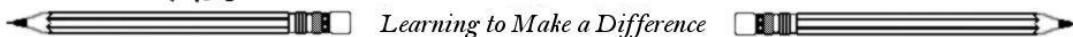


+Blessed Sacrament



School News



Learning to Make a Difference

October 5, 2023

A Note to Parents

Dear Parents,

Words are sometimes difficult. When I think of my own grandparents, I don't have enough words to describe how loved they will forever be in my heart. I spent so many wonderful moments with my grandparents and their courage, strength, and faith taught me to believe in myself and cherish the beauty of the people around me. I know that my grandparents admired me, but it all started with them. I am so proud to have been loved by my grandparents.

Tomorrow we are celebrating Grandparents' Day at Blessed Sacrament School! All students are welcome to invite their grandparents or special friends to join us for a special day together. All students and grandparents will be able to enjoy refreshments, visit the photo booth, tour the school, and meet the teachers. We are looking forward to this wonderful day celebrating all of these special loved ones!

"Grandparents make the world a little softer, a little kinder, and a little warmer." Thank you to our B.S.S. grandparents for loving and supporting our Bruins! Happy Grandparents' Day!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Nicole Kuhlman

54th Annual Auction-A Night in Nashville

Saturday October 14th at 5:30pm in the gym! Any questions please contact our co-chairs; Brittney Dhabalt: 217-691-8282; bmdhabalt@gmail.com or Kristen Sowinski: 217-741-4418; kksowinski@gmail.com

Children's Auction: Forms went home last Friday, and are due back to school October, Wednesday 11th. There are extras in the school office if needed.

Silent Auction is officially live, and bids are rolling in. We are so grateful for all the wonderful donations that we have received and are continuing to receive. Make sure you keep checking back as we are constantly adding items.

<https://www.32auctions.com/2023BSSAuction?r=1&t=all>

Spirit Day: Friday October 13th for \$1 donation we are encouraging our students to go Western in support of our auction! Don't have western apparel that's okay any! BSS spirit day attire will work.

Tickets: Golden Tickets, Parish Raffle Tickets, and Admission (sponsorship levels and entry) tickets can be found here:

<https://blessedsacramentchurch.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/54thAnnualAuction2023/tabid/1387988/Default.aspx?fbclid=IwAR2s6uU970erEWkp2T7W0t6Ayb2dPHy4MGtztDStVuzqMBaYp9iYaQ4RLmQ>

Wine Wall: bring in a bottle(s) of wine for the wine wall and earn up to 2 service hours. We are asking that each bottle of wine be a \$20 value, one service hour per bottle. (*No Illinois wine please.*)

Service Hours: There are several opportunities to get your service hours knocked out early in the year. See it all here; <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/1233263696029/false#/invitation> Contact Megan DeFrain with volunteer questions at (217) 971-8726.

Upcoming Service Hour Opportunities

- **PSA Teacher Luncheons:** Each month our teachers and staff look forward to a special potluck lunch provided by our fantastic PSA and school parents! We hope that you will take a moment and sign up to bring a dish for our staff to enjoy on one or more of these highly anticipated dates! Please follow the Sign-Up Genius link. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F45ACAC2AAAFB6-44742927-enjoy> Please contact Dawn Reyhan with any questions at cateccc6@gmail.com.
- **Do you have Christmas spirit?** Blessed Sacrament Parish is looking for a few "angels" to help coordinate the annual Angel Tree Project. No experience necessary and training will be provided. Please contact the parish office at 217-528-7521.

Extra Spirit Wear Order!

Our spirit wear items for this year are quite popular! So, in response to several requests, Miles T-Shirts has graciously agreed to reopen the online store for one week. Please follow the link to place your orders. <https://blessedsacrament22023.itemorder.com/shop/home/> The deadline is the end of next week, October 15. The anticipated delivery is November 1, so this may be an opportunity to purchase early Christmas presents. :) Thank you for your support!

Grandparents' Day is Friday, October 6!

All students are welcome to invite their grandparents or special friends to join us Friday, October 6, to tour the school, enjoy refreshments, and celebrate Mass together. There will be a photo booth available in the gym near the north library entrance for family photos taken with grandparents' cameras or cell phones.

Please be aware that normal student drop-off will still occur in the main parking lot from 7:45-8:05. **Parking for grandparents will not be available on the lot until AFTER 8:15 a.m. in order to accommodate morning drop-off.**

Please relay that information to grandparents! Grandparents may enter the building through both entrances on Laurel Street and the main school entrance off of the parking lot.

In order for the teachers to have time to take attendance, our guests will be asked to wait in the cafeteria or gym until 8:25 a.m. when the older siblings will go to the youngest sibling's classroom to meet the guests. An announcement will be made at that time for grandparents to proceed to the classrooms of their youngest grandchild. **Mass will be celebrated at 9:45 a.m. and the students will be dismissed from Mass for the remainder of the day.** They do not need to return to the school and may leave with their guests. BASE is not available that day.

After School Walkers Crossing Laurel Street

Unfortunately, we continue to have parents and grandparents walking their students between the cars on Laurel Street after school, which then causes traffic to stop suddenly. Please be certain to **always use the crosswalks** when crossing the streets, and reinforce this to your children. There are crossing guards at both intersections on Laurel (Glenwood and Walnut). We want to keep our students and families safe and also not disrupt the flow of traffic on Laurel Street. Thank you for your cooperation!

Grade School Night at SHG is Friday, October 6th!

