

# † Blessed Sacrament

March 9, 2017



## School News

*Learning to Make a Difference*

### A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

Last weekend was a wonderful celebration of the arts with our Pride of the Parish Art Reception, CultureFest and Fine Arts Evening. We are truly blessed by the dedication and talent of our parishioners, faculty and staff, and students. Please see the article below for more details.

PSA will be selling Lenten lunch items tomorrow. The following items will be for sale: popcorn (.50), pretzel with cheese (\$3.00) and nachos with cheese (\$2.00 or \$2.50 with extra cheese). Please plan for your children's lunches accordingly.

Please join us after one of the Masses this weekend for a farewell reception for Fr. Scott. We have been so blessed to have him with us during Fr. Jeff's absence. We truly appreciate his dedication, interest, and involvement in our parish and school. There will be cake after the 4:30 Mass on Saturday and donuts after all three Masses on Sunday. Special thanks to the Girl Scouts for hosting all of the receptions. We also congratulate all of the Girl Scouts who will be recognized at the 8:30 Mass this Sunday, Girl Scout Sunday, for their achievements this year.

The end of the third quarter is this coming Monday, March 13. Report cards will be sent home the following Monday, March 20. Enjoy the weekend! Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday!

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Kathy Wear*

### Congratulations!

We have so many students to congratulate this week that we could write another whole newsletter! ☺ However, if not for so many wonderful faculty members, we wouldn't have the opportunities for our students to earn such praise. We are most grateful to our art teachers, Ruth Ficke and Debbie Mauntel, for their creative vision, organization, and leadership with our annual CultureFest last weekend. The amount of time and energy given by them is truly remarkable! We also appreciate the assistance of Lisa Hartman, Angela Alan, Jody Kienzler, Lori Criscione, and Sarah Allen in bringing this fantastic event to life.

The fourth graders did an impressive job at their recorder concert Sunday morning, as did the sixth graders in their living wax museum. Our annual Young Authors manuscripts were on display at CultureFest, too. The grade division and classroom winning books were included in a special display at CultureFest, and the winners are announced in a separate section in this newsletter. We are proud of all our students' literary creations!

Our celebration of the arts continued Sunday evening with our annual Fine Arts Evening. Congratulations to all of

our performers: Sophia Elias, Anthony Fergin, Lila Ambrose, Jack Lamar, Emily Leefers, Sarah Triphahn, Lucy Ambrose, Aili Sluga, Liam Egizii, Macklin Metzger, Sophie Stewart, Gwen Sluga, Spencer Wood, Laney Aleman, Ella Viele, Jocelyn Nation, Matilda Ratcliffe, Keegan Sweeney, Ali Klinner, Emma Allen, Briana Huelsman, Aggie Antonacci, Amelia Curtis, Sophia Cathers, Eleanor Maloy, Madi Landgrebe, Emma Kinion, Nora Ficke, Noah Jugan, Sophie Reimers, Maggie Allen, Ava Giacomini, and A.J. Elias. Their vocal, instrumental, gymnastic, and dance performances were an amazing display of talent! Special thanks to Ruth Ficke and Jody Kienzler for their organization of the Fine Arts Evening!

### Congratulations, Young Authors!

Congratulations to our Young Authors contest winners for this year. All students in grades 3-8 are required to participate, and all the students' books were well written and creatively illustrated. The grade level winners are as follows: Gr. K-2: 1<sup>st</sup> place: Matilda Ratcliffe, 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Harrison Long, 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Dean Stremsterfer; Gr. 3-4: 1<sup>st</sup> place: Ileana Stremsterfer, 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Ariana Collins, 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Isabela Burke; Gr. 5-6: 1<sup>st</sup> place: Sophia Njapa, 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Molly Davis, 3<sup>rd</sup> place (tie): Aislyn Grant and Ben Wilson; Gr. 7-8: 1<sup>st</sup> place: Grace Lambert, 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Amelia Curtis, 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Sophia Bonansinga. A complete listing of all the classroom winners, along with the grade-level division winners for each category, accompanies today's newsletter. The grade-level division winners each will receive a Barnes and Noble gift card and Baskin Robbins gift certificates. The classroom winners all will receive Baskin Robbins gift certificates. We are proud of all our students' literary creations!

### Bruins Update

Congratulations to our 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls' IESA volleyball team on a great season. Although they lost in a close game to St. Agnes in the regional tournament on Tuesday, it was an exceptional volleyball game and a wonderful display of skill and teamwork. We are very proud of our team and its accomplishments! Special thanks to their coach, Steve Rotello, and their assistant coach, Emily Eades for their time and dedication to this team.

