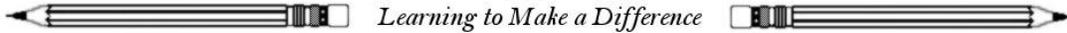


October 26, 2017

+ Blessed Sacrament



School News



Learning to Make a Difference

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

This week we celebrated National Red Ribbon Week, a week that focuses on drug-free messages. Our school's focus this year expands on our yearly theme of being *Heroes* and that everyone can be a hero by helping, encouraging, respecting, and serving others. Special thanks to Mrs. Karen Senger for organizing the themes and activities!

Tomorrow, October 27, we will have an extra Spirit Day to benefit Knights of Columbus and their support of special education religion classes as we close the week with the theme of serving others. This is not included in our prepaid Spirit Days. All students who bring \$1 may wear B.S.S. spirit shirts, sports team shirts, or appropriate superhero shirts (not costumes) with jeans or uniform bottoms. All other regular uniform guidelines apply. Students who participate will receive a tootsie roll in appreciation from the Knights of Columbus.

In addition to beginning a new quarter, we also practiced our safe place drills this week. The students did a very good job of following their teachers' directions and remaining silent throughout the drills.

On Halloween, next Tuesday, Oct. 31, we will have an extra modified Spirit Day for no charge. Please see the related article for guidelines. We hope you will join us on Halloween for our Halloween parade at 1:30 p.m. through the cafeteria and around the gym. Again, please see the related article in this newsletter for more details.

The next day, Wednesday, Nov. 1, is All Saints' Day, a celebration of the communion of saints. It is not only a remembrance of all canonized saints but also of all of God's faithful people, both in heaven and on earth. On that day, we will celebrate an all-school Mass. The next day, Nov. 2, is All Souls' Day, which commemorates all of those who have died and are now in purgatory, being cleansed of their venial sins and atoning before entering fully into heaven. Please encourage your children to keep all souls in their prayers, especially on this day.

Report cards will be sent home tomorrow along with service hour reports and parent/teacher conference schedules. We look forward to seeing you at parent-teacher conferences next Thursday and Friday. **Conferences are being held on Thursday, Nov. 2, from 2:30 to 8:00 p.m. and on Friday, Nov. 3, from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m.** 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. Thank you for your continued support!

Also, next Friday, Nov. 2, we will celebrate Grandparents' Day. All students are welcome to invite their grandparents or special friends to join us that day to tour the school, enjoy refreshments, and celebrate Mass together. In order for the teachers to have time to take attendance, our **guests will be asked to wait in the cafeteria or gym until 8:15 a.m.** when the older siblings will go to the youngest sibling's classroom to meet the guests. An announcement will be made at that time to proceed to the classrooms. We will have several entrances open for the guests to enter the school, including the main entrance off the parking lot, the two entrances facing Laurel, and the entrance between the school and church by the adoration chapel. To avoid congestion, we do ask that any guests arriving early go to the cafeteria or gym to wait until the 8:15 a.m. announcement. Mass will be celebrated at 9:45 a.m., and the students will be dismissed from Mass for the remainder of the day. They do not need to return to the school and may leave with their guests.

Finally, Lifetouch photo packets are being sent home today. Enjoy your children's photos and the weekend! Happy Halloween!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kathy Wear

Welcome!

This week we welcomed two new students to our school. Charlie Watson is in Mrs. Kuhlman's first grade homeroom, and Jackie Reed joined Mrs. Ketchum's fourth grade homeroom. They have been wonderful additions to both classrooms.

Since the directory has already been published, we like to share contact information for new families after receiving their permission. Charlie's parents are Elizabeth and Josh Watson. Their address is 1840 S. Noble Ave., Springfield, IL 62704. Their phone numbers and email addresses are 217-377-5118 & watson.eliz@gmail.com for Elizabeth and 217-971-1675 & jjwatson@sorlinglaw.com for Josh. We will share directory information for Jackie's family in an upcoming newsletter.

