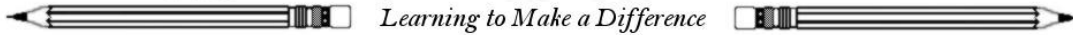


May 4, 2017

# + Blessed Sacrament



## School News



Learning to Make a Difference

### A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

We truly are in our busiest time of the year! With only 14 school days until the end of this school year, our calendar is full of field trips and end-of-the year activities. Again, please be sure to check the *Looking Ahead* section of the newsletter for an updated calendar of events each week and look for more information about details of these activities from your children's homeroom teachers.

Last Friday and Saturday evening, many of our sixth, seventh, and eighth graders, along with some fourth and fifth graders, presented the musical *Seussical, Jr.*, to large audiences. What a fantastic production! Congratulations to all of the cast members on a job well done! They certainly were dedicated and spent many long hours in practice. We are so grateful to our music teacher, Mrs. Hartman, and to Mrs. Taryn Grant for organizing and directing the production!

Congratulations to Mrs. Townsend's class on receiving their First Holy Communion last Sunday. Please continue to pray for Ms. Horn's class as they receive their First Communion this Sunday at 1:00 p.m. 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.

On Monday we celebrated an all-school Mass with the May crowning as part of the processional. Representatives from all grade levels carried flowers for Mary's altar, and our kindergarten representatives crowned Mary. Special thanks to Mrs. Jody Kienzler and our choir for leading us in song at this special Mass and at all of our all-school Masses this year!

We were pleased to welcome back so many BSS alumni from the Class of 2013 on Tuesday morning for our annual alumni breakfast. Our current 8<sup>th</sup> graders were also honored at this breakfast. We are proud of the achievements of both classes and look forward to hearing great things from them in the future.

We also congratulate our band students who performed in the spring band concert last night at SHG! Their selections of music provided an entertaining evening for all in attendance. Special thanks to their band director, Ms. Melissa Blankestyn, and the other band instructors, Mr. Robert Rake and Mr. Stuart Foster, for guiding our band students this year!

Tomorrow is our regular PSA-sponsored Spirit Day. Students may wear Blessed Sacrament Spirit Day shirts with jeans or uniform bottoms. All other regular uniform guidelines do apply. This Spirit Day is covered by the yearly pre-paid fee. Students who did not pay the fee should bring a dollar to participate.

Next week our eighth graders will be going on their annual Days of Discovery field trips as well as their class trip

to Chicago. Permission slips for these trips are being sent home with students today and also will be emailed home to parents. **The permission slip for Days of Discovery must be returned tomorrow so that drivers can be scheduled. We do need parent volunteers to drive to make the Days of Discovery possible.**

If you see Father Jeff on Sunday, be sure to wish him a happy birthday! Enjoy the weekend!

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Kathy Wear*

### Ursuline Academy Alumni Foundation Tuition Award

Congratulations to seventh grader Anthony Keldermans who was recently awarded a \$500 tuition award from the Ursuline Academy Alumni Foundation for next school year.

### Marita Child Memorial Gospel of Life Essay Contest

Congratulations to this year's winners of the Gospel of Life essay contest! The winners were announced at the all-school Mass on May 1, and each winner received a trophy and a check for the amount indicated. The sixth grade winners were 1<sup>st</sup> place – Joe Humphrey (\$50), 2<sup>nd</sup> – Elliott Kren (\$25), and 3<sup>rd</sup> – Madi Sweeney (\$25). In seventh grade the winners were 1<sup>st</sup> place – Audrey Frost (\$75), 2<sup>nd</sup> – Jackson Stewart (\$50), and 3<sup>rd</sup> – Jack Davis (\$50). The eighth grade winners were 1<sup>st</sup> place – Nathaniel Bell (\$100), 2<sup>nd</sup> – Abby Anderson (\$75), and 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sophia Bonansinga (\$50). Special thanks to Deena & Calvin Bell of the Gospel of Life Committee, to the volunteer judges, and to the religion teachers, Mrs. Mundstock and Mrs. Hollahan, who make this meaningful experience possible for our students!

