

+Blessed Sacramento



School News



January 9, 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope all of you enjoyed a relaxing Christmas break with your children. After a nice, long break, we were happy to see all of the students back in our classrooms! It's hard to believe that we started third quarter this week!

Just after our last newsletter, I had the opportunity of cheering on our 8th grade girls basketball team as they won third place in the state tournament! We are so proud of our Bruins and especially thank the coaches, parents, and fans who supported these tremendous athletes!

Tomorrow, our students will receive their second quarter report cards. Please encourage them to continue to put forth their best efforts. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Also, we are in the process of finalizing plans for Catholic Schools Week, which runs Jan. 26-Jan. 31. A separate detailed calendar will be sent home in the upcoming weeks, but please check the separate articles on different events as well as the *Looking Ahead* section of this newsletter to mark your calendars for some of the main events! Don't forget that we need many parent volunteers to make this week a success. Please use the volunteer link provided if you are able to assist on any of the days that week.

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, I thank you for your generosity to all of us at Christmas. We truly appreciate your cards and gifts, and we extend our special thanks for the monetary gift from PSA, Men's Club, parents, and the Teacher Support Fund. Once again, the teachers and staff were overwhelmed by your generosity. We feel very blessed to be partners with you in the Catholic education of your children, and we wish all of you many blessings in 2020. Happy New Year!!

Yours in faith,
Mrs. Dawn Klinner

Specials' Classes' Newsletters

Have you ever received the answer "not much" or "I don't remember" when you have asked your child about what they did in their special class at school that day? Now, we have an answer for that! At the beginning of each quarter, newsletters from the art, computers, music, and physical education departments will accompany a Thursday newsletter. The second quarter issues are being sent home today. Please be sure to catch up on all of the wonderful activities for our students in these important classes every day!

PSA Spirit Day Tomorrow!

Friday, January 10, is a regular PSA spirit day. Students may wear any BSS spirit shirt or uniform shirt untucked with jeans or uniform bottoms. This is included with prepaid spirit days.

SHG Placement Test

The SHG Placement Test will be offered this Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Sr. Katherine O'Connor, President, will be available to answer parents' questions at 8:30 a.m. in the Choral Room. Students will need to bring #2 pencils and the \$10 testing fee. No calculators will be allowed. Pre-registration online is required by Friday, January 10. Use the following link to register: <http://bit.ly/SHGPlacement2020>. Please contact Amanda Mandeville at 217-787-9732 ext. 155 or mandeville@shg.org if you are unable to take the test.

TGIF! Thank Goodness It's Fun!

K-8 Family Math Game Night January 14

National math consultant Kristin Hilty will be visiting our school next Tuesday-Thursday. Ms. Hilty has worked with our teachers on three previous occasions, and we are fortunate to welcome her back to BSS! She will be observing math lessons and providing current professional development to our math teachers over the course of 3 days.

Additionally, Ms. Hilty will host a family night on Tuesday from 6-7 p.m. in the cafeteria. Parents can help kids succeed in math! Come and learn how while having fun with your family! Topics are appropriate for all levels K-8th grade.

- ★ Fun activities for families to do together while reinforcing age-appropriate math concepts and problem-solving strategies
- ★ Complete resource packet provided, including instructions for over a dozen activities
- ★ Handy math reference tools
- ★ Popular math websites
- ★ Game materials will be available for participating families to take home with them free of charge!

It will be a fun night for all ages! Please join us!

Save the Date! Builders Club 7th and 8th grade Dance

The Builders Club will host a winter dance for Blessed Sacraments' seventh and eighth grade students on Friday, January 31, from 7-9 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Watch for more details in the coming weeks!

Thank you from the Gift of Giving Program

We recently received a thank you letter from Margie Homier with the Gift of Giving Program. The program is very grateful for our 8th grade students who volunteered with the program at St. Patrick's School in December. The students helped St. Pat's students shop, wrap, and tag gifts for loved ones. The students were most thankful for this opportunity!

Presently, they are collecting used gift bags, tissue paper, bows, ribbon, or half-used rolls of wrapping paper in order to "stock the shelves" for next year. There is a red container inside our school entry way to collect the items, and a list of other donations needed is also posted on our website. Donations will be accepted through Friday, January 17.

IMSA Fusion Spring Program

The spring semester of the IMSA Fusion program for 5th and 6th grade students will begin on Tuesday, January 21, from 2:30-4:00 p.m. If your child is enrolled in the program, please send your semester fee payment to the school office by January 17. There is still a waiting list for this semester. Please contact Mrs. Burke with any questions.

Catholic Schools Week - Volunteers Needed!

Our annual Catholic Schools Week celebration is just around the corner! The week will kick off with our annual CultureFest celebration on Sunday, January 26, from 9 a.m. - noon. Our parent coordinators, ReJeana Meado and Marin Lowder, have several exciting activities lined up for that week, including Chick-fil-A family night on Wednesday, January 29, and family roller skating night on Thursday, January 30. The parent appreciation lunch will be on Wednesday, January 29.

Many volunteers are needed for each day that week, especially to assist with the family lunch on Wednesday, January 29 (volunteers for the parent lunch will be able to eat with their families during their specified time period) **and the student lunch on Thursday, January 30.** Please follow the link below to SignUp Genius to sign up! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945ABAB28A4FB6-catholic> It's a fun way to earn service hours!