### Hoops Mania Fundraiser

March Madness is almost upon us! Hoops Mania, a fundraiser centered around the NCAA's March Madness basketball tournament, is in full swing! Every school family received 3 tickets last week, and we ask that every family participate in this fundraiser. Our goal is to sell 1,000 tickets at \$10 each. (Of course, we'll happily sell more!) Our school

is guaranteed winners out of our pool of tickets! **We'll raise \$7,000 for the school if we're able to meet our goal of 1,000 tickets, as the school keeps \$7 out of every \$10 ticket.** That's a 70% profit margin, which is almost unheard of in fundraising sales.

If successful, the PSA will continue to use Hoops Mania as our sole fundraiser next school year, receiving a greater profit margin than we did with previous sales fundraisers – and it's quite a bit easier! How many family members, friends, and co-workers do you know that usually take part in a basketball tournament pool? Please invite them to take part in Hoops Mania this year, which will directly benefit the children of Blessed Sacrament School. For only \$10, the ticket holder also receives access to download digital music from CharityStudio.

**If you are unable to sell your tickets, please return any remaining ones to the school office for others to sell. Extra tickets will be available in the school office, and all ticket stubs and money are due in the school office by Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.** Please don't wait until the last minute to get in on the action! We're really counting on all of our families to make this a success!

### **Hats Off to BSS Athletes!**

Congratulations to several BSS students who competed as members of the Springfield YMCA (SPY) Team in the YMCA District Swim Meet last weekend. Second graders Ali Londrigan and Sloan Bird competed on the 100 Medley Relay team, which broke a 12-year-old meet record by over 3 seconds! They both qualified to advance to the YMCA state meet in two weeks in that event and in the 100 Freestyle Relay (1<sup>st</sup> place) and 25 Backstroke. Sloan also qualified in the 25 Freestyle, and Ali qualified in the 25 Butterfly.

Several other students also participated in the District Meet with many also qualifying for the state meet (in the events listed in parentheses, per the information we received), including Abby Anderson, Hailey DuVall, Carter Etheridge, Gigi Giacomini (1<sup>st</sup> in 200 Medley Relay, 50 Freestyle, 50 Butterfly), Nadia Giacomini, Mac Gibbs (100 IM), Kaelin Kelley (50 Butterfly, 1<sup>st</sup> in 200 Freestyle Relay), Maeve Kelley (1<sup>st</sup> in 200 Medley Relay, 1<sup>st</sup> in 200 Freestyle Relay, 1<sup>st</sup> in 50 Backstroke), Lindsay Madonia, Macklin Metzger, Annie Mizour (1<sup>st</sup> in 200 Medley Relay, 100IM, 100 Freestyle), Mary Clare Mizour (1<sup>st</sup> in 200 IM, 50 Freestyle, 1<sup>st</sup> in 200 Freestyle Relay, 100 Backstroke), Rowan Mizour (100 IM, 100 Freestyle Relay, 500 Freestyle), Mary O'Brien, and Mary Kate Ozyurt. What an outstanding effort from everyone! Best of luck to those moving on to state competition. Way to go!

### **Parent Meeting on Bullying**

Please mark your calendars now for an important educational meeting regarding bullying. The Springfield Catholic elementary schools and Sacred Heart-Griffin High School are sponsoring a seminar on school bullying survival and prevention. **The meeting will be held the evening of March 15, at St. Agnes School from 6:30-8:00 p.m., and parents are strongly encouraged to attend.** The presenter is *New York Times* bestselling author and anti-bullying activist Jodee Blanco. The workshop will include specific, practical advice on how to intervene if a child is the victim, bully or

bystander, from the rare point of view of someone who's actually lived through it and has now dedicated her life to helping others.

Ms. Blanco will present age-appropriate information to all of the students in the Catholic schools over the course of three days, March 13-15. Furthermore, she will work with all of the Catholic elementary school teachers at an in-service the afternoon of March 15. Ms. Blanco will work with the BSS students on Tuesday morning, March 14.

### **Registration for 2017-2018**

**Registration forms, along with the registration fees, are due back on Monday, March 13.** Please make every effort to return the paperwork and fees on time, as the numbers gathered at registration are critical in making the appropriate preparations for the upcoming school year. Please also be sure to return the family income survey which is essential for our school to submit in order to access federal funds from the Title programs for our school. Please contact Mrs. Wear or Mrs. Burke with any questions. We appreciate your cooperation!

