the Thursday take-home packets. Volunteers are needed for all shifts but especially for parish raffle sales after all Masses this weekend and the weekend of September 10 and 11. Many thanks to all of you who have signed up to help! (Raffle tickets are being sent home to parents today. The correct number of tickets was not originally included so the envelopes have been opened and resealed.)

Thank you to everyone who bought their Auction 2011 tickets on Fee Night! 51 tickets were sold! The auction committee would like to announce the winner of the Fee Night drawing for paid reservations to the Auction. Father Grant pulled out the name of **Larry Doll as the winner of \$50 in Best Buy gift cards.** Congratulations to the Doll family!

If you have any questions, would like to donate, or would like to become a sponsor to the auction, please contact Dana Kinion, Auction Chair, at [bssauction2011@comcast.net](mailto:bssauction2011@comcast.net).

### Make-Up Dates for Parent Athletic Meeting

Yesterday evening a mandatory meeting for parents and coaches of school athletes in grades 5-8 was held at Christ the King. Those parents who were not able to attend will be required to attend a make-up session conducted by a school principal using the power point presentation from the speaker, Father Richard McGrath. The presentation should be available by the beginning of next week, and make-up dates will be announced through the school newsletter and email notices. You may make up the session at Blessed Sacrament

or at another Springfield Catholic grade school. Until the dates for the make-up sessions are set, your student athlete may participate, but a deadline will be set for parents to attend the session as a requirement for students to participate on our school athletic teams. This requirement also applies to parents serving as coaches for our athletic teams. Thanks to all of you who attended the meeting last night! We are looking forward to exciting seasons for our sports teams!

### Looking Ahead

Friday, Sept. 2 –  
8:20 a.m. all-school Mass  
PSA Spirit Day - \$1 donation  
PSA lunch options (see PSA newsletter)  
**Spirit Day shirt orders due!**  
**Monday (hot dog) and Wednesday (pizza) hot lunch orders due!**

Monday, Sept. 5 –  
No school in observance of Labor Day

Tuesday, Sept. 6 –  
Tuesday/Thursday hot lunches begin

Wednesday, Sept. 7 –  
**Mum orders due!**  
Wednesday pizza lunches begin  
1:30 p.m. dismissal for monthly faculty meeting; B.A.S.E. provided

Friday, Sept. 9 –  
Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> Observance

Monday, Sept. 12 – Friday, Sept. 16 –  
Terra Nova/In View testing for grades 2-8  
2:15 p.m. – Character ed assembly

Tuesday, Sept. 13 –  
**PSA Innisbrook fundraiser order deadline!**

Thursday, Sept. 15 –  
6:00-7:00 p.m. – Back-to-School Night for parents and students

Friday, Sept. 16 –  
Pick up ordered mums – 3:15-6:15 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 19 –  
Midquarter – progress reports mailed home

Tuesday, Sept. 20 –  
7:00 p.m. – Mandatory 8<sup>th</sup> grade parent meeting in the rectory basement

### Please Remember!

#### Before School Patrols for the Week of Sept. 6 - 9:

Alex Mauntel                      Sean McGinty  
Michael Oh                         Marisa Patten

#### After School Patrols for the Week of Sept. 6 - 9:

Mary Kroner                        Clara Munyer  
Preston Njapa Njeuha            Jack O'Connor

#### Mass Servers for Sept. 3 & 4:

(only BSS students listed)

**4:30 p.m. Saturday**                Sophia Meier  
**7:00 a.m. Sunday**                 Tynan Madonia & Olivia Hibbert  
**8:30 a.m. Sunday**                 Tim & Mary Delano  
**10:30 a.m. Sunday**                Patrick Belz, Jack O'Connor & Louis Criscione

#### Daily Servers for Sept. 5 - 9:

**8:00 a.m. M – W &**                Tristan Cano-Nelson  
**8:20 a.m. Tu.**                         & Emma Smith  
**8:00 a.m. Th, &**                     Mary Helen Healy  
**8:20 a.m. Fri.**                         & Alex White