

Blessed Sacrament School Newsletter

"A Feinsein Leadership School"

Newsletter February 1, 2018
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Ph. 401-831-3993

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Mission Statement

The mission of Blessed Sacrament School, a Catholic School and Ministry of Blessed Sacrament Parish, is to educate preschool through grade 8 students in a safe, nurturing, and academically challenging environment that instills the knowledge of God's great love for us. We empower students to become well-rounded individuals who are lifelong learners and joyful witnesses to Christ's teachings.

Principal's News

Catholic Schools Week is a clear reminder that the school year is moving along at a rapid pace and before we know it, spring will be here. To kick off Catholic Schools Week, Blessed Sacrament honored distinguished alumna, **Mrs. June Spencer**, class of 1966. Mrs. Spencer spent over 25 years as a teacher in the diocese, and another 10 years as principal of Blessed Sacrament School. The honor is well-deserved, and it was a pleasure to welcome her back to the school for Open House. Congratulations and thank you to Mrs. Spencer!

I am so impressed with all of our faculty and students because I have witnessed steady and sustainable progress in academics, spirituality, and athletics. Indeed, our latest round of STAR testing is underway, and I'm pleased to report that a great majority of our students are making solid gains in the National Percentile Rankings. When comparing Blessed Sacrament's student percentile growth rates, it is obvious how lucky we are to have such great teachers and students!

Reminder: Please remember to ask your child for their Friday Folder. At the end of every week, your student's teacher sends home a folder with all the news, tests, and assignments from the previous week. It is vital to your child's success that you review and discuss its contents with your students. Thank you for your cooperation.

God Bless,

Mr. Weber

P.S. If anyone needs a tuition statement for their taxes, please contact Mrs. Fioravanti in the office. She will be happy to help you.

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ February 16th: FACTS financial aid early application deadline.
- ◆ February 26th: Classes resume.

PTO News

Our PTO has been very busy. Several parents have been chipping in at the Book Fair, the Bake Sale, and Drama Club, and we raised over \$160.00 at the **UNO Pizzeria** fundraiser in January. We are still welcoming your participation in upcoming fundraisers like, United Skates of America, and the Family Fling! **Thank you to everyone for your support!**

Financial Aid:

Dear Families: Please remember to log-on to our FACTS Page to apply for financial aid for the 2018-2019 school year. Priority is given to families who apply on-time and verify early!

Upcoming Events

February 1, 2018- Open House for New Families: 9:00 AM-4:00PM.

February 1, 2018 -Spelling Bee at St. Mary's School in Cranston-4:00PM

February 1, 2018- "Student Appreciation Day."

February 2, 2018- Grade 8 Super Bowl Sundae. \$2.00 per sundae.

February 9, 2018- 100th Day of School Celebration.

February 14, 2018- Ash Wednesday: School Mass hosted by Grade 4. All are welcome.

February 16, 2018- Snack Sale, Dress Down sponsored by Grade 3. Rice Bowls Go Home.

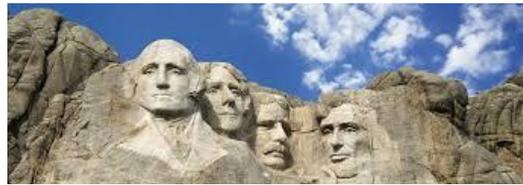
February 19-23, 2018 Winter Vacation; No School.

Pre-Kindergarten News



"I have always found that mercy bears richer fruits than strict justice." – Abraham Lincoln

During February, PK-4 will be celebrating the 100th day of school and Valentine's Day. **Transportation** will be our main theme as we explore shapes, measurement, beginning sounds and rhyming words. We will **read** the book "Have You Filled a Bucket Today" and talk about all the ways we can love and care for others.



Kindergarten News

This month we will celebrate our 100th day of school by making special projects, and visiting grades 1 and 2 to see what they created for this special day! It's also the middle of winter, and we will designate each Friday as "**Fun Filled Friday**." The Kindergarteners will enjoy discovering how snow is made, experiment with ice, and create "a snow building" with various materials. Please stop by to see what's happening in our classroom! The children seem to be enjoying the Lending Library and "Mystery Bag." They are very creative with their clues. It's a fun way to learn

beginning sounds, ending sounds, and rhyming. Great job! In **Reading Street**, please continue to practice blending words with short "o" in the middle. For example, "pot, hot, cot, cod, got, etc. Your student may like to try **writing** words by listening to the sounds each letter makes. In **math**, we have been counting to 100 by 1's, 5's, and 10's. The students will continue to practice addition and subtraction this month. In **Religion**, we will read about, discuss, and create projects that illustrate how we can love others as we are followers of Jesus.

