

# Blessed Sacrament School Newsletter

"A Feinsein Leadership School"

Newsletter January 1, 2018  
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"Helping to better the lives of others is the greatest of all achievements."—Alan Shawn Feinsein

"As a Feinsein Leadership School we are committed to teaching our students to be caring of others."

## Principal's News

Dear Families,

Happy New Year! As we look back on 2017, we can be very thankful for all of the service our faculty has given to our students and we can also be very thankful to all of our Feinsein Jr. Scholars for the good deeds they accomplished during the year. Indeed, our Feinsein Jr. Scholars collected over 1,200 lbs. of food for the Rhode Island Food Bank during October's *Dare to Care Food Drive*.

And during Advent, our Feinsein Jr. Scholars collected over 300 items to help our grade 7 teacher, Mrs. Scaramuzzo, fill over 15 gift baskets with toys and food, for the needy of Blessed Sacrament Parish. Thank You Mrs. Scaramuzzo!

I hope your Christmas vacation was restful and rejuvenating. **Parents, please keep in mind that January marks the beginning of re-registration for the 2018-2019 school year.** The registration packet will be going home in the January 5<sup>th</sup> Friday folder. **There is no registration fee**, so please return the completed application by Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, so we can begin planning for the next school year. **Tuition rates will remain the same for 2018-2019.**  
God Bless,  
Mr. Weber

### 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!**



Blessed Sacrament Feinsein Jr. Scholars loading up the RI Food Bank Truck.



Grade 5 Feinsein Jr. Scholars organizing the Dare to Care Food Drive.

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## Upcoming Events

- ◆ January 25<sup>th</sup>: RI Families for School Choice Legislative Reception
- ◆ January 28<sup>th</sup>-February 3<sup>rd</sup>, Scholastic Book Fair in Library.

## Upcoming Events

January 2, 2018-School re-opens.

January 5, 2018-Grade 3, 4, & 5 Field Trip to Brown University.

January 10<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>, 2018-Mid-Term Assessments

January 12, 2018- Scripps School-Wide Spelling Bee. Grades 4-8

January 15, 2018- Martin Luther King Jr. Day: No School

January 26, 2018-2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. Report Cards go home.

January 28, 2018-Catholic Schools Week Mass: 10:30 AM

Our Feinsein Jr. Scholars donated over 15 complete Thanksgiving dinners, with all the fixin's, for the needy of Blessed Sacrament Parish. Great job!



## Pre-Kindergarten News

Prek-4 will be exploring snow and ice through literacy activities, **science** experiments and **art** projects. As one of our experiments, we will estimate how long it will take for our "snowman" to melt and then graph the results. In **Math**, we are learning about patterns and creating our own patterns using manipulatives as well as movement activities like "*Banana, Banana, Meatball*" by Blazer Fresh. In **Religion**, we will learn that God made winter as one of the four seasons and we will discuss all that He gave us to enjoy in the winter.

## "Our Great Kids"

The Feinsein Foundation's weekly TV show, "*Our Great Kids*," can be seen on Saturdays and Sundays at 10:00am on PBS 36 and Cox 8.

## Feinsein Jr. Scholar Cards

Did you know that your Feinsein Jr. Scholar Card entitles you, and one adult guest, free admission to a number of great attractions like **Mystic Aquarium**, **Pawtucket Red Sox** baseball games, **Battleship Cove**, the **Providence Children's Museum** and one month free karate lessons at **Okinawan Temple and Rising Sun Studio**. Simply present your card and start enjoying the benefits of all your good deeds.

## Kindergarten News

Happy New Year! We will begin 2018 with a few fun new changes, such as journal writing, a "Mystery Bag", and a lending library. The "Mystery Bag" is an exciting way for students to learn more about **letters, sounds, and rhyming**. Each day, a student will have a turn to bring the bag home, and put one non-breakable item in. Return it the next day with three clues, such as, the beginning and ending sounds, how many syllables in the word, and/or what it may rhyme with. The ideas are endless! Our

lending library allows your child to bring home a book with an optional activity. Return it each Friday to share with the class.

We will begin Unit 3 in **Reading Street**. Please practice these high frequency words: me, with, she, see, look, they, you, of.

In **Math**, we will work with numbers to 100, and begin addition and subtraction. Please continue to practice making the Sign of The Cross, The Lord's Prayer, and The Hail Mary.

## First Grade News

Happy 2018! January is a great month in first grade for many reasons. The children will sing and dance each morning with, *The Months of the Year Macarena*, and we will read *Chicken Soup with Rice* written by Maurice Sendak. The children will learn the music to this book written by Carol King. Both songs are great fun and music is an awesome way to practice reading. At this time of the year I will focus on helping children with their fluency in both **reading** and **math**. With **math** it is essential for children to know their math facts.

We are working on doubles right now and will include near doubles during January too. **Reading** fluently is very important because it increases comprehension. Of course these are tailored lessons and for the children already reading fluently, they will further develop their skills by using pace and inflections. For the children who read one word at a time, they will practice reading the same material over and over again. This **rereading** helps the children gain confidence as readers. At home it is very important that children REREAD their books. Rereading is a key strategy to developing fluency.

