

May 17, 2018

+ Blessed Sacrament



School News

Learning to Make a Difference

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to our Class of 2018 on their graduation Monday evening! We are so proud of their accomplishments and good character, and we wish all of them the very best in their high school years! (See the article later in this newsletter for information about the many scholarships awarded to them.)

We are almost at the end of another school year for the rest of our classes! This week we have had lots of walking field trips to Baskin Robbins and/or Washington Park as well as other end-of-the-year activities. Please check the *Looking Ahead* section for any updates!

Next Tuesday will be the final day of the school year for our half-day preschool (Tu/Th), and the final day for our all-day Pre-K and our kindergarten students will be on Wednesday. Please check the calendar for the closing programs and events for those classes.

Our first through seventh grade students will have their final day of the school year and their Fun Day on Thursday, May 24. Students will attend an all-school Mass at 8:20 a.m. and then will gather by our flag pole off our school parking lot. Father Jeff will be blessing and dedicating a "buddy bench" in memory of Mrs. Lisa Bloome. Memorial donations from her fourth graders last year were used to purchase the bench.

After the dedication of the bench, students will return to school for Fun Day activities. A hamburger/cheeseburger or hot dog lunch will be provided by PSA for all students that day. Also, the students will have a free Spirit Day on Fun Day. They may wear Spirit Day shirts with jeans or uniform shorts. We will also allow athletic pants, capris, athletic shorts, and other shorts that are the same length as uniform shorts. **No sweatpants or short shorts are allowed. If a student does not wear appropriate clothing, he/she will have to call for a change of clothes and will not be able to participate in the activities until appropriate clothing is available. If in doubt about shorts, please send jeans or uniform shorts to be safe.**

Students will receive their report cards at the end of Fun Day with **dismissal at 1:30 p.m.** Please remember that **B.A.S.E. is not available the last day of school, May 24.**

This will be the last official newsletter of the school year, but a basic 2018-2019 calendar and a flyer with summer office hours will be going home with the students in their report cards. Any additional reminders or information will be emailed to parents.

Thank you so much for your continued support of our school! We are truly blessed to be partners with you in the education of your children. Personally, I am especially grateful for the years that I have been blessed to be a teacher

and principal at Blessed Sacrament School. It has been my privilege to serve this faith community and a pleasure beyond measure to see your children grow in faith and knowledge over the years. All of you hold a special place in my heart, and you will continue to be in my prayers. I hope all of you have a happy and safe summer vacation!

Gratefully,

Mrs. Kathy Wear

Extra Spirit Day Tomorrow!

Tomorrow we are holding an extra Spirit Day to celebrate the last Friday of the school year!! Students may wear B.S.S. Spirit day shirts with jeans or uniform bottoms without any charge. All other regular uniform guidelines do apply. Join us in celebrating the school year!

We'll Miss You, Sister Ann!

This week Sister Ann Smith decided that this would be her last year teaching. Sister Ann has been a teacher in Catholic schools for 67 years and celebrated her 90th birthday last fall. What a wonderful example of faith and dedication to Catholic education! Sister is one of the many Ursuline sisters who served as teachers at our school since its early beginnings. Sister Ann spent a total of 12 years of her career at Blessed Sacrament School, and the last 4 years she has served as a resource teacher for small groups of students at our school. We have been blessed to have such a caring, enthusiastic, and faith-filled teacher as Sister Ann! We are grateful for her service to us and God, and we wish her an abundance of God's blessings now and in the future. You'll be missed, Sister Ann!

Congratulations, State Track Athletes!

Last Friday and Saturday, three of our students participated in the state track meet in East Peoria. We are so proud of their successes! Gryphon Kirchgessner placed 34th in the hurdles in the 8th grade division. Two sixth grade girls, Maggie Fleischli and Olivia Redpath, competed in the 7th grade division. Maggie placed 22nd in the 800m run, and Olivia placed 12th in the 200m run and 5th in the 100m run, which earned her a medal! Congratulations to all three of our athletes! We look forward to following them again next year!

Nickels for NICU

Our Girls of the Run participants this spring have chosen the NICU unit at St. John's Children's Hospital as their charitable project. Representatives of the group shared details of their "Nickels for NICU" drive with our student body at the leadership assembly on Monday. In addition to the extra Spirit Day held on Tuesday to benefit their cause, they are also collecting nickels (and other coins) for their project. The last

day for the nickel drive will be next Monday, May 21. Thanks for your support of our Girls on the Run participants and their project!

