



ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL

## *Weekly Newsletter*

(732) 264 5578 SCHOOL OFFICE

SCHOOL.STBENEDICTHOLMDEL.ORG

*November 27, 2019 - Volume 4, Issue 13*

### **PRINCIPAL NEWS + ANNOUNCEMENTS**



Dear Parents:

Let us all be thankful for our many blessings as we approach the holiday season. Hopefully over this long weekend you get a chance to enjoy time with family and friends, share a meal, and reflect. I am truly thankful for the St. Benedict School Community, especially the students filling our halls everyday. Their energy, excitement, and passion for learning has inspired me in my role as Principal. I am also extremely thankful for the faculty and staff of our wonderful school. Everyday I am in awe of their creativity, passion for education, and unconditional love of the students. It is inspiring to come to work and be surrounded with so many talented professionals.

Last Friday, Mr. Isaacs and a delegation of eight students traveled to Christian Brothers Academy and participated in their 7th Annual Model United Nations Conference. St. Benedict students had a tremendous showing. I received great feedback from the conference organizers and administration at CBA about our students preparedness and professionalism. Special recognition is deserved for three students who brought home individual awards: Aidan Zagel (Honorable Mention for a Delegate), Solomon Sukkarieh (Best Position Paper Award for his conference), and Jack Collins (Best Delegate Award for his conference). Congratulations to all those who participated and to Mr. Isaacs for his leadership.

The Great Outdoor Learning Center is making a great deal of progress. The split rail fencing is about half way done and the land is marked for the construction of the pond, gardens, and classroom. We are

working diligently to post pictures and updates on our social media platforms. Remember to follow construction by following the hashtag #stbens4life.

Finally, our new Christmas merchandise has been flying off of the shelves of the Rebel Rack. Students, faculty, and school families really seem to like the new items and designs. There is a lot of buzz in the hallways about the new pop sockets, pajama pants, water bottles, and socks. Thank you to Mrs. Lori Ulrich for her creativity and hard work to fill our shelves with items that our families are proud and excited to wear. These items will make great stocking stuffers so come by and take a look!

Please take note "Giving Tuesday" will be held at St. Benedict School on December 3rd. This Diocesan initiative is meant to foster a connection with the community. All proceeds from this annual event go directly back to Catholic Schools. Please use the following link to the St. Benedict School Giving Tuesday website to donate: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/St-Benedict>. Your generosity does not go unnoticed. Thank you for your continued commitment to Catholic Education.

Happy Thanksgiving.  
Kevin Donahue

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

### FILING FOR DIOCESAN TUITION ASSISTANCE FOR 2020-2021

The Tuition Assistance Applications for the 2020-2021 school year will be available on November 1, 2019. You will be able to access the application through the link on the SBS website under

#### **PARENTS - FINANCIAL INFORMATION - FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.**

The application is open on 11/1/19.

The Round 1 Deadline is 2/21/20.

The Round 2 Deadline is 5/15/20.

For additional information, please see the attached [flyer](#). It is also posted in the Weekly Packet.

- **GIVING TUESDAY - DECEMBER 3, 2019**

On Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019, Catholic schools from across the Diocese of Trenton are participating in Giving Tuesday, the global day of charitable giving that follows Thanksgiving, Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Giving Tuesday is a day of charity that fosters connection and generosity which helps you bring real change to your community. **100% of the monies raised through this campaign will go directly to the Catholic school that you specify in your donation.** Help support our Catholic Schools this Giving Tuesday by sharing your resources; a donation to the Catholic school of your choice, pledging to volunteer your time at a school, or sharing a prayer in support of Catholic education! Visit [www.LeadinFaith.org](http://www.LeadinFaith.org) to learn more and show your support! St. Benedict School donation link: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/St-Benedict>

- **SCRIP DEADLINES FOR CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS ORDERS**

Save on tuition with SCRIP retailer gift cards. Learn more [here](#). If you are placing an order for any gift cards that I do not have in stock, you must have your order in **no later than the MORNING** of Tuesday, 12/10 (no later than 10:30 am) in order for the cards to be received before the Christmas break. Orders for cards that I **do have in stock** can be filled up until Thursday, 12/19. Please feel free to contact Lorrie McGee in the Parish Office to confirm the cards you are interested in are in stock! She can be reached at 732-264-4712 ext. 37 or [mccgee@stbenedictnj.org](mailto:mccgee@stbenedictnj.org).

- **YEARBOOK RECOGNITION ADS - [Click Here](#)**

Attention to all **8th grade** families, it's time for yearbook ads!

