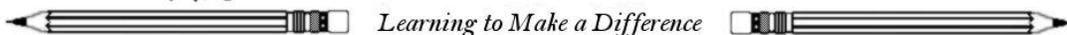


February 8, 2018

+ Blessed Sacrament



School News



Learning to Make a Difference

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

We enjoyed a wonderful celebration of Catholic education throughout Catholic Schools Week last week. It was nice to see so many of our school families having fun together roller skating last Thursday evening, and the teachers were very appreciative of the luncheon on Friday. Thank you, again, for all that you do to support Catholic education at Blessed Sacrament. We couldn't do it without you!

We appreciate the generosity of all who made pledges for the read-a-thon or donated coins to help St. Theresa's Youth Center in Ghana with their gardening project. We collected \$6,155.29 to be used to purchase tools to send to Ghana! Also, we collected several boxes and bags full of items for St. John's Children's Hospital. What nice ways to reach out to children in our own community and around the world! We truly appreciate the generosity of our school and parish families!

On Monday I hosted my final student of the year as the principal for the day. Joscelyn Voegele, a fourth grader, was the winner of the Children's Raffle from the auction and did a great job in her role! My previous two principals for the day from the auction, Sloan Bird in third grade and Lexie Kotner in second grade, were just as wonderful! Catholic education will be in good hands for years to come with students like these three leading the way! Thanks to all three for being such good principals!

This afternoon at 4:30 p.m., we will host the closing ceremony of our Catholic Schools' Art Showcase. Our students whose artwork was submitted for the showcase will be honored, and their families are invited to join them in this celebration. We're proud of them and of all the other talented artists in our Springfield Catholic schools!

It's hard to believe that we're already half way through the third quarter! Mid-quarter progress reports will be sent home tomorrow with all students in grades 2-8. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher.

Tomorrow is a regular PSA Spirit Day, which is included with the prepaid days. Students may wear any B.S.S. spirit shirt with jeans or uniform bottoms. Students who did not prepay must bring \$1 to participate.

Next Tuesday we will celebrate Fat Tuesday with our annual Mardi Gras Carnival. We will also celebrate Valentine's Day that afternoon with parties in the homerooms. On Wednesday we begin the season of Lent with an all-school Mass at 8:20 a.m. Ashes will be distributed at the Mass. As always, you are welcome to join us.

Good luck to our 7th graders who are presenting their science fair projects tomorrow after school. The science and

history fair projects will be on display in our school cafeteria this weekend, and school families and parishioners will have a chance to view them after the 4:30 Mass on Saturday and after all of the Masses on Sunday. We're proud of our students' efforts and extend our thanks to their teachers and parents for their support throughout the process.

Hope you stop by and enjoy their papers and projects. Have a good weekend!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathy Wear

Golden Awards

Congratulations to Grant Keller, a first grader, for receiving the individual Golden Award for January! Grant was recognized for always being friendly, helpful, and kind to both his classmates and his teachers. Congratulations, too, to the classroom Golden Award winners! We're proud of you!

Scholastic Book Fair Is Coming!

Our spring Scholastic Book Fair, *Paws to Read*, will be held February 23 – March 2. We are in need of volunteers to staff the book fair during the school day, February 26 – March 2. We will also have the book fair open on Friday evening, February 23, during the Men's Club Fish Fry and would appreciate volunteers that evening as well. Working the book fair is a great opportunity to help the students, earn service hours, and shop! If you are interested in volunteering to work a shift (or two!) of the book fair, please email librarian Sarah Allen at allen@bssbruins.org. Thank you for your consideration!

Garden Club

The Garden Club has moved its monthly meetings to the second Tuesday of each month. **The next meeting will be next Tuesday, Feb. 13, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the art room.** In addition to the Harvest of the Month lesson on beets, the members will have fun with "heart-beet" stamping and a snack and will plant seeds for spring. Look for the seed starts soon by the front entrance of the school! The additional meeting dates for the rest of the year include March 13, April 10, and May 8. Students in grades 2-8 are still welcome to join by attending an upcoming meeting!

