

April 27, 2017

+ Blessed Sacrament



School News

Learning to Make a Difference

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing Easter break! With only 19 days to go (only 12 days for 8th grade!), our school calendar is filling up quickly with field trips and end-of-the year activities. Please check the *Looking Ahead* section of the newsletter for an updated calendar of events each week and look for more information coming home from homeroom teachers as events are planned.

This Sunday Mrs. Townsend's second graders along with the PSR students will receive the sacrament of First Communion at 1:00 p.m. **There will be a practice for Mrs. Townsend's class at 9:30 a.m. this Saturday, April 29, in church.** We are proud of all of our second graders for their reverent preparation for this sacrament, and we thank their parents, their teachers, and Father Jeff for their guidance of our students as they continue to grow in their faith.

Good luck to all of our students in the school musical, *Seussical, Jr.*, this Friday and Saturday evening. The performances begin at 7:00 p.m. each evening. We hope you will join us for this fantastic, high-energy show!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathy Wear

Scholastic Bowl Update

Congratulations to our Scholastic Bowl team on a great season! Although their season ended at the regional meet last night, both A and B teams were very competitive this year. We appreciate the leadership of our 8th graders and look forward to another great season next year with our returning team members. Special thanks to the team's moderators, Mrs. Sarah Allen and Mrs. Mary Ellen Hollahan, for their dedication and guidance of the students!

Golden Awards Winners

Congratulations to our individual Golden Award winners for the past month that were announced at our rescheduled leadership assembly yesterday. Seventh grader Joey Brown was recognized for always being helpful and kind to others, and sixth grader Ethan Short was recognized for his willingness to help in any way needed with the musical production. We are proud of both of them!

SchoolKidz School Supply Kits

We will again offer families the convenient, optional SchoolKidz back-to-school supply kit program for the 2017-2018 school year. The program was successful the past three years, and we've worked with SchoolKidz to hopefully make it even better this year! SchoolKidz, a Staples company, offers supply kits that are customized to our classroom supply lists for every grade from preschool through eighth grade. The

company offers brand-name items such as Crayola, Fiskars, Elmer's, Clorox, etc. All items on our supply lists will come packaged in a reusable, personalized kit. They simply provide a one-stop shopping option for your school supply needs.

Supply kits will be ready for pick up along with your orientation packets after all Masses the weekend of August 5-6, 2017.

Orders may be placed (and paid for) online at www.shoptkits.com, using our school account number 10950. Paper orders are also accepted, and all paperwork is being sent home with each student today. **Paper orders, along with payment, are due back to the school office by Friday, May 12, and online orders are due Thursday, May 18.** Identical school supply lists will be posted on our website for those families who prefer to gather their own supplies over the summer months. Please contact Mrs. Burke with any questions.

Extra Spirit Day to Benefit Mission India

In May we will be adding an additional Spirit Day, with the date yet to be determined, as we partner with others in our community to benefit Mission India. This program is a partnership to raise funds to send a cath lab to India. Currently, there are 20 million people in Damoh, India, and the surrounding area that do not have access to a cath lab to assist in cardiac care. In Springfield alone, with only about 117,000 people, we have 13 cath labs. The cath lab, donated by St. John's Hospital, will be shipped to India with the help of Mission Outreach and will change the lives of millions of people.

In addition to donating funds to this project from our extra Spirit Day, we are also giving our students and families the opportunity to purchase a t-shirt designed by a local high school student to support this cause. With an elephant on the back and the wording of "A little love makes a ton of difference", the t-shirt also reflects our own school slogan of "learning to make a difference". Students who purchase this t-shirt may wear it on the Spirit Day, too. Families are able to order the t-shirt online at <http://thedoctorsofprairie.com/one-heart-beat> and then send payments to the school office. **The deadline to order a t-shirt is next Friday, May 5.** Ordered t-shirts will be delivered at school when they arrive. Although the t-shirts must be ordered online, a flyer with the basic information about the t-shirt is posted on our school website.

Mentor Families

We are very appreciative of our families who served as mentors for new families this year. Once again, we are looking for volunteers to serve as mentors for families entering our school community in the fall. We would like to match up families with children in the same grade levels as

these pairings seem to be the most beneficial to the new families. We'll have several new families in the preschool and kindergarten classes, as well as some in other grades.