Dear Parent or Student,

Yearbook recognition ads are a great way for parents, families, and friends to commemorate student achievements and important milestones. In addition, revenues from recognition ads help

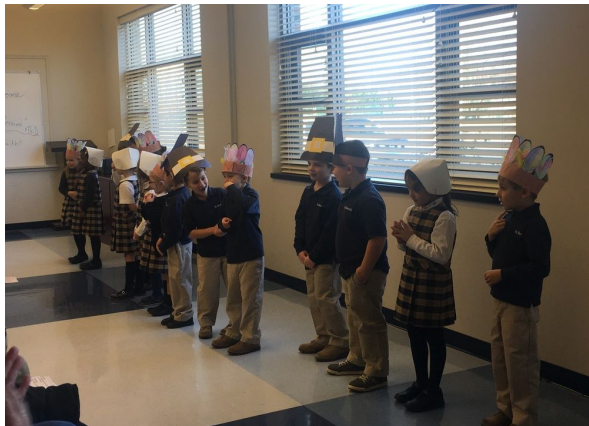
our school to create a better yearbook. To purchase your ad online, follow the instructions on the form below. Jostens is managing your school's yearbook ad sales so please do not contact or send materials to the school. Please take into account our school's ad content guidelines on the bottom of this form during the creation of your ad online. All ad orders must be placed online by 12/1/19. NO LATE ADS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

- **YEARBOOK EARLY BIRD SPECIAL** - The early bird sale for yearbooks is for PreK through 7th grade, all are welcome to buy a yearbook at the lowest price of the year. The 8th grade families **DO NOT** need to purchase a yearbook! [Click Here](#)
- **VIRTUS Training Class** - There will be a full Virtus Training class on Thursday, January 9, 2020 in the FAL. Please go to [www.Virtus.org](http://www.Virtus.org) to register.
- There will be a **Virtus Retraining Class** on Thursday, January 16, 2020 in the FAL at 6:00 pm. This class is for all those volunteers who were originally trained prior to the year 2015. You may register online at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org). Please contact the School Office if you have any questions.
- **Genesis Parent Access is now closed.** It will reopen on Friday, December 6 to view report cards. A hard copy will be distributed at the end of the year for the last trimester.

## CLASS NEWS

### THANKSGIVING PLAYS - KINDERGARTEN AND SECOND GRADE

Thanksgiving plays were performed by our Kindergarten and Second Grade classes this past week. Excellent performances by both grades, you should be very proud of yourselves! More photos [here](#).



### RAINE FOUNDATION VOLUNTEERS

We would like to thank the countless SBS student volunteers and parents who served at the annual RAINE Foundation Thanksgiving Dinner held on Monday evening in the SBS gym. With so many volunteers on hand preparing, serving, performing, setting up and cleaning up, it is a reminder of how blessed we truly are to lend a helping hand, brighten the day of others, and deliver a warm Thanksgiving meal to those less fortunate in our immediate community.



### MODEL U.N.

On November 22, the Model UN Team participated in Christian Brothers Academy's 7th Annual Middle School Model UN Conferences. For the second consecutive year, delegates representing St. Benedict School performed extremely well while working through writing, debate and negotiation processes.



Aidan Zigel (Honorable Mention for a Delegate), Solomon Sukkarieh (Best Position Paper - 1st U.S. Congress) and Jack Collins (Best Delegate - 1st U.S. Congress) all earned awards in their respective conferences. Furthermore, Rachel Shay, Nicholas Thamburaj, Luke Vrankovic, Simon Roche and Marcus Musilli performed well and displayed great passion throughout the preparation and debate portions of the competition.

Mr. Isaacs, along with the rest of the SBS Community, could not be more proud of the delegates on the Model UN Team! Congratulations to the Rebels UN Squad for a fantastic performance! A special thank you to Mr. Isaacs for making this wonderful program happen and flourish here at SBS.

More photos here: <https://school.stbenedictholmdel.org/photoalbums/sbs-model-un-team>



### 3D DESIGNS

Students in grades 4 to 8 participated in Mr. Isaacs' first-ever 3D Design Challenge. Participants were tasked with creating a Halloween-themed design by utilizing the online platform, Tinkercad. Over 70 original designs were submitted and the top six vote-getters, as chosen by the students, received a printed copy of their creation!

Congratulations to the winners Alexa Tantillo, Amani Sukkarieh, Cecilia Granatelli, Rachel Shay, Kamryn Javier and Zyan Pesantes for their intricate and creative designs! Mr. Isaacs truly appreciates all of the hard work and time so many students put into their designs.

Looking ahead, the holiday-themed design challenge has begun. Students who wish to take part in this contest should submit their item to Mr. Isaacs via email by December 11.



## PARENT ASSOCIATIONS AND CLUB NEWS

### FAITH FORMATION

#### Christmas Eve Pageant

The pageant is a reenactment of the Christmas Story. Children are invited to participate in the Christmas Eve Children's Pageant at 3:30 pm, Mass will follow immediately after the pageant in the Gym.

