Principal’s News

The passing of Catholic Schools Week is a clear reminder that the school year is moving along at a rapid pace and before we know it, spring will be here. To kick off Catholic Schools Week, Blessed Sacrament honored distinguished alumni, Dr. Erin Dudolevitch, class of 2009. Dr. Dudolevitch, the recipient of a Doctorate in Pharmacy, and numerous academic awards, reminded our students of the importance of Catholic values in education.

I am so impressed with all of our faculty and students because I have witnessed steady and sustainable progress in academics, spirituality, and athletics. Indeed, our latest round of STAR testing is underway, and I’m pleased to report that a great majority of our students are making solid gains in the National Percentile Rankings. When comparing Blessed Sacrament’s student percentile growth rates, it is obvious how lucky we are to have such great teachers and students!

Reminder: Please remember to ask your child for their Friday Folder. At the end of every week, your student’s teacher sends home a folder with all the news, tests, and assignments from the previous week. It is vital to your child’s success that you review and discuss its contents with your child. Thank you for your cooperation.

God Bless,
Mr. Weber
P.S. If anyone needs a tuition statement for their taxes, please contact Mrs. Fioravanti in the office. She will be happy to help you.

New After School Club

Ms. Maxine Sansoucy hopes to get a new Chinese Culture and Language club started right after spring break. Informational flyers went home in the January 31st Friday Folder. If you are interested, please return with your payment ASAP.

Financial Aid:

Dear Families: Please remember to log-on to our FACTS Page to apply for financial aid for the 2020-2021 school year. Priority is given to families who apply on-time and verify early!

Mission Statement

The mission of Blessed Sacrament School, a Catholic School and Ministry of Blessed Sacrament Parish, is to educate preschool through grade 8 students in a safe, nurturing, and academically challenging environment that instills the knowledge of God’s great love for us. We empower students to become well-rounded individuals who are lifelong learners and joyful witnesses to Christ’s teachings.

Upcoming Events

February 7, 2020- 100th Day of School Celebration.
February 7, 2020: Valentine’s Dinner Dance, PK-Grade 5. 6:30PM-9:30PM.
February 14, 2020 - Dress Down sponsored by Grade 3. $2.00
February 17-21, 2020 -Winter Vacation; No School.
February 24, 2020-Classes Resume
February 26, 2020- Ash Wednesday School Mass hosted by Grade 4. All are welcome.
Pre-Kindergarten News

During February, we will be celebrating Valentine’s Day and the 100th day of school! The children have been working on counting by ones and tens as we count the days until our big 100th day party. In Math, we will be moving on from 2D shapes to 3D shapes. At the end of the month, we will become paleontologists as we learn all about dinosaurs. We will also begin our fine motor journals, which will teach pre-writing skills, lay the foundation for handwriting and strengthen fine motor skills.

Kindergarten News

This month, we will celebrate our 100th day of school by making special projects, and visiting grades 1 and 2 to see what they created for this special day! It’s also the middle of winter, and we will designate each Friday as “Fun-Filled Friday.” The Kindergarteners will enjoy discovering how snow is made, experiment with ice, and create “a snow building” with various materials. Please stop by to see what’s happening in our classroom!

First Grade News

There is a lot going on in first grade this month. In the first week of February, we have the 100th Day of School celebration. Then, on the 14th, we will enjoy exchanging cards for Valentine’s Day. The following week, we will be on vacation and the children will be very excited about that. Let’s hope they get some snow to play in. In Reading, we will be having our end of the Unit test before going on vacation. When we come back, the boys and girls will begin Unit 3, which focuses on growing and changing. The phonics skills the children will learn are bossy r, using y as a vowel, adding endings to words, and compound words.

Second Grade News

The students in Grade 2 enjoyed the fun activities planned for Catholic Schools Week. It was nice to see some of the families at Mass on Sunday, which kicked off our week. We are preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation by learning about the Ten Commandments and the Act of Contrition. We continue to work on Unit 3 in reading. The stories show how people communicate and solve problems in creative ways. The children will share their creative ideas with each other on Friday, February 7th. I can’t wait to see their inventions. The children are learning to write letters. Be on the lookout!