## Second Grade News

Happy New Year! The cold winter months are a great time for learning and **reading**. *Creative Ideas* is our theme for Unit 3. The children will read stories about creative ways that can help them communicate and solve problems, along with ways that can lead to a surprise. I am certain the stories will help the children think creatively, as they become **scientists** and create inventions of their own at home. Information will be sent home regarding this project. We will **read** and learn about George Washington Carver and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The children will learn to add with

regrouping, which will be both challenging and exciting. Many of the students have reached their first goal in the **Accelerated Reader** program. For continued academic progress, please have your children read nightly and review new **math** topics taught. Remember to visit [www.spellingcity.com](http://www.spellingcity.com) and [www.pearsonsuccessnet.com](http://www.pearsonsuccessnet.com). Grade 2 will continue to work as disciples of Jesus. We will begin to prepare for the sacrament of **Reconciliation**, which many of the students will receive in April. We would like to take this space to thank Mrs. K. and Mrs. Lucas for helping us in our classroom. The students and I appreciate all that they do for us. They are perfect examples of what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

*"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character, that is the goal of true education."*

-Martin Luther King Jr.

## Third Grade News

Third graders finished up the month of December wrapping up some lovely gifts for their parents. We made Christmas tree magnets, stained glass nativity pictures, and Christmas angels! As we begin the New Year, we will focus on the Church calendar and seasons of the Church year. In **language arts**, we will learn about possessive nouns. We will write news articles, prayers for peace, and snowy stories and cinquains. In **math**, we will continue our study of multiplication



and division, and write our own multiplication and division stories for each other to solve! During **science** class, we will learn about the different instruments meteorologists use for their weather forecasts.

## Fourth Grade News

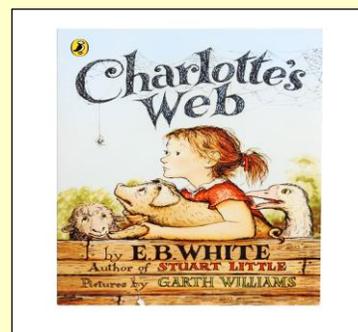
Happy New Year to one and all! January is going to be an exciting start of the year for Grade 4! Last month, the students completed their fourth **In-Class Novel Study** on the genre, Mystery. Each student read a book from the **A to Z Mysteries series by Ron Roy**. Along with reading the books, the students noted 3 main details of each chapter and created a "Wheel Book Report." They did a fantastic job on this project! In January, the students will be

reading **Charlotte's Web by E.B. White** and completing a **Character Analysis**...stay tuned! **In Math**, the students are beginning Topic 6-Developing Fluency: Multiplying by 1-Digit Numbers. **In Religion**, the students will continue with the unit The Commandments Help Us to Love God. **In Social Studies**, the students are participating in the **Great Mail Race**. They will be writing letters to 4th grade students from all 50 states. The next step in this project is researching the states where their letters are being mailed. This has proven to be a fun way to learn about the 50 states in our nation through pen pal letters! **In Science**, the students will continue the Life Cycles chapter, which concentrates on plant and animal life cycles. Also, Grade 4 will be attending a field trip event; "What I Want to Be" hosted by the Brown University Girls Basketball Team at Brown University on Friday, January 5th. There's a lot to look forward to this month. If you have any questions/concerns, please contact me via email: [kblessing@blessedschoolpvd.org](mailto:kblessing@blessedschoolpvd.org). Mrs. Blessing

## Fifth Grade News

We have been delving deeper into more difficult content in 5th grade! We are working hard as we explore new texts and synthesize **mathematical** concepts. In **math**, we are using larger numbers as we solve long division and multiplication problems. We are delving into **literature** as we identify the author's purpose. As we travel through time in **social studies**, we are learning about the Native Americans. Did you know that Native Americans used tipi homes because they were easy to travel with as they hunted buffalo? In **science**, we are focusing on biology concepts! We are growing in our faith as we compare the gospel accounts of the life of Jesus.

What is on the horizon for grade 5? **Reading** current events and non-fiction passages, **math computations** including division and multiplication with decimals, **science** experiments to bring more meaning to vocabulary words and history lessons to connect us to the early Americas. Sounds exciting, doesn't it? We will accomplish all this and more while being in our heavenly Father's loving care.



## Middle School Spanish

**GRADE 6** is preparing for their Chapter 1 test. They have a study guide. The date is not set yet. Chapter 2 is all about school.

**GRADE 7** is continuing in Chapter 4. The test will be in 28 pages! They will need to know how to conjugate "ar" and "er" verbs in the present tense.

**GRADE 8** is in the last chapter of Book A. When we finish, we will review some vocabulary, the conjugation of "ar" and "er" verbs in the present tense, and a few irregular verbs.



