

† Blessed Sacrament



School News

Learning to Make a Difference

March 5, 2020

Dear Parents,

This week our students in grades 1-8 worked hard completing Iowa Assessments (standardized testing). Any necessary make-up testing takes place now through March 13. Third quarter also ends tomorrow, and report cards will come home next Wednesday.

I want to recognize our student athletes for their tremendous seasons: our Saints wrestling participants, our 5th and 6th grade boys basketball teams, and our 7th grade girls volleyball teams all finished their seasons since the last newsletter. Thank you to our coaches and athletes for all their hard work. You should be proud! We will cheer on our 8th grade girls volleyball team in their regional tournament next week.

Next week our 8th graders will also receive the sacrament of Confirmation on March 11 at 8:00 p.m. Students will meet with Bishop Paprocki ahead of time, and we look forward to supporting them on this next big step in their faith journeys! Please keep them in your prayers.

Registration packets are due on Monday, March 9, so please return these soon. You will also see job postings in the near future. Due to family circumstances, Mrs. Hennessy is unable to commit to returning as our Spanish teacher for next year following her leave of absence. Therefore, we will be posting her position as well as the vacancies created by the retirements of Mrs. Harth and Mrs. Belz. We will advertise for an early elementary teacher (gr. PK-3), a middle school teacher (gr. 6-8), and a Spanish teacher. Applications can be found on our school website for those interested in applying.

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead an hour on Sunday! We sure hope spring weather is here to stay. Enjoy your weekend!

Yours in faith,
Mrs. Dawn Klinner

Safety Reminder!

Recently, several drivers have been noticed using their cell phones while driving during our school's drop off and pick up times while entering and exiting our parking lot as well as on Glenwood and Walnut Streets. We take the safety of our students very seriously and want to be certain that everyone's attention is completely focused on the safe arrival and departure of students during these time periods. Please remember that it is against the law to use a cell phone while driving in a school zone. Thank you for your cooperation!

Help Needed for Friday Lunches!

Some of our regular Friday lunch volunteers will be gone for the next few weeks and we could use a few extra volunteers to take their place. If you are able to assist even one week, please come to the cafeteria at 10:45 on Friday. We appreciate all of our lunchroom volunteers! Please encourage your students to express their respect for and appreciation to the volunteers. We couldn't do it without them!

Buy Our Pizza, We "Knead" the Dough!

Thank you to everyone who supported the PSA's Turbo Fire Pizza Fundraiser! It raised just over \$3,000 for the PSA. Please remember to pick up your freshly prepared frozen pizzas in the cafeteria on Wednesday, March 11, at 1:30 p.m. It is an early dismissal that day! Thank you!!

Registration for 2020-2021 Due March 9

The registration forms for the 2020-2021 school year were sent home on February 24, and are due back on Monday, March 9. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

Mother Teresa Inspired Art Contest Winners

The much-anticipated dedication of our parish's life-sized bronze statue of Mother Teresa is scheduled for Sunday, April 26, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. In conjunction with that dedication, our students participated in an art contest last spring. The grade level winners (with last year's grade level in parentheses) are as follows: Max Brewer (PK), Dominic VanderWal (K), Hank Davis (2), Evie Bailey (3), Jack Bailey (4), Elinor Kovski (5), Nicholas Reed (6), Lila Ambrose (7), and Lindsay Madonia (8). The school's best-of-show recipient is Greta Blandford. Congratulations to all of these students and all those who entered the art contest! We are so pleased they shared their artistic talents with all of us in honor of Mother Teresa! All of the artwork will be on display in the cafeteria during the dedication reception on April 26.

March 17 Free Spirit Day for St. Patrick's Day

In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, students may wear BSS spirit wear, green, or appropriate St. Patrick's Day shirts with jeans or uniform bottoms free of charge. Students may also wear the special St. Patrick's Day hats being sold by the Builders Club. Please see the next article for details on hats. Please note, only the Builders Club hat is permitted to be worn in school that day.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to eighth grader Anthony Fergin who qualified to compete at the state-wide National Geographic GeoBee Competition on Friday, March 27, in Normal! We're so proud of you and wish you luck at the state competition!

Builders Club St. Patrick's Day Hats

The Builders Club is selling St. Patrick's Day baseball caps for \$4.00 each. Students will be able to wear this hat on St. Patrick's Day!! Quantities are limited, so be sure to order early. An order form is coming home today and a sample is available to see in the school office. Proceeds benefit the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl Program.

Tuition Assistance for 2020-2021

The F.A.C.T.S. tuition assistance applications (along with the required supporting documentation) for the 2020-2021 school year are due March 31. You may only apply online this year! Parents may access the link on our school website. Families will be notified by early June of their assistance. Please contact Laura Horton at 522-7534, ext. 245, with any questions or for assistance with the online process.

