

January 19, 2017

† Blessed Sacrament



School News

Learning to Make a Difference

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

We have had a busy start to the third quarter! Next week our sixth graders and our third graders will be participating in joint events with the other Springfield Catholic grade schools as an early kick-off for Catholic Schools Week. The sixth graders will meet at Christ the King next Tuesday for a celebration of Catholic education as a part of the National School Choice observation. On Friday our third graders will be at Little Flower for a day of learning together.

A detailed calendar for the following week, Catholic Schools Week, is being sent home today, and reminders for each day are listed in *Looking Ahead* in this newsletter. Although we hope the mild weather will continue, we will not change the scheduled activities for Catholic Schools Week even if we have extreme weather conditions any time that week and are not in session. For example, if we are not in session on Monday, we will still have Faith Appreciation Day on Tuesday, and the Community Awareness Day's activities from Monday will be rescheduled for later in the week or in upcoming weeks. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the school office. **Please note that dismissal on Friday, Feb. 3, is at 11:30 a.m., and no B.A.S.E. is available.** Have a good weekend!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathy Wear

Read-a-thon for Catholic Schools Week

As part of our parish partnership St. Theresa's Youth Development Center in Ghana, we will be holding a read-a-thon during Catholic Schools Week to raise the \$3,200 needed to establish internet service to the St. Theresa's Center in Ghana. Not only will this benefit the children at the center, but it will also help us develop a closer connection between our students and their children. To raise this money, we would only need \$6.50 per child in PreK through 8th grade!

We will hold our read-a-thon on our Community Awareness Day on Monday, Jan. 30. You will be able to sponsor a student by the number of minutes read or by a set dollar amount. There will also be a sign-up in the back of church after Masses on an upcoming weekend for parishioners without children in the school to participate in this initiative. A sponsorship sheet was sent home with each child last week and is posted on our website. **Payments of pledges are due back to the school by Friday, Feb. 3.** Thank you in advance for your support of this project!

Family Roller Skating Night for Catholic Schools Week

All Blessed Sacrament School families are invited to attend our family roller skating night to kick off Catholic Schools Week on Sunday, January 29, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at

Skateland South. The cost is only \$4 per skater, which includes skate rental! The snack bar and arcade games will also be open for purchases. Everyone really enjoyed this event last year, so please plan to join us again. Please remember that children cannot be dropped off and left unsupervised. There must be an adult responsible for the children at Skateland. Thank you for your cooperation. We hope to see you there!

Parent Appreciation Lunch for Catholic Schools Week

Parents are invited to join their children for lunch on Wednesday, February 1, according to the following schedule by last names: A-F: 11:00-11:30; G-N: 11:30-12:00, and O-Z: 12:00-12:30. We are offering a pre-ordered lunch for families, or you may choose to bring your own lunch. Only those families who preorder the hot lunch will be able to have it that day. The regular pizza lunch is NOT available. The cost is \$7 per person, and order forms are coming home today with students. **Please return the completed form along with payment by next Thursday, January 26.** We look forward to having you join us for lunch!

Catholic Schools Week Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

Volunteers are needed to assist with teacher appreciation lunch on Friday, February 3, at 11:30 a.m. Parents are asked to donate dishes for the luncheon, and some are also needed to assist with serving. Please contact Melissa Coady at mcoady1978@yahoo.com for more information or to volunteer in any capacity.

February Hot Lunch Orders

Hot lunch order forms for the month of February are being sent home today and are due back next Tuesday, January 24. Please note that there will NOT be a pizza lunch on the order for Wednesday, February 1, due to the Parent Appreciation Lunch for Catholic Schools Week. Lunch for that day may be ordered on the separate order form also coming home today. Thank you for your cooperation!

Bruins Update

Good luck to our 7th grade boys' IESA basketball team in their regional tournament! They play their first game against Concord Triopia on Saturday, Jan. 21, at 1:00 p.m. at A-C Central High School in Ashland. Go, Bruins!

Arrival Reminders

For the safety of our students, please do not drop off your children along the streets, especially on Laurel Street, without actually parking. This endangers your children and often results in cars trying to pass the stopped car, which adds

to the chance of putting other students in danger. Thanks for your cooperation!

T.G.I.F. (Third Graders in Faith)

Our third graders will attend a day of fun and learning with other third graders from Springfield Catholic schools on Friday, Jan. 27, at Little Flower School. **Lunch order forms were sent home last week with the third graders and are due tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 20, as well as the permission slip.** (If your child would prefer to bring a sack lunch for T.G.I.F., please still return the lunch form and indicate that on the form.)

