

September 1, 2016

+ Blessed Sacrament



School News

Learning to Make a Difference

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

It was great to see so many of you at our Parent Back-to-School Night. We hope the evening provided you with additional information regarding classroom expectations for your child this year as well as an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and learn about the best way to communicate with each other. We appreciate your partnership in making this a successful and rewarding year for your child!

Congratulations to Megan Swanson who won the drawing for the scrip gift card at our Back-to-School Night. Also, congratulations to the classes that won an extra Spirit Day for having the highest percentage of parent attendance that evening. Ms. Vespa's first grade homeroom was the lower grade winner, and Mrs. Reiser's seventh grade homeroom was the upper grade winner. A date for the extra Spirit Days will be announced in an upcoming newsletter.

Tomorrow we will have our monthly PSA Spirit Day for September. Our Spirit Day tomorrow is included in the yearly pre-paid Spirit Day fee for those families who chose that option and already paid the fee. All those who did not opt to pay for Spirit Days in advance must send in \$1 per student in order for their child to participate.

Students may wear any official BSS Spirit Day t-shirt, any sports team shirt, or the uniform shirt untucked with jeans or uniform shorts, pants, or skirts. (No other shorts are allowed.) If a jersey is worn, a plain white short-sleeved shirt should be worn underneath the jersey. The sports team shirts are not usually included in our regular Spirit Days but are still acceptable for this Spirit Day.

Don't forget that the order forms for the PSA Spirit Day shirts are due tomorrow. (See the related article for more details.) These are not required purchases, but they are fun shirts to promote school spirit! **The leadership t-shirts are being sent home today, and students should wear these every Monday. They are also acceptable to wear on Spirit Days.**

This Sunday, Sept. 4, Mother Teresa will be canonized as St. Teresa of Calcutta. EWTN will carry the Mass of Canonization at 3:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 9:00 p.m. on Sunday. This week our religion teachers are sharing information with the students about her life. We hope you will also take some time this weekend to reflect with your children on the great example of faith and hope that she gave all of us. Enjoy the long weekend!

*Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathy Wear*

PSA Spirit Wear Order Forms

PSA sent home two order forms last week for BSS shirts and sweatshirts. (Color copies of the forms are posted on our school website.) **The shirts and sweatshirts on both**

forms are not uniform items that may be worn on regular school days. However, they are perfect for our Spirit Days and to support our school's athletic teams!

The form from Miles T-Shirts has 20 options. #1-5 feature a starburst tie-dyed pattern while #6 & 7 have a tie-dyed marble pattern. #15 & 16 include a paw print in the lower corner of the tie-dyed shirt. Note that #4-5 and #17-20 are long-sleeve shirts. #12-14 are hooded sweatshirts. (More detailed examples of the different types of tie-dyed patterns are available for viewing in the school office.) **Miles T-Shirts is also offering an XS size. Although it is not listed on the order form, you may add that size to your order, if needed.**

The other order form from Under Dog Tees features five designs that are available in short-sleeve and long-sleeve t-shirts as well as hooded sweatshirts. These designs each feature a silver glitter accent and are offered in the background color shown.

You may order from one or both forms, but only one check is needed for your total order. **The checks should be made payable to Blessed Sacrament School and are due back to school by tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 2.** You can show your school spirit and support PSA at the same time!

Scholastic Book Fair Is Now Open!

The Scholastic Book Fair has been open this week. The fair will be open tomorrow, Friday, and after all Masses the weekend of Sept. 4 & 5. **The final day for the book fair has been extended to noon on Wednesday, Sept. 7.**

Families are able to pre-order the latest book in the Wimpy Kid series, Diary of a Wimpy Kid Double Down. It is scheduled to go on sale on November 1. However, you may pre-order it from our Scholastic Book Fair for the special price of \$8.99. The order form is posted on our school's website and will be available throughout the book fair. The profit from this fair benefits the school library, so we appreciate your help in making this a success!

Blessed Sacrament Choir Sign-Up

Students in third-fifth grades have the opportunity to join the Blessed Sacrament Chorister Choir this year. The choir is open to all interested students in those grade levels. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 3:00-4:15 p.m. at the rectory, beginning September 7. The choir sings every Tuesday for the grades 2-5 Mass and for the 4:30 p.m. Saturday Mass on the 4th Saturday of every month. Please see the informational letter posted on our school website. You may contact director Jody Kienzler for more information at jkienzler@bsps.org or 528-7541, ext. 111.