Catholic Schools Week Community Blood Drive

We have a new component to our Community Day activities on Monday, January 27. We will be hosting a blood drive in support of the Central Illinois Community Blood Center. Their Bloodmobile vehicle will be on our parking lot from 2:00-5:30 p.m. on Monday, January 27. Adults able to donate blood may sign up for an appointment online now using this link: https://www.bloodcenterimpact.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/92474

Invest in Kids Scholarship Program

Passed in 2017 by the Illinois General Assembly, this program provides scholarships to private schools for families with financial need. Families can begin applying for next school year on January 15. By statute, scholarship money is

allocated on a first come-first served basis for qualified applicants so be sure to apply on January 15. Empower Illinois is the organization that administers donations and scholarships for B.S.S. students. Please visit their website at empowerillinois.org to find out more about the application process.

Parent-School Association Update

We are still in need of a person to coordinate the Friday lunch volunteer schedule. You do not need to be available to work all Friday lunches, rather just schedule the weekly volunteers and verify a small supply inventory on a monthly basis. Please contact Mrs. Burke if you are interested.

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! Contact Mrs. Burke at burke@bssbruins.org if you are interested in learning more.

Girls on the Run Volunteers Needed!

Our 3rd and 4th grade Girls on the Run Spring 2020 program will be needing volunteers to help with practices. The days and times of the practices will depend on the availability of the volunteers, so it may be 4:00-5:30 or something similar. You will receive service hours for being a volunteer. Volunteers must have completed Protecting God's Children. If you have any questions, please email Mary Tuttle, GOTR Coach. Her email is tuttles1@yahoo.com.

2020 KC Council #364 Free Throw Contest

The annual K of C free throw contest will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2020, at Christ the King School Gym. The contest is open to all boys and girls ages 9 thru 14, grades 4-8. There is no cost to enter. Please contact Mike Stead (Free Throw Contest Coordinator KC Council #364) at mstead.1@att.net or (217) 415-6207 if you have any questions, or need additional information. Flyers are posted on our school website as well.

SHG City Basketball Shirts

Primo Designs is working with Sacred Heart Griffin High School on their annual shirts for the upcoming City Tournament Series. They love how involved our local Catholic elementary schools get in this event and want to make sure we had the information regarding the shirts. This year they are hoping to streamline the process by allowing online purchases. When customers check out, they have the option to choose one of the grade schools or SHG high school for pick up. Primo Designs will sort all of the items and deliver them to the appropriate schools once printing is completed. The store is open now and will be closing on Monday, January 13 at 9:00a.m. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Suzy at www.primodesigns.net/shg_city.

Join us for Mass!

The DeFrain 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.



Lucy and Phoebe (3rd grade)

Looking Ahead

Thursday, Jan. 9 -
3:00-5:00 p.m. - Bruinettes practice

Friday, Jan. 10 -
PSA spirit day (included with prepaid days)
Report Cards!
K-2 Young Author entries due to the office
3:00-5:00 p.m. - Bruinettes practice

Monday, Jan. 13 -
Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Tuesday, Jan. 14 -
6:00-7:00 p.m. - Math game night in the cafeteria
with math consultant Kristin Hilty

Wednesday, Jan. 15 -
11:30 a.m. - dismissal for faculty inservice;
No BASE available!!

Friday, Jan. 17 -
1:45 p.m. - Geography Bee for grades 6-8

Monday, Jan. 20 -
No school! MLK, Jr. Day

Wednesday, Jan. 22 -
All-school Mass
8th graders leave for March for Life

Thursday, Jan. 23 -
6th grade School Choice event at CTK
3:00-4:00 p.m. Garden Club meeting

Friday, Jan. 24 -
\$1 Extra spirit day for the HSHS Healing Garden

Sunday, Jan. 26-Friday, Jan. 31 -
Catholic Schools Week (more details to come)

Sunday, Jan. 26 - Parish Appreciation Day!
8th graders return from March for Life
9:00 - noon - CultureFest
6:00 p.m. - Fine Arts Night

Monday, Jan. 27 - Community Appreciation Day!
Dress Like a Tourist Day!
8:20 a.m. - Leadership assembly with guest speaker
Julie Becker from Helping the Homeless
2:00-5:30 p.m. Blood Drive in parking lot

Tuesday, Jan. 28 - Faith Appreciation Day!

Dress Like You're 101 (for the 101st day of school!)

8:20 a.m. - All- school Mass

Wednesday, Jan. 29 - Parent Appreciation Day!

Get Red Carpet Ready and Dress Your Best! (no jeans)

Parent lunch with students according to the following schedule: Last names A-F: 11:00-11:30, Last names G-N: 11:30-12:00, Last names O-Z: 12:00-12:30

4:30 - 7:30 p.m. - Chick-fil-A BSS Spirit Night at the restaurant - a portion of sales during this time (must present CFA flyer) will benefit our PSA!
Please join us for dinner!

Thursday, Jan. 30 - Student Appreciation Day!

Represent your Favorite Country - bring out the swag of your favorite flag! (non-uniform day; spirit wear is also acceptable)

PSA is providing a taco bar lunch for all students free of charge; ice cream sundae bar in the afternoon
5:30-7:30 p.m. - PSA Family Roller Skating Night at Skateland; \$5 per skater (skates included)

Friday, Jan. 31 - Staff Appreciation Day!

Dress Country Club or Country Western!

8:20 a.m. - Donuts & hot chocolate provided for students' breakfast

10:15 a.m. - Faculty vs. 8th grade volleyball game

11:30 a.m. dismissal - **No BASE available!**

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. - Builders Club dance for BSS 7th & 8thgrade students in the cafeteria