

September 7, 2017

+ Blessed Sacrament



School News



Learning to Make a Difference

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

A new addition to our hallway this year, to go along with our super heroes theme, is a poster on an easel featuring a different saint/"holy hero" each week. We started this week with the Feast Day of St. Teresa of Calcutta, so she is our featured "holy hero" of the week. It is also very appropriate as we are focusing on the virtue of charity this year and especially this month, and St. Teresa of Calcutta is certainly a wonderful example for all of us of how to show God's love to others through her work and the continued work of the Missionaries of Charity.

Also, this week our students have had the opportunity to show charity for others through our coin drive for those affected by Hurricane Harvey. On Tuesday we collected 17,038 pennies for a total of \$170.41. Yesterday students donated nickels and dimes adding up to an additional \$728.75. We look forward to adding to our total donation through our collection of quarters today, and tomorrow we ask that students bring in dollar bills. Parents are also welcome to send in checks for this drive to help those in need. All proceeds will be sent to Catholic Charities USA for distribution of the needed supplies in the affected areas. Your generosity in helping others in their time of crisis is truly appreciated! Please continue to keep the victims of this hurricane as well as those in the path of Hurricane Irma in your prayers.

Tomorrow we will celebrate the Feast of the Birth of Mary with an all-school Mass at 8:20 a.m. As always, you're welcome to join us. We will also honor Mary tomorrow with all classes praying a decade of the rosary.

Also, tomorrow students will be receiving their leadership t-shirts for this year! All students should wear these new leadership t-shirts each Monday, beginning this coming Monday, with uniform bottoms, even if a leadership assembly is not scheduled. No additional uniform shirt is necessary under the shirt. We look forward to celebrating our yearly theme each Monday with our t-shirts!

In a little over a week, on Monday, Sept. 18, mid-quarter progress reports will be sent home for all students in grades 2-8. Don't forget that you can check your child's progress on Engrade at any time. Grades are always updated weekly by 5:00 p.m. on Mondays and often more frequently.

Enjoy the weekend and our beautiful weather!

*Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathy Wear*

PSA Spirit Wear

Don't forget that the extended deadline to order our new Spirit Wear from PSA is tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 8. Order forms are available online and are due with payment tomorrow. Sample shirts in different sizes are available to

view in the school office. Any shirts purchased are acceptable to wear on school Spirit Days.

PSA Fundraiser

Today we kicked off PSA's Charleston Wrap fundraiser with an all-school assembly. Packets with the catalogs of items available for purchase are being sent home today. Note that students can receive prizes for sending 10 emails about the sale to family and friends and for different levels of sales. Check out the packet information for more details! Order forms with payment should be returned by Friday, Sept. 22. Checks should be made payable to Blessed Sacrament PSA. This will PSA's biggest fundraiser of the year and will allow them to support the students and teachers throughout this school year. Your participation will be greatly appreciated!

ALL THINGS AUCTION!

Check out the Volume 3 edition of *All Things Auction* being sent home and emailed home today! In addition to including links for ticket registration and volunteer opportunities, the flyer includes information about two new raffles, the Golden Ticket and the indoor/outdoor bar. Tickets for these raffles are available in the school office, and tickets for our traditional "Big" Auction Parish Raffle for cash are being sent home with students today. Be sure your calendars are marked for September 30th! Register in advance for your tickets and be a part of this fun event!

Coleman's Cozy Dog Auction Lunch

Our annual student auction lunch will be Friday, September 29. Students will receive a cozy dog, chips, and a cookie for \$3.50. With a paid full lunch order, students may also order an extra cozy dog for \$1. A special order form accompanies today's newsletter and is due back with payment by Friday, September 22. The regular PSA hot lunch will NOT be served that day. Students will need to bring a sack lunch if they choose not to order the cozy dog lunch. Special thanks to the Coleman's, Kathy Harth, and Michelle Eades for this lunch!

