

March 16, 2017

+ Blessed Sacrament



School News

Learning to Make a Difference

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

This week we were pleased to welcome Jodee Blanco, a *New York Times* bestselling author and anti-bullying activist, to speak to our students, faculty, and parents. She shared her passionate insights and tips with all three groups. Ms. Blanco spoke to our students Tuesday morning in separate presentations for our kindergarten through fourth grades and our fifth through eighth grades. Be sure to ask your children about the strategies and suggestions she gave them (different for each age group) for handling bullying situations, whether someone is a victim, bully, or bystander.

We did receive word that Father Jeff made it safely back to Springfield last night, and he just stopped by the school for a short visit today! We're excited to have him back at our school and parish and look forward to hearing of his experiences at the Kakuma Refugee Camp. He will be the celebrant at our all-school Mass tomorrow morning at 8:20 a.m. As always, please feel free to join us!

At the same time we extend our sincere thanks to Father Scott for his leadership while Father Jeff was away. He embraced our school and parish community, and we were blessed in so many ways by his presence and faith these last six months. Father Scott received a blessing from our student body at our leadership assembly on Monday, and, as Father Scott said, we won't consider it a good-bye. We hope he will be back to visit us often!

Tomorrow our students and teachers will have a free modified Spirit Day, a Jeans and Green Day, for St. Patrick's Day. Students may wear jeans and a B.S.S. spirit shirt, a green shirt, or an appropriate St. Patrick's Day shirt for no charge.

PSA will be selling Lenten lunch items tomorrow. The following items will be for sale: pretzel with cheese (\$3.00), nachos with cheese (\$2.00 or \$2.50 with extra cheese), and popcorn (50 cents per bag).

Our Men's Club hosts their fish fry in the school cafeteria tomorrow evening. They will be serving food from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. See the related article and the flyer posted on the school website.

Looking ahead, third quarter report cards will be distributed by Fr. Jeff next Monday, March 20. If you have any questions regarding your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. Also, don't forget that Engrade is an easy way to follow your child's grades throughout the quarter. We appreciate your continued help and support in making this a successful year for your child. Only one more quarter to go!!

Happy St. Patrick's Day! Enjoy the weekend!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kathy Wear

Congratulations!

Last week, the names of the following students who participated in our Fine Arts Evening performances were inadvertently left out of the related article: Elizabeth Allen, Ari Antonacci, Reid Brady, Elise Ratcliffe, and Elizabeth Scott. Our apologies to them and congratulations to them on their fine performances!

Hoops Mania Update

Thanks to all of our families who sold and/or purchased tickets for Hoops Mania! Yesterday was the final day to purchase tickets, and we hope to have a tally of total tickets sold soon. We will have winners for every 29 tickets sold, so good luck to all of those who are participating!

Scholastic Book Fair Ends Tomorrow!

Our spring Scholastic Book Fair, *It's S'more Fun with Books*, will wrap up tomorrow, Friday, March 17, at 2:45 p.m. for purchases during the school day. Please send any money with your children tomorrow. **The book fair will be open during the Fish Fry tomorrow evening, too, for last minute purchases!** We truly appreciate all of the volunteers who staffed the book fair this week. Special thanks to Laura Dietrich for coordinating the fair along with our librarians, Mrs. Criscione and Mrs. Allen.

Garden Club News

The next Garden Club meeting will be held **Tuesday, April 11**. **Please note this is a new date.** The club will continue to meet on the first Tuesdays through the summer, with the exception of July 4, which will be rescheduled for a different day in July.

Tuition Assistance for 2017-2018

The F.A.C.T.S. tuition assistance applications (along with the required supporting documentation) for the 2017-2018 school year are **due March 31**. You may apply online by accessing the link on our website or request a paper copy of the application from Sharon Schraeder. Families will be notified in mid-May of their assistance. Please contact Sharon Schraeder at 522-7534, ext. 245, with any questions.

Registration for 2017-2018

Registration forms, along with the registration fees, were due back this past Monday, March 13. Please make every effort to return the paperwork this week, as the numbers gathered at registration are critical in making the appropriate preparations for the upcoming school year. We appreciate your cooperation!