Sixth Graders' National School Choice Assembly

Sixth graders from the Springfield Catholic Schools will gather together for an assembly of prayer and dance to celebrate National School Choice Day on Tuesday, January 24. The assembly will be held in Christ the King's gym from 1:00-2:15 p.m. All sixth graders are asked to bring donations for Harvard Park School's Bag of Blessings, which provides food to students who have no food in their homes over the weekends. B.S.S. sixth graders are asked to bring macaroni and cheese, cereal, canned ravioli/pasta, and goldfish crackers for this event. **Permission slips are due tomorrow, Friday, January 20.**

BSS Shoe Drive to Benefit Children in Ghana

Our first grade classes are leading a shoe drive to benefit the children who attend St. Theresa's Youth Center in Ghana, as many of them do not have suitable shoes, if any. The first graders challenge the school to donate 400 pairs of gently used or new shoes! Acceptable shoes are sneakers, sandals, and tennis shoes. Please tie the laces together or rubber band the pair of shoes together. First graders will pick up shoes outside of each classroom door. **The deadline for the collection of shoes has been extended to the end of Catholic Schools Week on Friday, Feb. 3!** Thank you in advance for your support of this project!

Warm Clothing for Recess

With the colder weather finally arriving, we wanted to remind parents that students do go out for recess unless the temperature or wind chill is below 20 degrees. Although a light jacket might be sufficient to go from the car to our building, the students do need warmer outerwear for 20 minutes of recess time. Thanks for your help!

Young Authors

Each year our students participate in a writing activity called Young Authors. A letter is being sent home tomorrow with some basic information. Participation is optional for kindergarten through second grade but is a class assignment in grades 3-8. Some teachers in grades 3-8 may have already shared information with their classes, and some will be sharing their requirements for students in the upcoming weeks.

"Bare Books" for use in creating the finished manuscripts for the Young Authors program are for sale in the school office for \$3.00 each. The pages of the books are *not*

printed with lines, but students may write/type their stories on loose paper and then paste them into the book.

Any students in kindergarten through second grade who choose to write books should return them to the school office by Tuesday, February 21. Teachers in grades 3-8 will set their own deadlines for their required books, which may be earlier. Once again, all the manuscripts will be on display at CultureFest, which is scheduled for Sunday, March 5.

Gift of Giving Program

A box is located in our main hallway for any donations of wrapping items to be used next year for the Gift of Giving program. A list of wrapping items as well as items to save throughout the year is posted on our school website. Thanks for any help you can provide!

IESA Music Solo/Ensemble Contest

Blessed Sacrament School will provide an opportunity for those interested to participate in the IESA's solo/ensemble music contest on Saturday, March 18, 2017, at Jacksonville Our Saviour. The registration fee, along with a copy of the musical selection(s) being performed, is due by next Friday, Jan. 27, 2017, to Mrs. Hartman. You may email our music teacher Mrs. Hartman for more information at Hartman@bssbruins.org.

SHG Alumni Scholarship Applications for 8th Graders

Applications for Sacred Heart-Griffin's alumni scholarship are now available. SHG enclosed an application in every freshman registration packet, and we do have extras available upon request in our school office. The completed application is due to Mrs. Wear by Friday, March 10, as the school portion has to be completed and submitted to SHG by March 15. No late applications are accepted!

SHG 8th Grade Dance

SHG will host a dance for the Class of 2021 on Saturday, February 4, 7-9 p.m. in the East Campus Commons. Come dance the night away at SHG and meet fellow future Cyclones! There will be a D.J., photo booth, snacks, and even prizes! Attendees must bring their school ID and signed permission slip, which was mailed to students and can also be found at www.shg.org. Admission is free, but you are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item for the St. Martin de Porres Center. This event is for 8th graders ONLY!

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest

K of C Council #364 is sponsoring their annual free throw contest on Saturday, February 4, at Christ the King School gym. The contest is open to all students, ages 9-14 years. There is no cost to enter. Registration begins at 2:00 p.m., and the contest begins at 2:30 p.m. More information may be found on our school website. You may also contact Mike Stead at mstead.1@att.net or at 217-415-6207.

K of C Council #16126 is also sponsoring a free throw contest. That one will be held on Sunday, January 22, at St. Aloysius School gym. For more information on this contest, please contact Patrick Kelleher at kelleherbp@gmail.com. **Students may only participate in one of the two free throw contests.**

Dennis Uniform Sale

Dennis Uniform Company is offering 15% off and free shipping on orders over \$75 from January 19-26. Please see the flyer that accompanies today's newsletter.

