

Blessed Sacrament School Newsletter

“A Feinsein Leadership School”

Newsletter October 1, 2017
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Ph. 401-831-3993

Principal: Mr. Christopher Weber
Office Manager: Mrs. Deborah Fioravanti

Principal's News



Dear Families,

Blessed Sacrament School is a busy place and we are off to a great start to the new school year. All of the teachers have been working very hard to prepare engaging lessons for your students. Please make sure they come to school well-rested and prepared for class. Parents are the single biggest support system, and factor, in student success. Please keep that in mind as we continue to work toward preparing your students for the complexities of the world in which we live.

As part of our partnership with Providence College, I am happy to announce that several PC students will be joining our after-school program to offer free tutoring to our daycare students. They will be here Monday through Thursday, from 2:30-3:30PM, to offer homework help and tutoring services. I know our daycare students will be happy to have the help! Thank you to the FriarServe community for making this happen.

Club Invention

In order to help our students prepare for the technological world they will most certainly be living in, we will be bringing Club Invention, as an after-school activity to our school in the coming months. There are a multitude of course offerings, including *Flight Sight, and Castles, Catapults, & Coat of Arms*. Each session lasts five or six weeks. Please be on the lookout for

PTO News:

There is still plenty of time to get involved with this year's PTO. Remember, it takes the whole community to run a successful school. Please be assured, getting involved in your student's PTO can be a lot of fun, can be a great way to meet new people, and can show your child how much you care about their education.

sign-up forms in your Friday Folders. Thank you again for all of your support. --Mr. Weber

High School Entrance Exam!

Classical High School Entrance Test:
Saturday, October 21, 2017 @ 8:00AM

Blessed Sacrament School is now accepting families into our preschool programs who qualify for the DHS Childcare Assistance Program. This program can help pay tuition expenses for students up to entry into 1st grade, and daycare expenses for all students up to age 13. If you think you may qualify, apply online at:

<http://www.dhs.ri.gov/Programs/CCAP/ProgramInfo.php>

Upcoming Events

Oct. 6th- Progress Reports go home.

October 9th- Columbus Day-No School

October 10th-School Mass hosted by Grade 8: 9:00AM All are welcome.

October 13th- Gourmet Pie & Cookie Dough Fundraiser Orders are due.

October 18th- Flu Clinic: 7:45AM until 10:00 AM-Church Hall

October 20th- Dress Down sponsored by Grade 7.

October 20th-Halloween Howl in the Church hall-6:00PM-8:00PM

October 27th- Haunted Labyrinth Field Trip. Middle School Only-6:30 to 8:30PM

October 31st- Halloween Stroll for Pre-K & Kindergarten-in costume!

November 3rd-Parent/Teacher Conferences-**No School**

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ School Mass: November 1st-9:00AM
- ◆ RI Food Bank Spooktacular Food Drive Begins-Oct.2nd
- ◆ School Pictures: Oct. 17th School Uniforms



We are off to a great start in Pre-K4! During October, we will be exploring apples and pumpkins through stories, activities and art projects. We are working on identifying letters and letter sounds through fun whole group and small group games. In **math**, we are practicing numeral identification, counting and one to one correspondence. The children will learn in Religion that "Father", "Son" and "Holy Spirit" are all names for God. We will also learn how to do the Sign of the Cross.

Pre-Kindergarten News

Our Pre-K3 class has been focusing on friendship, getting to know each other, and safety throughout the month of September. We read books in each of these areas. A fireman was just one of the crafts we made. We also created a firetruck, and a friendship tree. Pumpkins of felt were decorated while following the Readiness and Writing Without Tears guide. Students also learn how to hold their crayons and pencils correctly. By using small crayons their fine motor skills are being practiced.

Kindergarten News

Time flies when you are having fun! It is difficult to believe October is here. Students will begin homework Monday – Thursday. This month, the students will learn the following High Frequency words: *The, little, a, to*. We will also learn the consonant /m/ spelled Mm, and consonant /t/ spelled Tt. Please practice rhyming, counting syllables, and initial sounds. A fun way to practice these skills is to make up games, especially when riding in the car.

In **math**, students will learn to write numbers to 10. Practice counting and grouping objects into sets of 10. When **writing** both letters and numbers, please remember to start at the top! In **Religion**, students will learn that God gave us the land and filled it with many gifts. We will make "Stone Soup", and carve pumpkins to celebrate the Fall Harvest.

First Grade News

I am pleased to say there is a lot of learning going on in our class. With our Star of The Day activities, the boys and girls have been working with letter sounds, blends and the many different sounds that vowels make too. In October, we will be starting new Star of the Day activities. Our class planted in September and we will be planting more in our class garden soon. The children enjoyed the hands on **science** lessons, especially looking at leaves, roots and dirt through the microscope. If you haven't seen our garden yet, your child will be happy to show you.