Bruins Update

Congratulations to our girls' softball team on a great season! Their season ended last night with a loss to Lincoln Magnet in the regional tournament. Again this year, the team was a cooperative one with St. Agnes School, and we are proud of all that they accomplished! We are especially proud of them as we had several compliments from opposing teams on their sportsmanship and teamwork. Special thanks to their head coach, Troy Benedict, and their assistant coaches, Mark Arisman, Jesse Guzman, and Fred Farley!

Congratulations to our baseball team on a good start to their season. They defeated Christ the King last night, for the second time this season, and they face Athens this evening at 7:00 p.m. at Schlitt Park. 8th grade baseball players will be honored before the game at 6:45 p.m. Good luck to them in their double header against Champaign St. Matthew beginning at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday at Schlitt Park. Watch for news of their upcoming regional game dates and times in next week's newsletter.

Congratulations to our cross country runners on their successes and improvements as a team and as individual runners so far this season. Good luck to them at their meet at Lincoln Park this afternoon at 3:30 p.m. and at the Petersburg Porta Invite on Saturday!

Congratulations to our golf team on their great sectional meet on Tuesday! All team members were excellent representatives of our school, and several are advancing to the state meet to be held Saturday, Sept. 16, in Peoria. Congratulations to our state qualifiers: Addi Eades (7th at sectionals), Carter Etheridge & Tyler Furkin (tied for 6th at sectionals), and Nick Calucchia (11th at sectionals). We'll honor our golf team and state qualifiers at a pep rally next week. Go, Bruins!

Congratulations!

We have had several new additions to our Blessed Sacrament School community over the past couple of weeks. First, congratulations to Mrs. Kate Senger, our third grade teacher, and her husband John on their birth of their son, John (Jack) Patrick, on Aug. 29, at 7:45 a.m. Jack weighed 8 lbs., 5 oz. and was 21 inches long. Congratulations to big sister Nora, too!

Congratulations also to Sarah and Scott Jacobs on the birth of their daughter, Elise Catherine, on Aug. 31. Elise weighed 8 lbs., 7 oz. and was 21 inches long. She was welcomed home by her big sisters, Julia (kindergarten), Emilie (PreK), and Anna!

Congratulations, too, to Jen and John Cicci on the birth of their son, Giovanni Anthony, on Sept. 5. Giovanni weighed 8 lbs., 12 oz. and was 20 ½ inches long. He joins his siblings, Rudy (kindergarten), Avery (PreK), and Ben (preschool)!

Please be sure to let us know of any new additions to our community. We are always happy to share the exciting news and welcome them to our Blessed Sacrament family!

Fairy Tale Courtroom

Three Blessed Sacrament students, Elizabeth Scott, Brigid Wilhite, and Carmen Dillman, are performing in *Fairy Tale Courtroom* this weekend at The Hoogland Center. The shows will be Friday, Sept. 8, at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 9, at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 10, at 2:00 p.m. Good luck to our students in their performances!

Builders Club

The first meeting of the school year for Builders Club, our service organization for 7th & 8th graders, will be held next Tuesday, Sept. 12, at 2:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. All 7th & 8th graders are welcome to join. Membership forms are being distributed to students in those grades today. Mrs.

Michele Hinds-Greenwood and Mrs. Pat Pierce will be the club moderators again this year.

Counseling Services

We are blessed that Mrs. Rini Christofilakos-Soler will be providing counseling for our students again this year. Ms. Rini will be here to meet with students on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Any students seeing her must have a permission slip signed by a parent. Even if your child has been seen by Ms. Rini in the past, a new permission slip must be completed each year. Forms are available in school office or can be sent home by parent request.

Starter Strings Program

On Tuesday students in grades 3-5 attended a presentation about a Starter Strings Program. The program through the Sangamon Valley Youth Symphony offers beginning level classes for students of violin, viola, and cello. The classes for area students will be held on Tuesday evenings at Our Savior's Church in Springfield or on Wednesday evenings at The Hoogland Center. An informational meeting for parents and students will be held at Our Savior's School on Tuesday, Sept. 12, at 6:00 or 7:00 p.m. OR at The Hoogland center on Wednesday, Sept. 13, at 4:30 p.m. See the flyer sent home with students earlier this week and posted on our school website for more information.