Therefore, we are making a special plea to those families who will have children in preschool/preK and kindergarten classes to assist us with this endeavor. Please call or email Mrs. Burke at burke@bssbruins.org by Friday, May 5, if you would be interested in helping in this way or if you have any questions. You earn service hours for each family mentored! Thank you for your consideration of this important service!

Spring Musical ~ *Seussical, Jr.*

Our sixth through eighth graders are presenting this year's musical, *Seussical, Jr.*, on Friday, April 28, and Saturday, April 29. Performances both evenings will begin at 7:00 p.m. An order form for tickets was sent home before Easter break and is posted on the school website. Tickets are \$5 per person, and there is a family rate of \$20 for more than four people in an immediate family. Tickets are also available at the door. The students have really been working hard at rehearsal. We appreciate the dedication and enthusiasm of our music teacher, Mrs. Lisa Hartman, and Mrs. Taryn Grant in bringing this show to life. We hope you join us for this fun show!

All-School Mass & May Crowning

On Monday, May 1, we will celebrate an all-school Mass at 8:20 a.m., and the May crowning will take place as part of the Mass processional. Homeroom representatives will carry flowers, and our kindergarten and eighth grade representatives will crown Mary. The winners of the Marita Child Gospel of Life essay contest will be announced after Mass. Please join us!

Alumni Breakfast

The alumni breakfast for the B.S.S. Classes of 2013 & 2017 has been scheduled for 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 2. Our current 8th graders and high school seniors who graduated from our school should have received their invitations this week. We look forward to celebrating the achievements of both classes!

Garden Club News

The next Garden Club meeting will be held **Tuesday, May 2, and permission slips are due by Monday, May 1.** This is a field trip to the Butler School garden with Baskin Robbins ice cream back at school. Extra permission slips are available in the school office. The club will continue to meet on Tuesdays through the summer, June 6, July 18, and August 1, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Judges Needed for the State History Fair

Volunteers are needed to serve as judges for the Illinois State History Fair on Thursday, May 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Several of our 8th graders are participating in this history fair, which will be held at the Prairie Capitol Convention Center. Please contact Ms. Angela Alan if you are able to volunteer at alan@bssbruins.org. You would earn service hours for helping in this way. Thank you!

Lifetouch Spring Portraits

Reminder envelopes were sent home on Monday to those families who have not yet paid for or returned their spring photo packets. Please return the envelope or the photo packets by tomorrow, April 28.

Coaches' Applications

Applications for coaching a Blessed Sacrament athletic team for the 2017-2018 school year are now available online through our school website. The applications will be available through May 5. The application process is open to all interested individuals who have the necessary background and skills; it is not necessary to be a parent of a student involved in our athletic programs. Also, please remember that completing an application does not guarantee a coaching position as there may be more individuals interested in coaching than positions available. Anyone who is chosen to coach must have attended the Protecting God's Children training and completed a background check and an online coaches' certification course and an online concussion certification course, as required by SCAA and IESA, before team practices begin.

If you have previously submitted an application and would like to be considered for next year, please email Mrs. Davis at davis@bssbruins.org and ask that your application be resubmitted. In the email, please specify the grade level, sport, and any contact information that may have changed from the previous application. Please contact Mrs. Davis at 522-7534, ext. 205, if you have specific questions regarding this process.

Youth Basketball Camp at Blessed Sacrament

One of our parents, Scott Eades, who has been involved in coaching at our school is running a youth basketball camp the week of June 5-8 at Blessed Sacrament School. Boys and girls going into grades 4-8 in the fall of 2017 are eligible to attend. The cost is \$65 per camper with a \$10 discount for additional members of the same immediate family. The registration and waiver forms are being emailed home today and will be posted on our school website. For further information, please contact Scott Eades at 217-414-3518 or at seades2@comcast.net.

Academic Placement for 2017-2018 School Year

Please be assured that great care is taken when developing class lists each year. Due to the complexity of this process, the school *does not accept* requests to be in a class with a specific teacher. However, if you feel it would be helpful to provide any insights regarding your child and his/her specific academic needs, please submit a letter to Mrs. Wear by **Monday, May 1.**

Math Workbooks for Summer Review & Enrichment

Our students are doing an amazing job in the second year of our new math series. We encourage them to continue practicing math during the summer to retain the concepts that they have learned. As a possible resource for review, Mrs. Healy sent home an order form with her sixth and seventh grade students for a summer review book for interested

students this past week, but review books for other grade levels are available. A copy of the order form is posted on the school website and can also be accessed at their website, www.summerskills.com.

