

October 5, 2017

+ Blessed Sacrament



School News

Learning to Make a Difference

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

We had a wonderful auction weekend, starting with the Children's Raffle and ending with the Annual Auction evening. Thanks to all of you who worked so hard to make this fundraiser another huge success and to all of you who attended! (Please see the related article for more details.)

This week has been a little quieter in comparison to the last couple of weeks although October promises to be another busy month around Blessed Sacrament. Tomorrow is our Lifetouch School Picture Day. It is a non-uniform day, but please refer to the non-uniform day guidelines in the handbook for the appropriate attire. If in doubt, please send an alternate piece of clothing with your child.

Tomorrow is the first collection date for our month-long food drive competition to benefit the Holy Family Food Pantry. Thanks to all of you who have already donated food. The flyer sent home earlier this week and posted on our school website lists requested items. (Please see the related article, also.) Let's make a special effort to bring in food tomorrow so our first "weigh in" of food items will reflect the generous spirit of our Blessed Sacrament community!

School will not be in session on Monday, Oct. 9, in observance of Columbus Day. Enjoy the three-day weekend with your family!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathy Wear

Safety Reminders

All parents should have received an email today regarding the evacuation of four local public schools this morning with the related press release from the Springfield Police Department attached. The email included that our students were completely safe and that the police department confirmed that we could continue our regular school day.

We also heard this morning that another local Catholic grade school reported to their parents yesterday that a white male in a black truck approached a student a few weeks ago to get into his vehicle, and a similar incident was reported recently with a student from another school in another neighborhood. As we hear of these incidents, even if not in close proximity to our school, it's a reminder that this would be an ideal time to talk to your children about the importance of being cautious and safe. In the upcoming weeks we will be having several safety drill practices and then actual drills with local fire and police department representative present, so we will also be reinforcing safety guidelines with your children.

As part of our safety procedures, we remind students that they are not allowed to open the outside doors for anyone, even if the person is an adult or teacher whom they know, so

that our security system is not compromised. We also ask that parents do not open the doors for others or let others follow them through an open door. Please inform a member of our faculty or staff if someone is requesting entrance into our building. Thanks for your help in keeping everyone safe!

Bruins Update

Good luck to our cross country runners who qualified to represent our cooperative team with St. Agnes at the sectional meet in East St. Louis this Saturday. B.S.S. boys on the team include Peter Mokhoff, Charlie Pittman, Gryphon Kirchgessner, Finn Loken, Liam Noonan, and Bill Hollahan,. Girls from B.S.S. on the sectional team include Maggie Fleischli, Grayson Hady, Audrey Frost, Miriam O'Brien, Ali Klinner, and Sophia Cathers. We hope to see lots of personal best times!

Lifetouch School Pictures

School Picture Day is tomorrow, Friday, October 6. Students may be out of uniform but must follow non-uniform guidelines. You may simplify picture day by ordering in advance online at www.mylifetouch.com. There is no need to send cash or flyer back to school when you order online; you may pay securely online, and there are more options to choose from as well. Our school's picture day ID code is AH217145Y0. Lifetouch flyers were sent home last week if you prefer to return the flyer with payment on picture day.

Thank You for a Successful Auction!

The 48th Annual Auction was a great success last Saturday evening! It was wonderful to have the support of so many, not only from within the Blessed Sacrament community but also from the greater Springfield community. Many families donated to the Silent Auction, Children's Raffle, and the various raffles. We are so blessed! Special thanks to our auction chair, Bridgette Shea Oza, for coordinating this enormous event! We are also grateful to the entire auction team, listed below, for their dedication and countless hours spent organizing and preparing for the auction. Please watch for a grand total in the coming weeks.

