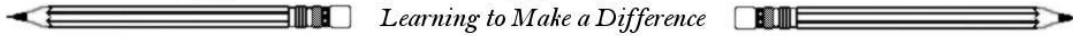


# + Blessed Sacrament



## School News



October 3, 2019

### A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

Over two weekends in September, the third graders received their First Communion and Confirmation, which was the first group in our parish to do so under Restored Order. The ceremonies were beautiful, and it was another special day in their growth in our faith. We are proud of all of our third graders for their reverent preparation for this sacrament, and we thank their parents and their teachers, Mrs. Ambrose, Ms. Yoho, Mrs. Senger, Ms. Williamson, and Father Jeff for their guidance of our students. Please keep all of our students in your prayers as they learn and grow in faith.

Last week, we participated in some safety events. The Illinois Attorney General's office presented to our 5th-8th graders on technology and social media safety, and our entire school participated in a lockdown drill. I appreciate how well we showed respect towards these safety procedures. Then, we ended the month of September with an Out-of-the-Blue recess for grades 2-8!

We had our Lifetouch fall photos taken today, and students smiled beautifully! Orders were taken in person or online, and retakes will occur on November 15 for any students/families in need, along with our MWF PreK students.

Since our last newsletter, the Bruins baseball team finished their season. Congratulations on a successful season! We extend special thanks to the baseball team's coach, Dave Ficke, and all those who assisted the baseball team for their guidance and dedication! Our cross country team is in its final weeks, and the basketball season has begun. Good luck to all our Bruins!

Yours in faith,  
*Mrs. Dawn Klinner*

### Thank you Knights of Columbus Council #364!

The Springfield Catholic grade schools each received \$10,000 last Friday from the Knights of Columbus to use on education, building improvements, or to assist with operating costs. We are so grateful that they shared the proceeds of their incredibly successful raffle with us!

### BSS Spirit Wear

There will be a second opportunity to order spirit wear in late October or early November, with items arriving prior to Thanksgiving. Spirit wear makes a great holiday gift for family members. Watch for more information at that time.

### Morning Drop-Off Time and Before Care Reminder

Recently, we have had some students dropped off before 7:45 a.m. and waiting outside. There is no staff supervision before 7:45 a.m., and therefore this is not a safe situation for the children. **Please remember that all students dropped off at school prior to 7:45 a.m. will be brought into the Before Care Program, and parents are responsible for paying the associated fees.** Please refer to the B.A.S.E. handbook online if you have any questions. Thank you for your cooperation!

### Lunchroom Volunteers Needed Please!

We are in need of additional volunteers for our Tuesday and Thursday hot lunch program. It is essential that we have enough parents to staff the hot lunch program in order to insure that food is plated efficiently and distributed to students in a timely manner. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 10:45 and remain through the last lunch shift until 12:30. Assistance is needed with plating the food and checking off students' names as they pick up their hot lunches. We really need three people to assist "behind the counter" each day. Volunteers may share one position (if we have enough folks) by alternating weeks with another volunteer. This is a great opportunity to earn service hours! Please contact our lunch volunteer coordinator, Jannette Allotey, with questions or to sign up at [jannette.allotey@gmail.com](mailto:jannette.allotey@gmail.com). Thank you for your consideration!

### Parent-School Association

Are you curious about what the PSA does for our school? Looking for a way to become more involved? Enjoy working together with others to organize fun activities and events at our school? Please consider becoming more involved in the Parent-School Association! We are looking for more folks to share new ideas and assist with some of our regular endeavors such as spirit wear orders, Friday lunches, fundraisers, family events, and many more. Please contact Mrs. Burke at [burke@bssbruins.org](mailto:burke@bssbruins.org) if you are interested in learning more about some of the positions available, or have specific ideas to share. Please plan to attend our PSA meeting on Wednesday, November 6, from 6-7 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Thank you for your consideration and support!

### Picture ReTake Day

Picture retake day has been moved to Friday, November 15 to accommodate the Monday, Wednesday, Friday pre-K class. Please note this on your calendars.