Box Tops for Education

A box tops collection sheet went home previously with every student for our February collection event. Every student who returns a completed **by tomorrow, Friday, February 9**, will receive a small Valentine's Day treat bag. Keep collecting box tops!

Builders Club Student Mardi Gras

The Builders Club will host their annual Mardi Gras Carnival for students on Tuesday, February 13. All of the students will be attending the carnival during the school day with their classes. **Ticket order forms are due back tomorrow, Friday, February 9.** All proceeds benefit the missions.

Modified Spirit Days Next Week

Next Tuesday, Feb. 13, students have the opportunity to wear Spirit Day shirts or green, gold, or purple shirts with jeans or uniform bottoms **for 4 Mardi Gras tickets (\$1).** On Wednesday, Feb. 14, students may wear pink or red shirts with jeans or uniform bottoms for no charge. (The red Valentine's Day Bruins shirts have arrived and will be distributed to students who ordered one tomorrow.) On both days all other regular uniform guidelines do apply. Thanks for your cooperation!

Open House for Prospective Families

On Thursday, Feb. 22, we will host an open house for prospective families from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Please invite anyone who might be interested in learning more about Blessed Sacrament School!

Registration for 2018-2019

The registration period for the 2018-2019 school year begins on Monday, February 26, with registration packets being sent home with current students. Registration forms are due back on Monday, March 12. We will have registration for new preschool and kindergarten families, with preschool and pre-K parents registering their children in person on Monday, Feb. 26, beginning at 7:00 a.m., and new families with kindergarten students registering them in person on Tuesday, Feb. 27, beginning at 7:00 a.m. Parents of all current preschool/pre-K and current K-8 families will have the opportunity to indicate their preferences for kindergarten or preschool/pre-K next week. (See the next article for details.)

Preschool/Pre-K & Kindergarten Intent Letters

Again this year, parents of current preschool/pre-K students have the opportunity to indicate their preferences for kindergarten or preschool/pre-K for their family before registration begins. Likewise, current families in K-8 in our school also have the opportunity to indicate their intent for preschool/pre-K or kindergarten for their other children via an intent letter. The intent letters will be sent home with preschool/pre-K students as well as emailed to all current parents with the newsletter next week. **Parents who return an intent form by Friday, February 16, will not need to go through the registration process for their preschool/preK and kindergarten students on Feb. 26 and/or Feb. 27.**

Scrip News

Attention Amazon shoppers! If you are shopping online at Amazon, please use our link, <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/37-0662514> before you start your purchases. If you shop through this special link, Blessed Sacrament receives a donation. Thanks for your consideration!

Men's Club Fish Fry

The Men's Club Fish Fry will begin next Friday, Feb. 16, from **5:00 to 7:00 p.m. (please note the earlier ending time)** in the school cafeteria. In past years, the gym has been open **beginning at 5:30 p.m.** as an area for children to play. In order for us to offer this opportunity again this year, we are in need of enough parent chaperones to provide adequate supervision. If your child/children will be using the gym, please consider helping out in this way. You will earn family service hours, too! With or without the availability of the gym, children will not be allowed to play on the parking lot or in the field.

If you would be available to cover a shift (5:30-6:15 p.m. or 6:15-7:00 p.m.) during one (or more) fish fry this Lent, please call the school office and indicate your availability. Again, the parking lot and field will remain off limits for children, whether the gym is open or not. The safety of children during the fish fry is our main concern. We appreciate your cooperation and help!

Girls on the Run

Volunteers are needed for the spring 2018 Girls on the Run Program at Blessed Sacrament School. Girls in 3rd through 5th grades may participate, and online registration for girls will open on Feb. 14. Mary Tuttle will be one of the coaches, but we need one more coach and four practice partners (parents, grandparents or staff).

Volunteers will receive service hours for helping in one of these positions. The new coaches' training dates are usually in February, and the season will take place from March through May 2018. The community 5K will be held after the season in May. The practice sessions will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m., beginning in March and ending in May. If you are interested in being a volunteer, please email athletic director Janice Davis at davis@bssbruins.org. Thank you for your consideration!

