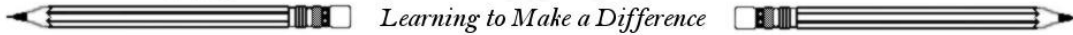


October 20, 2016

+ Blessed Sacrament



School News



A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

The end of the first quarter was yesterday, and report cards for students in grades K-8 will be sent home next Wednesday, October 26. Parents of preschool students will receive their report cards at conferences. Along with the report cards, you will receive a summary of family service hours **submitted** during the first quarter and a form with the scheduled times for your parent-teacher conferences.

Thanks to all parents who returned the conference forms. Conferences are being held on Wednesday, November 2, from 2:30 – 8:00 p.m. and Thursday, November 3, from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. We made every effort to fulfill your request for day and time, but we did have some requests that did not match up with the teacher's availability. If a teacher will be calling to schedule a conference at another mutually convenient time, that option will be indicated on the returned form. Any families who did not return forms on time were scheduled in open time slots. If you need to change a conference time for any reason, please call the school office as soon as possible to make those arrangements.

In addition to the report cards, service hours report, and conference schedules, we are also sending home scores from Iowa Assessments/CogATs with students next Wednesday. Keep in mind that although standardized test scores are important in gauging a student's progress, they are not the only measure of your child's academic success. If you have any questions about interpreting the test scores, the teachers will be happy to review them with you at conferences. As always, we appreciate your support and practice at home to help your child reach his/her full potential.

Next week we will observe Red Ribbon Days on Thursday and Friday and then the following Monday. The themes of each day are listed on the calendar in the *Looking Ahead* section of this newsletter. Special thanks to Mrs. Senger for planning and preparing for Red Ribbon Days.

Tomorrow, Friday, Oct. 21, is an extra Spirit Day to benefit the Knights of Columbus and their efforts with special education religion classes. It is not covered by the pre-paid Spirit Day yearly fee. Students must bring \$1 to wear a BSS Spirit Day shirt, BSS leadership shirt, or BSS athletic team shirt with either jeans or uniform bottoms. No other shirts or pants/shorts are acceptable for this Spirit Day, and the other regular Spirit Day guidelines do apply.

Enjoy your weekend!

*Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathy Wear*

Bruins News

Congratulations to our cross country runners who competed at the state meet in Normal last Saturday! Our

cooperative boys' team with St. Agnes did an excellent job running the course with many personal best times. Most importantly, we're proud of the way they supported each other and represented our schools. Special thanks to their coach, Mike O'Brien, for his leadership and guidance of our student athletes and to Brad Frost for his assistance with the team.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Mason Rogers, a third grader, on being recognized for his artwork that was submitted last fall for the Missionary Childhood Association Christmas Artwork Contest. Mason was a winner in his age group on the Diocesan level and received the book *Dear Pope Francis* as an award. We're proud of Mason for his accomplishment and hope to see more entries and winners from our school in the future. (We recently received information about this year's contest. Please see the related article.)

PSA Spirit Wear Orders

The spirit wear ordered through PSA has arrived! Items will go home with the students today. Please check your items with the attached copy of your order form. If there are any problems, please contact Denise Klaves at 217-899-0234 or at bdklaves@comcast.net for the Miles T-Shirt Company orders or Melanie Verry at 217-361-5841 or at tayty0816@att.net for the Under Dog Tees orders.

We do have a few items that are on back order, but we hope they will be delivered soon. Copies of those order forms are going home with students today, also. Again, any questions should be directed to Denise Klaves or Melanie Verry, as listed above. Thanks for your support of PSA through your orders!

Missionary Childhood Association Art Contest

MCA is sponsoring its annual art contest, and entries must be submitted to the Office for the Missions, 1615 W. Washington, Springfield, IL 62702. Entries will be judged at the diocesan level, and then the top three winners at each grade level will be sent to the national MCA office for judging. All entries must arrive in the Office for the Missions by Jan. 15, 2017, and any entries received by Dec. 15, 2016, will have the chance to appear as the cover design for the Christmas edition of *The Catholic Times* newspaper. Entry forms and guidelines are available on our school website.

November Hot Lunch Orders

The hot lunch order form for November is being sent home today. Please return the form with payment to the school office by next Tuesday, October 25.