Requirements for Volunteering at School

Effective July 1, 2012, any individual volunteering in any capacity in our parish or school must attend a training of

Protecting God's Children and have a background check. Once you have attended the training, you never have to attend another session. However, if your background check was completed more than five years ago, it must be completed again. (The forms for the background check were included in the Fee Night packet.) Very soon we will be starting to ask for chaperones for field trips and volunteers for our lunches. To volunteer, you must meet these requirements.

For your convenience, we will be holding a session of Protecting God's Children on Tuesday, September 6th. It will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Please call the school office at 522-7534 to register for the training so that enough materials are available for those in attendance. In addition, sessions are scheduled for other dates and locations in Springfield or within close proximity. Please check for an updated schedule on the Diocesan website, www.dio.org.

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures

We appreciate all of you following the directions of the teachers and the student patrols as we direct cars for our arrival and dismissal procedures this year. **Please remember that it is against the law to be on a cell phone while driving in the vicinity of the school. For the safety of all children, please refrain from talking on your cell phone while driving on or adjacent to our school grounds during drop-off and pick-up times.**

We ask anyone who wants to park and walk their child(ren) into the school to park in the spaces closer to the field and, if possible, park so that you do not have to back out into the drop-off lane. Please pull forward so that other cars may park behind your car, to accommodate the maximum number of cars in that area. All other cars should proceed to the next lane of traffic to drop off students. (Cars dropping off students can also enter from Walnut into the other drop-off lane.)

Please remember to park facing east in the lot, facing Walnut Street, with the exception of those cars backed into the places in the lot adjacent to the Walnut Street sidewalk. We ask that you pull all the way forward into the first space available so that we may accommodate the maximum number of cars and avoid cars having to back into spaces as much as possible. The first whistle indicates that everyone should go to their cars to prepare for dismissal. The next series of three whistles indicates that dismissal is beginning. **Cars should leave the parking lot only after being directed to do so by the patrols.** We appreciate your help in keeping our students safe!

Volunteers Needed for the Annual Auction!

Save the date! The 47th Annual Fall Festival Dinner and Auction for Blessed Sacrament School is on Saturday, October 1. There are so many FUN ways to be a part of this fantastic event and EARN SERVICE HOURS at the same time. Opportunities to help are available from September 22 through Auction Night on October 1. Sign up NOW via the link: <http://signup.com/go/Qvqmpx>.

Auction registration will open soon. Please be sure to read the *All Things Auction* newsletter that is being sent with today's newsletter.

Author Visit

Lisa Hendeby, founder and editor of CatholicMom.com, will be in Springfield next week for a women's conference, *In Her Cherished Heart*, on Saturday, Sept. 10. (See the flyer posted on the school website for more details about the conference.) Lisa also writes the Chime Travelers children's fiction series, and our librarians have arranged for her to speak to our second, third, and fourth graders next Friday, Sept. 9, in our school cafeteria. Many of our students have read her books or have been introduced to her series. An informational sheet about her books available for purchase online is posted on our school website. We look forward to welcoming this author to our school next week!

County Market Max Cards

If you happen to do your grocery shopping at County Market, please take a moment to sign up for your Max card for Education. You may do so in-store or online at www.mycountymarket.com. Once you do, simply scan your Max card every time you shop, and it enters Blessed Sacrament School a chance to win \$5,000!

Ronald McDonald House Family Fun Day

In celebration of 30 years of keeping families close, Ronald McDonald House will host Family Fun Day on Sunday, Sept. 11, from 1-4 p.m. It will be at the RMcD House located at 610 North 7th Street. There will be food, kid-friendly activities, tours, and more available. Please RSVP by calling 528-3314 by Sept. 7th. Thank you!

SHG Junior Cheer Camp

The SHG Cheerleaders will host their Jr. Cheer Camp on Saturday, **September 10** at SHG East Campus from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Children in grades K-8 are invited to attend. Participants will perform with the cheerleaders during the first quarter of the SHG / Glenwood football game on Friday, September 16. Registration forms with additional information can be found at www.bssbruins.org or in the SHG school office. Camp fee is \$45 if received by September 7 or \$50 for late registrations and walk-ins. Contact Dana Kinion at 217-553-8436 or dkinion@601w.com with questions.

SHG Freshman Volleyball Tournament

SHG is hosting a freshman volleyball tournament on September 10 and is looking for 8th grade volleyball players to work as line judges, scorers, timekeepers, and Libero trackers. They will earn service hours for working. If interested, please contact Andrea Petrilli at apetrilli@troxellins.com.