Spring Photo Day - Date Change!!

Our spring photo day has been moved to Friday, March 20. Informational flyers will be coming home soon. Students may be out of uniform for the photos that day but must follow all non-uniform guidelines. If in doubt about a particular clothing item, please send an alternate option with your child so that it will not be necessary to call home for a change of clothing. Photos do not have to be pre-ordered for this day, but a flyer will be sent home with information about the backgrounds. If you have a preference of backgrounds, return the Selection Form with your child on Spring Photo Day. Later, Lifetouch will send home a packet of the photos to all parents; you may return all photos or purchase what you want and return the rest. Lifetouch generously makes a donation to the school for our participation in Spring Photo Day, whether or not the parents buy any photos.

Vacation Bible School Planning is Underway!

Please mark your calendars for June 15 to 19, 2020 from 9am to 12pm. All children entering Kindergarten through Fifth Grade are invited to join us for *Rocky Railway* VBS. This year we will also be offering a Preschool Program for preschoolers aged 4 and 5 years old that have attended Blessed Sacraments Preschool Program. VBS fee will be \$20 for each registered student. For all 6th, 7th, 8th graders, high school students, and adults, please plan to come and join us for the week. We will be needing help with artistic planning, decorating, teaching students, helping with snack time, and much more. It is a great way to get your volunteer hours over the summer!. All participants and helpers must register online, so please keep an eye out for more information coming soon. All adults that are interested, please contact Danielle Davis at Grebes13@gmail.com. Registration information will be added later in March.

Scholastic Book Fair is Coming in March!

The annual spring Scholastic Book Fair is coming the week of March 20-27. The book fair will be open for purchases each day during school hours as well as during the Lenten Fish Frys on Friday, March 20, and Friday, March 27. If anyone is interested in being the chairperson(s) of the book fair, which includes assisting with set-up and overseeing the inventory each day, please contact librarian Lori Criscione at criscione@bssbruins.org. We are still in need of a dozen (or more) volunteers to staff the book fair during school hours each day. Please contact librarian Sarah Allen at allen@bssbruins.org to volunteer. It's a great way to earn service hours!

Service Hours Requirements & Waiver Request

Statements with the number of family service hours earned to date will be included with the students' third-quarter report cards. If parents have completed the required number of service hours (20) for the year, they will not receive a statement. Please contact Michele Greenwood at 522-7534, ext. 201, if you have any questions. Please refer to the Family Service Hours flyer in your registration packet regarding the process to apply for a waiver for inability to complete the service hours. Please note that a request for a waiver must be submitted in writing by April 15. No late submissions are accepted! Thank you!

Dental Exam Reminder

Please remember that all students in kindergarten, 2nd grade, and 6th grade are required to present proof of having been examined by a dentist before May 15 of the school year. (Dentist offices have the official form that needs to be submitted.) If a child in grade K, 2 or 6 fails to present proof by May 15, then the school may hold the child's report card until one of the following occurs: 1. The child presents proof of a completed dental examination within 18 months prior to the deadline; 2. The child presents proof that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15; or 3. The parents obtain a waiver from the Department of Public Health or provide objection on religious grounds.

Men's Club Fish Fry

The Men's Club Fish Fry is tomorrow, Friday, March 6, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Adult dinners and children's dinners are available. Cheese pizza is also available. The gym may be open at 5:30 p.m. as an area for children to play if enough adult chaperones are available. We need a volunteer or group of volunteers to coordinate this service each fish fry. If your child/children use the gym, please consider taking your turn and helping out in this way. You will earn family service hours, too! If you would be available to cover a shift (5:30-6:15 p.m. or 6:15-7:00 p.m.) please email/call the school office and indicate your availability. All chaperones must have taken Protecting God's Children! If we do not have enough chaperones, the gym will not be open. The parking lot and field are off-limits for children.

A "Baby Bottle" For You!!

We will be offering you a "Baby Bottle" after Mass next weekend! Please support our "Baby Bottle Fundraiser" for First Step Women's Center (see flyer in the bottle). You might afford friends and family an opportunity to add to your bottle. This supports the Center, their Mobile Medical Unit, and their move to a new and larger facility offering ultrasounds, as well as other support. For full info on the Center go to: FirstStepWomensCenter.org. This is truly a way to do the Lord's work and to support LIFE at that critical decision point, and beyond! Please return baby bottles during March in the back of our church. Thank you.

A Lenten Experience

How can I make this Lent a little more meaningful? Here is an opportunity to do so. A group meets on Monday mornings (9:15-11:00) to learn and discuss our faith. Through Lent we will be engaged in a five-part series entitled "Forgiven" (Augustine Institute), something we have all struggled with at some times in our lives. We will view a DVD and discuss its content and impact. Our "happy little band" meets in the Rectory basement meeting room. Please join us and see if this is "for you". The series begins Monday March 2. Feel free to bring friends. Please call Deacon Dave (971-4483) or Barbara Erdmann (971-0679) with questions.

