

January 26, 2017

# † Blessed Sacrament



## School News

Learning to Make a Difference

### A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

This has been a busy week, and we're gearing up for an even busier one next week when we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. On Tuesday, our sixth graders joined all of the other sixth graders from Catholic schools at Christ the King for a celebration of Catholic education as a part of the National School Choice Day. Tomorrow, our third graders will be at Little Flower for a day of learning together.

Wednesday evening several of our eighth graders and their chaperones left for the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. Fr. Scott met with the entire 8<sup>th</sup> grade yesterday afternoon and extended a special blessing to those students making this trip. We pray for the safety of all of our students and chaperones, and we look forward to hearing about their experiences when they return on Sunday.

A detailed calendar for next week, Catholic Schools Week, was sent home last week and is being emailed again today. There are reminders for each day listed in *Looking Ahead* section in this newsletter. **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*

### Bruins Update

Congratulations to our 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys' IESA basketball team on a great season! Although their season ended with a loss in the regional tournament last Saturday, we are proud of their efforts and appreciate the dedication of their coaches, Mr. Duane Dye and Mr. Chris Kohlrus.

Congratulations to our 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' IESA basketball team on winning the championship of the Peoria Catholic Schools Tournament last Saturday! Good luck to the team when they begin their regional tournament next Monday, Jan. 30. They play Mason City Illini Central at 6:00 p.m. at A-C Central High School in Ashland. Go, Bruins!

### 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 again this weekend for parishioners without children in the school to participate in this initiative. A sponsorship sheet was sent home previously with each child 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 this 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 went home last week with students. **Order forms for the hot lunch buffet were due today, January 26, but we have been able to extend the deadline for orders to Monday, January 30.** We look forward to having you join us for lunch!

### Dress Code Reminders for Catholic Schools Week

To celebrate Catholic Schools Week next week, students will have the opportunity to wear different clothing. The dress code for next week is as follows:

**Monday, Jan. 30 – Comfy Casual Day** (Students may wear jeans, sweatpants, athletic pants, and leggings with appropriate tops. Pants with words written on back are not appropriate, and tops should not be tight-fitting. Tops worn with leggings should be longer in length.)

**Tuesday, Jan. 31- Regular Uniform Day**

**Wednesday, Feb. 1 – Regular Uniform Day with the addition of silly socks or tights**

**Thursday, Feb. 2 – Non-uniform Day** (Please refer to page 27 in the student handbook for all guidelines; leggings, sweatpants, and similar pants are not acceptable.)

**Friday, Feb. 3 – Modified Spirit Day** (Students may wear BSS shirts or sports teams' athletic jerseys/shirts with jeans, uniform pants, or athletic pants. No other types of pants are acceptable.)

If you have questions about appropriate clothing for each day, please check with the office or the teachers. When in doubt, it is a good idea to bring an alternate piece of clothing. Thanks for your cooperation in making this a fun week for the students!

#### **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 challenged the school to donate 400 pairs of gently used or new shoes. They are excited that, to date, they have collected 406 pairs of shoes, and **they will continue to collect shoes through next Friday, Feb. 3!** 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. Thank you for your support of this project!

#### **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](mailto:mcoady1978@yahoo.com) for more information or to volunteer in any capacity.

#### **Development Committee**

The Blessed Sacrament School Development Committee will meet on Monday, January 30, at 6:00 p.m. in the school conference room. New members are invited to join this committee that is responsible for event planning, public relations, and fundraising for the school. If you have any questions, contact Kim Hoffmann at [Hoffmann@bssbruins.org](mailto:Hoffmann@bssbruins.org).

#### **Volta: Animal Kingdom**

Next Friday, Feb. 3, the Hoogland Center for the Arts is hosting *Volta: Animal Kingdom* at two **free** performances at 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. This one-of-a-kind event showcases some of Springfield's best youth artists performing a fusion of animal-themed poetry, music, and dance. From eagles to jaguars, cows to owls, Volta brings the animal kingdom, fierce and funny, alive on stage. Each performance is an hour in length and is appropriate for all ages. It is a fun way to see poetry through music and dance. Make plans to attend!

