

# + Blessed Sacrament



## School News

Learning to Make a Difference

September 17, 2020

Dear Parents,

I continue to be amazed with the responses to our health and safety protocols and the tremendous support shown by our school and parish families! We are so thankful for the necessary support for our in-person instruction because we know the great benefits all the students are receiving from being here each day. Thank you for helping to maintain our in-person instruction!

Our leadership Mondays are now enhanced by all of our students wearing their new leadership t-shirts! In addition to the focus of the virtual assemblies on the virtue of charity, the shirts are a visual reminder to our students of our yearly theme: "Let Your Light Shine". Don't forget that all students are required to wear their leadership shirts on Mondays! We'll understand if a student occasionally forgets or if there's a problem with a clean shirt, but, in general, the leadership shirts are part of the students' Monday uniforms. We want our entire student body to be leaders in their faith!

The midpoint of the first quarter was this week! Yesterday, progress reports were emailed to the primary contact for all students in grades 3-8. Please remember that you can check your child's progress on Rediker at any time. Grades are always updated weekly by 5:00 p.m. on Mondays and often more frequently. If you have concerns about your child's grades or study habits, please contact the teachers now rather than waiting until the end of the quarter. We are happy to work with you so that your child will have a successful and rewarding year!

Yours in faith,  
*Mrs. Dawn Kliner*

### **Congratulations to the Golf Team!**

Congratulations to our 7th and 8th grade golf team on a successful end to their season at the sectional competition last week! We're proud of the dedication and efforts of the following team members: Laney Aleman (5th), Macie Petropoulos (7th), Gigi Gray, Layden Tamblin, Emily Short, Sophia Cathers, Mac Stone, Daniel Hallam and Gavin Hayes. We extend special thanks to the golf team's coach, Jason Aleman, and all those who assisted the golf team for their guidance and dedication!

### **Spirit Wear Has Arrived!**

The PSA spirit wear orders arrived this week and are being sent home on Friday with the youngest/only students in

each family. Please double check your order carefully when you receive it. If you have any questions about your order, please contact Miles T-Shirts at 528-2816.

### **Health Reminders**

We are five weeks into the school year already, and our health and safety procedures are working beautifully! As we continue our processes regarding absences and required documentation, please note the following:

-When students exhibit one of the symptoms on our list from IDPH, your physician may advise testing in certain circumstances. IDPH recommends waiting 48 hours *after* symptoms appear before receiving a COVID-19 test. This hopefully precludes testing too soon and therefore receiving "false negative" results.

-When your child is able to return from an absence, please email the required documentation (note from a physician with a diagnosis/reason for the symptoms and a copy of a negative COVID test as applicable) to Mrs. Greenwood **the day before** the child returns to school if at all possible. That way, we can let you know if anything else is needed prior to your arrival in the morning. You may email Mrs. Greenwood at [hinds-greenwood@bssbruins.org](mailto:hinds-greenwood@bssbruins.org). This greatly assists with attendance procedures!

-Students that will be absent 3 or more days due to quarantine/illness/sibling exposure may be placed on the "Temporary Remote Learner" List. This process will be initiated by the office, so please do not email teachers directly with this request. Please speak to Mrs. Greenwood or Mrs. Burke with questions about temporary remote learning. Parents wanting to pick up homework for students that will be absent only two days are asked to call the school office with that request prior to 10:00 a.m. Again, please do not contact the teachers directly to request homework, as teachers are not always able to check their email or messages during the day, and therefore a homework request may be missed. Thank you!

### **PSA Wrapping Paper Sales**

PSA's biggest fundraiser of the year ended this week! Thank you to everyone who participated! Everyone who participated will receive a small prize. In addition, the top seller will receive a prize of \$100, and the second-place seller will receive a prize of \$50.

### October Hot Lunch Orders

The online system is now open for placing hot lunch orders for the month of October. Engrained will begin rotating their weekly offerings this month, so be sure to check out new options as well as pricing notes. Please be certain that your student's account has funds available prior to placing an order. You may send cash or check payments to Mrs. Horton in the school office and those funds will then be added to your child's account or you may pay online. **All hot lunch orders are due by Thursday, September 24.** This order form also includes the annual auction cozy dog lunch on Friday, October 16. Please note we are not able to accept late orders. Thank you for your cooperation!