SHG ShopAPalooza

SHG ShopAPalooza is seeking vendors for its annual shopping event on Sunday, October 23, 2016, at SHG's West Campus. If you are interested, please contact Ann Holmes at 899-2044 or email SHGShopAPalooza@gmail.com. A vendor application form is also posted on our school website. The deadline for early registration is September 15.

Diocesan Scout Retreat

The Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting is hosting a Scout Retreat on Saturday, November 19 from 1-5 p.m. at Holy Cross Parish in Auburn. The cost is \$10 per

participant, and the registration deadline is November 15. Please see the flyer posted on our school website for more information or contact Kyle Holtgrave at 698-8500, ext. 154.

The Gym Fall Basketball

A flyer is posted on our school website for the fall basketball leagues at The Gym. Registration deadline is September 9, and games begin in early November. Please see the flyer for more information.

Fall Book Study: *Consoling the Heart of Jesus*

Please join us for a 10 week book study this fall as we read Father Michael Gaitley's 2nd book, *Consoling the Heart of Jesus*. This is the follow-up weekly retreat program to his first book, *33 Days to Morning Glory*. Our group will meet on Monday mornings in the church rectory basement from 9:15-10:45 a.m., beginning on Monday, Sept. 26 through Dec. 5. Refreshments will be available, but there will be no child care. We also have an evening group available Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the same location. The weekly meetings will consist of a large group DVD viewing (based on the weekly reading) followed by small group discussion. Although it is recommended that you have read *33 Days to Morning Glory* before this 2nd book, it is not required. Retreat materials consist of the book and the retreat companion journal (price will depend on number of participants). Please contact Morgan Ambrose (741-3831, or morganfaithambrose@yahoo.com) by Monday, Sept. 12, if you would like to participate.

Looking Ahead

Friday, Sept. 2 –

PSA order forms for spirit wear due!

PSA Spirit Day - \$1 donation (covered by pre-paid fee)

8:20 a.m. weekly Mass begins for grades 6-8

2:15 p.m. – First Friday adoration & benediction (grades 2-8)

Monday, Sept. 5 –

No school in observance of Labor Day

Tuesday, Sept. 6 –

3:00-4:00 p.m. – Garden Club meeting

5:30 p.m. – Protecting God's Children session in the cafeteria (please call the school office to RSVP in advance)

Wednesday, Sept. 7 –

Scholastic Book Fair closes at noon this day

Friday, Sept. 9 –

8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass

Author Lisa Hendley visits with grades 2-4 (note the change in grade levels) in the cafeteria

Saturday, Sept. 10 –

In Her Cherished Heart Women's Conference

SHG Jr. Cheer Camp

Monday, Sept. 12-Friday, Sept. 16 –

Iowa Standardized Testing all week for grades 2-8

Monday, Sept. 12

No leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Wednesday, Sept. 14 –

11:30 a.m. dismissal for all-day PreK – 8; teachers' regional meeting; **no BASE available!**

Friday, Sept. 16 –

Mid-quarter reports will be sent home with gr. 2-8

Monday, Sept. 19 –

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

Wednesday, Sept. 21 –

Windy City Players performance of *Sleeping Beauty* for Pre-K-fourth grade

Monday, Sept. 26 –

2:30 p.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Tuesday, Sept. 27 –

Vision and hearing screenings

Friday, Sept. 30 –

Vision/hearing screenings for MWF Pre-K

Coleman's Cozy Dog Auction Lunch

1:30 p.m. dismissal – No BASE available!

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of Sept. 6 – 9:

Anthony Keldermans

Gryphon Kirchgerner

Danielle Kraft

Madi Landgrebe

Evee Maloney

Aidan Mauntel

After School Patrols for the Week of Sept. 6– 9:

Carmen Dillman

Maria Fulgenzi

Jack Gaffney

Mass Servers for Sept. 3 & 4: (only BSS students listed)

4:30 p.m. Saturday

no current BSS students

7:00 a.m. Sunday

Maddie O'Connor

8:30 a.m. Sunday

no current BSS students

10:30 a.m. Sunday

Jackson Pitz

Daily Servers for Sept. 5- Sept. 9:

8:00 a.m. M & W &

Emma Brennan

8:20 a.m. Tu.

& Emily Leefers

8:00 a.m. Th. &

Hannah Lambert

8:20 a.m. Fri.

& Jaynanne Roate