Thanks to all of you and your children for welcoming Charlie and Jackie so warmly. We are excited to have both families as the newest members of our school community!

Super Food Drive Challenge

The FINAL collection for the SUPER Food Drive Challenge is tomorrow, October 27! This is a challenge among the schools, and the winning school will receive a super celebration! Please bring non-perishable food items (see

list of suggestions posted on our school website) and place them in the grocery shopping carts inside the main entrance.

With Thanksgiving less than a month away, they are especially in need of boxed mashed potatoes, and peanut butter is always high on their list of needs. Thank you for your support and participation in this Super Challenge! Let's make tomorrow our largest donation yet!!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following students who were recognized at our Monday assembly for receiving yellow slips for positive behaviors and actions: Grant Keller, Kate Kane, Charlie Unal, William Pittman, Hannah Lambert, Ethan Short, Frank Sluga, Grace Klenke, Ellen O'Brien, Bryce Johnson, Jacob Ridder, Addison Nikson, Claire Klinner, Sully Powers, Will Sinnott, Colin Watson, Kylie Petropoulos, Hannah Barcik, and Joseph Bertaina.

Update on Lucy Wallner

As many of you know, Lucy Wallner, a first grader, started the school year with her class but is at home for a few months for more intensive treatments for leukemia. Lucy's mom, Amy, asked for special prayers for the most recent round of treatments, and so far, Lucy is doing well. She will be receiving four different chemo treatments that she hasn't had yet in the next two weeks and then will start phase 5 at the end of November, which will mirror the phase that she was in at the start of the school year. In addition to prayer intentions in individual classrooms, we will include Lucy in our daily morning prayer intentions as a school. Please keep Lucy and her family in your own family's prayers. We'll keep you informed of any new updates on Lucy. We're looking forward to Lucy being back in school with her classmates as soon as possible!

Volunteers Needed for Grandparents' Day

Grandparents' Day on Friday, Nov. 3, is next week! If you are available to help with **set-up at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 2**, or with **serving on the morning of Friday, Nov. 3**, please contact Lori Dye at 652-3269 or at dyprnc@comcast.net. You will earn service hours, and this is always such a fun morning for our families!

Take Your Scrip Out to Lunch on Grandparents Day!

Sure, you're hoping that the grandparents take your kids out for lunch after Mass on Friday, November 3, but wouldn't it be even better if they bought scrip cards FIRST? Then they can buy lunch AND reduce your tuition. We'll be selling scrip cards at the school entrance on Grandparents' Day, but it would be wise to buy AHEAD of time to guarantee inventory. Place your order by Monday at 10:00 a.m., and we'll send it home on Wednesday.

We have Applebee's, Arby's, Bella Milano, Bob Evans, Buffalo Wild Wings, Burger King, Chipotle, Chili's, Cracker Barrel, Darcy's, Denny's, Domino's, Engrained Brewery, Noodles & Co., O'Charley's, Olive Garden, Outback, Panera, Papa John's, Pizza Hut, Red Lobster, Red Robin, Steak & Shake, Subway, Taco Bell, Texas Roadhouse, TGIFriday's and Wendy's. If they behave at lunch, you can

take them to Baskin Robbins, Coldstone, Dairy Queen, Dunkin' Donuts or Krispy Kreme.

Thank You Notes Received

Mrs. Mauntel, our art teacher for the primary grades, recently received thank you notes from residents of local nursing homes for service projects completed in a few of our art classes. A second grade class and a third grade class painted pumpkins that were delivered to the residents, and the other third grade class created Halloween cards for them. We know our students experienced the reward of bringing joy to others without expecting anything in return through these projects!

Custom Cup Art Display

Congratulations to our 8th grade artists Carmen Dillman and Audrey Frost! Their talented artwork is being displayed through December at Custom Cup Coffee, owned by the Boesdoerfer family. We thank them for supporting the arts at our school and encouraging our students. Enjoy some coffee and great art soon!