### **BSS Spirit Wear**

There will be a second opportunity to order spirit wear in late October or early November, with items arriving prior to Thanksgiving. Spirit wear makes a great holiday gift for family members. Watch for more information at that time.

### **Volunteers Make the Annual Auction AWESOME!**

Our largest fundraiser of the year is just 2.5 weeks away, and we need YOU to make it awesome! Sign up for FUN with your service hours at the 50th Annual Blessed Sacrament Auction: Five Decades of Auction Hits! Whether you're a BSS veteran or new to the event, you can help with anything listed, no experience required! Follow the link and scroll forward to October 17, 18 & 19. We especially appreciate help with:

- Thursday Children's Raffle assistance
- Friday afternoon setup
- Staffing raffle ticket tables and Silent Auction
- Plating food for dinner
- Clean-up Crew

Sign Up HERE: <http://signup.com/go/BSSauction> Thank you for your generosity: we'll see you there!

### **Mark Your Calendars for the Halloween Trunk or Treat**

The Builders Club is sponsoring a Halloween Trunk or Treat event on Friday, October 25 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. It will be held on our school parking lot. We plan to have a food truck on site as well as plenty of candy! It's open to all BSS families. So start planning your costumes and watch for more details in the coming weeks!

### **October 15 Deadline for School Physicals**

Please remember that Tuesday, October 15, is the last day to turn in school physicals. All students in preschool, kindergarten and sixth grade must have a completed written exam by a physician and updated immunization record on file in the school office by October 15, or s/he will be asked to remain out of school until it is completed. Thank you for your cooperation with the health policies!

### **Cub Scout Organizational Meeting Tonight**

Just a reminder that there will be an organizational meeting for Cub Scouts tonight, October 3, from 7 - 8 p.m. in the cafeteria. Please plan to attend!

### **Scrip Scene**

It's only October but it's time to think about Christmas outfits! We've got scrip gift cards for American Eagle, Gap/Old Navy and T.J. Maxx in stock and we can special order Children's Place, J. Crew, Land's End, L.L. Bean, and Men's Wearhouse. Clothing stores have HUGE rebates - your purchases earn even MORE money for Blessed Sacrament School. Download a scrip form or email [scrip@bssbruins.org](mailto:scrip@bssbruins.org) with questions.

### **Parent- Teacher Conferences in November**

Parent -Teacher conferences will be held on November 7 and November 8. We are excited to announce a new procedure for scheduling parent-teacher conferences this year! We will utilize an online scheduling system through SignUpGenius for all individual conferences. In order to accommodate the largest number of families, group conferences will be scheduled for all students in grades 5-8. A group conference in 5th grade consists of both 5th-grade teachers. A group conference in 6th-8th grades consists of all or most of the core teachers (math, literature, English, religion, science, history).

First, the office will schedule all group conferences for students in grades 5-8. Once again, students in grades 5-8 received a paper form on which parents will indicate their availability. **The paper forms for grades 5-8 are due on Friday, Oct. 4!** Parents will receive notification of their scheduled group conference day and time by Thursday, October 17.

Once all group conferences for grades 5-8 have been scheduled and those time slots marked as unavailable in SignUpGenius, online scheduling will begin for individual conferences. All conferences for teachers in grades PreK-4th grade must be scheduled online through SignUpGenius! This also includes specials, resource, and Title I teachers, along with those desiring an individual conference with a teacher in grades 5-8. If you are unable to secure a time slot available for you, please contact the teacher to make an appointment outside of our conference days.

### **Service Hour Opportunity - Volunteers Needed for Grandparents' Day**

Grandparents' Day is on Friday, November 8. This year, there will be a special photo backdrop available for snapping family photos with smartphones, courtesy of our 8th Grade Art Club. Volunteers (both adult and 8th graders for service hours) are needed to help with set-up on Thursday, November 7, beginning at 5:15p.m. Adult volunteers are also needed from 8:00-10:30 a.m. on Friday morning, November 8, to assist with serving donuts along, coffee, milk, and fruit, as well as clean-up. Please contact Rachel Pennell at 622-0697 or via email [rpennell@rolandmachinery.com](mailto:rpennell@rolandmachinery.com) to volunteer. You will earn service hours, and this is always such an enjoyable morning!