If you would like to order a review book, **you need to mail, call, fax, or on-line order the book. Do not send any order or payment to school.** You need to order your own book as the book will be delivered to your home.

Because this book is a review, you should order the math book that corresponds with your child's current grade level. Answer keys and solution keys are provided in the books. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Healy.

8th Grade Scholarship Packets

Our parish and several individuals offer many scholarship opportunities for our eighth graders planning on attending Sacred Heart-Griffin next year. A packet of scholarship application forms were sent home with the eighth graders before Easter break. Some applications will require teacher and/or principal recommendations. The applications for all of the scholarships are due back to the school office by Wednesday, May 3. Specific details for each scholarship is included in the packets.

Dental Exam Reminder

Please remember that all students in kindergarten, second grade, and sixth grade are required to present proof of having been examined by a dentist before May 15 of the school year. (Dentist offices have the official form that needs to be submitted.) If a child in grade K, 2 or 6 fails to present proof by May 15, then the school may hold the child's report card until one of the following occurs: 1. The child presents proof of a completed dental examination within 18 months prior to the deadline; 2. The child presents proof that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15; or 3. The parents obtain a waiver from the Department of Public Health or provide objection to the exam on religious grounds.

Schnuck's Selects BSS as *Bags for My Cause* Recipient

The Montvale Schnuck's store selected Blessed Sacrament School as the first recipient of their "Bags 4 My Cause" program. During the month of May, Blessed Sacrament School will receive \$1 for each Schnuck's reusable Giving Bag sold at the store located at 2801 Chatham Road. We appreciate your support of this effort and are most grateful to Schnuck's for including us in their generous program!

Spring Band Concert

Please join the Springfield Catholic Elementary School and Sacred Heart-Griffin bands for an evening of music to celebrate spring on Wednesday, May 3. The concert will be held in SHG's Dominican Hall Theatre at 7:00 p.m.

News from our Development Office

- The annual Garden Party is Wednesday, June 14. The raffle tickets and volunteer forms will be distributed next Thursday, May 4. Thank you to Jennifer Furkin and Kate McCarthy for co-chairing this event. We are looking forward to it!

- We will also be doing the 2nd Golf Ball Drop on Monday, July 10 at Illini Country Club. The ticket distribution happy hour will be held on Tuesday, May 9. Watch for more information coming soon!
- The 47th Annual Blessed Sacrament Auction will be held on Saturday, September 30, 2017. There are a number of committee volunteers already in place, but we are seeking a general chairperson, as well as fresh faces on the committee. This is the biggest fundraising event of the school year and we need many hands on deck! Please contact Kim Hoffmann if you can be a part of this team effort!

Girls on the Run 5K

Our spring session of the Girls on the Run program will be wrapping up in May. We thank our coaches, Mary Tuttle, Betsy Link, Jennifer Cicci, and Janette Allotey, for leading this educational program for our 3rd and 4th grade girls. Everyone is invited to take part in the spring 5K event sponsored by Girls on the Run of Central Illinois. It will be held on Saturday, May 20, at Lincoln Land Community College. Online registration is available at www.GOTRcentralillinois.org.

Annual Rummage Sale

Mark your calendars!!! The Annual Blessed Sacrament School Rummage Sale is on Saturday, June 3rd, this year. We need YOUR help! If you have been spring cleaning and found items that need a new home, they would be most welcome here, and we will accept them the week prior to the sale. We will be accepting the usual gamut of donations---- toys, games, sporting goods, housewares, furniture, and antiques. We are not able to accept TV's.

SHG News

SHG volleyball will host a volleyball camp this summer for incoming 4th – 8th graders from June 19-22. For more information, please go to www.springfieldelitevbc.com and look under "camps."

Father-Son Adventure and Pilgrimage

The Diocesan Office for Marriage and Family Life is offering a Father-Son Adventure and Pilgrimage for young men, ages 13-18 years, July 13-15, 2017. The cost is \$125 per person and scholarships are available. There is a flyer posted on our school website with more information and an itinerary. Please contact Carlos Tejada at 698-8500 for information.

