

April 12, 2018

+ Blessed Sacrament



School News

Learning to Make a Difference

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing Easter break! With only 30 days to go (only 21 days for 8th grade!), our school calendar is filling up quickly with field trips and end-of-the-year activities. Please be sure to continually check the *Looking Ahead* section of upcoming newsletters for an updated calendar of events each week and look for more information from homeroom teachers as events are planned.

Congratulations to our eighth grade class on receiving the sacrament of Confirmation last night! Bishop Paprocki gave a very thought-provoking homily at Mass and challenged our eighth graders to be authentic followers of Christ and members of the Catholic Church by selflessly loving and serving God and others. He challenged them to go to Mass every Sunday, to begin and end each day with contact with God, and to make decisions based on the Ten Commandments. We are proud of our eighth graders for their preparation for Confirmation and know that they will continue to grow in their faith. We thank all of the parents for their guidance of these young people as well as Mrs. Mary Ellen Hollahan and Fr. Jeff for preparing them to receive this sacrament. We also thank Mrs. Karen Senger for her leadership at the retreat on Monday and Mrs. Teresa Keller and Mr. Dan Manfredo for their help with Confirmation.

Tomorrow, Friday, April 13, is our regularly-scheduled PSA monthly Spirit Day, but it will be a modified Spirit Day tomorrow. In addition to wearing B.S.S. spirit shirts or uniform shirts untucked with jeans, students may also wear any other sports teams' jerseys or shirts with jeans. If students have hockey jerseys, they are encouraged to wear them in memory of the victims of the tragic accident that took the lives of many members of the Humboldt Broncos hockey team. This Spirit Day is covered by the yearly pre-paid fee. To participate, other students should bring a \$1 donation.

This Sunday Ms. Yoho's second graders along with the PSR students will receive the sacrament of First Communion at a Mass at 1:00 p.m. We are proud of all of our second graders for their reverent preparation for this sacrament, and we thank their parents and their teachers, Mrs. Linda Kroner and Ms. Makinzie Yoho, and Father Jeff for their guidance of our students.

Next week we will begin our collection of pennies in a joint effort to purchase an historical document as part of the state bicentennial celebration. See the related article and flyer being sent home today for more information.

Please continue to keep all of our students in your prayers as we finish the last quarter of the school year. Enjoy the weekend with your family!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathy Wear

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Anthony Fergin, a sixth grader, for being a great representative of our school at the State Geography Bee. Anthony advanced to the tie-breaking group for the final round before being eliminated. We are proud of his accomplishments! Special thanks to his history teacher, Ms. Angela Alan, too!

Builders Club 7th and 8th Grade Dance

The Builders Club has rescheduled the 7th and 8th grade dance for **this Friday, April 13, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** in our school cafeteria. A permission slip was sent home this week. All students attending are asked to bring a donation to Ronald McDonald House for their admission along with a signed permission slip. A list of items needed by RMH accompanied the permission slip. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity!

Illinois Proud Penny Drive

Our school will be joining other schools across Sangamon County in April to collect pennies to purchase a Lincoln document as a gift from our students as part of our state's bicentennial celebration. We will be collecting pennies (and other donations) the weeks of April 16 – April 27. A flyer with more details accompanies today's newsletter. Start saving your pennies now!

Baseball Team Meeting

Sign-up sheets for our baseball team for the next school year have gone out to the current 5th, 6th & 7th graders. The informational meeting for parents and interested students is scheduled for next Tuesday, April 17, at 6:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. If your child missed the sign-up sheet, please have him see Mrs. Davis to be included, and please mark your calendars for the meeting!

Coaching Applications for 2018-2019

Applications for coaching a Blessed Sacrament athletic team for the 2018-2019 school year are now available online through our school website. The applications will be available through Friday, April 27, and are due back to Mrs. Davis by that day. The application process is open to all interested individuals who have the necessary background and skills; it is not necessary to be a parent of a student involved in our athletic programs. Also, please remember that completing an application does not guarantee a coaching position as there may be more individuals interested in coaching than positions available. Anyone who is chosen to coach must have attended the Protecting God's Children training and completed a background check and an online coaches' certification course

and an online concussion certification course, as required by SCAA and IESA, before team practices begin.

If you have previously submitted an application and would like to be considered for next year, please email Mrs. Davis at davis@bssbruins.org and ask that your application be resubmitted. In the email, please specify the grade level and sport requested and any contact information that may have changed from the previous application. Please contact Mrs. Davis at 522-7534, ext. 205, if you have specific questions regarding this process.

Annual Running Contest

The 12th Annual Running Contest is underway! Students in Pre-K-8th may participate in this year's running contest. Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Senger organized and secretly received approval for this year's theme as a surprise for Mrs. Wear. To complete the contest, students and staff will run or walk 16 miles in honor of Mrs. Wear for her 16 years serving as a phenomenal principal. (Pre-K and kindergarten students are only required to run 10 miles.) Students may run during P.E. or recess time. Students may see recess supervisors for a running card. The contest ends May 1st, and race finishers win a t-shirt. Please encourage race runners to bring a water bottle during the contest to stay hydrated.