SchoolKidz School Supply Kits

We will again offer families the convenient, optional SchoolKidz back-to-school supply kit program for the 2018-2019 school year. The program was successful the past four years, and we've worked with SchoolKidz to hopefully make it even better this year! SchoolKidz 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. **New this year, all supply kits will be delivered directly to your home address.**

Orders may only be placed and paid for online at www.shoptkits.com, using our school account number 10950. The website for ordering will be open tomorrow, Friday, May 18, and online orders are due by Friday, June 8. Identical school supply lists will be posted on our website for those families who prefer to gather their own supplies over the summer months. Look for an email tomorrow with a direct link to the online ordering portal for the SchoolKidz school supply kits.

School Supply Lists and Calendars for 2018-2019

A basic school calendar and the school supply lists for the 2018-2019 school year will be sent home next Thursday in students' report cards and posted online as well. Registration packets will be available after all Masses the weekend of August 11 and 12. Fee Night is Wednesday, August 15, 2018. We will also have a welcoming reception for new school families and their mentors that evening, just prior to the start of Fee Night. The first day of classes will be Monday, August 20. A more complete calendar will be posted on our school website. Please look for this!

We're Proud of the Class of 2018!

The Blessed Sacrament School Class of 2018 graduated on Monday evening. This is the 92nd graduating class of BSS! We are so proud of the 55 young men and women in this class and grateful for all they contributed to BSS during their years at our school. Many of the students who are continuing on to Sacred Heart-Griffin High School received an impressive total of almost \$30,000 in scholarships!

The scholarship winners this year are as follows:

SHG Alumni Scholarship:

Liam Noonan

Joseph A. Cadigan Memorial Scholarship:

Jack Gaffney

Eva Kress Cadigan Memorial Scholarship:

Danielle Kraft

Patrick J. Cadigan Memorial Scholarship:

Joey Scott

Eleanor Maher Weber Memorial Scholarship:

Carmen Dillman

C. Joseph & Sandy Cavanagh Scholarship:

Aidan Mauntel

Jack & Peg Coleman Memorial Scholarship:

Jack Davis

Arlette M. Donath Memorial Scholarship:

Justine Bell

Don and Claire Forsyth Scholarships:

Danielle Kraft & Charles Pittman

Scholarship Honoring Patricia Kienzler:

Gus Beard

Marge Gatchall Ludwig Memorial Scholarship:

Joshua Mauney

Alma & Robert Mandeville Scholarship:

Liam Noonan

Lloyd Mosley Server Recognition Scholarship:

Nathan Jugan

Scholarships Honoring Lloyd & Marty Mosley:

Mary Claire Gardner & Andrew Reimers

Ann Pohlman Memorial Scholarships:

Joey Brown & Josh Klenke

Virginia M. Valdez Memorial Scholarship:

Griffin Cook

Monsignor Tarrent Scholarships:

Charles Pittman & Emma Grace Pezold

Hugh P. Cassidy Memorial Scholarship:

Andrew Reimers

Father Chester Scholarship:

Briana Huelsman

Scholarship Honoring the Ursuline Sisters:

Nathan Jugan

We know these students will continue their successes in high school, and we look forward to following their future accomplishments and having them return to visit us! Thank you, too, to their parents for their support over the years.

Fun Day Raffle

Fun Day will be celebrated on our last day of school, Thursday, May 24. PSA has 32 baskets of sweet treats (candy, Gatorade, etc.) that will part of a raffle that day. Tickets are 25 cents each, and an order form was sent home previously. The baskets will be on display again tomorrow, and tickets must be purchased by Monday, May 21. Join the fun!!

Kindergarten Screening Dates Moved!!

Our kindergarten teachers will be screening students who will be entering our school for the first time as kindergartners. Due to the many activities this time of year, **the screening date has been moved to one day, Friday, May 25.** Parents of incoming kindergarten are being called to scheduled specific screening times. **Our current preschool/preK students who will be entering kindergarten next school year will not be screened unless requested by their current teacher.**

Tuition Assistance for 2018-2019

Letters to families who applied for tuition assistance will be mailed by the first of June. We understand that the application information may not tell the whole financial situation of the family and ask that you meet with Fr. Jeff if

the amount of assistance does not meet your needs. If you have not applied but feel that you will be unable to pay the full tuition, please apply online as soon as possible.