Volunteers Needed for Grandparents' Day

Grandparents' Day on Thursday, Nov. 3, is only a couple of weeks away! If you are available to help with set-up in the late afternoon/evening of Wednesday, Nov. 2, or with serving on the morning of Thursday, Nov. 3, please contact Lori Dye at 652-3269 or at dyprnc@comcast.net. You will earn service hours, and this is always such a fun morning!

Uniform Reminders

Monday, Oct. 31, will be the last day that students will be allowed to wear shorts until next spring. Also, girls in grades 5-8 are required to wear tights under their skirts/**skorts** starting on **Tuesday, Nov. 1**. *Please remember skirts/skorts must not be shorter than two inches above the knee. There are several that need to be lengthened!* This might also be a good time to check on sweatshirts and sweaters for your children. Please review the uniform section **in the student handbook (p. 25-27)** for more specific details. Please note that students in grades 6-8 must purchase their uniform pants and shorts from Luers or Dennis Uniform Company.

Dennis Uniform Company Sale!

Just in time...This Thursday – Saturday, October 20-22, Dennis Uniforms is offering 15% off all purchases and free shipping! A flyer is posted on our school website, or you may go to www.dennisuniform.com.

Builders Club "Trick or Treat" Collection for UNICEF

Our Builders Club, which is affiliated with Kiwanis International, is supporting their Trick or Treat for UNICEF Project this year. Next week, students are encouraged to bring in any spare change to donate to this fund. There will be special collection boxes in each classroom. All funds raised through this project will support The Eliminate Project, a joint initiative of Kiwanis and UNICEF to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus. Thank you, in advance, for supporting this project! Let's help make our Builders Club one of the top fundraisers for this life-saving project.

Head Lice Reminders

Recently, we have had some cases of head lice reported at various grade levels. Per school policy (page 16 in the handbook), children may not be in school until they have been treated and all nits have been removed from hair. School personnel do recheck the heads of students returning from lice treatment, and we also periodically check students/classes where lice is reported or suspected. Please routinely check your own children and also remind them **NOT** to share hats, brushes, hair bows/ties, etc. with other children as these actions spread lice. Thank you for your cooperation.

Some families report they sought treatment at the new Lice Clinic of America, now open at 2509 West Iles Avenue, and have been pleased with the results and their recommendation to have all family members checked. The website is www.LiceClinicSpringfield.com. Blessed Sacrament School does not endorse or support this clinic or any specific brand of lice treatment or deterrent products. We are simply providing this information as a service to our families.

October Box Tops Contest

A collection sheet was sent home previously for our October Box Tops contest. Each student who returns a completed sheet will receive a treat bag, and the class that collects the most box tops over the entire month of October will win a class prize. All collection sheets are due back to the office by Friday, Oct. 28.

Turkey in Disguise Contest

The school library is sponsoring a Turkey in Disguise Contest to celebrate the amazing characters in books in our library. A "turkey template" was sent home electronically last week, and students are encouraged to decorate one to look like a character from a favorite book. Be creative in decorating your turkey in disguise as a book character and submit it from Oct. 24 through Nov. 1 to the librarians with the contest form, also sent home electronically last week. Please check with Mrs. Criscione or Mrs. Allen in the library if you have any questions. The "turkeys in disguise" entries will be on display during Grandparents' Day for students to show their special guests!

March for Life

Students and chaperones attending the March for Life trip, sponsored by the Diocesan Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry, will leave for Washington, D.C., on Wednesday, Jan. 25, and will return on Sunday, Jan. 29, with the actual march taking place on Friday, Jan. 27. Information about the March for Life was sent home previously with our eighth graders. Please note that the interest form must be returned to the school office by **Monday, Oct. 24**.

Halloween at the Executive Mansion

Students in Pre-K through fifth grade are invited to trick or treat at the Executive Mansion from 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, October 30, 2016. Please enter through the Fourth Street gate for Halloween treats. A flyer is posted on our school website for more information.

