

+ Blessed Sacrament

August 31, 2017



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 the classes that won an extra Spirit Day for having the highest percentage of parent attendance last night. We had four classes who had very high attendance percentages, which were all very close, so all four classes will have an extra Spirit Day. The winning homerooms include Mrs. Kuhlman's first grade, Ms. Yoho's second grade, Mrs. Ketchum's fourth grade, and Mrs. Morehead's fifth grade. A date for the extra Spirit Days will be announced in an upcoming newsletter.

Tomorrow we will have our PSA Spirit Day for the month of September. For a \$1 donation, 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 acceptable again this week as many families do not yet have a Spirit Day shirt.

Our Spirit Day tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 1, is included for families who already paid the fee on Fee Night. 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.

Don't forget that the order forms for the PSA Spirit Day shirts are due Tuesday, Sept. 5. (See the related article for more details.) These are not required purchases, but they may be worn on Spirit Days and help to promote school spirit!

Please continue to keep all those affected by Hurricane Harvey in your prayers. We will join together this weekend with the parish and next week at school in helping those in need. (See the related article and the flyer going home tomorrow for more details.) Enjoy the three-day weekend!

*Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathy Wear*

Bruins Update

A couple of our athletic teams are already nearing the end of their seasons. Our baseball and softball teams have had excellent seasons so far! Good luck to our boys' baseball team in their game this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. against Virginia Jr. High School at Schlitt Park. Also, good luck to our girls'

softball team in their game today at 4:30 p.m. at St. Aloysius.

Our 8th grade members of the softball team will be honored at their last home game on Tuesday, Sept. 5, at 4:15 p.m. before the game against AC Central at the SHG softball field. The last home game for the baseball team was scheduled for Monday, Sept. 11, but we just received word that the other team is unable to play. The recognition of the 8th grade baseball players will be rescheduled to another game.

Even though they have been training through the summer and during the opening weeks of school, our cross country team just recently began competing in their meets. Good luck to them this Saturday, Sept. 2, at the Rochester Invite, which begins at 10:00 a.m. at Rochester Park.

Our golf team also was busy this summer in preparation for the upcoming sectional meets. Good luck to Addison Eades who will be representing our girls' golf team at sectionals in Greenview on Tuesday, Sept. 5. Also, good luck to Nick Calucchia, Carter Etheridge, Tyler Furkin, and Mac Stone who will be our boys' golf team representatives at the boys' sectional meet at Jacksonville also on Tuesday, Sept. 5. Go, Bruins!!

Support for Hurricane Harvey Victims

This Sunday there will be a second collection at all Masses to benefit those affected by Hurricane Harvey, as requested by the USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops). Also, next week our school will be sponsoring a coin/money drive to benefit the hurricane victims by supporting relief efforts organized by Catholic Charities USA. Relief efforts through this organization will provide more immediate support with the specifically needed items to those affected by the hurricane over any items that we could collect to donate. Look for a flyer coming home tomorrow with details! Thank you, in advance, for your generosity in helping others in their time of need!

ALL THINGS AUCTION!

Check out the Volume 2 edition of *All Things Auction* being emailed home today! In addition to including links for ticket registration and volunteer opportunities, the flyer includes information about two new raffles, the Golden Ticket and the indoor/outdoor bar. We will also have our traditional "Big" Auction Parish Raffle for cash. Tickets for these raffles are available in the school office and will be sold after Masses this weekend. Be sure your calendars are marked for September 30th! Register in advance for your tickets and be a part of this fun event!

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.) To volunteer, you must meet these requirements.

We have had several requests to provide a PGC training as soon as possible for new parents and those who would like to begin volunteering immediately. **We will host a training session in our school cafeteria on Tuesday, Sept. 5, at 5:15 p.m. The session should conclude by 6:30 p.m. Please call the school office or email Mrs. Wear at wear@bssbruins.org to sign up for the training.** There are other sessions scheduled for dates and locations in Springfield or within close proximity. Please check for an updated schedule on the Diocesan website, www.dio.org.