All families with children in all-day PreK through eighth grade who wish to make monthly payments for tuition must sign up through FACTS to have payments automatically deducted from a bank account. Families who used FACTS in the past will be automatically re-enrolled if using the same payment plan. New families must complete the online application. All applications will be processed by the end of June. Payments will be scheduled to be withdrawn from August through May.

Summer Appointments

Please schedule appointments now for required examinations for the 2018-2019 school year. Students entering preschool, kindergarten, or sixth grade and any students playing sports next year are required to have a physical exam. A dental exam is required for students entering kindergarten, second, or sixth grade, and a vision exam (not just a screening) is required for all students entering kindergarten or for any students new to the school next year.

Box Tops for Education

A Box Tops summer collection packet is being sent home with students today. Please continue collecting over the summer months and return them on Fee Night in August! Thank you for your ongoing support!

Summer Reading Challenge!

Our librarians are challenging our students to keep reading over the summer! Students entering kindergarten-4th grade for the next school year should complete the bingo challenge sheet, and students entering grades 5-8 can participate in the Caudill winners summer challenge. See the challenge sheets posted on the school website for more details! The grades with the highest percentage of participation in each challenge each win a breakout box activity. Keep up your reading skills this summer and have fun with the challenges!

Math Workbooks for Summer Review & Enrichment

We encourage students to continue practicing math during the summer to retain the concepts that they have learned. As a possible resource for review, teachers have suggested workbooks from Summer Skills. You can access their website at 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 grade level for the current 2017-2018 school year.** Answer keys and solution keys are provided in the books. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Healy.

Feast of Corpus Christi

All of the second grade First Communicants are invited to take part in the Corpus Christi procession on

Sunday, June 3, 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 if your child plans to participate. Thank you.

Golf Ball Drop

Tickets are now on sale for the Golf Balls from Heaven Fundraiser scheduled for Monday, July 9, at Illini Country Club. We will host a B.S.S. Family Swim & BBQ Night at Illini beginning at 5:00 p.m., with the actual drop over the practice green happening between 6:45 and 7:00 p.m. Anyone who wants to volunteer to sell tickets or post flyers for the event should contact Kim Hoffmann in the Development Office. We will also need volunteers to sell tickets after Masses in June. Service hours will be awarded, of course.

Scrip Reminders

Scrip will be sold in the parish office during the summer, beginning Tuesday, May 29th. You may stop in and make your purchases from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. Special orders will be placed on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. and will be available on Wednesday afternoons. Purchases that you make through June will count towards your rebate for the 17/18 school year. Families earning a rebate of a minimum of \$10 will receive an email report in mid-July of their total rebate amount with a form to return indicating if they want the rebate donated to school, applied to a tuition account, or as free scrip.

94th Annual Garden Party

Add another date to your calendar! Our Garden Party will be held on Wednesday, June 13, and the co-chairs, Jennifer Furkin and Katie 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 8th grade and high school service hours will be given to those helping. See the flyer posted on the school website for the specific volunteer opportunities. Raffle tickets were sent home previously. Be a part of this fun tradition at Blessed Sacrament!

Vacation Bible School Registration

Vacation Bible School dates are Monday, June 18-Friday, June 22, for students entering into K-5th grades from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. each morning at B.S.S. Students entering grades 6th-8th and high school students are also needed to volunteer as leaders. This is also an excellent time for parents who'd like to earn all 20 service hours at once to have an opportunity to volunteer to help. Childcare is available for little ones of parent volunteers. This is an amazing week spent with friends praising God and having a blast. For more information or to join our team as a parent volunteer, contact Morgan Ambrose at 741-3831 or at morganfaithambrose@yahoo.com. Registration is now open for students and volunteers with a link to online payment at vbspro.events/p/blessedsacrament.

Service Hours Reminder

Service hours for this school year may be earned through May 31, 2018. Several opportunities are available as listed in this newsletter or on our school website. (If you plan to use events in June for service hours for the 2017-2018 school year, please email Michele Hinds-Greenwood at hinds-greenwood@bssbruins.org. so that she is aware of that before sending out statements.) 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, 2018, in order for families to be allowed to complete registration for the 2018-2019 school year.

Saddle Up and Save the Date!

The 49th Annual Blessed Sacrament Auction, "Boots and Bow Ties," will be held Saturday, October 20, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. in the B.S.S. Gym. Corral your friends for the biggest adults-only event of the year! Auction co-chairs are Kristen Luttrell and Jennifer Madiar. Any ideas or questions? Email Kristen and Jen at bssauction2018@gmail.com or contact Kim Hoffmann, B.S.S. Development Director, at 522-7534, ext. 206. 'LIKE' Blessed Sacrament School on Facebook to see all the latest updates!