Bruinettes Camp

Calling all girls in grades K-6 who enjoy dancing and have lots of school spirit! Our annual Bruinettes Camp is coming soon! Practices will be after school, Tuesday, Nov. 14, Thursday, Nov. 16, Friday, Nov. 17, and Monday, Nov. 20. The Bruinettes will perform between the 7th & 8th grade boys' home basketball games on Tuesday, Nov. 21, at approximately 6:45 p.m. The cost to attend the camp is \$30 per child and includes a t-shirt to be worn at the game and a hair ribbon or bandana to be worn for the game. A registration form with a detailed practice schedule accompanies this newsletter and is posted on our school website. **Registrations are due back by Monday, November 6.** Please contact Taryn Grant at tarynr@hotmail.com with any questions.

Extra Halloween Spirit Day and Halloween Parade

Next Tuesday, Oct. 31, we will have an extra modified Spirit Day for our students for Halloween. For no charge, the students may wear a Halloween or orange or black shirt (for Halloween) or any B.S.S. Spirit Day t-shirt or sweatshirt with jeans or uniform bottoms. All regular Spirit Day guidelines, including those regarding make-up, fingernail polish, hair, socks, and shoes, still apply.

The annual Halloween parade for students in Pre-K through fourth grade will take place at 1:30 p.m. on Halloween. Some of our upper grade students will be sitting on the upper bleachers or around the perimeter of the gym, and parents are encouraged to join them in either location to view the parade. Students in grades PreK-4 will be allowed to change into costumes for the parade. We ask that the Halloween costumes be appropriate for our school setting. After the parade the students will return to their classrooms for Halloween parties and may remain in their costumes for the parties.

Builders Club "Trick or Treat" Collection for UNICEF

Our Builders Club, which is affiliated with Kiwanis International, is supporting their Trick or Treat for UNICEF

Project this year. Next Tuesday, on Halloween, students are encouraged to bring in any spare change to donate to this fund. There will be special collection boxes in each classroom. All funds raised through this project will support The Eliminate Project, a joint initiative of Kiwanis and UNICEF to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus. Thank you, in advance, for supporting this project! Let's help make our Builders Club one of the top fundraisers for this life-saving project.

Lunchroom Request

Please do not send bills greater than \$5 to purchase items from the snack tables on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Many of the snack items cost 25-75 cents, and we do not have enough coins and small bills to make change for \$10 and \$20 bills. Likewise, whenever possible, please do not send bills larger than \$10 to purchase items from the Friday lunch menu. Thank you so much for your cooperation!

October Box Tops Contest

A collection sheet was sent home last week for our October Box Tops contest. Each student who returns a completed sheet will receive a treat bag, and the class that collects the most box tops over the entire month of October will win a class prize. All collection sheets are due back to the office tomorrow, Friday, Oct. 27. Thank you for participating!

Builders Club Halloween Sale

Builders Club will sell Halloween-themed items after the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday, October 28, and the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses on Sunday, October 29. The sale will be in the main school hallway. The items will range in price from \$1 to \$3 each. Also, only after the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Masses on Oct. 29, face painting for children will be available for a donation to Builders Club. If there are any remaining items from the sale, they will be sold during lunch hours on Tuesday, Oct. 31. Any email will be sent out on Monday, Oct. 30, to confirm the items for sale, if any, the next day.

Head Lice Reminders

Recently, we have had some cases of head lice reported at various grade levels. Per school policy (page 16 in the handbook), children may not be in school until they have been treated and all nits have been removed from hair. School personnel do recheck the heads of students returning from lice treatment, and we also periodically check students/classes where lice is reported or suspected. Please routinely check your own children and also remind them NOT to share hats, brushes, hair bows/ties, etc. with other children as these actions spread lice. Thank you for your cooperation.

Some families report they sought treatment at the new Lice Clinic of America, now open at 2509 West Iles Avenue, and have been pleased with the results and their recommendation to have all family members checked. The website is www.LiceClinicSpringfield.com. Blessed Sacrament School does not endorse or support this clinic or any specific brand of lice treatment or deterrent products. We are simply providing this information as a service to our families.