Any child interested in participating in the pageant is asked to email Carol Cesario at [cesario@stbenedictnj.org](mailto:cesario@stbenedictnj.org).

**Tuesday, December 3** from 4:30-5:00 pm for Information Meeting/Parts

#### Rehearsals

- **Tuesday, December 10** from 4:30-5:30 pm
- **Tuesday, December 17** from 4:30-5:30 pm

\*Children are required to attend both rehearsals.

Rehearsal will be held in the Church. All children are encouraged to participate.

[Sign up HERE.](#)

#### Advent Family Activities

[10 Meaningful Advent Traditions for Catholic Families with Little to No Prep Work!](#)

### PTA

Advent dress down passes for January-June are now on sale until December 9th. All of the money raised will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul and RAINE. Please find the order form in the FYI section of the school website.

Santa Shop will be from December 4th to December 6th. We will be needing volunteers to help students shop for presents, as well as wrapping them. We also need help transporting items on December 3rd. Please click the signup genius link below to sign up. Any help you can give is appreciated.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0E4FA5A62BA5F85-santa3>

The Santa Shop sale schedule is posted on the Parent/FYI page on the school website.

Please join us and the Knights of Columbus on December 8th at 10am. We will have breakfast with Santa, gingerbread house decorating and face painting with Ms. Aimee. Order forms were emailed to you or you can find it in the weekly packet. It is going to be a festive and fun event. Hope to see you there!

The PTA would like to wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving. We are so thankful for all of you who volunteer time, energy or funds to help provide great events for our children.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Polar Plunge 1/26/20 (more details coming soon).

**GRACE** (Growing Access to Catholic Education)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday, 12/2**

#### Drama Club

2:15 - 4:00 pm in Church

**Tuesday, 12/3**

#### Grade 4 Literary Cafe

9:00 - 10:00 am in Gym

#### Mini Drama Club

2:15 - 3:15 pm in the  
Maker Space

#### STEM - Junior Robotics

**Builder** Rescheduled class  
from 11/7 cancellation  
3:00 - 4:30 pm in Science  
Lab for Grades 2-5

**Wednesday, 12/4**

#### SBS First Reconciliation

from 1:00 - 2:00 pm

#### Santa Shop Sale 12:00 pm

See website for schedule.

#### School Choir

2:15 - 3:15 pm in Music  
Room

**Thursday, 12/5**

#### Santa Shop Sale Day 2

8:15 am - 1:45 pm  
See website for schedule.

#### Yearbook Meeting

2:15 - 3:30 pm in 6B  
Homeroom

#### STEM - Junior Robotics Builder

3:00 - 4:30 pm in Science  
Lab  
Grades 2-5

**Friday, 12/6**

**Report Cards available  
online through Genesis  
Parent Portal**

#### Santa Shop Sale Day 3

8:15 am - 1:45 pm

Email: [grace@stbenedictnj.org](mailto:grace@stbenedictnj.org)

Yankee Candle Fundraiser - Online orders may still be placed until January 8, 2020 at [www.yankeecandlefundraising.com/store.htm](http://www.yankeecandlefundraising.com/store.htm) and enter group code **990051704**. They will be shipped directly to your home. Each family who orders \$30.00 or more will receive a Dress Down Pass.

## SPORTS



Please check the Basketball schedule and come support our REBELS!!!  
<https://www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=nmbbl>

Happy Thanksgiving to all the Rebel Families!!!

Trish Hillers, Athletic Director at [athletics@stbenedictnj.org](mailto:athletics@stbenedictnj.org)

See website for schedule.

### School Mass

9:00 - 10:00 am

### SBS Bowling League

3:45 - 5:00 pm at  
Strathmore Lanes,  
Aberdeen

### Youth Choir

4:00 - 5:00 pm in Music  
Room

### Tree Lighting 6:30 pm

(starts in the Church)

### NOTE:

*All Club flyers are in the  
weekly packet or respective  
Club pages on the website.*

## REMINDERS

- **CALENDAR** - is located on the website in the main navigation tab titled "Calendar" or bookmark the page here: <https://school.stbenedictholmdel.org/calendar-1>
- **SCHOOL FACEBOOK** - Facebook page for St. Benedict School is: <https://www.facebook.com/SBSprincipal/>
- **AMAZON WISH LIST REMINDER**  
Our Amazon teacher wish list is up on Amazon Smile! Please check it out and help our teachers stock up for the new school year! Click link below:  
[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/KK6784K9TB49?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/KK6784K9TB49?ref_=wl_share)

## WEEKLY PACKET

Please see the link below to access all of the newsletter attachments for the week.  
<https://school.stbenedictholmdel.org/fyi>