

# + Blessed Sacrament



## School News

 Learning to Make a Difference 

September 6, 2018

### A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

Earlier this week, all students should have received the 2018-19 leadership T-shirts with the theme of Back to Basics. Each month we will be focusing on a basic reminder of how to live our faith in Jesus' image. The focus for the month of September is "Be kind to others." We look forward to seeing all students and staff in their leadership T-shirts every Monday.

Along with our T-shirts, we will be encouraging leadership in a new way this year. Each class has been partnered with a buddy class of a different age level within the school. Beginning next week, our students will be sitting with their buddies at all leadership assemblies and all-school Masses. It is a great opportunity to foster positive relationships between our students and empower them all as leaders.

There are also many opportunities to demonstrate leadership outside of school. Following the Illinois Proud Penny Drive last spring, two of our students will represent BSS at Feitshans Elementary School on Monday to officially hand off the Sangamon County Minute Book from the students of Sangamon County to the State of Illinois. Thank you to Augie and Charlie Jimenez for their involvement in the Penny Drive and representing us at the ceremony!

Our Bruins have also been competing in a number of sports this fall with some seasons wrapping up. Congratulations to our golf team on its performance at sectionals. These students will go on to represent us at state on Sept. 15: Carter Etheridge, Nick Calucchia, Will Haney, and Addison Eades. Good luck! The school will hold a special golf pep rally on Wednesday at 1:00 before our early dismissal.

Following this note, you will see several important announcements for our students and parents. This year we will be sending the newsletter every other week on Thursday evenings, so please look forward to the next newsletter on September 20.

Thanks for all you do to support our school and to help your children grow in their faith! Enjoy your weekend!

Yours in faith,  
*Mrs. Dawn Klinner*

### Women's Club

Blessed Sacrament Parish Women's Club invites all women of the parish and school to join them for several upcoming activities. Please see the flyer that accompanies today's newsletter for more details.

### School Safety Reminders

We held bus evacuation drills and a second emergency drill for a safe place this week. We will be working with law enforcement in the near future for many of our safety drills. Please don't be alarmed if you see emergency vehicles on site and you are unable to reach our office staff by phone. We will send out communication to parents immediately following any drills with emergency personnel so that you are aware.

Also, in order to maintain a safe environment for our students, we require all visitors to enter through the main doors, sign in and out through the main office, and wear a visitor's badge/sticker. This has been our policy for a while, but starting Tuesday it was extended to morning drop-off. Only students will be allowed to enter the building through the BASE doors and the main entrance doors directly into the hallways. All parents/visitors will be directed to the office to sign in and obtain a sticker. Parents are asked not to hold the doors open to let others into our building. Please assist us by directing anyone to the main doors of the school office. All visitors should then sign out in the office before leaving. Thank you for your support and cooperation!

### PSA Spirit Days

Tomorrow we will have a PSA-sponsored Spirit Day. Again this year, families had the option of paying for the regular monthly Spirit Days in advance on Fee Night. All those who did not opt to pay for Spirit Days in advance must send in \$1 per student in order for their child to participate. Students may wear any official BSS Spirit Day t-shirt, the new assembly shirts or the uniform shirt untucked with jeans or uniform shorts, pants, or skirts. (No other shorts are allowed.)

### Band

Once again, Theresa O'Hare will be directing the Springfield Catholic Elementary Schools' Band this year for grades 4-8. Ms. O'Hare visited our school this afternoon to share information about the band program with our 4th and 5th graders and any interested students in grades 6-8. Please look for information to come home with students.

### Builders Club Meeting

The first Builders Club meeting of the year will be held next Tuesday, September 11, at 2:30 in the cafeteria. This is open to any 7th and 8th graders interested in joining this service organization. Please contact Mrs. Greenwood in the school office with any questions.

### **Fall Book Fair Coming Soon!**

Our annual fall book fair is coming September 24-28, and we are in need of a chairperson or co-chairpersons for the event, which runs from 8:00-2:45 on school days. This is always such a fun event to benefit our library, and a great way to earn service hours. If you are interested in volunteering in this capacity, please contact our librarians, Mrs. Lori Criscione at [criscione@bssbruins.org](mailto:criscione@bssbruins.org) or Mrs. Sarah Allen at [allen@bssbruins.org](mailto:allen@bssbruins.org). Thank you for your consideration!