Auction Survey

We extend our thanks, again, for all who helped to make our auction such a huge success this year! Final information will be shared in upcoming weeks, but our Auction Committee is already thinking about next year's auction! We invite all parents, even if you did not attend the auction, to complete a short survey to give the committee input for next year's event. You can access the survey at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HQ8BCL9>. Also, a hard copy of the survey was also sent home previously with the youngest child in each family. We encourage all parents to complete the survey. Thanks for your help in making our auction an annual night of fellowship and fun in support of our school!

Advent by Candlelight

Women of our parish and their friends are invited to an evening of fellowship and reflection at Advent by Candlelight. This event will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 5th, and tickets are \$15 per person and must be purchased in advance. A nationally known speaker, Mary Lenaburg, will lead an Advent reflection after hors d'oeuvres and a dessert buffet. In addition, our own Jubilate Choir will perform. Space is limited, and the event has sold out in the past. Tickets can be purchased at our school and parish offices and after Masses. See the flyer being emailed home and posted on our school website today. Mark your calendars and make plans to attend this special event sponsored by our Blessed Sacrament Women's Club!

SHG Preview Night 2017

On Thursday, November 2, from 6:00- 7:30 p.m., Sacred Heart-Griffin will eagerly open their doors to students and parents interested in WHY SHG's community is different from so many others. Be the FIRST to view the new SHG video, meet teachers and students, and check out the school in a self-guided or personal tour! Plus, they'll have those famous cookies everyone loves. This event is free and open to 5th-8th grade students and their parents or guardians interested in learning more about what makes Sacred Heart-Griffin a great school for students to learn and grow. Come find out where you want to be at SHG!

Uniform Reminders

Tuesday, Oct. 31, will be the last day that students will be allowed to wear shorts until next spring. Also, girls in grades 5-8 are required to wear tights or navy leggings (with matching socks) under their skirts/skorts starting on **Wednesday, Nov. 1**. This might also be a good time to check on sweatshirts and sweaters for your children. Please review the uniform section **in the student handbook (p. 25-28)** for more specific details. Please note that students in grades 6-8 must purchase their uniform pants and shorts from Luers or Dennis Uniform Company.

Eighth Grade Confirmation Dates

We just received word that our 8th grade Confirmation Mass will take place on Wednesday, April 11, at 7:00 p.m. Enrollment Sunday, in preparation for Confirmation, will be at the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, February 25. At this

Mass eighth graders will sign a book to indicate their intent to prepare for Confirmation. Eighth grade families are asked to mark their calendars for these two important dates.

Missionary Childhood Association Art Contest

MCA is sponsoring its annual art contest, and entries must be submitted to the Office for the Missions, 1615 W. Washington, Springfield, IL 62702. Entries will be judged on the diocesan level and local winners announced. The top three entries from each grade level (K-2, 3-4, 5-6,7-8) will be sent to the national MCA office in New York for judging. All entries must arrive in the Office for the Missions by Jan. 15, 2018. Entry forms and guidelines are available on our school website.

Boy Scouts Pancake Breakfast

The Blessed Sacrament Cub Scout Pack will host a pancake breakfast fundraiser this Sunday, October 29, after all Masses in the school cafeteria. Come and enjoy a great breakfast and support our scouts!

Community Days Booklets

Our student service organization, Builders Club, is selling Community Days booklets to benefit the Missionary Childhood Association. These booklets contain over \$500 in coupons that can be used at Bergner's from Wednesday, Nov. 8, through Saturday, Nov. 11. The booklets cost \$5 each, and Builders Club keeps 100% of each sale as their profit. Stop by the office to purchase one!

Muni Mayhem

You won't want to miss this new Muni event for Halloween! Come and take part in Muni Mayhem this weekend, October 26-28, and see what takes place after the Muni closes down from the season. The ghosts and ghouls will take over the stage, and you may choose to take a haunted maze to get there. Enjoy s'mores by the fire pit, hot chocolate, Muni dogs, and popcorn. The event runs from 7-10 p.m. each evening, and tickets are \$10 at the door. (See the flyer on our school website.) Blessed Sacrament students Ariana Collins, Catherine Gardner, Aislyn Grant, and Madeline Landgrebe will be performing. Be sure to come and join in the fun!