Third Grade News

February will be a short, but busy month in grade 3. We will be starting our multiplication speed drills in math, and will be learning about how division relates to multiplication! During religion class, we will focus on the liturgical calendar, the early Church, and the four marks of the church. We will be creating our own sundae recipes in language arts. In social studies, we will be studying latitude and longitude, which will relate to our study of the climate zones in science. 3rd graders will read “How to Raise a Raisin” in reading class, and then try to turn grapes into raisins in science class!
Hello from Grade 4. I am very impressed with the student’s weekly writing assignments. They have come a long way since September. They have a creative imagination! We started a class novel when we returned from Christmas break, The Chronicles of Narnia: the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. The students are really taking a great interest in the book. We are preparing to create a unique book report, complete with a Wardrobe! Stay tuned! In ELA, we are finishing up Unit 3 with ease. The weekly stories are getting longer and more challenging, but the students are handling them very well. Reminder: the students have a test every Friday on their new spelling words. Please help them study. In Math, we are learning how to multiply 2 digits by 2 digits. The students are working really hard to master this skill. I will continue to challenge the students with larger and larger numbers to multiply. Please help your child practice their multiplication facts daily. In Science, we will be wrapping up Unit A with the last 2 chapters on the Life Cycles. After February break, we will start Unit B, The Ecosystem. In Social Studies, we are studying the different regions across America. From now til Feb. break, we will learn about The Northeast with a focus on Rhode Island, our home state. We will have a test on the states and state capitals of this region and a small project due shortly. In Religion, we are continuing to learn about the 10 Commandments with a small “open book” test after each chapter. When we complete all 10 commandments, there will be a test on all 10.

We have been delving deeper into more difficult content in 5th grade! We are working hard as we explore new texts, and synthesize mathematical concepts. In Math, we have been solving multiplication problems with decimals. We are delving into literature as we identify the author’s purpose and the structure of a text. As we travel through time in Social Studies, we are learning about the American Revolution. In Science, we are focusing on ecosystems and biomes!

We are growing in our faith as we enter the season of Lent. Ask your child how they can be a disciple of Christ. What is on the horizon for grade 5? Reading current events and nonfiction passages, math computations including fractions, science experiments to bring more meaning to biology concepts and history lessons to connect us to our nation’s story. Sounds exciting, doesn’t it? We will accomplish all this and more while being in our heavenly Father’s loving care.

GRADE 6 & 7: We have stated Chapter 2. The major theme is “School”. The students will learn how to talk about school schedules, name school supplies, compare schools in this country with some in Latin America, and conjugate ‘AR’ verbs.

GRADE 8: We have started Chapter 5. The theme is “Family.” The students will learn how to describe family members and friends, ask and tell someone’s age, and conjugate some irregular verbs.

Grade 8: Having studied the problems created by rapid expansion in the “Gilded Age,” the 8th grade has been looking at the reform efforts the U.S. undertook in the early 20th century, the Progressive Era. Events like the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire (ask them!) and personalities like Theodore Roosevelt (like his connection to the “Teddy Bear”) keep this period interesting. Assessment in this Unit will be through classwork, homework questions, several reading quizzes, and tests.

Grade 6: The students have begun their study of ancient Rome with a focus on the Roman Republic. This involves the founding of Rome, its odd ability to conquer other people, but then copy their culture, and figures like Julius Caesar. The Romans were an odd mix of civilization and barbarism, parts of which Americans have copied, like representation in the Senate, and violent sports. We will be taking on projects, homework questions, reading quizzes and tests.

Grade 7: We spent January on the Age of Exploration (during which educated people already knew that the earth was round), including Columbus and Magellan. Students seemed most interested in the encounter and the conquest that the Spaniards, Portuguese, and English brought to the “New World,” especially the conquest of the Aztecs in Mexico. Next we move into our first topic in American History, the settlement of the original 13 English colonies (including Rhode Island), which leads to our study of Early American history for the rest of the year. We will be examining these topics through a project, classwork, homework questions, several reading quizzes, and tests.

Skills: Students have completed Unit 8 in their workbooks, and we are moving quickly onto Units 9 and 10. Vocabulary is learned through writing terms and definitions three times each to hand in, writing framing sentences that clearly use the words properly in context, and doing exercises with synonyms and antonyms to understand the nuances of the terms. All of this will help in their reading comprehension, their own writing, and on tests for everything from high school entrance exams to the PSAT and SAT.
Middle School Mathematics

Grade 6 will continue to work on Patterns and Variables in Chapter 3. This includes studying algebraic expressions and solving equations.

Grade 7 students are working in Chapter 1: Decimals and Integers. This includes order of operations and a review of mean, median, mode, and range.