### Yearbook Group Photos

Next Friday, May 12, group pictures will be taken for use in the school yearbook. These groups include any clubs, fine arts groups, after-school enrichment groups, Scholastic Bowl team, Builders Club, and Scout groups as well as winners of our science and history fairs, essay contests, and geography and spelling bees. Scouts may wear their uniforms on this picture day, and students may bring any awards associated with their group for the photos. No sports teams are included as their photos for the yearbook were taken by Lifetouch yesterday after school.

### Plastic Grocery Bags Needed!

You know those plastic grocery bags that seem to multiply? St. John's Breadline is in great need of them!!! A large black lawn bag will be in the school foyer to collect the bags. Just have your children drop them off by **next**

**Thursday, May 11**, and a volunteer will deliver them to St. John's Breadline. Thanks for your help!

### **Girls on the Run Helping the Community**

Each year the B.S.S. Girls on the Run (GOTR) program picks a community project. This year they are donating **new and gently used books** to the Ronald McDonald House in Springfield. The people who live at the Ronald McDonald House will greatly appreciate these donations. If you want to donate books, please drop them off in the decorated boxes placed around the school. **All books must be donated by Friday, May 12.** If you have any questions, please contact Ali Fleischli or Caroline Sheehan in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. We hope you can help with this project! It would mean a lot to the Girls on the Run!

### **Library Books Due!**

All library books are due by Monday, May 15! All library books from 8<sup>th</sup> graders are due by Monday, May 8. Please see Mrs. Criscione or Mrs. Allen if you need to pay for lost books or books needing repairs. End of the year privileges (i.e. Fun Day participation, etc.) may be withheld from students who are not in good standing with their library books. **As a special incentive, every student in the grade level (both homerooms) that is the first one to have all books returned will receive a free poster.**

### **Feast of Corpus Christi**

All of the second grade First Communicants are invited to take part in the Corpus Christi procession on Sunday, June 18, following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The second graders should wear their First Communion attire and meet in the church immediately following the Mass. The procession should be finished around 1:00 p.m. Please email Margaret in the parish office at [mantenan@bsps.org](mailto:mantenan@bsps.org) if your child plans to participate. Thank you.

### **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](http://www.shoptkits.com), using our school account number 10950.** Paper orders are also accepted, and all paperwork was previously sent home with each student. **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.

### **Mentor Families**

We continue to look for volunteers to serve as mentors for families entering our school community in the fall. 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](mailto:burke@bssbruins.org) by Monday, May 8, if you would be interested in helping in this way or if you have any questions. You earn service hours for each family mentored. We truly appreciate those who have already volunteered for next year! *We are still in need of several more mentor families for preK/kindergarten.* Thank you for your consideration of this important service!

### **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 tomorrow, 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](mailto: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.

### **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 earlier, 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](http://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.

### **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!

### **News from Our Development Office**

- We will be doing the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 47<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.GOTRcentralillinois.org).

### **Annual Rummage Sale**

Mark your calendars!!! The Annual Blessed Sacrament School Rummage Sale is on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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. Please call or text

Neal Malone at 361-5943 to let him know when you will be available to assist with the sale, or you may email him at [the.malones7@comcast.net](mailto:the.malones7@comcast.net).

### **93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Garden Party**

Add another date to your calendar! Our Garden Party will be held on Wednesday, June 14, and the co-chairs, Jennifer Furkin and Kate McCarthy, are looking for adults and teens to help during the Garden Party and for set-up and clean-up shifts. Family services hours as well as 8<sup>th</sup> grade and high school service hours will be given to those helping. See the flyer being sent home today for the specific volunteer opportunities. Raffle tickets are also coming home today. Be a part of this fun tradition at Blessed Sacrament!

### **Service Hours Reminder**

Service hours for this school year may be earned through May 31, 2017. Several opportunities are available as listed in this newsletter or on our school website. Please call the school office if you need assistance in finding service opportunities. Statements will be mailed in early June, and families will be billed for any hours not completed. All accounts must be current by July 31, 2017, in order for families to be allowed to complete registration for the 2017-2018 school year.

### **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.

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 tomorrow, 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.

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

Little Flower School is offering their annual summer camp. There are a variety of fun activities and field trips planned! Children are welcome on a drop-in, daily rate basis or for full-time registration. Please see the flyer being emailed with today's newsletter and posted on our website. Please call Little Flower at 529-4511 for further information.