FORMED Online Community

If you missed Father Jeff's gift to the parish at Christmas, you can still be part of this opportunity. The parish has provided the availability of FORMED, an online service for accessing thousands of Catholic videos, audios and ebooks on demand anytime, anywhere! As a member, you will have access to entertaining movies, inspiring audio talks, informative Bible studies, and much more. The parish is providing this resource free of charge to help our members learn and grow in their faith. You will also be able to easily access any featured content that the parish is promoting within our community from time to time. So please join us!

Also, once you have signed up, don't forget to download the free iOS or Android app to put FORMED at your fingertips. We hope you will enjoy this incredible gift and please spread the word to others. To sign up for FREE, just visit here: <https://bsps.formed.org>.

SHG Alumni Scholarship Applications for 8th Graders

Applications for Sacred Heart-Griffin's alumni scholarship are now available. SHG enclosed an application in every freshman registration packet, and copies were sent home with the eighth graders previously. We do have extras

available upon request in our school office. The completed application is due to Mrs. Wear by Wednesday, March 21, as the school portion has to be completed and submitted to SHG by March 28. No late applications are accepted!

SHG Students of the Month

Two Blessed Sacrament alumni, Barrett Kraft and Haley Londrigan, were named students of the month for February at Sacred Heart-Griffin High School. Barrett Kraft is a junior at Sacred Heart-Griffin. He shared that his favorite aspect of SHG is the people in it. "The students, coaches, teachers, and faculty members are the ones who make this school very special. I am thankful for the teachers and all the knowledge they have given me. I will use this knowledge I have received to succeed later in life. I am a member of the football team, and it has been a blast! I have made so many new friends and great memories over the past three years that I will be able to carry with me for the rest of my life. I've also been able to enjoy and have a great time with my brother who is a freshman at Sacred Heart-Griffin. He's a great kid and has made my experience even better."

Haley Londrigan is a senior at Sacred Heart-Griffin and shared the following: "I love to stay involved in the SHG community. I am a proud member of Student Ambassadors, Our Lady of Nazareth, and SEA. I am the secretary of National Honors Society and Vice President of French Club. I have played tennis for four years and am now the team captain for girls' tennis. SHG has made faith a very important part of my life and influenced me in becoming a Eucharistic Minister. I am passionate about community service and recently went on J.O.S.H.U.A. The best part about SHG is the welcoming and friendly environment. As a student of SHG, I have been encouraged to work hard and become the best version of myself. My four years at SHG have helped prepare me for my next steps in life, especially college. I am so grateful for the memories and lifelong friendships the SHG community has helped me create." We congratulate both Barrett and Haley and are proud of their accomplishments in high school!

Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP)

As our children grow in faith, so can we! Our parish offers a free weekend retreat that provides an opportunity for spiritual renewal, growth, and fellowship. The Men's CRHP will February 24 & 25, and the Women's CRHP will be April 28 & 29. A card was sent home previously that you may fill out and turn in with your envelope during the Sunday collection, or you may visit the church website and sign up there. Information is also included in the church bulletin. They hope to see you there!

SHG POMS

Attention all INCOMING FRESHMEN! The Golden Angel Poms Squad is now opening tryouts to all incoming SHG freshmen! To find out more, please attend their informational meeting on Wednesday, February 21, at 6:30 p.m. in the SHG East Campus Cafeteria. Tryouts will begin March 12th. Please contact Anna Washko at ALWASHKO@GMAIL.COM with any questions.

SHG JUNIOR CHEER CAMP

The SHG Cheerleading Squad will be hosting a Junior Cheer Camp on Monday, February 19, 2018, from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the SHG East Campus. The campers will perform at the halftime of the JV basketball game on Friday, February 23, 2018. Forms are posted on our school website or email shgcheerleading@gmail.com. GO CYCS!

