

January 4, 2018

+ Blessed Sacrament



School News

Learning to Make a Difference

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

I hope all of you enjoyed a relaxing Christmas break with your children. Despite the cold weather, we were happy to see all of the students back in our classrooms! It's hard to believe we'll be wrapping up the second quarter of the school year next Tuesday!

Tomorrow morning we will celebrate together at an all-school Mass at 8:20 a.m. Tomorrow is the memorial of St. John Neumann, and the Feast of the Epiphany is officially celebrated this coming Sunday. As always, you are welcome to join us at our school Masses!

Tomorrow, Friday, January 5, is also a regular Spirit Day, included in the pre-paid Spirit Days from the beginning of the school year. Otherwise, for a \$1 donation, students may wear any B.S.S./Spirit Day t-shirts, sweatshirts, or jerseys (with a plain white or navy shirt underneath jerseys) with jeans. Students may also wear uniform shirts untucked with jeans. PSA will also have their regular lunch items for sale tomorrow.

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, again, I thank you for your generosity to all of us at Christmas. We truly appreciated your cards and gifts, and we extend our special thanks for the monetary gift from PSA, Men's Club, parents, and the Teacher Support Fund. Once again, the teachers and staff were overwhelmed by your generosity. We feel very blessed to be partners with you in the Catholic education of your children, and we wish all of you many blessings in 2018. Happy New Year!!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathy Wear

SHG Makeup Placement Test

All area eighth graders are invited to Sacred Heart-Griffin **this Saturday, Jan. 6**, from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. for the placement test makeup for incoming freshmen. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Students should enter through the circle drive entrance at 1200 W. Washington Street and bring two #2 pencils and a \$10 testing fee. Calculators are allowed.

Pre-registration for the make-up test is required. Please call Stephanie Phillips at 787-1595, ext. 126, or email phillips@shg.org to register.

Auditions for Junior High Musical

All junior high students are invited to audition for parts in the spring musical, *Little Mermaid, Jr.*, to be presented on April 27 & 28. Auditions for 7th & 8th graders will be held next Wednesday, Jan. 10 (1:30-4:30 p.m.) and Thursday, Jan. 11 (3:00-4:30 p.m.). Sixth graders will be auditioning for ensemble parts only on Friday, Jan. 12 (3:00-4:00 p.m.). A sign-up sheet for students is posted on the

bulletin board across from the music room. After parts are assigned, there will be a meeting for all students involved, and additional information will be provided. We look forward to seeing our junior high musical this spring!

Family Service Hours

Please remember that all families are required to volunteer for 20 hours of service as part of our school community. If your hours are turned in to the office by **Friday, Jan. 12**, your total number of hours earned to date will be sent home with your child's report card on Jan. 17.

Reminders for IMSA FUSION Students

With the beginning of the third quarter, new sessions of IMSA FUSION will begin. The 5th and 6th graders will start their new session on Tuesday, Jan. 16. They will continue to meet from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. The 7th & 8th graders will begin their new session the same week on Wednesday, Jan. 17. They will continue to meet from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. All participants for the second session should have received the needed information, but please remind your children of these starting dates. Thank you!

Band Updates

With the beginning of the new year, there will be a change in the woodwinds band instructor. We extend our thanks to Mr. Robert Rake for his guidance and dedication to our band program over the past years and welcome our new instructors. Ms. Shayla Logan will be teaching saxophone, clarinet, and beginner flutes, and Mr. Greg Cohill will be teaching the advanced flutes. We are currently working with the new instructors to finalize times for lessons, and parents of band students will receive an email from Theresa O'Hare regarding any changes to the schedule for band lessons.

New Year's Resolutions and Scrip

Whether you've resolved to eat low-carb, low-fat or low-calorie in 2018, you still need to eat. And you still need to buy groceries. If you shop at **Schnucks**, make sure you shop with a Schnucks eScrip card - simply hand it to the cashier and B.S.S. magically receives money. If you shop at **County Market, Sam's Club, Shop and Save** or **Target**, don't forget to buy Scrip cards EVERY month. If you've never bought scrip or need a Schnucks eScrip card, send an email to scrip@bssbruins.org and we'll set you up.

Also, please note that special orders for scrip cards will now be placed on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for pick up on Thursdays. We hope the change will make placing special orders easier for our families!

Warm Clothing for Recess

With the colder weather finally arriving, we wanted to remind parents that students do go out for recess unless the temperature or wind chill is 19 degrees or lower. Although a light jacket might be sufficient to go from the car to our building, the students do need warmer outerwear for 20 minutes of recess time. Thanks for your help!