### **3rd and 4th Grade Chorister Choir**

Sr. Lori Kirchman, O.P. will direct the 3rd and 4th grade parish Chorister Choir this semester. Rehearsals will begin on Thursday, September 20, from 3-4 p.m. in the choir room at Church. The Chorister Choir will sing at the 4:30 p.m. Mass the 3rd Saturday of each month. An informational letter is being sent home with all 3rd and 4th grade students. Please contact Sr. Lori with questions at [srlori@bsps.org](mailto:srlori@bsps.org).

### **Parent/School Association Fundraiser**

One of our most important fundraiser of the year, the Charleston Wrap Fundraiser, is coming up in a few short days. Take a sneak peek at some of the great items available this year. Get ready to get an early jump on holiday shopping and share with friends and family. Kick off is Monday, Sept. 17.

### **Auction News!**

It's time to VOLUNTEER at the Auction! It's fun, easy and there is NO previous experience or training required for any of the service opportunities listed: We'll show you the ropes! 1) Click this link <http://signup.com/go/DWvgKmn2>) Review the opportunities listed and sign up! It's that easy: you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password. Please note that [SignUp.com](http://SignUp.com) does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact Megan DeFrain at (217) 971-8726 with questions or to sign up manually. Auction ticket purchases are encouraged and appreciated by all Auction volunteers.

### **Thank You!**

Father Paul Kala, the founder of Saint Teresa's Youth Development and Education Center in Ghana sends a very big thank you to all of Blessed Sacrament for their help: the school children who participated in the read-a-thon raising over \$6,000, all of the parishioners for their contributions of rice and pasta totaling over 700 pounds, for the pasta sauce, and for over 200 bars of soap. Thanks again!

### **Interested in Substituting in our School?**

Blessed Sacrament is now accepting applications for substitute teachers and aides for the 2018-19 school year. A high school diploma is required to substitute for a classroom aide, and a bachelor's degree is required to substitute for a teacher. Contact the school office if you are interested in applying to be a substitute for the entire 2018-19 school year.

### **Health Reminders**

With school just beginning, we want to make sure all of our students stay healthy and can participate fully in their education. Please remember that students are not be sent to school until they are **fever free for 24 hours** without the use of medication. If students have flu symptoms late at night or early in the morning, we advise that students stay home. Also, with many illnesses, including strep throat and scarlet fever, students should not return to school until 24 hours after the time the antibiotic treatment started. Please let the office know if your child has been diagnosed or has been around any siblings or family members with chicken pox/shingles or measles as these also are very dangerous for some of our students. Thanks for your help in making sure all of our students have a healthy school year!

### **Curious about the Catholic Faith?**

We wish to offer non-Catholic parents the opportunity to hear what our Catholic Faith believes, and why, as well as be with others who may be "looking" as well. This is offered through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). That process is a chance to listen, observe, discuss, and bring questions about the Church. As your children will be learning about the Faith in their classrooms, joining the group may give you a better understanding of what they are learning. There is no requirement, nor "hard-sell" to join the Church. A choice like that must be made freely. This is simply an opportunity to learn more for those who may be interested. We meet on Thursday evenings in the basement meeting room in the rectory, 7 – 9 p.m. We will have a "Come & See" overview meeting on Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the rectory basement. Please call the church office with any questions at 528-7521.

### **2nd Annual Super Food Drive Challenge**

This month, our school is participating in the Catholic Charities incredible Food Drive Challenge. The children are once again being asked to be "superheroes" for Catholic Charities and the people of our community who find themselves in need. From September 10-October 5, we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Holy Family Food Pantry. The fun part is that we are competing against other Catholic schools! Please help us win by bringing in food donations beginning September 10. Monetary donations will also be accepted this year (for the purchase of perishable items such as meat and dairy), and will be converted to pounds to add on to our totals. Thank you for your support!

### **Write On With Scrip!**

Any family that places a scrip order during the month of September gets a free Blessed Sacrament School pencil! Scrip orders are available on the school or parish websites or log on to [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com) and place your order online. We will send the Scrip (and the pencil!) home with your student.