Looking Ahead

Friday, Oct. 21 –
Extra Spirit Day (not covered by pre-paid fee)
Monday, Oct. 24 –
March for Life interest forms from 8th graders due!
8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
Monday, Oct. 24 – Friday, Oct. 28 –
Builders Club collection of change for UNICEF
Monday, Oct. 24 – Tuesday, Nov. 1 –
Entries to Turkey in Disguise Library Contest may be submitted!
Tuesday, Oct. 25 –
November hot lunch order forms due!
5th grade field trip to Funks Grove Rock Museum
(note the change of date)
Wednesday, Oct. 26 –
Report Card Day!
Thursday, Oct. 27 –
Red Ribbon Day-*Following Christ Has Me on the Right Path!*

Starting at 4:00 p.m. - Team photos for co-op teams (cross country, softball & 7th & 8th grade girls' basketball) at St. Agnes

Friday, Oct. 28 –
Red Ribbon Day - *Paws-itively Proud to be Drug-Free!*
Box tops collection sheets due!

Monday, Oct. 31 – Happy Halloween!!
Red Ribbon Day - *Go Where God Sends You. Let Jesus Light the Way!*
Free modified Spirit Day! Halloween or orange/black shirts with jeans or uniform bottoms
1:30 p.m. – Costume parade for Pre-K-fourth grade in the gym; classroom parties to follow

Tuesday, Nov. 1 –
8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass for All Saints Day
3:00 – 4:00 p.m. – Garden Club Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 2 –
1:30 p.m. – Early dismissal; **no B.A.S.E.**
2:30-8:00 p.m. – Parent-teacher conferences

Thursday, Nov. 3 –
Grandparents' Day with Mass at 9:30 a.m.; students dismissed after Mass; **no B.A.S.E.**
12:00-5:00 p.m. – Parent-teacher conferences

Friday, Nov. 4 –
No school for students; teachers will be attending DAEC (Diocesan Adult Enrichment Conference)

Sunday, Nov. 6 –
Daylight savings time ends!

Wednesday, Nov. 9 –
1:30 p.m. – dismissal for monthly faculty meeting
4:15 p.m. – PSA Board meeting in office conference room

Thursday, Nov. 10 –
7th grade retreat for all Catholic schools at SHG
6:30 p.m. - SHG Preview Night

Friday, Nov. 11 –
PSA Spirit Day – included in pre-paid Spirit Days
9:30 a.m. – Veterans' Day assembly
2:15 p.m. – SHG Band performance for Veterans' Day

Saturday, Nov. 12 –
Catholic Schools' Speech Meet at Blessed Sacrament

Monday, Nov. 14 –
8:20 a.m. – leadership assembly (wear t-shirt)

Wednesday, Nov. 16 –
6:30 p.m. – First Reconciliation for second graders

Thursday, Nov. 17 –
4:00 p.m. - 7th & 8th grade girls' home basketball games vs. Grant Middle School

Friday, Nov. 18 –
Mid-quarter reports go home!
Fifth grade joint service day with other Catholic schools at Little Flower/St. Joseph's Home

Monday, Nov. 21 –
Barnes and Noble Book Fair – events in the evening at the store... watch for more information soon!

Wednesday, Nov. 23 – Friday, Nov. 25 –
No school – Thanksgiving vacation!

Tuesday, Nov. 29 –
Lifetouch Picture re-take day!
9:30 a.m. - Reconciliation for grades 6-8

Wednesday, Nov. 30 –
9:30 a.m. – Reconciliation for grades 3-5

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of Oct. 24 - 28:

| | | |
|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| Justine Bell | Joey Brown | Quinn Butler |
| Griffin Cook | Julia Danna | Teddy Dietrich |

After School Patrols for the Week of Oct. 24 - 28:

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|--------------|
| Eddie Ambrose | Gus Beard | Emma Brennan |
|---------------|-----------|--------------|

Mass Servers for Oct. 22 & 23: (only BSS students listed)

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|---------------------------|--|
| 4:30 p.m. Saturday | Jonah Parkes, Lily Klaves & Nathaniel Bell |
| 7:00 a.m. Sunday | no current BSS students |
| 8:30 a.m. Sunday | Maggie & Ellen O'Brien |
| 10:30 a.m. Sunday | Maddie O'Connor, Jack Lamar & Elliot Kren |

Daily Servers for Oct. 24 - 28:

| | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m. M & W & 8:20 a.m. Tu. | Lennon Long & Tyler Furkin |
| 8:00 a.m. Th. & 8:20 a.m. Fri. | Madeline Landgrebe & Seth Faivre |