Gift of Giving Program

The Gift of Giving Program provides students in some of our public schools and at St. Patrick's School the opportunity to choose two presents to give to family members at Christmas. This past December our 8th graders helped at St. Patrick's School on the day the students chose gifts. Not only were they helpful, but they also enjoyed assisting the students. Our preschool teaching assistant, Mrs. Margie Homeier, oversaw the program **at St. Patrick's only** this year and will do so again next year. She could use our help in saving new or gently used wrapping items **for next year**. Please see the list posted on the school website. A list of gift items needed for next year is also included for you to keep in mind throughout the year. A box is located in our main hallway for any donations of wrapping items now. Thanks for your help!

IESA Music Solo/Ensemble Contest

Blessed Sacrament School will provide an opportunity for those interested to participate in the IESA's solo/ensemble music contest. The contest will be held on Saturday, March 17, 2018, at Jacksonville Our Saviour. Parents are responsible for transporting their own child(ren) to and from the event. The cost is \$10 per individual student entry, and students may enter one or more of the following categories: vocal solo, vocal ensemble (2-8 singers together), piano solo, or vocal choir (6-16 members). While the school is not organizing any specific choirs or musical pieces, any students who currently take private vocal lessons may be eligible to enter under Blessed Sacrament School. The registration fee, along with a copy of the musical selection(s) being performed, is due by Friday, Jan. 26, 2018, to Mrs. Hartman. You may email our music teacher Mrs. Hartman for more information at Hartman@bssbruins.org.

Looking Ahead

Friday, Jan. 5 –
PSA Spirit Day (included in prepaid days)
8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass

Saturday, Jan. 6 –
8:30-11:00 a.m. – SHG makeup placement test

Monday, Jan. 8 –
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
6:00 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade boys' IESA basketball home games vs. Calvary Academy

Tuesday, Jan. 9 –
End of 2nd Quarter!
4:30 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade boys' IESA basketball home games vs. Lincoln Magnet/Ball Charter; 8th grade players recognized between games

Wednesday, Jan. 10 –
1:30 p.m. – Early dismissal for faculty meeting; after-school care at B.A.S.E. available

1:30-4:30 p.m. - 7th & 8th grade auditions for musical

Thursday, Jan. 11 –
3:00-4:30 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade auditions for musical

Friday, Jan. 12 –
Family service hours due to be included in 2nd quarter report cards!
3:00-4:00 p.m. – 6th grade auditions for musical
6:00 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade girls' volleyball home games vs. Decatur Robertson

Monday, Jan. 15 –
No school – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Wednesday, Jan. 17 –
Report Card Day!
8th graders leave for March for Life trip

Monday, Jan. 22 –
8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass; no leadership assembly but wear leadership t-shirts

Tuesday, Jan. 23 –
Joint Springfield Catholic schools' 6th grade event for National School Choice at Blessed Sacrament School

Thursday, Jan. 25 –
5:00 p.m. – 6th-8th grade girls' volleyball home games vs. Springfield Christian

Friday, Jan. 26 –
TGIF event for all Springfield Catholic schools' 3rd graders at St. Aloysius School

Sunday, Jan. 28 – Friday, Feb. 2
Catholic Schools Week (more details to follow!)

Monday, Jan. 29 –
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
6:00 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade girls' volleyball home games vs. Rochester

Wednesday, Jan. 31 –
8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass

Thursday, Feb. 1 –
6:00 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade girls' volleyball home games vs. Calvary Academy

Friday, Feb. 2 –
11:30 a.m. dismissal – **No B.A.S.E. available!**

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of Jan. 8-12:

Nick Calucchia	Amalia Coderko	Agnes Cross
Xuan Dinh	Addison Eades	Carter Etheridge

After School Patrols for the Week of Jan. 8-12:

Sam DeSalle	Will DeSalle	Emma Faulkner
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Mass Servers for Jan. 6 & 7: (only BSS students)

4:30 p.m. Saturday	Carter Etheridge & Luca Bonansinga
7:00 a.m. Sunday	Andrew Reimers
8:30 a.m. Sunday	Luke Harvey & Augustine Hyde
10:30 a.m. Sunday	Jackson Pitz, Jack Fleischli & Elliott Kren

Daily Servers for Jan. 8-12:

8:00 a.m. M & W & 8:20 a.m. Tu.	Cameron Booker & Agnes Cross
8:00 a.m. Th. & 8:20 a.m. Fri.	Liam Egizii & Ethan Keller