Accounting/Web: Mary Ann Dillman, Becky Minder, Anna Sinnott & Pam Smith

Ads: Stacey Herman, Jen Madiar, Tara McAnarney & Gail Wilson

Children's Raffle: Carrie Sluga & Colleen Kane

Decorations: Jenna Davlin, Taryn Grant & Carrie Davis

Emcee: Mylas Copeland

Auction Catalog: Lynell Loftus

Children's Art Projects: Kristen Luttrell & Kerry Ingram

Facilities: Ed VonDeBur

Festival Lunch for Students: Coleman Concessions, Kathy Harth & Michelle Eades

Food/Beverage: Jeff Egizii, Chris Hanken, Lana Shovlin, Taco Gringo & Chad & Megan DeFrain

Publicity: Jen Madiar

Raffles: Brian & Kara Kienzler, Kim Hoffmann & Sara Ratcliffe

Silent Auction: Melissa Hansen Schmadeke, Erin Scott & Janel Veile

Sponsorships: Kim Hoffmann & Bridgette Shea Oza

Volunteer Coordinator: Megan DeFrain

Web/Technical Support: Aaron House & Melissa Hansen Schmadeke

Acquisitions: Julie Dailey, Megan DeFrain, Jeff Egizii, Taryn Grant, Mary Knox Hitt, Kim Hoffmann, Betsy Hunsley-Hunt, Colleen Kane, Kristen Luttrell, Jen Madiar, Lori Reimers, Melissa Hansen Schmadeke, Lana Shovlin, Carrie Sluga & Gail Wilson

Super Food Drive Challenge

Throughout the month of October, all of the Springfield Catholic elementary schools have partnered with Catholic Charities in a SUPER Food Drive Challenge. From October 2-27 we will be collecting food for the Holy Family Food Pantry. 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. Thank you for your support and participation in this Super Challenge!

Physical & Eye Examination Reminders

Please remember that all school physicals are due in the office prior to October 15. All children entering kindergarten and sixth grade must have their school physical forms and updated immunization records on file in the school office. Also, kindergartners and any students new to Illinois schools need to submit proof of an eye exam by October 15. Please contact Michele at 522-7534, ext. 201, with questions.

School Directories

We have one correction for you to note in the school directories that were sent home last week. The correct email address for Jackie Watson (Colin and Sophie) is jwatson831@yahoo.com. We apologize for the error.

We make every effort to ensure that all entries are accurate, but if there are any corrections that you would like us to share with other families, please email Mrs. Wear at wear@bssbruins.org. Any corrections and additions will be published in upcoming newsletters.

Additional Page for Background Check Form

In the back-to-school packets, many parents received a background check form to complete. These were distributed to new parents and to parents whose previous background check was due to be completed again this year. This past week we received word from the Diocese that the back side of the first page was not included in our forms.

As a result, tomorrow those parents who initially received forms this year will be receiving the missing page to

complete and return. Also, if any section of the other forms is missing information, those forms are also being returned for completion. The missing forms will be sent home in an envelope addressed to the parent(s) needing to complete them. We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your help in returning the forms as soon as possible so that they can be promptly processed.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/teacher conferences will be held Thursday and Friday, November 2 and 3. Conference forms are being sent home today and are due back next Friday, Oct. 13.

There is an early dismissal at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 2, with conferences available from 2:30 to 8:00 p.m. There is an early dismissal on Friday, Nov. 3 (following Grandparents' Day at approximately 10:45 a.m.), with conferences available from noon to 5:00 p.m. After-school care through BASE is **not available** either day!

Volunteers Needed for Grandparents' Day

Grandparents' Day on Friday, Nov. 3, is less than a month away! If you are available to help with set-up in the late afternoon/evening of Thursday, Nov. 2, or with serving on the morning of Friday, Nov. 3, please contact Lori Dye at 652-3269 or at dypnc@comcast.net. You will earn service hours, and this is always such a fun morning for our families!

Softball & Cross Country Photos

Our cooperative softball and cross country teams with St. Agnes will have team photos taken on Thursday, Oct. 19, at St. Agnes School. Team members will be informed of the specific times for the photos when the schedule is available. Please mark your calendar!

Do You LIKE Scrip?

Would you LIKE to reduce your tuition next year? Would you LIKE tips on how to use more Scrip in your everyday life? LIKE some ideas on Scrip Christmas shopping? Then, LIKE us on Facebook! Search for Blessed Sacrament Scrip and give us a thumbs up.