Halloween at the Old State Capitol

Students in Pre-K through fifth grade are invited to trick or treat at the Old State Capitol from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 28. This free event is hosted by the Illinois Executive Mansion Association and is taking place at the Old State Capitol this year due to the renovations at the Governor's Mansion. A flyer is posted on our school website for more information.

Looking Ahead

Friday, Oct. 27 –

Report Card Day!

Red Ribbon Week: Heroes Serve!

Extra Spirit Day to benefit Knights of Columbus; all students must bring \$1 to participate.

Box Tops collection forms due today!

Saturday, Oct. 28 & Sunday, Oct. 29 –

Builders Club Halloween Sale after Masses (not the 7:00 a.m. Mass) in the main school hallway

Sunday, Oct. 29 –

Boy Scout Pancake breakfast after all Masses in the school cafeteria

Monday, Oct. 30 –

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

Tuesday, Oct. 31 – *Happy Halloween!*

Free modified Spirit Day! (Halloween or orange/black shirts with jeans or uniform bottoms)

Builders Club change collection to support UNICEF

1:30 p.m. – Halloween parade for PreK-4th grade; classroom parties to follow for all grades

Wednesday, Nov. 1 –

8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass – All Saints' Day

4:00 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade boys' home basketball games vs. Grant Middle School

Thursday, Nov. 2 –

1:30 p.m. – Early dismissal; no B.A.S.E.

2:30-8:00 p.m. – Parent-teacher conferences

6:00-7:30 p.m. – SHG Preview Night

6:00 p.m. – Set-up for Grandparents' Day in the cafeteria

Friday, Nov. 3 –

Grandparents' Day – dismissal for students after 9:45 a.m. Mass; **no B.A.S.E.**

12:00-5:00 p.m. – Parent-teacher conferences

Sunday, Nov. 5 –

Daylight Savings Time ends!

Monday, Nov. 6 –

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

Wednesday, Nov. 8 –

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

Thursday, Nov. 9 –

7th grade joint retreat at SHG with Mass at St. Agnes

Friday, Nov. 10 –

PSA Spirit Day (included in prepaid days)

Monday, Nov. 13 –

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

Wednesday, Nov. 15 –

4:00 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade boys' IESA home basketball games vs. Washington Middle School

6:30 p.m. - First Reconciliation for 2nd graders

Friday, Nov. 17 –

5th grade joint service afternoon at Little Flower & St. Joseph's Home

Monday, Nov. 20 –

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

6:00 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade boys' IESA home

basketball games vs. Springfield Christian

Barnes & Noble Book Fair event at the store in the evening – more details to follow

Tuesday, Nov. 21 –

Mid-quarter progress reports go home

6:00 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade boys' IESA home
basketball games vs. Little Flower; Bruinettes camp
members perform between games
Wednesday, Nov. 22 – Friday, Nov. 24 –
No School! Happy Thanksgiving!

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of Oct. 30-Nov. 3:

Sam DeSalle William DeSalle Emma Faulkner
Jack Fleischli Gigi Giacomini Rori Hanken

After School Patrols for the Week of Oct. 30-Nov. 3:

Nick Calucchia Amalia Coderko Agnes Cross

Mass Servers for Oct. 28 & 29:

4:30 p.m. Saturday Aiden Mauntel & Charles &
 William Pittman
7:00 a.m. Sunday no current BSS students
8:30 a.m. Sunday Annie Mizeur
10:30 a.m. Sunday Grace Minder & Taylor Verry

Daily Servers for Oct. 30-Nov. 3:

8:00 a.m. M & W & Blake White
 & Spencer Wood
8:20 a.m. Tu. Liam Egizii
8:00 a.m. Th. & & Eamon Mahoney
8:20 a.m. Fri.