We will begin **Guided Reading** this month. After whole group instruction, the children will be reading in small groups. Each child will read books on his or her own level. Remember reading at home is also part of your child's homework. There will be BOOK IT! READING LOGS going home. Your child needs to color each day he or she reads or is read to for 20 minutes. This **READING LOG** counts towards your child's report card grade as well. Our class is using **math** manipulatives to help the children develop a deeper understanding of whole numbers and parts of numbers. Another focus in our Topic 2 is learning the different ways we can use subtraction. A small jar of pennies, buttons or even Cheerios would be great tools to use for homework.

Second Grade News

The children in Grade 2 have settled in and are adjusting nicely to their new routine. They have completed most of the beginning of the year assessments and have begun working in **reading and math** groups. The students' eagerness to learn is remarkable. Our current theme for **reading** is Exploration. The children were excited to read about a female astronaut, Eileen Collins, and love the idea of no gravity. They will be writing stories about space. Providence College students taught and performed an experiment on the phases of the moon.

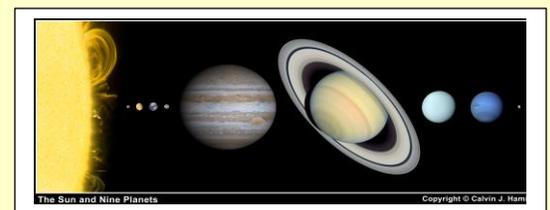
Next, the children will learn about the desert and find out what plants and animals live there. The children are reviewing fundamentals in subtraction and addition in preparation for regrouping. Be sure to have your child visit www.pearsonsuccessnet.com for additional practice in **reading and math**. Their passwords will be sent home soon. It is a great tool. We are lucky enough to be premium members of Spelling City. Here, your child can play games, write sentences, write stories, and even take a spelling practice test to prepare for weekly spelling tests. Please visit www.spellingcity.com.

Third Grade News

"If you take responsibility for yourself, you will develop a hunger to accomplish your dreams."-Les Brown

Grade 3 has gotten off to a great start! Our third graders are settling in to the new school year very nicely! We will continue to study addition, subtraction, and place value in **math** class. We are learning about the Solar System in **science**; and maps, globes, and directions in **social studies**. Soon we will be starting a unit about the Pilgrims, Wampanoag, and the first Thanksgiving. Our creative writing will

include tall tales, sensory descriptions, acrostic poems, and scary stories!



Fourth Grade News

We're off to a great start in Grade 4! The students have adapted nicely to the classroom schedule and routine. They have just completed the first In-Class Novel Study on the book *The World According to Humphrey* by Betty G. Birney and handed in their Box-It Book Reports last week!

In October, they will be **reading** *Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate Di Camillo for the In-Class Novel Study. Once finished with the reading, they will then create a Flip Book Report on the novel. In **Math**, the students completed Topic 1: Multiplication and Division: Meanings and Facts. They will begin Topic 2: Generate and Analyze Patterns, this week. In **Religion**, we are learning the Beatitudes, and to live as Jesus' disciples. In **Social Studies**, we will continue our chapter on Exploring the United States. In **Science**, the students are learning about Life Processes, focusing on plants in particular, with the help from our fantastic Providence College Student Teachers! October is going to be a fun-filled month of learning!

Fifth Grade News

Fifth grade is off to a fantastic start! We began the school year by setting goals for our learning and identifying what we need to do to meet our goals. We are aspiring to be **mathematicians** as we work with decimals and multi-digit multiplication problems in **math**. We are diving into **literature** as we make predictions, identify story elements and ask questions. We are expanding our **vocabulary** as we write with vivid language and dig deeper into the purposes of **writing**. As we travel through time in **social studies**, we are learning about the land we call home. We are traversing

river systems and plateaus as we journey across America. We become **biologists** as we learn about human life. We grow in our faith as we identify what it means to be a disciple. We will grow in our understanding of the 7 Sacraments given to us by Jesus Christ. What is on the horizon for grade 5? **Literature** that explores making choices, math computations including division, multiplication and multi-step problems, science experiments to bring meaning to vocabulary words and history lessons to connect us to the world of the Native Americans and the original American colonies. Sounds exciting, doesn't it? We will accomplish all this and more, while being in our heavenly Father's loving care.



13 Original Colonies

Middle School Literature & Social Studies

English Language Arts for September was very busy with a Newspaper Project on *Oliver Twist* and *Life in Victorian England* and various Grammar assignments. **The 6th grade** has worked on reading texts from Ancient Civilizations, beginning with Mesopotamia, and the *Epic of Gilgamesh*, leading to a project on Cuneiform and developing written languages. For the month of October they will be focusing on more myths and legends from Ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome, and how these stories reflect the standards and ideals of these societies. **The 7th grade** has worked on Medieval Literature from the time of King Arthur and are finishing their Fairy Tale projects now, and for the month of October they will be working on reading and projects with the *Canterbury Tales*. **8th grade** has been reading and analyzing historical documents and how they have influenced change in our society, and will be reading historical novels in small groups and completing a project about historical literature and its affect on society. Toward the end of the month we will also do a short project with all three grades on Gothic Literature, including *The Raven*, and excerpts from Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* and Bram Stoker's *Dracula*.

