

September 8, 2016

# + Blessed Sacrament



## School News

*Learning to Make a Difference*

### A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

Today we celebrated the Feast of the Birth of Mary. We honored Mary in several different ways today, including all classes praying a decade of the rosary. Tomorrow our students will be attending an all-school Mass at 8:20 a.m. As always, you're welcome to join us.

Our students in grades 2-8 will be completing Iowa Assessments (standardized testing) the week of Sept. 12-16. Please make sure the students have had plenty of rest, have a good breakfast, and are not missing school for appointments. They will not have homework assigned next week. Although we will complete make-up testing the week of Sept. 19-23, it is much easier if students do not have to miss their regular classes the next week to finish the testing. Thanks for your cooperation in helping your children to do their best!

Leadership t-shirts were given to all students last week. All students should wear these new leadership t-shirts each Monday, beginning this coming Monday, with uniform bottoms, even if a leadership assembly is not scheduled. No additional uniform shirt is necessary under the shirt. We look forward to celebrating our yearly theme each Monday with our t-shirts!

Next Friday is mid-quarter (already!) so progress reports will be sent home for all students in grades 2-8 on that day. Don't forget that you can check your child's progress on Engrade at any time. Grades are always updated weekly by 5:00 p.m. on Mondays and often more frequently. Enjoy the weekend!

*Sincerely,  
Mrs. Kathy Wear*

### Bruins Update

Congratulations to our girls' softball team on a good season! Their season ended last night with a loss to Pleasant Plains in the regional tournament. This year the team was a cooperative one with St. Agnes School, and we are proud of all that they accomplished! Special thanks to their coaches, Fred Farley from St. Agnes and Laura Rogers from Blessed Sacrament.

Congratulations to our baseball team on a great start to their season. They defeated Christ the King last night to continue their undefeated streak and are preparing for their regional tournament beginning next week. Watch for news of the exact game dates and times in next week's newsletter.

Congratulations to our cross country runners on their success and improvements as a team and as individual runners so far this season. Good luck to them at their meet in Petersburg tomorrow!

Congratulations to our golf team on their hard work and dedication over the summer and the first weeks of school in anticipation of the IESA tournament series. The Menard

County Youth Classic, a two-day event in June with 9 holes of golf played each day, was one of the events in which our team members participated. Congratulations to Carter Etheridge, Nick Calucchia, and Addi Eades who placed first, second and third, respectively, in that tournament.

Good luck to our golf team members who are competing in the IESA sectional tournaments this Saturday. Addi Eades and Sophia Lewis are participating in their sectional at Country Hills in Greenview, and Nick Calucchia, Carter Etheridge, Tyler Furkin, and Miles Roland are playing at Shamblee in Petersburg. The top 24 girls and the top 18 boys from these sectionals move on to the state tournament the next weekend in Peoria. (The rain date for the sectional tournaments is Monday, Sept. 12.) Go, Bruins!

### Starter Strings Program

Today students in grades 3-7 attended a presentation about a Starter Strings Program. The program through the Sangamon Valley Youth Symphony offers beginning level classes for students of violin, viola, cello, and string bass. The class for area students will be held on Tuesday evenings at Our Savior's Lutheran School in Springfield. Classes for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m., and the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade call will be from 6:40 to 7:30 p.m., both on Tuesdays. An informational meeting for parents and students will be held at Our Savior's School on Tuesday, Sept. 13, at 7:00 p.m. See the flyer sent home with students today and posted on our school website for more information.

### Coleman's Cozy Dog Auction Lunch

Our annual student auction lunch will be Friday, September 30. Students will receive a cozy dog, chips, and a cookie for \$3.50. A special order form accompanies today's newsletter and is due back with payment by Friday, September 23. The regular PSA hot lunch will NOT be served that day. Students will need to bring a sack lunch if they choose not to order the cozy dog lunch. Special thanks to the Colemans, Kathy Harth and Michelle Eades for this lunch!

### 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. We are including some reminders, again, to ask for your help in keep our students safe.

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. As we mentioned previously, it is also against the law.

If you need to park and walk your child(ren) into school, please park in the spaces closest to the field and pull forward so that others can park behind you and so that you do

not have to back out into the lanes of traffic. **As we approach the mid-point of the first quarter, it might be a good time to help students in kindergarten and above to make the transition to be dropped off and to enter the building on their own.** We appreciate that this is an individual decision, but please consider this as an option for your child's timely arrival.

For dismissal 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. **Cars should leave the parking lot only after being directed to do so by the patrols.** Thanks for your help!

### **Room Parents**

Thank you to all of the parents who so graciously agreed to be room parents this year. Mrs. Erin Scott contacted the lead room parents for each grade level by phone last week to confirm their availability for this service. **There will be a room meeting for all room parents on Thursday, September 15, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.** We ask all room parents to please plan on attending. Thank you!