Lifetouch Spring Portraits

Photo packets from our Spring Portrait Day were sent home with all students previously. If you want to purchase any photos, please return the form with payment and any remaining photos to the school office by Friday, April 13. If you are not interested in purchasing any photos, please return the entire packet to school by April 13. We appreciate Lifetouch's donation back to our school for hosting a photo day in the spring, regardless the amount of packets purchased.

Registration for 2018-2019

Registration forms, along with the registration fees, were due back on March 12. **For any registration forms returned now, the registration fee per child increases from \$75 to \$100.** We appreciate your cooperation in returning any registration packets as soon as possible. If your plans have changed for the next school year, please let us know. Thank you!

Service Hours Waiver Request

Please refer to the Family Service Hours flyer in your registration packet regarding the process to apply for a waiver for inability to complete the service hours. Please note that **a request for a waiver must be submitted in writing by April 16 since April 15 is a Sunday. No late submissions are accepted! Thank you!**

Mentor Families Needed

We are very appreciative of our families who served as mentors for new families this year. Once again, we are looking for volunteers to serve as mentors for families entering our school community in the fall. We would like to match up families with children in the same grade levels as much as possible, as these pairings seem to be the most beneficial to the new families.

We'll have several new families in the preschool and kindergarten classes as well as some in other grades.

Therefore, we are making a special plea to those families who will have children in preschool/pre-K and particularly in the kindergarten classes to assist us with this endeavor.

Please call or email Mrs. Burke at burke@bssbruins.org by Friday, May 4, if you would be interested in helping in this way or if you have any questions. You earn service hours for each family mentored! Thank you for your consideration of this important service!

Mark Your Calendars – A Barnes & Noble Book Fair to Kick Off Summer!

We will host a book fair at the Barnes and Noble store on Monday, April 30, to kick off summer reading. Lots of fun activities are planned, including an encore performance of some of the numbers from our junior high musical *The Little Mermaid, Jr.* by the cast. Please mark your calendars and watch for more details in the coming weeks. Remember, also, that this is a great opportunity to shop for Mother's Day and graduation gifts, and all purchases benefit the B.S.S. library!

Engrained Brewery Benefit for Blessed Sacrament

Engrained Brewery will host their 5th Annual Spring Festival on Saturday, April 21! This year's ticket sale proceeds will be donated to Blessed Sacrament School. From 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. there will be live music, local and regional craft beer, a bounce house, games for the kids, and more. Entry to the outdoor festivities is \$5/person or \$15/family. Still need service hours? Sign up now to help out and you'll also receive a food and beverage voucher at the event: <http://signup.com/go/TQrLmAY>. Check out all of the event details here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1796503503734143>. We hope to see you there! Thank you to our friends at Engrained Brewery for their generosity towards Blessed Sacrament!

Uniform Reminders

Just a reminder that, as of April 1, students may once again wear uniform shorts, and skirts may be worn without opaque tights. However, jumpers and skirts/skorts are not to be more than approximately two inches above the knee. Shorts must be uniform shorts (no cargo shorts) and should not be shorter than approximately two inches above the knee. Please refer to the dress code section of the parent/student handbook (page 25-27) for further information. Thank you for your cooperation!

The Scrip Scene

It's not too early to think about end-of-the-year gifts! (Really...) We can special order a number of special denomination cards: \$10 Amazon, \$5 Barnes & Noble, \$10 CVS, \$10 Olive Garden/Longhorn Steakhouse, \$10 IHOP, \$10 Meijer, \$10 Outback, \$5 Panera, \$10 Target, \$5 Starbucks and \$10 Walmart. Simply send an email to scrip@bssbruins.org with the number of each card that you'd like. We'll place the order and let you know when it's arrived and is ready for payment and pick-up.

Spring Musical ~ *The Little Mermaid, Jr.*

Our sixth through eighth graders are presenting this year's musical, *The Little Mermaid, Jr.*, on Friday, April 27, and Saturday, April 28. Performances both evenings will begin at 7:00 p.m. An order form for tickets accompanies today's newsletter and is posted on the school website. Tickets are \$5 per person, and there is a family rate of \$20 for more than four people in an immediate family. Tickets are also available at the door. The students have really been working hard at rehearsal. We appreciate the dedication and enthusiasm of our music teacher, Mrs. Lisa Hartman, and Mrs. Taryn Grant in bringing this show to life. We hope you join us!

Alumni Breakfast – May 4th

The alumni breakfast for the B.S.S. Classes of 2014 & 2018 has been scheduled for 7:30 a.m. on Friday, May 4. Our current 8th graders and high school seniors who graduated from our school will be receiving individual invitations. Mark your calendars now! We look forward to celebrating the achievements of both classes!