### **Scholastic Book Fair Is Coming!**

Our spring Scholastic Book Fair, *It's S'more Fun with Books*, will be held during the school day on March 13-17. We also are in need of volunteers to staff the book fair after all the weekend Masses on March 11 and 12 and during the school day March 13-17. We will also have the book fair open on Friday evening, March 10, during the Men's Club Fish Fry if we have volunteers available. Working the book fair is a great opportunity to help the students, earn service hours, and shop! If you are interested in volunteering to work a shift (or two!) of the book fair, please email librarians Sarah Allen at [allen@bssbruins.org](mailto:allen@bssbruins.org) and Lori Criscione at [criscione@bssbruins.org](mailto:criscione@bssbruins.org). Thank you for your consideration!

### **Garden Club News**

The Garden Club had its first meeting of the spring this past Tuesday. The next 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.

### **Men's Club Fish Fry**

The Men's Club Fish Fry will begin tomorrow, Friday, March 10, 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!

#### **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](http://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 Seeking Applicants for Alumni Scholarship**

The alumni of Sacred Heart Academy, Cathedral, Griffin, and Sacred Heart-Griffin are dedicated to helping those students who might otherwise not be able to afford a Catholic education. Eligibility requirements are as follows:

- The students must be a Catholic registered in a parish.
- Financial need as indicated on completed FACTS Grant & Aid application form (filing deadline is March 15<sup>th</sup>)
- Average grades as well as the principal's recommendation
- Student profile or essay.

Only forms that have been completed and signed by the principal, parent and student will be considered. A copy of the application may be found at [www.shg.org/admissions](http://www.shg.org/admissions). All applications may be sent to [garvey@shg.org](mailto:garvey@shg.org) or by mail to SHG Advancement Office c/o Ellie Garvey, 1200 W. Washington St. Springfield, IL. 62702. If you have any questions, feel free to call Sacred Heart-Griffin at 787-1595.

#### **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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### **Springfield Area Youth Fitness Camp**

A youth fitness camp, open to all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls in the Springfield area, will be held at SHG West Campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays from March 14-May 18. The cost is \$25. Please see the flyer posted on our website for more details.

#### **Little Flower School Summer Camp**

Little Flower School is offering their summer camp, which runs daily from June 5-August 11, 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. The program is open for preschool – sixth grade students. The cost is \$135 per week or \$32 per day drop in rate. There is a variety of activities and field trips scheduled. Please see the flyer posted on our website for more details.

#### **Looking Ahead**

Friday, March 10 –

**Scholastic Book Fair opens at the Fish Fry**  
5:00-7:30 p.m. – Men's Club Fish Fry

Saturday, March 11 –

Reception for Father Scott in the cafeteria after 4:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday, March 12 –

Daylight Savings Time begins!

Girl Scout Sunday & donuts & reception for Father Scott in the cafeteria after all Masses

Monday, March 13 –

**End of Third Quarter**

**Registration packets for 2017-18 due today!**

**Scholastic Book Fair open daily through Friday, March 17!**

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

Wednesday, March 15 –

**Fr. Jeff returns this evening!**

**Hoops Mania tickets and money due back!**

11:30 a.m. dismissal – Faculty in-service at Christ the King; **no B.A.S.E. available!**

**6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – Jodee Blanco, speaker on bullying, for all parents (students grades K and up also welcome to attend) at St. Agnes School**

Friday, March 17 –

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass

5:00-7:30 p.m. – Men's Club 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

6:30 p.m. – First Communion meeting for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parents in church

Friday, March 24 –

8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation retreat at St. Joseph 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 –

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

Tuesday, April 11 –

3:00-4:00 p.m. – Garden Club meeting

**Please Remember!**

**Before School Patrols for the Week of March 13-17:**

Carmen Dillman      Maria Fulgenzi      Jack Gaffney  
Mary Claire Gardner      Lucy Harvey      Drew Herman

**After School Patrols for the Week of March 13-17:**

Xander Eberding      Seth Faivre      Audrey Frost

**Mass Servers for March 11 & 12: (only BSS students)**

**4:30 p.m. Saturday**      Cameron Booker, Quinn Butler & Seth Faivre

**7:00 a.m. Sunday**      Jack Ozyurt

**8:30 a.m. Sunday**      no current BSS students

**10:30 a.m. Sunday**      Ava Giacomini

**Daily Servers for March 13-17:**

**8:00 a.m. M & W &**      Spencer Wood

**8:20 a.m. Tu.**      & Maddie O'Connor

**8:00 a.m. Th. &**      Will DeSalle

**8:20 a.m. Fri.**      & Sam DeSalle