Community Day Booklets

Our student service organization, Builders Club, is selling Community Days booklets to benefit the Missionary Childhood Association. These booklets contain over \$500 in coupons that can be used at Bergner's from Wednesday, Nov. 8, through Saturday, Nov. 11. The booklets cost \$5 each, and Builders Club keeps 100% of each sale as their profit. Stop by the office to purchase one!

PSA Spirit Day Shirts

Last week parents received an email with the order form for Spirit Day shirts being sold by PSA this year. Please note that the orders with payment are due on Tuesday, Sept. 5. Sample sizes of the shirts will be available in the office tomorrow, and the order form is posted on our school website. If you have any questions, please contact Melanie Verry at 217-361-5841 or at tavyt0816@att.net.

Pizza for Dinner!?!

Do the new school year schedules have you scrambling for dinner ideas? The Scrip Committee just added **Domino's** scrip to our in-stock inventory. These \$10 cards result in 4% for the school and 4% for YOUR annual Scrip rebate. If Domino's isn't your choice, we have **Pizza Hut** and **Bella Milano** cards in stock, and we will gladly order **Little Caesar's**, **Papa John's**, **Papa Murphy's** or **Pizza Ranch** at your specifications. While we can't promise to deliver your pizza, we WILL deliver your pizza SCRIP cards with your BSS student. If you have questions about pizza, other restaurants or scrip in general, please contact scrip@bssbruins.org.

SHG Junior Cheer Camp

The SHG Cheerleaders will host their Jr. Cheer Camp on Friday, **September 8**, at SHG West Campus at 4:30 p.m. Children in grades K-8 are invited to attend. Participants will perform with the cheerleaders during the first quarter of the SHG / Normal U-High football game that evening, September 8. Registration forms with additional information can be found at www.bssbruins.org or in the SHG school office. Camp fee is \$30 if received by September 5 or \$35 for late

registrations and walk-ins. Contact Amanda Mandeville at shgcheerleading@gmail.com with questions.

SHG Golden Angel Junior Poms Camp

The SHG Poms will host their Junior Poms Camp on Saturday, September 23, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at SHG's East Campus. Children in grades K-8 are invited to participate. Participants will perform during the halftime of the SHG football game on Friday, September 29. The fee is \$40, and pre-registration is due by Sept. 16. However, walk-ins are welcome the day of the camp. Registration forms with additional information can be found at www.bssbruins.org or in the SHG school office.

SHG ShopAPalooza

SHG ShopAPalooza is seeking vendors for its annual shopping event on Sunday, October 22, 2017, at SHG's West Campus from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sign up now to take advantage of early bird registration until Sept. 15, and save \$10 off the price of your booth. For more information about the event, please email SHGShopAPalooza@gmail.com.

Hot Lunch News

Our ever-popular Friday hot lunches will return again, beginning tomorrow, coordinated by Anne Short on behalf of the PSA. Pretzels (with or without cheese), super nachos, and walking tacos will be sold for \$3 each. Nachos will be available for \$2.50 each, and a bag of popcorn will be 50 cents. Students are to bring the necessary amount of money needed for their Friday lunch if they choose to purchase items. We are still counting on our Friday hot lunch volunteers to assist us again this year, and new volunteers are always welcome. If interested, please come to the cafeteria at 10:45 a.m. on Fridays. We appreciate all of our hot lunch volunteers' time and dedication!

Band Meeting

Students in grades 4-8 will be able to participate in our Springfield Catholic Elementary Schools' Band this year. Theresa O'Hare is the new band director, and students will continue to have weekly lessons at our school. Ms. O'Hare will visit our school on Friday, Sept. 8, to share information about the band program with our 4th and 5th graders and any interested students in grades 6-8. On Sunday, September 17, there will be an informational meeting for parents and students from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Sacred Heart-Griffin band room. The meeting will include a demonstration of various instruments as well as the opportunity to rent instruments, meet with band instructors, and purchase supplies. Representatives from Boyd's Music will be there. Mark your calendar to attend and find out how you can be a part of this exciting opportunity!

