

† Blessed Sacrament



School News



November 15, 2018

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

This past Tuesday, I was able to work with a tremendous individual, Meredith Gerwig, as principal-for-a-day through our auction. She did a wonderful job leading arrival and dismissal procedures and announcements, along with a severe weather drill and lunch/recess duties. She may just be in kindergarten this year, but I look forward to her future career as a school administrator!

Congratulations to our second grade students who received the sacrament of First Reconciliation last night. Special thanks to Mrs. Ambrose and Ms. Yoho for preparing the students so well for this sacrament. Please keep them in your prayers as they deepen their faith through the reception of the sacraments.

Tomorrow our fifth graders will join the other fifth graders from all of the Catholic grade schools in Springfield for an afternoon of service at Little Flower and St. Joseph's Home. (Teachers will send out specific details for fifth graders.) We appreciate this opportunity for our students to grow in their faith as they participate in service with the other Catholic schools.

Next Tuesday is the midpoint of the second quarter already. Mid-quarter reports will be sent home with all students in grades 2-8. We appreciate you working with the teachers to support your children in their academic and faith development. Please feel free to contact the teachers directly if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanksgiving is just a week away, and Christmas is only 40 days away! In this busy time of the year, our school calendar quickly fills up with special events as well. Please be sure to read through the *Looking Ahead* calendar section at the end of the newsletter for all updates.

I feel so blessed to work with such dedicated teachers and staff members and with such supportive families. Most of all, it's a privilege and a joy each day to have your children at our school. All of you will continue to be included in my prayers of gratitude, especially over the Thanksgiving holiday. On behalf of the entire Blessed Sacrament School faculty and staff, best wishes for a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families!

Yours in faith,
Mrs. Dawn Kliner

Student Arrival & Dismissal Safety Reminders

In an effort to keep our students safe, please follow these important reminders when entering & leaving BSS:

- During morning drop-off, please pull all the way forward before letting students out. Then, do NOT let students out of the passenger side of the car if you are still in front of the school sidewalk. Two lanes of cars pull into the school from Glenwood, so it is unsafe for students to exit a car on the passenger side.
- It is also dangerous to have students retrieve materials from the trunk/back-end of a car while in the drop-off lane. Please park if this is needed.
- During dismissal, we have had incidents of students crossing the street in the middle of the road to get to their rides across the street. We need all students to cross the street at the corners with the crossing guards. Please encourage your students to do this.
- We have also had reports of cars blocking driveways on Glenwood and Walnut while waiting for dismissal. Please park your vehicles in approved places while waiting for dismissal.

Barnes and Noble Bookfair BEGINS November 19!

Our annual Barnes and Noble Book Fair is almost here! It will be held Monday, November 19, in the evening at the store located on Veterans Parkway. You may shop all day in the store and in the Cafe and just mention the Blessed Sacrament School Book Fair at checkout. You will also be able to make online purchases from Nov. 20 through Nov. 24, which will count towards our school total. **Go to www.BN.COM/bookfairs and enter our school ID 1239627 at checkout.**

There will be giveaways, a scavenger hunt, and every student who attends and checks in with one of the librarians will receive a two-book check-out coupon for our school library! *By popular demand, there will also be an opportunity to win a couple of "librarian for a day" prizes.* In addition, kindergarten and first grade will be performing that evening beginning at 5:30 p.m. (Mrs. Hartman will be sending home a letter with details.)

The book fair is a great opportunity to start your holiday shopping and support the BSS library at the same time. It's also a good time to pick up some tasty cheesecake (either a slice or whole cheesecake) from the B & N Cafe. Don't forget there is also scrip available to use for your purchases as well. Thank you in advance for your support!

Builders' Club Toy Drive

The Builders' Club is still accepting donations of gently used toys to be donated to St. Martin de Porres Center. Toys may be gently used, but should not be broken or missing any parts or accessories. Toys will be accepted through Tuesday, November 20. Now is a good time to clean out closets before Christmas! Thank you for your support!

Winter is (Apparently) Here!

As cold temperatures and gusts of winter wind have already arrived, just a reminder that students need to be dressed appropriately for lunchtime recess. Typically, students go outdoors for recess unless the temperature (actual or wind chill) is 20F or below or there is precipitation. It is necessary for students to wear winter-weight coats along with gloves, hats, etc. as it does get quite cold for 20 minutes on the playground. A sweatshirt or light jacket may be sufficient to go from the car into a building, but it is often not enough for recess. For their own safety, students may not be allowed to go outdoors for recess if they are not properly dressed. Thank you for your cooperations with this matter!

Christmas Greetings from Scrip!