### County Market Max Cards

Max Card Dollars for Education is designed to aid our local schools in the difficult task of fundraising, simply by shopping with the Max Card! Customers register their Max Card each year to support a local school and at the end of the program, spending is tallied and rewards are given to schools with the most Max Card spending. Sign up between July 27 - December 31, 2018, using the information below. Spending accumulates August 1 through December 31, 2018.

1. Sign up your Max Card in-store or at [mycountymarket.com](http://mycountymarket.com)
2. Register your card to “**IL, Springfield - Blessed Sacrament School ORG#18034**”

Don't forget to scan your Max Card on every purchase, because every dollar counts!

### Requirements for Volunteering at School

Effective July 1, 2012, any individual volunteering in any capacity in our parish or school must attend a training of Protecting God's Children and have a background check. Once you have attended the training, you never have to attend another session. However, if your background check was completed more than five years ago, it must be completed again. (The forms for the background check were included in the Fee Night packet.) Very soon we will be starting to ask for chaperones for field trips and volunteers for our lunches. To volunteer, you must meet these requirements.

There are several sessions scheduled for dates and locations in Springfield or within close proximity. Please check for an updated schedule on the Diocesan website, [www.dio.org](http://www.dio.org).

### Garden Club

Students in grades 2-8 are invited to join the Garden Club! The club meets four times a year from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in our courtyard garden to help maintain the area along with learning about plant health and different types of produce. Here are the dates for this school year:

October 11  
November 8  
April 11  
May 9

### Art Spectacular at the Carillon - Sept. 8-9

The annual Art Spectacular at Washington Park is this weekend, September 8 and 9. New this year is a Youth Art Showcase. Be sure to view the artwork of the 10 finalists on exhibit in the Exhibit Hall of the Botanical Garden. Their work will be judged Saturday morning and three winners will be announced in the Roman Garden at noon.

A reminder that the Kids' Art Sale is only on Saturday, until we items are gone, so be sure to bring children 12 and under early for best selection. New this year is an additional gate so if you park down the hill from the carillon you can enter Art Spectacular on the 'new' sidewalk to the new plaza close to Fayette Ave. The Art Spectacular goes on rain or shine!

### Parish Flu Shot Clinic

A Flu Shot Clinic for anyone age 10 and over will be offered to the parishioners of Blessed Sacrament after all Masses, on Saturday, October 13, and Sunday, October 14. The hi-dose vaccine for those age 65 and over will be available. It is sponsored by Hy-Vee's Pharmacy (no charge with Medicare/Medicaid card and most insurance companies or \$21.99 with no insurance). Mark your calendars!

### SHG Junior Cheer Camp

The SHG Cheerleading Squad will be hosting a Junior Cheer Camp for Pre-K through 8th graders on Friday, September 7, 2018 from 4:30 p.m. to game time at SHG West Campus. The campers will cheer during the first quarter of the SHG Football game vs. Lanphier. Pick a form up from your school's main office or email [shgcheerleading@gmail.com](mailto:shgcheerleading@gmail.com).

### Looking Ahead

Friday, Sept. 7 –

PSA Spirit Day: \$1 donation (covered by pre-paid fee)

8:20 a.m. – Weekly Mass begins for grades 6-8

2:15 p.m. – First Friday Benediction for grades 2-8

Monday, Sept. 10

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

Tuesday, Sept. 11

2:30 p.m. - Builders Club meeting for 7th & 8th graders in the cafeteria during study hall

Wednesday, Sept. 12 –

1:00 p.m. pep rally for the state-bound golf team

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

BASE available!

Thursday, Sept. 13 -

NED Mindset Mission assembly gr. PK-4

Friday, Sept. 14 -

Vision and hearing screenings

Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 15 & 16 -

Ministry Fair in church following all Masses

Monday, Sept. 17 –

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

Tuesday, Sept. 18 –

Vision and hearing screenings

Wednesday, Sept. 19 –

11:30 a.m. dismissal for faculty in-service;

**NO BASE!**

Friday, Sept. 21 –

Vision/hearing screenings for MWF Pre-K and re-screenings

Mid-quarter progress reports for grades 2-8

Monday, Sept. 24 –

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

Fall Book Fair begins (all week)

Tuesday, Sept. 25 –

Band lessons start

Friday, Sept. 28 -

8:20 a.m. - All school Mass