### We Need Lunchroom Volunteers!

Many hands make light work! At this time, we are seeking volunteers to work the Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday lunches. We rely on volunteers to provide our hot lunches each day, so please consider signing up for even just one day! You may sign up for Tuesdays and Thursdays using the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F45ACAC2AAAFB6-lunch> Please email Mrs. Greenwood at [hinds-greenwood@bssbruins.org](mailto:hinds-greenwood@bssbruins.org) if you are available to help on Fridays so that we may set up a schedule of volunteers!

### Back to Scrip

Start a new school year resolution to buy more scrip (or start buying scrip for the first time)! Scrip gift cards work just like any gift card but Blessed Sacrament School earns money with every card purchased. We keep track of your purchases, and each year we either reduce your B.S.S. tuition or offer you a rebate toward purchasing MORE gift cards. Give it a try! Gift cards are available to purchase in the school office during regular school hours or simply send in the scrip order form (it's on the website!)

### Books & Bundts Reading Program

We all know that "Reading Makes Life Sweeter", and there is a new self-managed youth reader program called Books & Bundts to reward students for time spent reading! Nothing Bundt Cakes has designed their simple program and materials to track the reading at home and reward the reader in our bakery. (Forms are attached.)

**Who:** Preschool through elementary

**What:** Bundtlets (small Bundt Cakes) rewarded based on number of minutes read and tracked

**When:** Beginning October 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Kristen and Theo Spilman at Nothing Bundt Cakes Springfield, IL; [springfield-il@nothingbundtcakes.com](mailto:springfield-il@nothingbundtcakes.com) 217-210-7450

### Ukulele Band

Mrs. Hartman-Irwin invites any interested students in grades 4-8 to join a new ukulele band beginning on October 6. The group will meet from 3-4 p.m. on Tuesdays in the choir

room. There is only room for 10 students. Please email Mrs. Hartman-Irwin for more information or to register at [hartman@bsps.org](mailto:hartman@bsps.org). Parents may also call/text 217-503-8821 with questions as well. Thank you!

### Arrival & Dismissal Procedures

Please remember that we updated our arrival and dismissal times! Arrival now occurs from **7:40-8:05**, and the tardy bell rings at 8:05 a.m.

**For dismissal, cars should park in the main parking lot from 2:30-2:46.** The surrounding streets are becoming very congested at dismissal, but **please refrain from parking in front of our neighbors' driveways or blocking any of the entrances to our parking lot.** We have several parking spaces open in the lot so please park in the lot, particularly if your children are in one of the last two groups to be dismissed each day.

Parents should remain in or near their vehicles and not congregate while waiting for students. We also ask that face coverings are worn during the dismissal times, even when outdoors. The following dismissal times will occur:

2:47 PreK and K

2:51 Grades 1 and 2

2:54 Students with last names A-F

2:57 Students with last names G-N

3:00 Students with last names O-Z

3:03 Cars in the main parking lot will be dismissed

### Looking Ahead

Monday, Sept. 21 – Leadership slideshow (wear t-shirts)

Monday, Sept. 28 - Leadership slideshow (wear t-shirts)

Tuesday, Sept. 29 -

4th grade Mission Mass live-streamed from the Cathedral

Thursday, Oct. 1 - Catholic Charities food drive kickoff!

Friday, Oct. 2 - PSA spirit day (included with prepaid days)

Monday, Oct. 5 - Leadership slideshow (wear t-shirt)

Tuesday, Oct. 6 - Ukulele band begins for gr. 4-8

Monday, Oct. 12 - No school - Columbus Day

Wednesday, Oct. 14 - 1:30 p.m. - dismissal for faculty meeting

Thursday, Oct. 15 - Great Shakeout (earthquake drill)

Friday, Oct. 16 -

End of 1st quarter!

1:30 p.m. dismissal - NO BASE available!!

Saturday, Oct. 17 - 51st Parish/School Auction

Monday, Oct. 19 - Leadership slideshow (wear t-shirts)

Tuesday, Oct. 20 - School picture day (non-uniform day)

Wednesday, Oct. 21 -

Report cards distributed

6:30 p.m. - First Reconciliation meeting for 2nd grade parents

Sunday, Oct. 25 -

1:00 - 3W Confirmation and First Communion

Monday, Oct. 26 - Leadership slideshow (wear t-shirts)

Thursday, Oct. 29 - Catholic Charities food drive ends

Saturday, October 31 - Happy Halloween!