### **3rd Annual Super Food Drive Challenge**

This month, our school is participating in the Catholic Charities incredible Food Drive Challenge. We are collecting non-perishable food items for the Holy Family Food Pantry the entire month of October. The fun part is that we are competing against other Catholic schools! This year, the total number of items will be counted (as opposed to pounds of food collected), and students are encouraged to bring in the following items: instant mashed potatoes, boxed macaroni and cheese, cake mixes, toilet paper, bars of soap, gravy packets, and boxed stuffing mix. The winning school will receive an ice cream celebration! Monetary donations will also be

accepted this year (for the purchase of perishable items such as meat and dairy), and will be converted to add to our totals. Thank you for your support!

### **A New Way to Track Box Tops for Education**

Now when families use the Box Tops app to scan their store receipt, they can "Give Credit" to an individual, classroom or grade level. To "Give Credit" make sure you have the latest version of the Box Tops app, scan your receipt, then tap the star icon to enter your "Give credit" memo. You may also send in your grocery receipts to the school office and Mrs. Greenwood, our Box Tops coordinator, will scan the receipts for you! Box Tops really add up - to the tune of \$62,430 for Blessed Sacrament School since the inception of the Box Tops program several years ago. Please help us continue to build on our success and send in those receipts as well as the traditional box tops. Thank you!

### **Garden Club**

Students in grades 2-8 are invited to join the Garden Club! The club meets once a month from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in our courtyard garden to help maintain the area along with learning about plant health and different types of produce. Here are the dates for this fall: Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.

### **SHG Junior Cheer Camp**

The SHG Cheerleading Squad will be hosting a Junior Cheer Camp for Pre-K through 8th graders on Friday, October 4th, 2019 from 4:30 p.m. to game time at SHG West Campus. The campers will cheer during the first quarter of the SHG Football game vs. Springfield. Use the attached forms or email [shgcheerleading@gmail.com](mailto:shgcheerleading@gmail.com). GO CYCS!

### **Men's Pickup Basketball**

All men of the parish are invited to play pickup basketball every Thursday at 9:00 p.m. in the BSS gym. Are you new to the school or parish? Here's a great way to meet other dads and have a fun night out! If you are interested or have any questions, please email John Stremsterfer at [johnstrem74@gmail.com](mailto:johnstrem74@gmail.com) or Josh Watson at [jjwatson@sorlinglaw.com](mailto:jjwatson@sorlinglaw.com).

### **Join us for Mass!**

The Triphahn family invites you to attend Mass at Blessed Sacrament: Saturdays at 4:30 p.m. and Sundays at 7:00, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.



Mrs. Triphahn (music teacher), Sarah (7th grade)

### **Looking Ahead**

Friday, Oct. 4 -  
PSA spirit day (included with prepaid days)  
First Friday Benediction for grades 2-8

Monday, Oct. 7 -  
Leadership assembly (wear t-shirt)

Wednesday, Oct. 9 -  
MWF PreK class trip  
1:30 p.m. - dismissal for faculty meeting

Thursday, Oct. 10 -  
3:00-4:00 - Garden club

Monday, Oct. 14 -  
No school - Columbus Day

Friday, Oct. 18 -  
End of 1st quarter!  
1:30 p.m. dismissal - NO BASE available!!

Saturday, Oct. 19 -  
50th Parish/School Auction

Monday, Oct. 21 -  
Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Tuesday, Oct. 22 - 6th grade trip to the Challenger

Wednesday, Oct. 23 -  
Report cards distributed  
6:30 p.m. - First Reconciliation meeting for 2nd grade parents

Friday, Oct. 25 -  
5:30-7:30 p.m. - Trunk or Treat!

Monday, Oct. 28 -  
Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Wednesday, Oct. 30 -  
11:00 a.m. - Diocesan Mission Mass at Cathedral

Thursday, Oct. 31 - Happy Halloween!  
Preschool/PreK parties in AM  
1:45 p.m. - PreK-4th grade costume parade  
Classroom parties to follow for grades K-8