Schnuck's Bags for a Cause to Benefit B.S.S. in April

We are grateful to be selected as the beneficiary of Schnuck's "Bags 4 My Cause" program for the month of April. The reusable grocery bags may be purchased for a \$1 donation at Schnuck's Montvale store throughout the month of April. Thank you for supporting this program!

All-School Mass & May Crowning

On Tuesday, May 1, we will celebrate an all-school Mass at 8:20 a.m., and the May crowning will take place as part of the Mass processional. Homeroom representatives will carry flowers, and our kindergarten and eighth grade representatives will crown Mary. The winners of the Marita Child Gospel of Life essay contest will be announced after Mass. Please join us!

Dental Exam Reminder

Please remember that all students in kindergarten, second grade, and sixth grade are required to present proof of having been examined by a dentist before May 15 of the school year. (Dentist offices have the official form that needs to be submitted.) If a child in grade K, 2 or 6 fails to present proof by May 15, then the school may hold the child's report card until one of the following occurs: 1. The child presents proof of a completed dental examination within 18 months prior to the deadline; 2. The child presents proof that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15; or 3. The parents obtain a waiver from the Department of Public Health or provide objection to the dental examination on religious grounds.

SHG Cheer Tryouts

SHG Cheerleading will be holding tryouts for the 2018-2019 school year from April 30th- May 4th, 4:30- 6:30 p.m. each day in the East Campus Gym. There will be a mandatory parent/cheerleader tryout meeting on Sunday, April 29th, at 2:00 in the East Campus Commons. Please email shgcheerleading@gmail.com with any questions you may have. Go, Cyclones!

SHG Zero Hour Math Class

SHG will continue to offer its zero hour algebra programs for qualifying eighth grade students in the 2018-2019 school year. Applications were sent home with all 7th graders and were due this past Monday. New as of May 2017, all students applying for the zero hour classes must take an entrance exam. The entrance exam will be offered on Saturday, April 14, at 9:00 a.m. and on Saturday, April 21, at 9:00 a.m. See the application cover letter for more details regarding the testing dates.

SHG Presents *Thoroughly Modern Millie*

SHG is excited to present their 2018 spring musical, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Show times are April 13, 14, 20, and 21 at 7:30 p.m. and April 15 and 22 at 5:00 p.m. The Children's Event will be Sunday, April 15th, at 3:00 p.m. in the Commons. For tickets and children's event reservations, call the ticket office at [217-787-1595, ext. 153](tel:217-787-1595).

Looking Ahead

Friday, April 13 –

Lifetouch photo packets (and any payments) due!

Modified PSA Spirit Day (covered by pre-paid days)

8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass

7:00-9:00 p.m. – Builders Club dance for 7th & 8th grades in the cafeteria

Saturday, April 14 –

9:00 a.m. – SHG 0-hour exam for current 7th graders

Sunday, April 15 –

1:00 p.m. – First Communion for Ms. Yoho's class and PSR students

Monday, April 16 – Friday, April 27 –

Illinois Proud Penny Drive

Monday, April 16 –

Service hour waiver requests due!

8:20 a.m. - Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Tuesday, April 17 –

6:00 p.m. – Informational meeting for baseball in the cafeteria

Friday, April 20 –

8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. - 7th grade field trip to St. Louis Old Courthouse & History Museum

11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m. - All-day PreK field trip to UIS/Sangamon Auditorium for *Curious George*

Saturday, April 21 –

9:00 a.m. – SHG 0-hour exam for current 7th graders

Sunday, April 22 –

1:00 p.m. - First Communion for Mrs. Townsend's class

Monday, April 23 –

8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Tuesday, April 24 –

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. - Kindergarten field trip to Scovill Zoo & Decatur Children's Museum

Wednesday, April 25 –

Mid-quarter progress reports will be sent home

Thursday, April 26 –

7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. - 5th grade vocations field trip to St. Louis

Friday, April 27 –

Coaching applications for next school year due!

Friday, April 27 & Saturday, April 28 –
7:00 p.m. – Junior high spring musical, *The Little Mermaid, Jr.*, in the cafeteria
Saturday, April 28 –
IJAS State Science Fair at Bradley University
Monday, April 30 –
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
6:00 p.m. - Barnes and Noble Book Fair to kick off
summer reading

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of April 16-20:

Joseph Cloyd	Chloe Coffey	Andrew Dailey
Sam DeSalle	Will DeSalle	Emma Faulkner

After School Patrols for the Week of April 16-20:

Kalvin King	Emily Leefers	Finn Loken
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Mass Servers for April 14 & 15:

4:30 p.m. Saturday	Lennon Long, Leo Havey & Cameron Booker
7:00 a.m. Sunday	Alio Giacomini
8:30 a.m. Sunday	Harrison Faulkner & Emily Leefers
10:30 a.m. Sunday	Ava DeSalle & Will DeSalle

Daily Servers for April 16-20:

8:00 a.m. M & W &	Makayla Micklus
8:20 a.m. Tu.	& Miriam O'Brien
8:00 a.m. Th. &	Eamon Mahoney
8:20 a.m. Fri.	& Sophie Njapa