The grade 8 algebra students will finish with Chapter 5: Linear Functions. After that, we are going to continue to review equations, including solving multi-step equations.

Grade 8 pre-algebra students will finish their review of fractions and operations with fractions. We will also study formulas as well as powers and exponents (Chapter 2: Rational Numbers).

ALL GRADES: Students have homework most week nights. All students should have simple calculators for use in the classroom and at home when needed. In addition, Khan Academy provides instructional videos and practice sets for all topics. Every student has an account and a mission. Please encourage your student to utilize this valuable resource.

Middle School Science

GRADES 6, 7, & 8: We are all in the Family Life book. There are five themes in these books: God’s Gift of Family, God’s Gift of Life, God’s Gift of Self, God’s Gift of Love, and God’s Gift of Community.

GRADE 8: We will spend some time reviewing for the ACRE test, which will be on February 5th.

Students of the Month-February

Pre-K3: Dorothy King
Pre-K4: Liam Vicioso
Kindergarten: Anderson Torres Batista
1st Grade: Jelitza Valle
2nd Grade: Giovni Tejeda
3rd Grade: Esther Demelo
4th Grade: Michelle Sanchez
5th Grade: Ruby Bastan
6th Grade: Charles Johnson
7th Grade: Autumn Andrade
8th Grade: John Lima

Congratulations to All!

Middle School Literature & Creative Writing

6th Grade: Students have completed writing their own How-To essays, and have been given the background information on our next novel, The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne. They will begin reading the text in class, and will complete short assignments and assessments to reflect back to, and on, the text. Students continue to work hard on building basic reading, writing, and comprehension skills, and will begin to start “close reading” small and large texts.

7th Grade: 7G is in the beginning stages of writing their Compare and contrast essay, while 7R is just finishing up. They will be given background information about their next text, Linda Sue Park’s short book, “A Long Walk to Water.” They will begin reading the text shortly, and will complete short assignments related to the book. In addition to continuing to build basic reading, writing, and comprehension skills, they will begin to start taking a close look at short stories and poems.

8th Grade: Students are deep into reading “To Kill a Mockingbird,” and are more than halfway through. They are completing a small creative writing project related to the book, and are quizzed every two chapters. In addition to continuing to build basic reading, writing, and comprehension skills, students are also finishing up cycle two of Close Reading, and will be writing an essay related to the three texts.

Middle School Religion

Students are working on a project; “Learning How to Write Music to Advertise a Class.” We then will begin in an ecosystem. There will be vocabulary exercises, reading assignments, online investigations and quizzes. All students have an online account, and the website URL is www.pearsonrealize.com

Middle School Science

Thank you all for a very successful 1st Annual Invention Convention. I hope that the experience was a pleasurable opportunity to support and work with your child, and spark a greater interest in their education.

Grade 6: Students will finish the topic Energy by learning about other forms of energy, such as mechanical energy and nuclear energy. We then will begin the topic Thermal Energy. We will learn what happens to a substance when it becomes heated and what is the difference between thermal energy and temperature. There will be vocabulary exercises, reading assignments, online investigations and quizzes. All students have an online account, and the website URL is www.pearsonrealize.com

Grade 7: Students will begin a unit on the Ecosystem. Students will learn how population size and resource availability are related, and what the energy roles are in an ecosystem. There will be vocabulary exercises, reading assignments, online investigations and quizzes. All students have an online account and the website URL is www.pearsonrealize.com

Grade 8: Students will begin a unit on Forces and Motion. Students will learn how different types of forces affect motion, and how velocity is related to speed and acceleration. There will be vocabulary exercises, reading assignments, online investigations and quizzes. All students have an online account and the website URL is www.pearsonrealize.com

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The Hope of the Harvest is in the Seed.

Fine Arts

Elementary: The students are working very hard to build on the fundamentals that they learned in the first half of the year. This includes reading rhythms and notes, and vocal development.

Grade 5 and 6: These students have begun a unit on playing the Ukulele.

Grades 7 and 8: Students are working on a project; “Learning How to Write Music to Advertise a Class.

Chorale: The chorus is working very hard on the music for our spring concert “Big World, Small World,” which will take place on May 28th at 1pm in the church.

Drama: The spring musical IAM, has been cast and rehearsals have begun. The story follows 4 children who get to tour The APP Factory, and meet head game-designer, Solomon, who is developing the IAM APP to help reconnect us with God.

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