### **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.

### **7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> IMSA FUSION Calendar Change**

Due to the early dismissal next week for our teachers' regional meeting, the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade IMSA FUSION after-school class is cancelled on Wednesday, Sept. 14. The class will resume the following week on Wednesday, Sept. 21, after school.

### **Garden Mums**

The 5<sup>th</sup> grade class is sponsoring a mum sale to benefit the missions. The 10" mums are available in a variety of colors for \$8 each. Order forms with information are being sent home today with the students. **Orders with payment are due back to school by next Thursday, Sept. 15, and mums can be picked up from 3:15-5:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 23.**

### **Physical & Eye Examination Reminders**

Please remember that all school physicals are due in the office prior to October 15. All children entering kindergarten and sixth grade must have their school physical forms and updated immunization records on file in the school office. Also, kindergartners and any students new to Illinois schools need to submit proof of an eye exam by October 15. Please contact Michele at 522-7534, ext. 201, with questions.

### **Dress Code Reminder**

Our student handbook states that make-up is not allowed at school. We wanted to remind students, especially at the junior high level, of this guideline. Students who come to school with make-up applied will be required to remove it. We appreciate your support and help!

### **Library News**

Thank you to all of our Scholastic Book Fair volunteers! Everything ran very smoothly all week, thanks to you! We appreciate all of the parents and students who supported our annual fall book fair. It was quite a success for our library. Look for another book fair in the spring, and mark your calendars now for our annual Barnes and Noble evening on Monday, November 21.

### **Author Visit**

Lisa Hendeby, founder and editor of CatholicMom.com, is in Springfield for a women's conference, *In Her Cherished Heart*, on Saturday, Sept. 10. 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 tomorrow, 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 tomorrow!

### **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](http://www.mycountymarket.com). Once you do, simply scan your Max card every time you shop, and it enters Blessed Sacrament School for a chance to win \$5,000!

### **Virtues in Practice**

This year, as part of our character education and religious formation programs, we will again be using the *Virtues in Practice* program as developed by the Dominican Sisters of Nashville, Tennessee. The program is based on a three-year cycle of focusing on the main virtues of faith, hope, and charity. In addition, each month also has a related virtue, and different grade levels have different saints of the month. A Parent Guide for all grades and the entire three-year cycle will be sent home to all new families next week. Returning families received a copy of the guide and three-year cycle last year. The guide is also available online at our school website. The guide includes a schedule for the three-year cycle, a list of definitions used, background information for each year, and suggested home projects to reinforce the virtues within your own family. In addition to activities and discussions in the religion classes, our leadership assemblies will focus on these virtues. We appreciate your support in helping our students have a hope-filled year!

### **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](http://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](mailto:dkinion@601w.com) with questions.

### 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](mailto: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.

### 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](mailto:morganfaithambrose@yahoo.com)) by Monday, Sept. 12, if you would like to participate.

### Additional Flyer

A flyer is posted on our school website about the Opa Greek Fest. The event is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 17, from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. A special music and meze event will be held on Friday, Sept. 16, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. See the flyer for more information about this fun event!

### Looking Ahead

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 but **wear navy leadership t-shirts**  
Wednesday, Sept. 14 –  
11:30 a.m. dismissal for all-day PreK – 8; teachers' regional meeting; **no BASE available!**  
**No 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade IMSA FUSION after school**  
Thursday, Sept. 15 –  
**5<sup>th</sup> grade mum orders due!**  
6:30-7:30p.m. – Room parent meeting in the cafeteria  
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  
Friday, Sept. 23 –  
**Cozy Dog Lunch Order Due Today!**  
3:15-5:30 p.m. – Mum pick-up for 5<sup>th</sup> grade mission project  
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 (**regular PSA lunch items will not be available to purchase**)  
**1:30 p.m. dismissal – No BASE available!**

### Please Remember!

#### Before School Patrols for the Week of Sept. 12 – 16:

Peter Mokoff	Liam Noonan	Jack Ozyurt
Emma Grace Pezold	Aili Sluga	Andrew Reimers

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

Mary Claire Gardner	Lucy Harvey	Drew Herman
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#### Mass Servers for Sept. 10 & 11: (only BSS students listed)

<b>4:30 p.m. Saturday</b>	Adrianna Thiele & Quinn Butler
<b>7:00 a.m. Sunday</b>	Anthony Keldermans
<b>8:30 a.m. Sunday</b>	Madi Landgrebe
<b>10:30 a.m. Sunday</b>	Grace Minder & Tyler Furkin

#### Daily Servers for Sept. 12- Sept. 16:

<b>8:00 a.m. M &amp; W &amp; 8:20 a.m. Tu.</b>	Andrew Dailey & Carter Etheridge
<b>8:00 a.m. Th. &amp; 8:20 a.m. Fri.</b>	Elliott Kren & Addison Schneller