Band Meeting

Students in grades 4-8 will be able to participate in our Springfield Catholic Elementary Schools' Band this year. Theresa O'Hare is the new band director, and students will continue to have weekly lessons at our school. Ms. O'Hare will visit our school tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 8, to share information about the band program with our 4th and 5th graders and any interested students in grades 6-8. On Sunday, September 17, there will be an informational meeting for parents and students from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Sacred Heart-Griffin band room. The meeting will include a demonstration of various instruments as well as the opportunity to rent instruments, meet with band instructors, and purchase supplies. Representatives from Boyd's Music will be there. Mark your calendar to attend and find out how you can be a part of this exciting opportunity!

Scholastic Book Fair Was a Success!

Thank you so much to Laura Dietrich for coordinating our Scholastic Book Fair this past week. We are also grateful to all of the volunteers who worked the book fair each day, our librarians Mrs. Criscione and Mrs. Allen, and to everyone who supported the book fair. The profit from this fair benefits the school library, so we truly appreciate your support in making this a success!

Arrival & Before-School B.A.S.E. Reminders

We appreciate all of your help in keeping our students safe during arrival and dismissal times. **As we approach the mid-point of the first quarter, it might be a good time to help students in kindergarten and above to make the transition to be dropped off and to enter the building on their own in the morning.** We appreciate that

this is an individual decision, but please consider this as an option for your child's timely arrival.

For those families who are using the before-school care at B.A.S.E. in the morning, please remember that supervision does not begin until 7:00 a.m. Per the program guidelines, "Students should not be dropped off before this time. A \$1 per minute fee may be charged for each student arriving before 7:00 a.m." Parents should not leave children alone on school grounds before 7:00 a.m. for their safety as we do not have school personnel available for supervision before that time. Thanks for your help and cooperation!

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.

Dress Code Reminder

Our student handbook states that make-up is not allowed at school. We wanted to remind students, especially at the junior high level, of this guideline. Students who come to school with make-up applied will be required to remove it and will receive blue slips. Repeat offenses will result in pink slips. We appreciate your support and help!

Virtues in Practice

This year, as part of our character education and religious formation programs, we will again be using the *Virtues in Practice* program as developed by the Dominican Sisters of Nashville, Tennessee. The program is based on a three-year cycle of focusing on the main virtues of faith, hope, and charity, and this year we will be completing the year focused on charity. In addition, each month also has a related virtue, and different grade levels have different saints of the month.

A Parent Guide for all grades and the entire three-year cycle will be sent home to all new families next week. Returning families received a copy of the guide and three-year cycle previously. The guide is also available online at our school website. The guide includes a schedule for the three-year cycle, a list of definitions used, background information for each year, and suggested home projects to reinforce the virtues within your own family. In addition to activities and discussions in the religion classes, our leadership assemblies will focus on these virtues. We appreciate your support in helping our students have a year filled with charity!

Community Day 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!

Choir Opportunities

There will be a Chorister Church Choir directed by Mrs. Jody Kienzler this semester. The age group for this choir is 3rd-5th grades. The choir will be rehearsing on the Saturday that they sing at Mass, which will generally be the 4th Saturday of the month. The very first rehearsal will be Saturday, Sept. 23, from 3:15-4:15 p.m. in the church music room. At the conclusion of the rehearsal, the choir will sing at the 4:30 p.m. Mass. The faithful from this choir will be chosen to sing in the Jubilate Choir next year. Please call the church office, 528-7521, if you have questions or want to register. Hope you'll be able to join them!