Looking Ahead

Friday, April 28 –

Extra Spirit Day **only for Mrs. Senger's 3rd grade homeroom & Mrs. Taylor's 5th grade homeroom**
12:30-2:00 – 1st grade field trip to Erg-a-doozy
7:00 p.m. – *Seussical, Jr.* Musical

Saturday, April 29 –

9:30 a.m. – First Communion practice in church for Mrs. Townsend's class and PSR students
7:00 p.m. – *Seussical, Jr.* Musical

Sunday, April 30 –

1:00 p.m. – First Holy Communion for Mrs. Townsend’s class & PSR

Monday, May 1 –
8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass & May Crowning

Tuesday, May 2 –
7:30 a.m. – Alumni breakfast
3:00 – 4:00 p.m. – Garden Club Meeting & field trip
7:00 p.m. – Kindergarten Mothers’ Tea

Wednesday, May 3 –
8th grade scholarship applications due!
Lifetouch sports photos after school according to the schedule provided to coaches & athletes
7:00 p.m. – Spring Band Concert in SHG’s Dominican Hall Theatre

Thursday, May 4 –
4th grade field trip for Earth Day at the fairgrounds

Friday, May 5 –
On-line orders for Mission India t-shirts due!
Coaching applications due!
PSA Spirit Day (included with pre-paid days)
2:15 p.m. – First Friday Benediction

Sunday, May 7 –
1:00 p.m. – First Communion for Ms. Horn’s class

Monday, May 8 –
8:20 a.m. - Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
8:30 – 2:45 - 8th grade Days of Discovery

Tuesday, May 9 –
8:30 – 2:45 - 8th grade Days of Discovery

Wednesday, May 10 –
8th grade class trip to Chicago
1:30 p.m. – dismissal for faculty meeting; BASE is available today

Thursday, May 11 –
9:00 – 2:45 - 8th grade Days of Discovery & graduation & awards night practices

Friday, May 12 –
SchoolKidz school supply kit paper order forms & payment due to office
8th grade lunch at Pie’s the Limit with dismissal for the day from that location

Sunday, May 14 – Happy Mothers’ Day!
5:00 p.m. – 8th grade awards night & dinner/dance

Monday, May 15 –
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
6:00 p.m. – 8th grade graduation Mass

Tuesday, May 16 –
9:00 a.m. – Ms. Vespa’s 1st grade spring program
1:30 p.m. – Mrs. Carter’s 1st grade spring program

Wednesday, May 17 –
2nd grade pizza party and field trip to Baskin Robbins
7th grade field trip to Camp Williamson in Carlinville

Thursday, May 18 –
SchoolKidz online orders due today

Friday, May 19 –
1st grade field trip to St. Louis Zoo
3rd grade walking field trip to Washington Park & Baskin Robbins
4th grade field trip to St. Louis Science Center

Monday, May 22 –
Last day for MWF Pre-K

Tuesday, May 23 –
Last day for Tu/Th preschool
9:30 a.m. – All day pre-K breakfast & dismissal
11:00 a.m. – Kindergarten cookout & dismissal
1st grade walking field trip to Washington Park & Baskin Robbins

Wednesday, May 24 – Last day of school!
8:20 a.m. – All school Mass
Fun day for grades 1-7 & report cards
1:30 p.m. dismissal – NO B.A.S.E.!!
Happy Summer Vacation!! ☺

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of May 1-5:

Josh Klenke	Cooper Kowalewski	Jack Leahy
Josh Mauney	Grace Minder	Ambz Negro

After School Patrols for the Week of May 1-5:

Emma Grace Pezold	Andrew Reimers	Aili Sluga
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Mass Servers for April 29 & 30: (only BSS students)

4:30 p.m. Saturday	Quinn Butler, Lily Klaves & Andrew Reimers
7:00 a.m. Sunday	Charles Pittman
8:30 a.m. Sunday	Audrey Frost & Ellen O’Brien
10:30 a.m. Sunday	Jack Lamar, Brady Maloy & Taylor Verry

Daily Servers for May 1-5:

8:00 a.m. M & W & 8:20 a.m. Tu.	William Pittman & Charles Pittman
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8:00 a.m. Th, & 8:20 a.m. Fri	Andrew Dailey & Jack Fleischli
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