## Life in the 13 Colonies

### Middle School Social Studies

**Grade 6:** We are preparing for a midterm that will consist of vocabulary and essay questions from Chapters 1-3. This is a two part test; first day vocabulary, second day essays. Students will be preparing in class and will be given a study guide to help prepare them. After midterm we will begin Chapter 4: Ancient India

**Grade 7:** We are preparing for a midterm that will consist of vocabulary and essay questions from Chapters 1-3. This is a two part test; first day vocabulary, second day essays. Students will be preparing in class and will be given a study guide to help prepare them. After the midterm we will begin Chapter 4 Life in the Colonies.

**Grade 8:** We are preparing for a midterm that will consist of vocabulary and essay questions from Chapters 14-17. This is a two part test; first day vocabulary, second day essays. Students will be preparing in class and will be given a study guide to help prepare them. After the midterm we will begin Chapter 18 Industry and Urban Growth.

## Middle School Skills

**Grade 6:** Finishing up Unit 7. Students will have a midterm on all Units 1-5. A study guide will be handed out on words that will be used. Students will also begin Unit 8. Homework given in each Unit: 3x each, sentences, and a writing assignment. Students also work in workbooks and have access to online resources.

**Grade 7:** Finishing up Unit 7. Students will have a midterm on all Units 1-5. A study guide will be handed out on words that will be used. Students will also begin Unit 8. Homework given in each Unit: 3x each, sentences, and a writing assignment. Students also work in workbooks and have access to online resources.

**Grade 8:** Finishing up Unit 7. Students will have a midterm on all Units 1-5. A study guide will be handed out on words that will be used. Students will also begin Unit 8. Homework given in each Unit: 3x each, sentences, and a writing assignment. Students also work in workbooks and have access to online resources.

## Middle School Literature & Creative Writing

All the students have returned from the Christmas break full of energy and ready to work! **In Grades 6, 7 and 8** we are having a review of first semester work in anticipation of Mid-Terms during the second week of January. After Mid-Terms we will work on **writing** skills, more **grammar**, and begin our next round of novels. Further, the *Lion King* is almost fully cast and we will be holding Monday afternoon practice for Middle School main characters.

## Middle School Mathematics

**Grade 8 Algebra:** Students are finishing up with solving multi-step equations and equations with variables on both sides. We will review for the mid-year exam which is scheduled for January 17<sup>th</sup>. Students will have study guides.

**Grade 8 Pre-Algebra:** Students are studying powers and exponents and scientific notation. We will be reviewing for our mid-year exam which is scheduled for January 17<sup>th</sup>. Students will have study guides.

**Grade 7 Pre-Algebra:** Students will continue to work on operations with fractions. We will also be reviewing for the mid-year exam which is scheduled for January 11<sup>th</sup>. Students will have study guides.

**Grade 6 Math:** Students will continue solving equations. The mid-year exam is scheduled for January 11<sup>th</sup>. Students will have study guides.

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

## Middle School Religion

**Grades 6, 7, & 8** Mid-term exams will be on January 18, 2018.

Following the exams, we will turn to the Family Life series, which is a comprehensive moral catechesis that includes in-depth support for child safety.

**Grade 8** will also be preparing for the ACRE test in February by reviewing some religion vocabulary.

## Students of the Month-January

Pre-K3: Ahmiyah Peña

Pre-K4: Arin Banka

Kindergarten: Emmanuel Youn

1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Andrea Piril

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Lorenzo Knight

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Jayda Isom

4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Edward Tavarez Jr.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Daniel Mancebo

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Kailey Vicente

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Aidan Briceño

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Anthony Stanley

Congratulations to All!



## Middle School Science

Happy New Year and welcome back! The month of January in the science classroom will be a busy one! First, we have mid-term exams coming up shortly. January 17, 2018 for Grades 6 & 7. January 18, 2018 for Grade 8. I handed out the study guides for all 3 classes before the break. Please do not wait for the last minute to study, there is a lot of material to cover. I will review the material in all 3 science classes the week of the 8th.

Next, "Invention Convention (a.k.a. Science Fair), Open House and Catholic Schools Week is January 29-Feb. 2nd. This is a great opportunity for the students to get creative and design their own "invention." I will give the students time in class to create, design, or invent a science project to submit in the "Invention Convention" Science Fair. However, most of the work will have to be done at home. Guidelines and information has been handed out in class. I'm looking forward to some great inventions! Finally, stay warm, Spring is less than 90 days away!

## Fine Arts

**Music:** Thanks to all the hardworking students and teachers who helped to make our Christmas 2017 Program a delightful event. We have really expanded the musical expertise of the students by adding the rhythm instruments, recorders, and bucket drumming. In addition to that, the students memorized a lot of music! We know that music is a foundational subject that helps the students learn other subjects and helps them relate better to the other students and better understand the world around them. Thank you for your support!

## Rhode Island Families for School Choice

Annual Legislative Reception

Thursday, January 25, 2018

2:00-5:00PM

Rhode Island State House

**Advocate, Educate, Communicate.**

**Check out <http://blessedschoolpvd.com> for all the details.**

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Harvest is in the  
Seed.

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