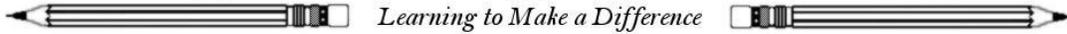


+ Blessed Sacrament



School News



Learning to Make a Difference

November 29, 2018

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

I hope all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving Day and break! With the liturgical season of Advent beginning this coming Sunday, our students will share in our Advent preparations with our weekly Advent wreath ceremony starting Monday, Dec. 3. In addition, each morning during Advent, the students will also hear about a Jesse Tree symbol, and the symbols will then be displayed on our Jesse Tree in the cafeteria. Next week our students in grades 3-8 will receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. It is a special time of year!

Good luck to our 7th and 8th graders who will be performing their speeches at the Springfield Catholic Speech Meet this Saturday, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at Christ the King School. Also, special thanks to Ms. Seelbach for overseeing and organizing our speech students this year!

Also, good luck to our 8th grade girls basketball team as they play in the regional championship tonight. Our 7th grade girls basketball team advances to the state tournament this Saturday in Paris, IL. A special pep assembly will be held Friday for our state-bound team. We are so proud of all our Bruins!

As we move through the Advent season, I hope your family will spend time preparing together for the birth of Christ. I hope this weekend gives you an opportunity for some special family time!

Yours in faith,
Mrs. Dawn Kliner

Christmas Stocking Stuffers

Please help supply candy for the Builders Club's annual Christmas Stocking Stuffers project. This is a school-wide service project, which benefits Catholic Charities' Christmas programs. Students are being asked to bring in specific candies, depending upon their grade level, to ensure a variety for our stockings. The list is available on the school website, www.bssbruins.org, and a flyer was sent home earlier this week. Please send in donations by Tuesday, Dec. 4.

December Box Tops Collection

A box tops collection sheet is being sent home today with every student. The completed sheets are due on Friday, December 14. Every student who returns a sheet will receive a Christmas treat before vacation, and the class with the most box tops will receive a special treat as well.

Tuesday and Thursday Hot Lunch Volunteers Needed

We are so grateful to all of our families for the volunteer hours they donate to help our school thrive! Hot lunch is one very important volunteer effort that we rely on weekly. At this time, we are in need of more volunteers to serve hot lunches on Tuesday and Thursday. If we have enough volunteers this could be only a once a month commitment from 10:30-12:30. Please contact Dawn Reyhan at 899-1999 or via email at cateccc6@gmail.com to be added to the schedule. Thank you for your consideration!

Assistance Needed with Teachers' Monthly Luncheons

A volunteer is needed to assist with coordinating the monthly lunches for staff on the first Wednesday of each month. It would be ideal to have someone who is available on those Wednesday afternoons once a month. The coordinators schedule the donations of lunch items and coordinate the set-up and clean-up for the staff lunches. If interested, please contact Anna Sinnott 698-6480 or sinnott2001@att.net. Volunteers do receive service hours!

Barnes and Noble Book Fair Thank You! Thank You!

We appreciate all of the families who supported our annual Barnes and Noble Book Fair last week. It was great to see so many families there throughout the evening. Special thanks to our librarians, Mrs. Criscione and Mrs. Allen, for their preparation and coordination of the evening! We are also grateful to Mrs. Hartman for leading the kindergarten and first-grade classes in holiday songs.

Sponsor-a-Family

Each Christmas, BSS sponsors one family through Catholic Charities. The goal of this program is to provide a complete Christmas for a family who may not otherwise be able to afford one. The faculty and staff donate all the food items to provide a complete Christmas dinner for the family. We ask that each student donate a minimum of \$3 towards the purchase of the gifts for the children. Please send in your child's donation by Friday, December 7. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

Luer's Uniform Sale

Luer's is having a storewide 20% off sale November 26-December 1. Now is a good time to stock up on uniform options for the colder months ahead. All dance and gymnastics apparel, selected shoes, and Melissa and Doug toys are also on sale just in time for the holidays.

Everything You Wanted to Know about the Parish but Were Afraid to Ask!

Sign up for church emails and texts at www.flocknote.com/bsps to receive updates about parish events. You can also text blessed1725 to the number 84576. It's free and provides interesting information to keep you connected to the rest of the flock!

Builders' Club Toy Drive

Thank you to everyone who supported the Builders Club toy drive to benefit St. Martin de Porres Center. We had a tremendous response!

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!

Hoogland's A Christmas Carol

Three of our BSS students, Elizabeth Scott, Grace Klenke, & Rose Unal, are all in the upcoming musical A Christmas Carol. It's this weekend & next at Hoogland.

Students Performing in *The Nutcracker*

The Springfield Ballet Company's 44th annual production of *The Nutcracker* will be held at Sangamon Auditorium on December 8-9. It features elaborate new scenery, colorful new costumes, exquisite dancing, and beautiful music. The production features a cast of 124, including Company dancers, local actors, young dancers from the community and professional guest artists. Five BSS students are performing in the show: Molly Davis, Emma Faulkner, Catherine Gardner, Aislyn Grant, and Izzy Stewart. Shows are at 2 pm and 7 pm on Saturday, December 8th and again at 2 pm on Sunday, December 9th.

SHG Junior Poms Camp 2018

The SHG Golden Angel Poms will be hosting a Junior Poms Camp on Saturday, December 1st from 10am-1pm at the SHG East Campus. Campers will also be performing with the Golden Angels during halftime of the Friday, December 7th SHG Boys Basketball game. All K-8th graders are invited to register! Email ALWASHKO@GMAIL.COM to receive a registration form & more information. A form is also posted on our school website. Walk-ins are welcome the day of camp, but pre-registration was required to guarantee a t-shirt.

K of C Breakfast to Benefit Catholic Schools

Please mark your calendars to attend the Knights of Columbus breakfast buffet on Sunday, Dec. 9, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The breakfast will be held at the K of C building at 2200 Meadowbrook Road. The cost is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child (ages 6-12). There will also be a 50/50 drawing. Proceeds will go towards tuition assistance for all of our Catholic schools in Springfield. Please see the flyer being sent home today for more details. In addition, our second-grade students will be singing at the breakfast. We hope many of you will plan to attend and support our schools by eating breakfast there!

Looking Ahead

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)

Sunday, Dec. 2 -
Pancakes & Poinsettias after all Masses

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)
Students will stuff stockings!
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 gr Christmas program
3:00 p.m. - Mrs. Erwin's 1st gr Christmas program

Monday, Dec. 10 -
8:15 a.m. - Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
Bruinettes performance

Wednesday, Dec. 12 -
1:30 p.m. - dismissal for a faculty meeting

Thursday, Dec. 13 -
10 a.m. - Mrs. Senger's 3rd grade Christmas program
1:30 p.m. Ms. Williamson's 3rd gr Christmas program

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

Friday, Dec. 21 -
Classroom Christmas parties
11:30 a.m. - dismissal; NO BASE available!!