Flyers Posted on Our Website

Please be sure to check out all of the flyers attached to this newsletter and posted on our school website. There are several activities in the coming weeks for children in the Springfield area.

Looking Ahead

Friday, Jan. 20 –

Permission slips due for TGIF Day (3rd grade) & National School Choice Event (6th grade) due!

Sunday, Jan. 22 –

K of C Free Throw Contest at St. Aloysius gym

Monday, Jan. 23 –

No leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass

Tuesday, Jan. 24 –

February hot lunch order forms due!
6th graders at National School Choice Event at Christ the King in the afternoon

Wednesday, Jan. 25 –

4:30 p.m. – 6th, 7th & 8th grade girls' home volleyball games vs. Chatham (8th graders play first followed by 7th grade and then 6th grade)
6:00 p.m. - Participating 8th graders depart for March for Life trip

Thursday, Jan. 26 –

Parent Appreciation Day lunch order form due!

Friday, Jan. 27 –

Registrations & music selections for IESA Solo/Ensemble Contest due to Mrs. Hartman!
3rd graders at Little Flower for TGIF (Third Graders in Faith) all day

Sunday, Jan. 29 – Friday, Feb. 3 –

Catholic Schools Week (see the flyer being sent home today with a complete listing of activities)

Sunday, Jan. 29 –

Parish Appreciation Day
4:30-6:30 p.m. - Family roller skating at Skateland South; **\$4 per skater includes skate rental!!**

Monday, Jan. 30 –

Community Awareness Day
Dress Code: Comfy Casual Day (see flyer for details)
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly & Living Rosary (wear leadership t-shirts)
1:00-2:45 p.m. – Read-a-thon to benefit the St. Theresa's Activity Center in Ghana

Tuesday, Jan. 31 –

Faith Appreciation Day
Dress Code: Regular uniform day
8:20 a.m. - All-school Mass
9:45 a.m. – Assembly for PreK-grade 4
10:45 a.m. – Assembly for grades 5-8
5:00 p.m. – 6th, 7th & 8th grade girls' home volleyball games vs. New Berlin

Wednesday, Feb. 1 –

Parent Appreciation Day (lunch with parents)
Dress Code: Regular uniform day with addition of "silly" socks or tights

Lunch with parents according to family's last name:

A-F – 11:00-11:30 a.m.

G-N – 11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

O-Z - 12:00-12:30 p.m.

6:00-7:30 p.m. – Parent Appreciation Evening in the cafeteria

Thursday, Feb. 2 –

Student Appreciation Day

Dress Code: Non-uniform day (handbook guidelines for non-uniform days apply)

Lunch (hot dog, chips & ice cream treat) provided for all students by PSA

Classroom movies & popcorn in the afternoon

Friday, Feb. 3 –

**Last day to donate shoes for the shoe drive!
Payment of pledges for read-a-thon due!**

Teacher Appreciation Day

Dress Code: Modified Spirit Day (see flyer for details)

10:15 a.m. – Faculty vs. 8th grade volleyball game

11:30 a.m. early dismissal; **no B.A.S.E. available!**

Saturday, Feb. 4 –

2:00 p.m. – K of C Free Throw Contest at Christ the King gym

7:00-9:00 p.m. - 8th grade dance at SHG

Wednesday, Feb. 8 –

4:30 p.m. – 7th & 8th grade girls' home volleyball games vs. Jefferson Middle School

Thursday, Feb. 9 –

2:15 p.m. – Schoolwide Geography Bee

Sunday, Feb. 12 –

8:30 a.m. – Enrollment Sunday Mass for 8th grade Confirmation candidates

Monday, Feb. 13 –

6:00-7:30 p.m. – Open house for prospective families

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of Jan. 23-27:

Madeline Landgrebe	Spencer Wood	Aidan Mauntel
Peter Mokoff	Liam Noonan	Jack Ozyurt

After School Patrols for the Week of Jan. 23-27:

Briana Huelsman	Nathan Jugan	Nolan Kelley
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Mass Servers for Jan. 21 & 22: (only BSS students)

4:30 p.m. Saturday	Adrianna Thiele
7:00 a.m. Sunday	Gabby Antonacci
8:30 a.m. Sunday	no current BSS students
10:30 a.m. Sunday	Liam Noonan & Brady Maloy

Daily Servers for Jan. 23-27:

8:00 a.m. M & W & 8:20 a.m. Tu.	Nathaniel Bell & Joey Scott
8:00 a.m. Th. & 8:20 a.m. Fri.	Emily Leefers & Bill Hollahan