First Grade News

It was a pleasure visiting with families at our Open House. If you didn't have a chance to come in, please stop by to see your child's work displayed in our class, and on our door. They've worked really hard and love to share what they are learning with you. In February there is a lot going on. To begin our month, we have a visit planned from a Girl Scout's representative. Then we will be celebrating the 100th Day of School on Friday, the 9th, which is very exciting. Look for a note in your child's Friday Folder for more details. We will also

make Valentine's Day cards in first grade, and your child will take home our class list. During February, we will be starting our next Unit in **Reading Street**, which focuses on changes. These stories explore how animals, people, weather and even cities change over time. Our **math** is also going in a new direction. We are beginning to examine number patterns, including counting by 10s, 5s and 2s. It is very important to continue reviewing addition and subtraction though. They have been doing such a great job with double facts and making ten facts too. There is so much learning going on. I am really proud of this class.

Second Grade News

The students in Grade 2 have begun to enjoy the fun activities planned for Catholic Schools Week. It was nice to see many of the families at Mass on Sunday, which kicked off our week. We are preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation by learning about the Ten Commandments and the Act of Contrition. We continue to work on Unit 3 in **reading**. The stories show how people communicate and solve problems in creative ways. The children will share their creative ideas with each other on Friday, February 9th. I can't wait to see their inventions. New goals have been set for the **Accelerated Reader** program for the third quarter. Please help your children reach

their goals by having them read at home nightly. The children are learning about letter writing. They will **write** letters to family and friends about their school. Our **phonics** lessons are on the long I sound (i, ie, igh and y) and comparative endings, (er and est). I am so proud of the children for successfully learning to add two-digit numbers with regrouping. We will begin subtraction next, which can be a bit tricky, but with extra practice they will succeed. **Social Studies** and **science** are always fun. We will read about Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman in honor of Black History month. The children are looking forward to **science** lessons presented by Providence College students. February will be a fun filled and informative month. Happy Valentine's Day!

Third Grade News

February will be a short, but busy month in grade 3. We will be starting our multiplication speed drills in **math**, and will be learning about how division relates to multiplication! In **religion** we will be looking at what makes each of us special and unique. Each child will be creating

their own family flag. We will be **writing** about why we love Blessed Sacrament School, creating our own sundae recipes, and writing bio-cinquains, and drawing self-portraits. In **social studies**, we will be studying latitude and longitude, which will relate to our study of the climate zones in **science**!



Fourth Grade News

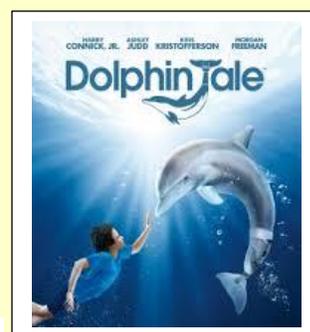
Grade 4 welcomes February! Although it's a short month, we have a lot planned for it! To recap last month in **Literature**, the students read one of my favorites, *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White. Each student produced a Character Analysis, and creatively described why their character had an important role in the novel! In **February**, our In-Class Novel Study genre is non-fiction. They will be reading *Dolphin Tale: The Junior Novel*, adapted by

Gabrielle Reyes. In **Reading/Language Arts**, the students are bettering their understandings of Fact vs. Opinion, Main Idea vs. Supporting Details, along with learning more challenging spelling and vocabulary words. In **Math**, the students just completed Topic 7-Number Sense: Multiplying by 2-Digit Numbers, and will be moving on to Topic 8. In **Religion**, the students will continue to work on The Commandments, focusing on the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Commandments in particular. In **Social Studies**, the students continue to work on a United States regions project, as well as work on research for their assigned states for the US State Research Report. In **Science**, the students continue with the Life Science unit. They are currently learning about inherited traits and behaviors. As always, if there are any questions/concerns, please contact me via email: kblessing@blessedschoolpvd.org

Fifth Grade News

We have been stretching our brains in 5th grade! We are working hard as we identify different text purposes and decompose different mathematical concepts. In **math**, we are using larger numbers as we solve long division problems in the context of word problems. We are delving into **literature** as we identify strategies that support us as readers. Do you put a picture in your head as you read? In **science** and **social studies**, we have been reading current events. Did you know that space suits of the future may have a special button that returns the astronaut to the home space station? Did you know

the bluenose ship, built in 1921, helped fishermen bring their fresh catch back to port quickly? We are growing in our faith as we learn about **Mary and Jesus** through the reading of the gospels. What is on the horizon for grade 5? **Math** computations including division and multiplication with decimals, science experiments and the use of technology in learning. Sounds exciting, doesn't it? We will accomplish all this and more while aspiring to become saints!



Middle School Spanish

GRADE 6: We have started Chapter 2. The major theme is "School."

GRADE 7: The Chapter 4 test is coming in the first week of February. The review will include conjugating "er" and "ar" verbs.

GRADE 8: We are close to the end of this book. There will be a Chapter 6 test in the first week of February. We will do a lot of reviewing before we move on to the next book.



Se habla español



Middle School Social Studies

Grade 6: Continuing to work in Chapter 4, Ancient India. We will be having section quizzes and a chapter test. Then we will move into Chapter 5, Ancient China.

Grade 7: Continuing to work in Chapter 4, *Life in the Colonies*. We will be having section quizzes, a project, and chapter test. Then we will move into Chapter 5, *The Road to Revolution*.