The Wizard of Oz

The Hoogland Teens, Kids & Juniors are presenting *The Wizard of Oz* the next two weekends at The Hoogland Center for the Arts. Experience live theatre magic with lavish costumes, flying monkeys, the classic story, and several B.S.S. students in the performance! Performances are Friday-Sunday, March 17-19 and Saturday & Sunday, March 25 & 26. See the website, www.hcfta.org, for specific performance times and tickets. Good luck to our students in the production, including Laney Aleman, Charlotte Apostol, Portia Apostol, A.J. Elias, Isabella Elias, Sophia Elias, Ava Giacomini, Lucy Unal, and Rose Unal. We hope you are able to attend this most beloved musical!

Spotlight on Ice

The Springfield Figure Skating Club is presenting their annual *Spotlight on Ice* this weekend with performances at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 18, and at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 19. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$7 for children and are available at Springfield area Schnucks, the Nelson Center Ice Arena, and at the door. For additional ticket information, see kicksandskates@comast.net. One of our first graders, Lexi Kotner, will be performing in the show. Good luck, Lexi!

Builders Club Lenten Project

The Builders Club is sponsoring a Lenten project to benefit The Matthew Project, which provides needed items and services for homeless students in District 186. The Builders Club is requesting that each grade bring a certain personal hygiene or food item, as listed on the flyer posted on the school website. Donations are due by Friday, March 31. Thank you, in advance, for helping needy children in our community.

Confirmation Retreat

The 8th graders will be attending a Confirmation retreat next Friday, March 24, at St. Joseph Church in Chatham in preparation for their Confirmation. Permission slips are being sent home today and are due back **next Monday, March 20**. The students will receive the sacrament of Confirmation at a 7:00 p.m. Mass on Wednesday, March 29. Please keep our eighth graders in your prayers as they prepare for their reception of this sacrament.

Men's Club Fish Fry

The Men's Club will host a fish fry tomorrow, Friday, March 17, from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. A flyer is posted on the school website with available food items and prices. The gym will be open beginning at 5:30 p.m. as an area for children to play **if there are enough chaperones available. We ask that students wear tennis shoes if they are going to play in the gym. If they wear other shoes, they will have to take them off. Therefore, children must wear socks.** The gym will be supervised by adults, and parents are asked to sign their children in and out of the gym. A parent or a chaperone must be present at the fish fry for a child to be in the gym. With the availability of the gym, children will not be allowed to play on the parking lot or in the field.

We do need enough adult chaperones to supervise children in the gym. If you are interested in supervising during a shift, 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. or 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., please call Ruth Hanken at 652-1742. Again, the parking lot and field will remain off limits for children, whether the gym is open or not. The safety of children during the fish fry is our main concern. We appreciate your cooperation and help!

Collection at Fish Fries

Boy Scout Troop 31 and Cub Scout Pack 31 will be collecting personal hygiene items for St. Martin De Porres Center during all the fish fries this year. They will be accepting toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, conditioner, towels, washcloths etc. Thanks, in advance, for your generosity!

Golf Team Meeting

Mark your calendars for Monday, April 10, if your child is interested in joining the school's golf team. The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria, and all parents of current 4th through 7th graders interested in being on the golf team should attend. The interested students are also invited to attend the meeting. If your child is definitely signing up for the golf team, please also bring your child's completed physical form and a check for the \$75 athletic fee. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Etheridge at 836-9196 or Michelle Calucchia at 493-7633.

SHG Spring Musical Production of *Oklahoma*

Tickets are on sale now for SHG's spring musical production of *Oklahoma*. The show will run March 23-25 at 7:30 p.m. and March 26 at 2 p.m. Tickets may be purchased online at www.shg.org or by calling 787-1595, ext. 168. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors.

The Children's Round Up will be held Sunday, March 26, at noon. Children and parents will have the opportunity to meet the cast, take a backstage tour, play games, and see the production immediately following the event. Lunch is included. Tickets for the Children's Round Up are \$15 each.