Middle School Spanish

There is a test every time Spanish class meets.

GRADE 6 begins with some basic vocabulary for use in a school.

GRADE 7 begins where we left off. The theme of chapter 3 is Sports and Leisure Activities

Grade 8 begins where we left off. The theme is Family.

Middle School Skills

Grade 6: It has been a busy month in Skills. The students have completed unit 1 and will be completing units 2 & 3 in October. Please remember that online practice is available at **vocabulary workshop.com** Your student is on Level A.

Grade 7: The students have completed unit 1 and will be completing units 2 & 3 in October. Please remember that online practice is available at **vocabulary workshop.com** Your student is on Level B.

Grade 8: The students have completed unit 1 and will be completing units 2 & 3 in October. Please remember that online practice is available at **vocabulary workshop.com** Your student is on Level C.

All students should be logging on to practice at least twice a week as assessments will occur biweekly.

Grade 6-8 Religion

Students of the Month

All religion classes have a chapter or vocabulary test every week. There is a test online that the students can use to help them study, if they pass in a copy, they receive **five extra points**.

GRADE 6 is a study of the Old Testament. We begin with the Book of Genesis and the creation stories.

GRADE 7 is a study of the New Testament. Unit 1 deals with the Blessed Trinity.

GRADE 8 is Church history. Unit 1 deals with the gift of faith.

- Pre-K3: Alanna Free
- Pre-K4: Aliana Polanco
- Kindergarten: Annabelle Lopez Cordova
- 1st Grade: Lizeth Aquino
- 2nd Grade: Mariska Poldor
- 3rd Grade: Kate De La Cruz
- 4th Grade: Samuel Weiner
- 5th Grade: Roly Paz
- 6th Grade: Arlisenny Rodriguez
- 7th Grade: Ralphletha Flowers
- 8th Grade: Selena Stevquoah



Congratulations and keep up the good work!

Middle School Mathematics

Grade 6: Students have been working on Chapter 1, which includes properties of numbers, order of operations, and operations with decimals. Chapter 2 includes measures of central tendency – mean, median, mode, and range - as well as different types of graphs.

Grade 7: Students have reviewed decimal operations and are working with integers (Chapter 1). We will soon move on to working with exponents, order of operations, and fractions in Chapter 2.

Grade 8 Pre-Algebra: Students in this class are preparing for the high school placement tests by working on practice problems covering various skills

and concepts. In addition, we have been working in Chapter 1 on integers and algebraic expressions.

Grade 8 Algebra: Students in this class are preparing for the high school placement tests by working on practice problems covering various skills and concepts. In addition, we have been reviewing variables and expressions, order of operations, and real number operations in Chapter 1.

ALL GRADES: Students have homework most week nights. In addition, Khan Academy provides instructional videos and practice sets for all topics. Every student has an account. Please encourage your student to utilize this valuable resource.

Middle School Science

Grade 6 Earth Science: We have been exploring Earth's surfaces and will continue in October learning about rocks and minerals.

Grade 7 Life Science: We tapped into classification of organisms and will continue with cells and DNA.

Grade 8 Physical Science: We have been studying atoms and compounds and molecules.

All grades have been busy learning about how to conduct an experiment using the Scientific Method, and in each class, the students are growing green beans! Ask your child about it!

Fine Arts

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The Hope of the Harvest is in the Seed.

We're on the Web!
<http://blessedschoolpvd.com>

Music: In music class, we are just starting to tackle the music for our Christmas show, which will be on December 12th. Grades have been paired together and will present musical selections and a skit. We are also looking toward the future, to begin work on "God Bless America" for our performance at the **Providence Bruins on December 2nd**. There are a lot of exciting things happening in the music room including the start of our new choir! For more information contact me, at apariseau@blessedschoolpvd.org

Art: Congratulations to Danaja Baptiste, Kailey Vicente, Jayla Smith, Arlisenny Rodriguez, Marienny Vargas, Taylor Lima, and Jorge Barragan for their work on the *Dream Rocket Project*, sponsored by Roger Williams University. Their work was displayed in the State House from August 1st through Sept. 30th. For more information visit:

https://i0.wp.com/www.thedreamrocket.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/IMG_0098-1.jpg?resize=300%2C298

Submitted by Patricia E. Hart, our Art teacher who has an MA from RISD in Art and Design Education.

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Freedom of Speech