Grade 8: Continuing to work in Chapter 18 Industry and Urban Growth. We will have section quizzes, a project, and chapter test. Then we will move into Chapter 19 *Political Reform and the Progressive Era*.

Middle School Skills

Grade 6: Beginning Unit 9. Students have homework that will consist of 3x each: sentences, a writing component and conclude with a unit test. Students have access to the Sadlier website to further study vocabulary words.

Grade 7: Beginning Unit 9. Students have homework that will consist of 3x each: sentences, a writing component and conclude with a unit test. Students have access to the Sadlier website to further study vocabulary words.

Grade 8: Beginning Unit 9. Students have homework that will consist of 3x each, sentences, a writing component and conclude with a unit test. Students have access to the Sadlier website to further study vocabulary words.

Middle School Literature & Creative Writing

All the students have finished mid-term exams, and report cards have been sent home. In **Grades 6, 7 and 8**, we are ready to begin our next round of novels. The **Sixth Grade** is reading "*The Giver*" and the Seventh Grade will read "*Divergent*." Each class will then do a power-point project/presentation on a Dystopian community, based upon the book they read. **Eighth Grade** is selecting their own books and will either do a traditional high school- level book report, or a typical high school project, in place of a traditional report, to prepare them for next year. Further, the *Lion King* is fully cast, and we have Monday afternoon practice for Middle School main characters for acting, Tuesday afternoon practice for select characters for singing, and Wednesday afternoon practices for dance number choreography.

Middle School Mathematics

Grade 8 Algebra: Students are working on solving multi-step equations. We will also review proportions and percent.

Grade 8 Pre-Algebra: students are continuing to work on powers and exponents as well as scientific notation. We will begin studying square roots and the Pythagorean Theorem.

Grade 7 Pre-Algebra: Grade 7 students will continue to work on operations with fractions. Our next topics are algebraic expressions and equations.

Grade 6 Math: Sixth grade students will continue solving equations. We will then work on operations involving fractions.

KHAN ACADEMY: All students have accounts!!!! Please encourage your student(s) to practice math/pre-algebra/algebra skills.

It promises to be an impressive show by the students who are putting in a great deal of effort. Also, be on the look-out for information on our Blessed Sacrament "Silent Auction," happening in late March!

Middle School Religion

GRADES 6, 7, & 8: We are all in the Family Life book. There are five themes in these books: God's Gift of Family, God's Gift of Life, God's Gift of Self, God's Gift of Love, and God's Gift of Community.

Students of the Month-February

Pre-K3: Anderson Torres-Batista

Pre-K4: Amar'e Muñoz

Kindergarten: Angeliz Rafael

1st Grade: Jeffrey Rodriguez

2nd Grade: Michelle Sanchez

3rd Grade: Abby Jennings

4th Grade: Jayden Ovalles

5th Grade: Zarianne Dazulme

6th Grade: Valeria Tudela

7th Grade: Rebecca Sanchez

8th Grade: Tessa Caporelli

Congratulations to All!



Middle School Science

The students in all 3 grades had a great time creating their "Invention Convention" for the Science Fair during Catholic Schools Week. All the awesome inventions and projects are on display in the Middle School hallway. Thank you and great job everyone!

Grade 8- Science will be tackling the Periodic Table, how the elements are organized, and discovering a pattern within the Periodic Table. We'll take a closer look at atoms and bonding, and a few lab experiments to close out the chapter.

Grade 7- We are continuing our chapter on *Cell Process and Energy*. We finished the section on Photosynthesis and we are onto Respiration and Cell Division. Ask your child what the difference is between Photosynthesis and Respiration? Towards the end of this chapter, we will be learning about DNA and Genetics!

Grade 6- We started the year learning about the Earth's Interior, the Crust, Mantle and Core. Next, we will explore the drifting Continents, climate changes, and Plate Tectonics. What did the Earth really look like millions of years ago? I can see another Science project in the making...

Fine Arts

Music

In **music**, we are delving into many new and challenging things. Grades Pk-1 are working on basic musical skills. Grades 2-4 are working on Solfege and Rhythms. Grade 5 is delving into Recorder, and grades 6-8 are continuing to work on Musical Genres and History. The Choir is working toward masses and a concert later in the year: date TBA.

Art

ART CLUB WELCOMES VOLUNTEERS

Art Club members have been very busy decorating posters and cards to celebrate Catholic Schools Week and Valentine's Day. Students are working with two volunteers from St Patrick Academy. Jonathan Leon and Tania Ortiz, both graduates of BSS, and both have siblings who still attend BSS. Tania and Jon come to the school each Wednesday afternoon and work with the Art Club. Students enjoy doing clay work, special bead stringing, spin art and making posters. Additionally, Danaja Baptiste, a sixth grade student at Blessed Sacrament, volunteers to work one-on-one with students whenever they need assistance during Club activities. Students meet in the Art room each Wednesday after school from 2:30-3:30p.m. Come on by and visit, we love to share our work!

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Harvest is in the
Seed.**

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