

Blessed Sacrament School Newsletter

"A Feinsein Leadership School"

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

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



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

Dear Families,
March Madness was a great success for our CYO basketball teams. **All three of our teams won their league championships, an unprecedented feat in our school's history.** As I reflect on the accomplishments of our basketball program, I think it is altogether fitting to take some space to properly thank the volunteers who make our program successful. Mr. Anthony Voccio and Cheryl Nacci, along with coaches Amanda Voccio, Tema Kollie, Christina Gibbons, David Darrah, Gunther Pflieger, Edward Tarty, Christopher Nyakhoon, and Jerome Correy, who all gave countless hours of their time, deserve our heartfelt appreciation and thanks. They all did a great job and I know the teams are looking forward to next year. Thank You!
2017 Reading Week is almost upon us, which means exciting things for Blessed Sacrament School. We are conducting a read-a-thon in all of our classes this year. The start date is this Monday, April 3rd and we will continue through

Easter Monday, April 17th. All of our students have been given "Reader Take Home Sheets," which contain the student's secret code. Please have your students go to <http://www.read-a-thon.com/readers> and create their own website to keep track of their daily reading log, and get financial support from relatives and friends. I cannot think of a better way to foster a love of reading in your students, and support Blessed Sacrament School's technology program at the same time!

Please remember to log-on to our FACTS Page:

<https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3HRDF>
to apply for financial aid for the 2017-2018 school year. Although the initial deadline for applications has passed, it is not too late to apply for financial assistance. Please call the office if you have any questions.

God Bless,
Mr. Weber

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Upcoming Events

April 4th-School Mass hosted by 3rd Grade: 9:00 AM

- ◆ May 7th-First Communion at the 10:30 AM Mass.
- ◆ May 9th- School Mass-May Procession: 9:00 AM in the Church.

PTO News

Our next PTO meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 25th at 5:30 PM in the school library. Please RSVP to the school office by April 24th.

Parents: Thank you very much for enrolling your student(s) for the 2017-2018 school year. Please make sure to log on to the FACTS Tuition link on our website to select an appropriate payment plan for next year. Agreements will be finalized in early July and no fees are due until then. Thank you for your cooperation.

Upcoming Events

April 3rd -Read-a-thon begins.

April 5th - No School: Teacher Professional Development

April 7th - Third quarter report cards go home. Please return signed copy ASAP.

April 10th - Stations of the Cross: 1:00 PM in the Church. Grades 6, 7, & 8.

April 11th - Stations of the Cross: 1:00 PM in the Church. Grades 1-5.

April 14th- Good Friday: No School

April 17th through April 21st-Spring Vacation: No School

April 25th -First Reconciliation: 2nd Grade @ 9:00AM in the Church.

May 4th- First Communion Rehearsal: 3:30PM-4:30PM in the Church

Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!

Happy
EASTER





In the month of April, our **Pre-k-3** class will be focusing on a plant/insect unit. We will learn about the parts of plants and what they need to live. Each child will also be planting seeds and observing their growth process. We will be learning the letters w,x,y, and z, as well as their sounds. For language arts, we'll be reading many plant and insect books followed by crafts and related centers. In addition, Easter books will be read, games will be played and religious lessons will be Easter related. We are still in need of Clorox wipes and tissues. Any will be greatly appreciated.

Pre-Kindergarten News

The **PK-4** room is very excited that spring has finally arrived! During the month of April, we will be celebrating Easter. Some of our activities will include Bunny Bowling, jellybean sorting & graphing, plus lots of activities using plastic eggs. Our Easter activities will culminate with an Easter Egg Hunt outside in the playground. In **Religion**, the children will learn that Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday and that is the reason we celebrate that day. After spring recess, we will learn all about frogs. We will do activities and projects about the life cycle of the frog. We will even learn a song about **metamorphosis**.

Kindergarten News

"April showers bring May flowers!" The kindergarteners will create a bulletin board to illustrate what this saying means. We will also design a bulletin board to celebrate **Reading Week**. Stop by to find out who your child's favorite author and/or book is! We planted the pumpkin seeds we saved from October when we carved our pumpkin, and are hopeful that we will see sprouts soon!

In **reading**, please continue to practice all high frequency words. They represent a necessary foundation for grade one. In **math**, we will continue to practice addition and subtraction. Most of the children have learned to make the sign of the cross. Please continue to practice if your child has not mastered this. Our goal is to learn The Hail Mary by the end of the month.