Planning to send Christmas cards? Order them now and take advantage of early-bird sales. We've got CVS (6%), Sam's Club (2.5%) and Walgreens (5%). You can order Shutterfly (9%) online and it arrives immediately after you've paid - no waiting! For help ordering online, contact scrip@bssbruins.org.

Women's Club Gingerbread Night

The gingerbread night is this Monday, November 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria for adult women of the parish. Tickets may be purchased in the parish or school office.

Pastor's Annual Party

Father Jeff invites our parents (adults only, please) to attend the Pastor's Annual Party to be held this Sunday, Nov. 18, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Get your holiday season off to a festive start! Visit with other parents and parishioners while enjoying cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

Volunteers may be needed after school on Friday, Nov. 16, or Saturday, Nov. 17, to help with set-up for the Pastor's Annual Party. Please call Kim Hoffmann at 522-7534, ext. 206, if you are interested in helping. This is a good opportunity to earn service hours!

Catholic Charities Souper Supper

Did you know that St. John's Breadline is serving 40 gallons of made -from -scratch soup EVERY DAY, 365 DAYS A YEAR?!?! We want to share with you the amazing food we are serving every day. November 20th from 2:00 - 6:00 we will be serving up our made from scratch soup TO YOU! It will be a drive thru service only at 1615 W. Washington, Springfield, IL. Suggested donation of \$5 per 32 ounces of soup. Enjoy all fresh made from scratch Chili, Chicken Noodle Soup or Beef Vegetable.

Books on Stage Performance

Four BSS students, Satchel Coady, Arianna Collins, Molly Davis, Catherine Gardner, and Aislyn Grant are performing in the upcoming Books on Stage performance presented by the Springfield Youth Performance Group on November 17, 2018, at 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. and November 18, 2018, at 3 p.m. at Hoogland Center for the Arts. This hour-long child-friendly show is a great introduction to the performing arts for young children.

See beloved children's literature brought to life through music and movement with works from authors including Maurice Sendak, Dr. Seuss, Margaret Wise Brown and Shel Silverstein. Watch as your favorite characters leap off the page and onto the stage!

Prior to the show, there will be free, interactive activities for the children outside of Theatre Three. General admission tickets are only \$5 and may be purchased at the Hoogland Center for the Arts box office or are available in advance by calling 217-523-2787 or by ordering online at www.hcfta.org. Please call Taryn Grant with any questions at 553-4475.

Looking Ahead

Friday, Nov. 16 -
5th grade joint service project at St. Joseph Home
Sunday, Nov. 18 -
5:30 p.m. - Pastor's Annual Party
Monday, Nov. 19 -
8:15 a.m. - Leadership assembly (wear t-shirt)
Barnes & Noble Book Fair Event at the store
Tuesday, Nov. 20 -
Mid-quarter reports sent home
Wednesday, Nov. 21-Friday, Nov. 23 -
No school! Happy Thanksgiving!
Friday, Nov. 30 -
5th/6th grade IMSA field trip
Saturday, Dec. 1 -
Speech meet at CTK for 7th/8th grade participants
7:00 p.m. - Father/Daughter Dance (tickets purchased ahead of time)
Monday, Dec. 3 -
8:15 a.m. - Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
Tuesday, Dec. 4 -
Reconciliation for grades 6-8
Women's Club Advent by Candlelight (cafeteria)
Wednesday, Dec. 5 -
Reconciliation for grades 3-5
Friday, Dec. 7 -
PSA Spirit Day (included with prepaid days)
2:15 - First Friday Benediction (grades 2-8)
Sunday, Dec. 9 -
9:00 a.m. -2nd grade sings at K of C Breakfast
1:00 p.m. - Mrs. Kuhlman's 1st grade Christmas program in the cafeteria
3:00 p.m. - Mrs. Erwin's 1st grade Christmas program in the cafeteria

Monday, Dec. 10 -

8:15 a.m. - Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Wednesday, Dec. 12 -

1:30 p.m. - dismissal for faculty meeting

Thursday, Dec. 13 -

10 a.m. - Mrs. Senger's 3rd grade Christmas program

1:30 p.m. - Ms. Williamson's 3rd grade Christmas program in the cafeteria

Friday, Dec. 14 -

8:20 a.m. All-school Mass

Sunday, Dec. 16 -

Mother/Son Brunch following 10:30 Mass (tickets purchased ahead of time)

Monday, Dec. 17 -

8:15 a.m. - Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Tuesday, Dec. 18 -

9:30 a.m. - All day pre-k Christmas program

Wednesday, Dec. 19 -

9:30 a.m. - Kindergarten Christmas program in the cafeteria

Friday, Dec. 21 -

Classroom Christmas parties

11:30 a.m. - dismissal; NO BASE available!!