A free ticket to Friday's game will go home with each student next week. Join us for a fun night under the lights with prizes and giveaways! We will also be celebrating Military Appreciation Night - all veterans and current military members get in free with their military ID! Hope to see you all there!

Change of Dismissal Notifications

Please **DO NOT** send notices of a change in dismissal plans directly to teachers via emails or Class Dojo (PK-grade 3) during the school day, as those messages may be missed during the course of a busy day. If it is necessary to change dismissal plans for a child due to unexpected circumstances, **parents must call the school office prior to 2:40 p.m. The office will notify the teacher and the student of the new dismissal plans.** Thank you for your cooperation!

Welcome to the Blessed Sacrament Parent School Association!

Every parent is automatically part of the PSA and encouraged to be involved this school year. We have an exciting year ahead, filled with many activities and events. The PSA President is Abbey Steele, who is the mother of three BSS students. Please contact Abbey if you wish to learn more about how you can volunteer: psa@bssbruins.org.

Our first PSA meeting this year is Thursday, October 5, at 5:30 pm. We hope to fill the following PSA leadership positions at that time: vice president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, and treasurer. Hope to see you there!

PSA Night at Bomke's Patch

Please see the flier accompanying today's newsletter that provides information about the PSA BSS Family Day at Bomke's Patch on October 21st. BSS families will receive a discounted admission with this flier (printed or screenshot). Bomke's Patch has tons of activities for family fun, including: pumpkin picking, corn maze, playground, foam machine, pumpkin cannon, food, drinks, and more!

Mandatory Meeting for Basketball Athletes and Parents

There will be a mandatory meeting for all basketball athletes and their parents on Thursday, October 12, at 6:30 pm in the cafeteria. You may contact athletic director Mr. Kreiling with any questions at kreilingathletics@bssbruins.org. Please plan to attend!

BSS Promotes Good Sportsmanship

Good sportsmanship can be defined as playing a game fairly while respecting the rules, officials, coaches, opponents, and teammates. When athletes and fans treat everyone with respect, competition thrives and they are also able to gain the respect of others and benefit from the support of everyone.

All of our students are aware of the importance of showing respect and good sportsmanship. There are a few key rules to remember and remind your children about in regards to sportsmanship. First, we want our athletes and fans to celebrate successes and support them when they struggle. Second, respect the competition whether you win or lose. Next, appreciate and respect all coaches, referees, and officials. Lastly, be respectful towards all athletes, coaching staff, officials and fans. Our students are expected to follow these rules and will have consequences if extreme unsportsmanlike behavior occurs. We also ask that parents, coaches, and fans set a good example for their children by displaying good sportsmanship and abiding by these same rules. Thank you for your cooperation!

After Hours Responses from Teachers

Please be aware that, while our teachers are extremely dedicated to the success of each and every child in their classes, they do not always have the opportunity to check emails or Class Dojo messages (prek-grade 3) throughout the school day. Be assured that they will check messages and

respond as soon as possible. However, any messages sent after 4 pm may not receive a response until the next school day. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Requirements for Volunteering at School

Any individual volunteering in any capacity in our parish or school must attend a training course through CMG (Protecting God's Children) and have a background check. Once you have completed the training, you never have to attend another session. However, if your background check was completed more than five years ago, it must be completed again. (The forms for the background check were included in the Orientation Night packet.) To volunteer in any capacity, you must meet these requirements.

The Diocese of Springfield will be using CMG Connect for Protecting God's Children training and is used for tracking background checks. If you need to complete the training, go to <https://springfieldil.cmgconnect.org> to sign in and create an account. After logging in, you will need to select your role at the school (volunteer, coach, etc.). This will then provide you with the training and requirements that you will need to complete. **Please contact Michele Hinds-Greenwood at hinds-greenwood@bssbruins.org if you are needing further assistance.**

Interested in Substituting in our School?

Blessed Sacrament is now accepting applications for substitute teachers and aides for the 2023-24 school year. A high school diploma is required to substitute for a classroom aide, and a bachelor's degree is required to substitute for a teacher. Contact the school office if you are interested in applying to be a substitute for this school year.

Looking Ahead

Friday, Oct. 6 -

Grandparents' Day

8:30 am - Arrival for grandparents

9:45 am - Mass followed by dismissal

No BASE available!!

SHG Grade School Night at the football game!

Monday, Oct. 9 -

No school - Columbus Day

Wednesday, Oct. 11 -

1:30 dismissal - faculty meeting

Thursday, Oct. 12 -

Vision and Hearing Screening

6:30 pm - Basketball meeting for parents and athletes

Friday, Oct. 13 -

Auction Spirit Day

1:30 dismissal - **No BASE!**

Saturday, Oct. 14 -

5:30 pm - Annual Parish/School Auction

Wednesday, Oct 18 -

End of the first quarter

Friday, Oct. 20 -

PSA Spirit Day

Saturday, Oct. 21 -

BSS Family Day at Bomke's Pumpkin Patch

Monday, Oct. 23 -

8:15 - Leadership assembly - Wear Leadership

T-shirts with uniform bottoms.

Tuesday, Oct.. 24 -

School picture day - non-uniform day

Report Card Day!

Wednesday, Oct. 25 -

6:00 p.m. - First Reconciliation parent meeting in church for second grade parents

Friday, Oct. 27 -

Red, White, and Blue Jeans Day - \$1 donation for Service Project for our veterans

2:15 - adoration for grades 2-8

Sunday, Oct. 29 -

Halloween Trunk or Treat

Monday, Oct. 30 -

8:15 - Leadership assembly

Tuesday, Oct. 31 -

Happy Halloween! Classroom parties at 2 pm