Sacred Relics of the Saints: Treasures of the Church

The Diocese of Springfield in Illinois will host at The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception a teaching and exposition of Sacred Relics on Thursday, March 23, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. Father Carlos Martins of the Companions of the Cross will be here with his very special ministry to teach about these holy objects. He will bring with him over 150 relics, some as old as 2000 years.

Among the treasures will be relics of St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux (the "Little Flower"), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska. In addition, there will also be present a portion of the veil of Our Lady, as well as one of the largest remaining pieces of the True Cross in the world. Those in attendance will be able to examine and venerate each relic. In the Church's history many miracles and healings have been worked in the presence of relics, and many have been healed through this ministry.

Please do not miss this opportunity. You are encouraged to bring your articles of devotion (such as rosaries, holy cards, etc.) and pictures of ill friends/family members, which you will be able to touch to the reliquaries as a means of intercession.

SHG Zero Hour Math Class

SHG will continue to offer its zero hour algebra program for qualifying eighth grade students in the 2017-2018 school year. The applications, which are due May 1, were sent home with all of the 7th grade students last week. Completed applications must be sent to your child's current math teacher for verification prior to being submitted to SHG. Therefore, please submit the application to your current math teacher on or before April 24. Thank you.

Looking Ahead

Friday, March 17 – Happy St. Patrick's Day!
Free modified Spirit Day for St. Patrick's Day!
8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass
2:45 p.m. – Book Fair closes for school day purchases
5:00-7:30 p.m. – Men's Club Fish Fry; **Book Fair open during the Fish Fry**

Monday, March 20 –
Report Card Day!
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Tuesday, March 21 –
Reconciliation for grades 6-8

Wednesday, March 22 –
Reconciliation for grades 2-5
4:00 p.m. – PSA Board meeting in the office conference room
6:30 p.m. – First Communion meeting for 2nd grade parents in church

Thursday, March 23 –
4:00 p.m. – Home Scholastic Bowl meet

Friday, March 24 –
8th grade Confirmation retreat at St. Joseph Church in Chatham
5:00-7:30 p.m. – Men's Club Fish Fry

Monday, March 27 –
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Wednesday, March 29 –
7:00 p.m. – Confirmation Mass

Friday, March 31 –
Donations for Builders Club Lenten project due!
Extra Spirit Day to benefit Hope School (not covered by pre-paid fee)
5:00-7:30 p.m. – Men's Club Fish Fry

Monday, April 3 –
Free modified Spirit Day for March Madness Fundraiser

Friday, April 7 –
Regular PSA Spirit Day (covered by pre-paid fee)
2:15 p.m. – First Friday adoration & benediction for grades 2-8
5:00-7:30 p.m. – Men's Club Fish Fry

Monday, April 10 –
7:00 p.m. – Golf team meeting in the cafeteria

Tuesday, April 11 –

3:00-4:00 p.m. – Garden Club meeting

Wednesday, April 12 –
1:30 p.m. – Early dismissal for faculty meeting; after-school care at B.A.S.E. available

Thursday, April 13 –
1:30 p.m. – Early dismissal for Easter vacation; after-school care at B.A.S.E. available

Friday, April 14 –
Good Friday
3:00 p.m. – 7th graders' Living Stations for the parish

Friday, April 14 – Friday, April 21 –
No school for Easter vacation

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of March 20-24:
Briana Huelsman Nathan Jugan Nolan Kelley
Josh Klenke Cooper Kowalewski Jack Leahy

After School Patrols for the Week of March 20-24:
Xander Eberding Seth Faivre Audrey Frost

Mass Servers for March 18 & 19: (only BSS students)

4:30 p.m. Saturday Teddy Thornberry, Brady Maloy & Nathan Jugan
7:00 a.m. Sunday no current BSS student
8:30 a.m. Sunday Grace & Hannah Lambert
10:30 a.m. Sunday Will & Sam DeSalle

Daily Servers for March 20-24:

8:00 a.m. M & W & Andrew Reimers
8:20 a.m. Tu. & Tyler Furkin
8:00 a.m. Th. & Michael Krikorian
8:20 a.m. Fri. & Emily Leefers