Hockey with Bishop Paprocki

You're invited to a hockey game at the Nelson Center at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 28, featuring Blackhawks alum Grant "Granny" Mulvey and Bishop Paprocki. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children, ages 5-13, and can be purchased online at cc.dio.org or at the door. A coupon for a free child's ticket with the purchase of an adult ticket is being sent home today. Following the game, those in attendance can bring their own skates or rent skates for time on the ice with Bishop Paprocki. All proceeds will benefit Catholic Charities Legal Services. See the flyer posted on our school website.

1st Annual Alumni and Friends Volleyball Tournament

Join us for our 1st Annual Alumni and Friends Volleyball Tournament on Sunday, February 11th, at West Campus! Check in will begin at 11:30 a.m. with games starting at 12:00 p.m. Teams must be co-ed and submitted by Sunday, February 4th, to ensure your spot. Submit team name and players to reavy@shg.org. Cost is \$10 per player to participate. Be a part of the 1st winning team to claim the traveling trophy and bragging rights for the year. Celebrate your team's success or lack thereof at Cousin Eddie's following the tournament!

SHG 2018 Alumni Hall of Fame

Have someone deserving in mind? Get your nomination in today! Guidelines for nominations are as follows: The person nominated must have graduated from Sacred Heart Academy, Cathedral Boys High School, Griffin High School or SHG a minimum of 25 years ago. Nominee should be an individual who has distinguished him/herself by sharing their time and talent for the benefit of others and/or one who has excelled through their contributions to society beyond the scope of their chosen profession. Click on the link below to download a nomination form. Please submit the form to the Advancement/Alumni Office, 1200 W. Washington St, Springfield, IL 62702 or email to reavy@shg.org. They will be accepting nominations through March 15, 2018.

Looking Ahead

Friday, Feb. 9 –

Box tops collection sheets due!

Mardi Gras ticket order forms due!

PSA Spirit Day (covered with prepaid Spirit Days)

Mid-quarter progress reports go home

7th grade Science Fair judging after school

Saturday, Feb. 10 & Sunday, Feb. 11 –

Science & History Fair open after all Masses

Monday, Feb. 12 –

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

Tuesday, Feb. 13 –

Modified Spirit Day with 4 Mardi Gras Carnival tickets (see related article)

Builders Club Mardi Gras Carnival for students during the school day

Valentine's Day parties in the afternoon

3:00 p.m. – Garden Club meeting in the art room

Wednesday, Feb. 14 –

Modified Spirit Day – no charge (see related article)

8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass for Ash Wednesday

1:30 p.m. – Early dismissal for faculty meeting;

B.A.S.E. available

Friday, Feb. 16 –

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. - Men's Club Fish Fry

Monday, Feb. 19 –

No school – Presidents' Day

Tuesday, Feb. 20 –

9:30 a.m. - Reconciliation for grades 6-8

3:30 p.m. – Home Scholastic Bowl meet

6:00 p.m. – 6th grade boys' home basketball game vs. Springfield Christian

Thursday, Feb. 22 –

6:00-7:30 p.m. – Open house for prospective families

Friday, Feb. 23 –

9:30 a.m. – Reconciliation for grades 2-5 (**change of date from handbook calendar**)

12:00 p.m. - 3rd grade field trip to Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum

5:00-7:00 p.m. – Men's Club Fish Fry

Scholastic Book Fair open during the Fish Fry

Sunday, Feb. 25 –

8:30 a.m. – Enrollment Sunday Mass for Confirmation candidates

Monday, Feb. 28 –

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

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of Feb. 12-16:

Xuan Dinh Addison Eades Carter Etheridge

Rachel Evans Tyler Furkin Kevin Gonzalez

After School Patrols for the Week of Feb. 12-16:

Addison Schneller Ethan Short Gabby Stone

Mass Servers for Feb. 10 & 11

4:30 p.m. Saturday Cameron Booker

7:00 a.m. Sunday no current BSS students

8:30 a.m. Sunday Addison Eades

10:30 a.m. Sunday Anthony Keldermans & Ethan Keller

Daily Servers for Feb. 12-16:

8:00 a.m. M & W & Lennon Long

8:20 a.m. Tu. & Madailein McKay

8:00 a.m. Th. & Grace Klenke

8:20 a.m. Fri. & Caroline Lambert