Spotlight On Ice 2020 - Getting Out Of Town!

Come see BSS figure skaters Gabriella Dart, Phoebe DeFrain, Mallory Hoffman and Lexi Kotner at Spotlight On Ice! This is an exciting entertainment event designed to please audiences of all ages! Performed by 70 local skaters and nationally acclaimed special guest, Jimmy Ma, Spotlight On Ice features colorful lighting and costumes, stories you'll recognize and some of your favorite music.

Choose from 3 performances: Saturday, March 21 at 2 pm and 7 pm; Sunday, March 22 at 2 pm. Tickets are \$7 for kids 12 and under and \$12 for guests age 13 & up (plus a nominal service fee for online ticket sales). Ordering online makes it easier than ever to see one of the best ice shows in the Midwest! For online tickets, visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spotlight-on-ice-2020-tickets-92510987855?utm-medium=discovery&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&aff=escb&utm-source=cp&utm-term=listing> Tickets will also be available at the door.

SUPERCALIFRAGILISTICEXPALIDOCIOUS!

SHG is proud to present Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's MARY POPPINS, playing March 20-22 and 27-29 in the Dominican Hall Theater. Tickets are \$10 per adult and \$8 for students/senior citizens. Shows are 7:30pm on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2:00pm on Sundays. There will also be a Children's Event on Sunday, March 22nd, at 12:00pm. Those attending the Children's Event will be able to take a backstage tour, learn a song and dance, meet the cast, play games, crafts, food and drink, and much more! Tickets for the Children's Event are \$15 and include a ticket to the

Sunday matinee performance. To order your tickets to Mary Poppins and the Children's Event, please call 787-1595 ext. 153, or fill out the order form on www.shg.org. We can't wait to see you there!

St. Patrick's Blarney Bash

St. Patrick's Catholic School is hosting its 7th Annual Blarney Bash party and auction on Friday, March 13, 2020. The "best pre-party for St. Patrick's Day in town" will be held at the LRS Hangar at Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport from 5:30-8:30. Tickets are \$30/person and \$55/couple. Reservations can be made online at www.st-patrick.org or by calling (217) 523-7670.

Golden Angel POMS Tryouts

Are you interested in trying out for the 2020-2021 Golden Angels Poms Squad at SHG? Tryout clinics are March 30th and March 31st from 3:30-5:00 at the East Campus Gym. Tryouts are April 2nd starting at 3:30 at the East Campus Gym. Questions? Contact Susan Faivre (faivre@shg.org) or Hannah Jugan (jugan@shg.org).

Join us for Mass!

The Havey 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.



Oliver (5th grade) and Evelyn (1st grade)

Looking Ahead

Friday, March 6 -

No weekly Mass for grades 5-8

End of third quarter!

PSA Spirit Day (included with prepaid days)

5:00-7:00 p.m. - Men's Club Fish Fry

Sunday, March 8 - Daylight Savings Time Begins!

Monday, March 9 -

Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

8th grade Confirmation retreat

Wednesday, March 11 - Report cards distributed!

1:30 p.m. - dismissal for faculty meeting

1:30 p.m. - pick up pre-ordered Turbo Fire Pizzas

8:00 p.m. - 8th grade Confirmation Mass

Friday, March 13 -

5:00-7:00 p.m. - Men's Club Fish Fry

Saturday, March 14 -

SHG Zero Hour math testing for current 7th graders

Girl Scout Grand Prix in the cafeteria

4:30 p.m. - Girl Scout Mass

Monday, March 16 - Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Tuesday, March 17 - Happy St. Patrick's Day!!

Thursday, March 19 -

7th grade retreat in the morning at SHG

4:45 p.m. - Art Showcase closing ceremony at LF

7:00 p.m. - Fr. Gaitley presents in the church

Friday, March 20 -

Lifetouch spring photos (non uniform day) This is a change in our calendar!

5:00-7:00 p.m. - Men's Club Fish Fry

Scholastic Book Fair open during the Fish Fry

Saturday, March 21 -

Regional History Fair and IJAS Science Fair

SHG Zero Hour math testing for current 7th graders

7:00-9:00 p.m. - Father/Daughter Dance

Monday, March 23 - Friday, March 27 -

Scholastic Book Fair

Monday, March 23 - Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)

Wednesday, March 25 - All-school Mass

Thursday, March 26 - Grades 4-6 to SHG musical

Friday, March 27 -

5:00-7:00 p.m. - Men's Club Fish Fry

Monday, March 30 - Leadership assembly (wear t-shirts)