Share the Word Volunteers Needed!

Service Hours Available!

Share the Word is a children's liturgy for kids in 1st through 4th grade; it's held every week throughout the school year during the Sunday 10:30am Mass. Share the Word provides an opportunity for kids to hear and discuss the weekly scripture readings at a level appropriate for their understanding. We are in need of more volunteers to keep this important program going and growing! It is a great opportunity to provide a valuable service to the parish (and earn service hours!) while deepening your own understanding of scripture in a fun and interactive way! There are only a few sessions left this spring, but we'd love to get more volunteers lined up for next year. You can still earn service hours for this year if you'd like to come observe Share the Word on May 20th to see if it's something you'd be interested in! If you'd like more information or you want to volunteer, please contact Patti Naylor at 618-292-0678 or pnaylor@thelittlegym.com or Cheryl Bertaina at 217-206-0863 or cherylbertaina@gmail.com!

SHG 2018 Hurdle Camp

As the 2018 track season wraps up, it's time to plan for 2019. Get your athlete ready to hurdle with this well-established program this summer at SHG. This hurdle camp has been around for 10 years now and has yielded some very promising hurdlers. See the flyer posted on the school website for more details. Enrollment is limited so sign up early!

Summer Reading Program

Please see the flyer being sent home today from Northern Illinois University regarding programs to increase summer reading skills. Call 1-800-964-9974 for more 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 from 1:00-3:30 p.m. the week of June 4-7 at Blessed Sacrament School. Boys and girls going into grades 5-8 in the fall of 2018 are eligible to attend. The cost is \$65 per camper with a \$10 discount for additional members of the same immediate family. For further information, please contact Scott Eades at 217-414-3518 or at seades2@comcast.net.

Looking Ahead

Friday, May 18 –

Extra Spirit Day – no charge!

7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. - 1st grade field trip to St. Louis Zoo

9:15 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. - 7th Grade Leadership Day –

Walk to Washington Park & lunch at Pie's the Limit

12:00 p.m. – All-day Pre-K walk to Baskin Robbins

12:30 p.m. – 4th grade walk to Baskin Robbins

Monday, May 21 –

Last day to bring in nickels for NICU!

Last day to purchase tickets for treat baskets raffle on Fun Day!

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

Tuesday, May 22 –

Last day of school for Tu/Th preschool class

9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. – 1st grade walk to Washington Park & Baskin Robbins

Wednesday, May 23 –

Last day of school for MWF Pre-K. all-day Pre-K & Kindergarten

9:30 a.m. – All-day Pre-K breakfast with parents in the cafeteria followed by dismissal for the day

10:20 a.m. – MWF program in the classroom

11:00 a.m. – Kindergarten lunch with parents in the cafeteria followed by dismissal for the day

2:00 p.m. – 5th grade walk to Baskin Robbins

Thursday, May 24 –

8:20 a.m. – All-school Mass followed by blessing of "buddy bench" in memory of Mrs. Bloome
Fun Day with Talent Show! (lunch provided for all students by PSA)

1:30 p.m. – Early dismissal for summer vacation; NO after-school care at B.A.S.E.

Friday, May 25 –

8:30-11:30 a.m. – Screening of incoming kindergarten students not currently enrolled in our PreK program

Wednesday, June 13 –

Blessed Sacrament Garden Party

Monday, June 18 – Friday, June 22 –

Blessed Sacrament Vacation Bible School

Monday, July 9 –

Golf Ball Drop at Illini Country Club

Please Remember!

Before School Patrols for the Week of May 21-24

Xuan Dinh Addison Eades Carter Etheridge
Rachel Evans Tyler Furkin Kevin Gonzalez

After School Patrols for the Week of May 21-24:

Joseph Cloyd Chloe Coffey Andrew Dailey

Mass Servers for May 19 & 20: (only BSS students)

4:30 p.m. Saturday Alaina Roland

7:00 a.m. Sunday Blake White

8:30 a.m. Sunday Hannah & Grace Lambert

10:30 a.m. Sunday Sam & Will DeSalle

Daily Servers for May 21-25:

8:00 a.m. M & W & Grace Klenke

8:20 a.m. Tu. & Elliott Kren

8:00 a.m. Th, & Nathan Jugan

8:20 a.m. Fri & Ethan Keller

Happy Summer Vacation!!!