SHG Junior Cheer Camp

The SHG Cheerleaders will host their Jr. Cheer Camp on Friday, **September 8** at SHG West Campus at 4:30 p.m. Children in grades K-8 are invited to attend. Participants will perform with the cheerleaders during the first quarter of the SHG / Normal U-High football game that evening, September 8. Registration forms with additional information can be found at www.bssbruins.org or in the SHG school office. Camp fee is \$30 if received by September 5 or \$35 for late registrations and walk-ins. Contact Amanda Mandeville at shgcheerleading@gmail.com with questions.

SHG Golden Angel Junior Poms Camp

The SHG Poms will host their Junior Poms Camp on Saturday, September 23, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at SHG's East Campus. Children in grades K-8 are invited to participate. Participants will perform during the halftime of the SHG/ football game on Friday, September 29. The fee is \$40 and pre-registration is due by Sept. 16. However, walk-ins are welcome the day of the camp. Registration forms with additional information can be found at www.bssbruins.org or in the SHG school office.

Additional Flyer

A flyer is posted on our school website about the Opa Greek Fest, complete with Greek food and a bake sale. The event is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 16, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. A special music and mezze event will be held on Friday, Sept. 15, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. See the flyer for more information about this fun event!

SHG ShopAPalooza

SHG ShopAPalooza is seeking vendors for its annual shopping event on Sunday, October 22, 2017, at SHG's West Campus from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sign up now to take advantage of early bird registration until Sept. 15, and save \$10 off the price of your booth. For more information about the event, please email SHGShopAPalooza@gmail.com.

Looking Ahead

Friday, Sept. 8 –

**Extended deadline to order PSA spirit wear!
Collection of dollar bills (and checks) to benefit
the hurricane victims**

8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass

1:00 p.m. – Band assembly for grades 4 & 5 & interested students in grades 6-8

Monday, Sept. 11
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirt)

Tuesday, Sept. 12 –
2:30 p.m. – Builders Club meeting in the cafeteria

Wednesday, Sept. 13 –
1:30 p.m. dismissal for faculty meeting;
BASE available!

Sunday, Sept. 17 –
3:00-6:00 p.m. – Informational band meeting in SHG
Band Room

Monday, Sept. 18 –
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
Mid-quarter progress reports for grades 2-8

Tuesday, Sept. 19 –
Vision and hearing screenings
6:00 p.m. – Girls’ basketball home games vs. St.
Agnes

Wednesday, Sept. 20 –
8:30 a.m. - Windy City Players performance for Pre-
K-4th grade

Thursday, Sept. 21 –
6:00 p.m. – Girls’ basketball home games vs. Calvary

Friday, Sept. 22 –
Deadline for PSA fundraiser sale!
Cozy Dog Auction Lunch order forms due!
Vision/hearing screenings for MWF Pre-K and re-
screenings

Saturday, Sept. 23 & Sunday, Sept. 24 –
Flu shots clinic in the cafeteria after Masses

Monday, Sept. 25 –
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Wednesday, Sept. 27 –
4:30 p.m. – Girls’ basketball home games vs. Lincoln
Magnet

Friday, Sept. 29 –
Coleman’s Cozy Dog Auction Lunch; **no regular**
Friday lunch items for sale
Children’s Auction Raffle drawings
1:30 p.m. dismissal – No BASE available!

Saturday, Sept. 30 –
5:30 p.m. - Annual Parish/School Auction

**8:00 a.m. Th. &
8:20 a.m. Fri.**

Ethan Keller
& Henry Kinion

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of Sept. 11-15:

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

After School Patrols for the Week of Sept. 11-15:

Jack Fleischli	Gigi Giacomini	Rori Hanken
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Mass Servers for Sept. 9 & 10:

(only BSS students listed)

4:30 p.m. Saturday	Sophia Njapa, Liam Noonan & Jack Ozyurt
7:00 a.m. Sunday	Mitch Dye
8:30 a.m. Sunday	Audrey Frost & Emily Leefers
10:30 a.m. Sunday	Ethan Short

Daily Servers for Sept. 11-15:

8:00 a.m. M & W & 8:20 a.m. Tu.	Andrew Dailey & Addison Eades
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