Scholastic Book Fair Is Here!

The Scholastic Book Fair will be at Blessed Sacrament School through September 6. It will be open after all Masses this weekend, Sept. 2 & 3. Classes will visit the book fair during their library periods through September 6. The book fair will also be open for purchases during recess periods for interested students.

Working the book fair is a great opportunity to help the students, earn service hours, and shop! We are still in need of some volunteers throughout the school days as well as after Masses this weekend. If you are interested in volunteering, please email librarian Sarah Allen at allen@bssbruins.org. The profit from this fair benefits the school library, so we appreciate your help in making this a success!

Choir Opportunities

There will be a Chorister Church Choir directed by Mrs. Jody Kienzler this semester. The age group for this choir is 3rd-5th grades. The choir will be rehearsing on the Saturday that they sing at Mass, which will generally be the 4th Saturday of the month. The very first rehearsal will be Saturday, Sept. 23, from 3:15-4:15 p.m. in the church music room. At the conclusion of the rehearsal, the choir will sing at the 4:30 p.m. Mass. The faithful from this choir will be chosen to sing in the Jubilate Choir next year. Please call the church office, 528-7521, if you have questions or want to register. Hope you'll be able to join them in September!

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.)

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. 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!

Looking Ahead

Friday, Sept. 1–
 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 (grades 2-8)
 Saturday, Sept. 2 & Sunday, Sept. 3 –

Scholastic Book Fair open after Masses
 Monday, Sept. 4 –
 No school in observance of Labor Day
 Tuesday, Sept. 5 –
Order forms for PSA Spirit Day shirts due!
 1:45 p.m. - Starter Strings presentation for grades 3-5
 3:00-4:00 p.m. – Garden Club meeting
5:15 p.m. – Protecting God's Children training session in the school cafeteria
 Wednesday, Sept. 6 –
 Kick-off assembly for PSA fundraiser
 Scholastic Book Fair closes at end of day
 Friday, Sept. 8 –
 8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass
 1:00 p.m. – Band assembly for grades 4 & 5 & interested students in grades 6-8
 Monday, Sept. 11
 8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirt)
 Wednesday, Sept. 13 –
 1:30 p.m. dismissal for faculty meeting;
 BASE available!
 Monday, Sept. 18 –
 8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
 Mid-quarter progress reports for grades 2-8
 Tuesday, Sept. 19 –
 Vision and hearing screenings
 Wednesday, Sept. 20 –
 8:30 a.m. - Windy City Players performance for Pre-K-4th grade
 Friday, Sept. 22 –
 Vision/hearing screenings for MWF Pre-K and re-screenings
 Monday, Sept. 25 –
 8:20 a.m. – Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)
 Friday, Sept. 29 –
 Children's Auction Raffle drawings
 Coleman's Cozy Dog Auction Lunch
1:30 p.m. dismissal – No BASE available!
 Saturday, Sept. 30 –
 5:30 p.m. - Annual Parish/School Auction

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of Sept. 5-8:
 Madelyn Hughes Joe Humphrey Kaelin Kelley
 Kalvin King Emily Leefers Finn Loken
After School Patrols for the Week of Sept. 5-8:
 Sam DeSalle Will DeSalle Emma Faulkner

Mass Servers for Sept. 2 & 3:

(only BSS students listed)
4:30 p.m. Saturday Jack Fleischli, Grace Klenke & Jayanne Roate
7:00 a.m. Sunday (no current BSS students)
8:30 a.m. Sunday Ellen O'Brien
10:30 a.m. Sunday Carter Etheridge & Elliott Kren
Daily Servers for Sept. 4-8:
8:00 a.m. M & W & Cameron Booker
8:20 a.m. Tu. & Agnes Cross
8:00 a.m. Th. & Alio Giacomini
8:20 a.m. Fri. & Luke Harvey