First Grade News

First, I would like to thank so many of you for your prayers and support at the passing of my Mom. She truly looked forward to hearing how the boys and girls were doing in grade one. The cards they made for her while she was ill and their sympathy cards are precious treasures. Faith in action! Speaking of precious treasures, that is what our next unit in **reading** is all about. We begin Unit 4 this first week of April, and the theme throughout these six stories focuses on family and shared events. Check out some books by Ezra Jack Keats at the library. **Spelling** is becoming increasingly more

challenging as we continue our school year. Please help your child at home. He or she could use magnet letters or letter tiles to spell the words, which would be more fun than writing them over and over again. I have lots of ideas, so please stop in and see me, write me a note or email if your child needs some extra help. In **Math**, we will be comparing and ordering numbers from 0 to 100 in Topic 9. Then in Topics 10 and 11 we will be adding and subtracting double digit numbers.

Our class is sponsoring the school wide Snack Sale and Dress Down on April 28th. Please let me know if you would be able to help out.

Second Grade News

I can hardly believe April is upon us. The children are working hard in all their subjects. I have witnessed so much growth academically, socially, and spiritually. Now that the days are longer and the children want to stay up later. It is important, however, to keep the children on a regular schedule so they can continue to do their best. Homework and **reading** nightly should remain a priority. We are on Unit 4 in reading and the theme is *Our Changing World*. We have been studying the life cycle of a pumpkin, the changes that occur underground, and we are now investigating soil. We will plant flower seeds and observe the changes that take place over time. The children have been researching frogs in computer class and are working on a report about their chosen frog. Reading Week will be celebrated this month and I hope to see lots of extra **reading** taking place. Along with doing some fun activities that week, I would love to have some parent volunteers come in and read to our class.

Please let me know if you would like to help out. In **math**, the students are working with place value to 1,000 and will soon be adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers with regrouping. They are doing an amazing job. The children should continue to practice basic **math** facts to increase proficiency. Our focus in **religion** has been on the Lenten Season and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Soon, we will learn about the resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the celebration of the Eucharist. Some of the children will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on April 25th during the school day. They will receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 7th at the 10:30 Mass. Please remember the First Communion children in your prayers.

I would like to thank all of you for donating to our snack sale, and an extra special thank you to Mrs. K, Mr. Jennings, and Ms. Martinez for working at the sale.

As always, it is a pleasure working with your children and watching them meet with success.

"Perseverance is a great element of success. If you only knock long enough and loud enough at the gate, you are sure to wake up somebody." -Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Third Grade News

As we begin the month of April, we are still in the season of Lent. Third graders will be participating in our own hands-on Stations of the Cross at church, as well as attending the school's Stations of the Cross. Each student drew a station for display in our classroom. The third grade class is preparing the school mass on April 4th and all are welcome to attend! We will also study all the

important events we remember during Holy Week, culminating with the Triduum and great feast of Easter! We will then return from vacation ready to make Resurrection butterflies and Paschal candles! We will also be planting seeds and observe their roots and growth during several science experiments! (In our last experiment we can now see that our grapes finally look like RAISINS!) We will also get ready for the arrival of our Painted Lady caterpillars!

Fourth Grade News

April is here and Grade 4 welcomes it! The In-Class Novel Study on Biographies in March was a great success! The students read biographies of famous people in history. They presented their speeches, as the person they read about, in character and in costume at The **Living Biography Museum**. See the Blessed Sacrament School Facebook page for pictures of the event! In April, the students will read a selection

from the fantasy genre. Our selection is *The Chocolate Touch* by Patrick Skene Catling. In **Math**, the students are finishing Topic 9-Number Sense: Dividing by 1 Digit Divisors. In **Religion**, the students will continue to learn about the Fourth and Fifth Commandments. In **Social Studies**, the students continue with the chapter, The Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regions. They are discovering what makes these areas of our country so special, in history, landscape, and population. In **Science**, the students continue to learn about ecosystems. If you have any questions/concerns, please contact me via email: kblessing@blessedschoolpvd.org

Fifth Grade News

March was a lucky month for fifth grade. Together we created a video of *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere*. The video is posted on our school website. Some students dressed up as colonists, but all the fifth graders narrated the play. In **math**, both groups have begun fractions. Specifically, we are learning how to add and subtract fractions using unlike denominators. Although it can be difficult, the students are working together to solve all problems.

In **science**, we are finishing up the phases of the moon and will begin our new lesson on energy and the food chain! We look forward to April!

“Love is the measure of Faith.”
-Pope Francis



The Chocolate Touch

Middle School Literature

Grade 6: is wrapping up *My Brother Sam Is Dead* by inventing book jackets for the novel. They will begin reading *Freak the Mighty* next week.