#### **Sangamon Valley Youth Symphony Performance**

The first Sangamon Valley Youth Symphony Starter Strings program will have their first performance on Thursday, February 2, at 7:15 p.m. in the Hoogland Center for the Arts' Theatre 3. The concert is free and will last approximately 45 minutes. The SVYS Starter Strings Program is open to students from the Springfield area, and we do have some BSS students participating this year.

#### **Uniform Discount**

Dennis Uniform Company is having a 15% off sale and free shipping on orders over \$75 through today, January 26. Please see the flyer posted on our website.

#### **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. Thank you for your cooperation!

#### **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!

#### **SHG Alumni Scholarship Applications for 8<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance**

SHG will host a dance for the Class of 2021 next 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](http://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](mailto:mstead.1@att.net) or at 217-415-6207.

#### **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. 27 –

3<sup>rd</sup> graders at Little Flower for TGIF (Third Graders in Faith) all day

All-day PreK field trip to *Pete the Cat* at UIS

Sunday, Jan. 29 – Friday, Feb. 3 –  
Catholic Schools Week (see the flyer with a complete listing of activities posted on the school website)

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 –  
**Parent Appreciation Day lunch order forms due!**  
Community Awareness Day  
**Dress Code: Comfy Casual Day (see flyer & related article 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  
6:00 p.m. – Development Committee meeting in the school conference room

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. – 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> 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 (drawing for gift cards & tuition voucher at 7:00 p.m.)

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 & related article for details)**  
10:15 a.m. – Faculty vs. 8<sup>th</sup> 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. - 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance at SHG

Wednesday, Feb. 8 –  
4:30 p.m. – 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls’ home volleyball games vs. Jefferson Middle School

Thursday, Feb. 9 –  
Mid-quarter reports will be sent home  
2:15 p.m. – Schoolwide Geography Bee

Friday, Feb. 10 –  
Regular PSA Spirit Day (covered by pre-paid fee)

Sunday, Feb. 12 –  
8:30 a.m. – Enrollment Sunday Mass for 8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation candidates

Monday, Feb. 13 –  
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)  
6:00-7:30 p.m. – Open house for prospective families

Tuesday, Feb. 14 – Happy Valentine’s Day!  
Classroom parties in the afternoon  
4:30 p.m. – 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls’ home volleyball games vs. Lincoln Magnet School

Thursday, Feb. 16 –  
6:00 p.m. – 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls’ home volleyball games vs. Petersburg Porta

Monday, Feb. 20 –  
No school – Presidents’ Day

Wednesday, Feb. 22 –  
6:00 p.m. – 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls’ home volleyball games vs. St. Agnes

Friday, Feb. 24 –  
7<sup>th</sup> grade science fair judging after school

Saturday & Sunday, Feb. 25 & 26 –  
Science & history fair open house after all Masses

Monday, Feb. 27 –  
2:30 p.m. – Leadership Assembly (wear t-shirts)

Tuesday, Feb. 28 –  
Builders’ Club Mardi Gras Student Carnival

#### **Please Remember!**

#### **Before School Patrols for the Week of Jan. 30-Feb. 3:**

Emma Grace Pezold	Andrew Reimers	Aili Sluga
Jackson Stewart	Chip Weihmeir	Brigid Wilhite

#### **After School Patrols for the Week of Jan. 30 – Feb. 3:**

Josh Klenke	Cooper Kowalewski	Jack Leahy
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#### **Mass Servers for Jan. 28 & 29: (only BSS students)**

<b>4:30 p.m. Saturday</b>	Aidan Mauntel & Lily Klaves
<b>7:00 a.m. Sunday</b>	no current BSS students
<b>8:30 a.m. Sunday</b>	Finn Loken & Grace & Hannah Lambert
<b>10:30 a.m. Sunday</b>	Grace Minder & Anthony Keldermans

#### **Daily Servers for Jan. 30 – Feb. 3:**

<b>8:00 a.m. M &amp; W &amp;</b>	Lauren Smith
<b>8:20 a.m. Tu.</b>	& Teddy Thornberry
<b>8:00 a.m. Th. &amp;</b>	Anthony Keldermans
<b>8:20 a.m. Fri.</b>	& Lennon Long