SHG Student of the Month

Congratulations to one of our graduates, Logan Evans, for being selected as the SHG Junior Student of the Month. Logan is a member of the Spanish Club and has been a member of the tennis and soccer teams since he was a freshman. In his free time Logan likes to wakeboard and play ping pong. He commented, "My favorite part about SHG is the sense of community because everyone seems to get along and help each other out. The environment at SHG is also exceptional because the teachers are very kind and approachable. Remember, every day is a great day to be a Cyclone!" Congratulations to Logan on this honor!

Additional Uniform/Spirit Wear Items

With the colder weather season approaching, we have added two more options to our uniform. Luers will begin offering quarter-zip and full-zip fleece jackets in navy blue with our school logo that will be acceptable for students to wear during the school day. With these additions, students will

have several options of items to wear in the building during colder weather. Students will not be allowed to wear other sweatshirts besides these new options and those already included and listed in our student handbook. Youth sizes will cost \$34.98 per item, and adult sizes will cost \$38.00 apiece. Adult sizes will go up to 3X.

In addition, a navy blue golf-style wind shirt will be available in adult sizes only for students, family members, and supporters of our school to purchase. It will also include our school logo and can be purchased at Luers for \$35.95 in sizes XS-5X. Although these will not be allowed as part of the student uniform, they will be a great option to promote school spirit!

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!

Looking Ahead

Thursday, October 5 –
6:00 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade girls' home basketball games vs. South Fork Kincaid

Friday, October 6 –
Lifetouch School Pictures – non-uniform day
2:15 p.m. – First Friday Benediction for grades 2-8

Monday, Oct. 9 –
No school – Columbus Day!

Tuesday, Oct. 10 –
8:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. - Field Trip for 5/6 IMSA Fusion Fall Program to Peoria Riverfront Museum

Wednesday, Oct. 11 –
1:30 dismissal for faculty meeting; B.A.S.E. available
6:30 p.m. – First Reconciliation meeting for 2nd grade parents in church

Friday, Oct. 13 –
PSA Spirit Day (included in prepaid days)
8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass

Monday, Oct. 16 –
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
6:00 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade girls' home basketball games vs. Our Saviour's

Wednesday, Oct. 18 –
5th grade field trip to Funks Prairie Rock Museum

Friday, Oct. 20 –
End of First Quarter!

Monday, Oct. 23 –
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
6th grade field trip to Challenger Learning Center
4:00 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade girls' basketball home games vs. Washington Middle School

Tuesday, Oct. 24 –
11:00 a.m. – Diocesan Mission Mass at Cathedral – 4th grade attends this Mass

Wednesday, Oct. 25 –
10:00 a.m. - All-City Catholic Schools' Mass – fifth grade through eighth grade attending
6:00 p.m. – Girls' basketball home games vs. St. Al's/Cathedral; 8th grade recognized between games

Friday, Oct. 27 –
Report Card Day!

Monday, Oct. 30 –
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Tuesday, Oct. 31 – *Happy Halloween!*
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

Friday, Nov. 3 –
Grandparents' Day – dismissal for students after 9:45 a.m. Mass
12:00-5:00 p.m. – Parent-teacher conferences

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of Oct. 9-13:

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|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Lennon Long | Lindsay Madonia | Carly Martin |
| Maddie McKay | Lucy Ratcliffe | Jacob Ridder |

After School Patrols for the Week of Oct. 9-13:

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|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Addison Schneller | Ethan Short | Gabby Stone |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|

Mass Servers for Oct. 7 & 8:

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| 4:30 p.m. Saturday | Noah Ward |
| 7:00 a.m. Sunday | Andrew Reimers |
| 8:30 a.m. Sunday | Agnes Cross, Andrew Dailey & Addison Eades |
| 10:30 a.m. Sunday | Carter Etheridge, Liam Egizii & Ethan Keller |

Daily Servers for Oct. 9-13:

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|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 8:00 a.m. M & W & | Ethan Short |
| 8:20 a.m. Tu. | & Jeffrey Wernsing |
| 8:00 a.m. Th. & | Mikey Hollahan |
| 8:20 a.m. Fri. | & Augustine Hyde |