Grade 7: just completed a final project for *The Outsiders*. They will begin reading *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* next week.

Grade 8: is beginning a Literature unit on the Holocaust. They will begin reading *Night*.

Middle School Skills

Grade 6: Students have been working hard on writing skills and have created several short writing pieces. They have shown great promise. Grade 6 will transition back to Vocabulary next week.

Grade 7: continues to work hard in vocabulary and will have a Unit 7 vocabulary test on Monday, April 3.

Grade 8: is also working hard on vocabulary and will be taking the Unit 8 vocabulary test on Monday April 3. Grade 8 will also be incorporating their writing skills as we continue into the fourth quarter.

Middle School Math w/ Ms. Rico

Grade 8: Students are wrapping up the chapter on ratios, proportions and unit rates. We are studying percentages next week.

Grade 7: also has been studying proportions, and unit rates. we will move on to percents next week.

Grade 6: is working on prime factorization, GCF Greatest common factor, LCM Least common multiple and equivalent fractions.

Middle School Spanish

GRADE 6: We are learning personal pronouns and conjugating of AR verbs.

GRADE 7: We are doing a lot of conjugating of AR and ER verbs. We will also look at some irregular verbs.

Grade 8: We are still reviewing. We will begin a review of chapter 3 in April.



Middle School Social Studies

Grade 6: The class is wrapping up an interesting chapter on Ancient China and important people such as Confucius. Grade 6 will be taking a test on China next week and will then move on to Ancient Greece.

Grade 7: is studying the colonial period and is presently learning about New England, Middle and Southern colonies and the differences between these regions.

Grade 8: is just finishing a unit on World War 1 and will be taking a test during the week of April 3. Grade 8 will then move onto the 1920's and the Great Depression.

Grade 5-8 Religion

Christian Service Club will meet on April 25th. We will only have one meeting due to Holy Week and Spring Break.

GRADE 5: We finish Family Life the first week of April. We return to *We Believe* in Unit 3. The theme is, "The Sacraments of Healing."

GRADE 6: We are in Unit 3. The theme is, "*Redefining the Covenant People.*"

Grade 7: We are in Unit 3. The theme is, "*The Seven Sacraments.*"

GRADE 8: We will finish *Family Life* the first week of April. We then return to church history. The theme of Unit 3 is, "*Keeping Faith in a Changing World.*"

Middle School Mathematics

Grade 8: Students will be working on Systems of Linear Equations (Chapter 6), including solving by graphing, substitution, and elimination/combination.

Grade 7: We will be reviewing operations with decimals and fractions, integers, order of operations, and exponents (Chapters 1, 2, 3).

Grade 6: Students will be finishing up Patterns and Variables in Chapter 3 and moving on to studying Ratio, Proportion, and Percent (Chapter 7).

Students of the Month-April

Pre-K3- Aliana Polanco
Pre-K4- Gabriela Juarez
Kindergarten- Ava-Cecelia King
1st Grade- Michelle Sanchez
2nd Grade- Dariel Justiniano Chavez
3rd Grade- Faith Charlemagne
4th Grade- Autumn Andrade
5th Grade- Amira Beltrand
6th Grade- Ania Hughes
7th Grade- Danielle Lanoue
8th Grade- Briana Fernandez
Keep up the Good Work!



Middle School Science

Earth Science: 6th grade just started Chapter 6-Forces in the Earth's Crust. They will be looking closely at earthquakes and how they are monitored.

Life Science: 7th grade just began Chapter 5-Modern Genetics. They will continue to study patterns of human inheritance.

Physical Science: 8th grade just started Chapter 5-Atoms and Bonding. They will look specifically at covalent and ionic bonds.

Fine Arts

Art Class

Mrs. Keough and Ms. Hart have collaborated on the 2nd graders' **Science** lesson on frogs. Here; Cesar, Rayannah, Abby & Jayda put the finishing touches on their clay frogs.

Music Class

7-8: We are beginning basic keyboard skills and will learn how to read a chord chart.

5-6: We will continue our work on solfège and theory. We will add in folk dances and composers of the Late 1800's.

3-4: Cup Games, dances, solfège, and composers from the 1700's.



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Blessed Sacrament School
240 Regent Ave.
Providence, RI. 02908

Phone:
(401)-831-3993

Fax:
(401)-223-0536

E-mail:
school@blessedschoolpvd.org

*The Hope of the
Harvest is in the
Seed.*

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