## 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 were emailed previously and are posted on our school website. For further information, please contact Scott Eades at 217-414-3518 or at [seades2@comcast.net](mailto:seades2@comcast.net).

## Looking Ahead

Friday, May 5 –

**On-line orders for Mission India t-shirts due!**  
**Coaching applications due!**  
**8<sup>th</sup> grade Days of Discovery permission slips 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<sup>th</sup> graders' library books due!**  
8:20 a.m. - Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)  
8:30 – 2:45 - 8<sup>th</sup> grade Days of Discovery

Tuesday, May 9 –

8:30 – 2:45 - 8<sup>th</sup> grade Days of Discovery  
9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – Kindergarten field trip to Decatur's Children Museum & Scovill Zoo  
After school/evening – Intramural volleyball tournament in the gym

Wednesday, May 10 –

8<sup>th</sup> grade class trip to Chicago (8<sup>th</sup> graders should wear jeans & class t-shirts)  
1:30 p.m. – Early dismissal for faculty meeting;  
BASE is available

Thursday, May 11 –

**Last day to donate plastic grocery bags!**  
9:00 a.m. – Late arrival for 8<sup>th</sup> graders only  
9:00 – 2:45 - 8<sup>th</sup> grade Days of Discovery & graduation & awards night practices  
2:00 p.m. – SHG choir performance in the gym

Friday, May 12 –

**Last day to donate new & gently used books for the Ronald McDonald House!**  
**SchoolKidz school supply kit paper order forms & payment due to office**

Lifetouch yearbook photos of clubs & groups  
8th grade graduation practice after 8:20 a.m. Mass  
8<sup>th</sup> grade lunch at Pie's the Limit with dismissal for the day from that location  
11:45 a.m.-3:15 p.m. – IMSA (5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade participants) field trip to SIU School of Medicine

Sunday, May 14 –

Happy Mothers' Day!  
5:00 p.m. – 8<sup>th</sup> grade awards night & dinner/dance

Monday, May 15 –

**All library books due!**  
**Dental examination forms due!**  
No 8<sup>th</sup> graders in attendance at school

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

6:00 p.m. – 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation Mass

Tuesday, May 16 –

9:00 a.m. – Ms. Vespa's 1<sup>st</sup> grade spring program  
1:30 p.m. – Mrs. Carter's 1<sup>st</sup> grade spring program  
3:00 p.m. – Talent show auditions in the cafeteria

Wednesday, May 17 –

2<sup>nd</sup> grade pizza party and field trip to Baskin Robbins  
7<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to Camp Williamson in Carlinville

Thursday, May 18 –

**SchoolKidz online orders due today!**  
10:00 a.m. - Preschool (Tu/Th) walking field trip to Baskin Robbins

Friday, May 19 –

10:00 a.m. - PreK (MWF) walking field trip to Baskin Robbins  
1<sup>st</sup> grade field trip to St. Louis Zoo  
3<sup>rd</sup> grade walking field trip to Washington Park & Baskin Robbins  
4<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to St. Louis Science Center

Monday, May 22 –

**Garden Party volunteer forms due today!**  
10:15 a.m. – MWF Pre-K graduation in the classroom  
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  
1<sup>st</sup> 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 distributed at the end of the day  
**1:30 p.m. dismissal – NO B.A.S.E.!!**  
Happy Summer Vacation!! ☺

## Please Remember!

### Before School Patrols for the Week of May 8-12:

Charles Pittman Anna Riedell Jaynanne Roate  
Joey Scott Teddy Thornberry Alaric Wortman

### After School Patrols for the Week of May 8-12:

Jackson Stewart Chip Weihmeir Brigid Wilhite

### Mass Servers for May 6 & 7: (only BSS students)

**4:30 p.m. Saturday** Spencer Wood, Lennon Long & Noah Ward

**7:00 a.m. Sunday** Anthony Keldermans

**8:30 a.m. Sunday** Agnes Cross

**10:30 a.m. Sunday** Sam & William DeSalle

### Daily Servers for May 8-12:

**8:00 a.m. M & W &** Sophia Njapa

**8:20 a.m. Tu.** & Madeline Landgrebe

**8:00 a.m. Th, &** Blake White

**8:20 a.m. Fri** & Taylor Verry