

Blessed Sacrament School Newsletter

“A Feinstein Leadership School”

Newsletter January 1, 2019
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<http://www.blessedschoolpvd.com>

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“Faith is taking the first step even when you can't see the whole staircase.” –Martin Luther King Jr.

Principal's News

Dear Families,

Happy New Year! As we look back on 2018, 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 Feinstein Jr. Scholars for the good deeds they accomplished during the year. Indeed, our Feinstein 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 the Thanksgiving season, our Feinstein Jr. Scholars collected over 200 food items to help our grade 8 teacher, Mrs. Scaramuzzo, fill over 15 gift baskets 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 2019-2020 school year.** The registration packet will be going home in the January 4th Friday folder. There is no registration fee, so please return the completed application by Thursday, January 31st, so we can begin planning for the next school year. **Tuition rates will remain the same for 2019-2020.**
God Bless,
Mr. Weber

Financial Aid:

Dear Families: Please remember to log-on to our FACTS Page to apply for financial aid for the 2019-2020 school year. Priority is given to families who apply on time and verify early!



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



Feinstein Jr. Scholars organizing the Thanksgiving Food Drive.

Upcoming Events

January 2, 2019-School re-opens.

January 4, 2019- Registration packets for 2019-2020 go home.

January 10th -20th, 2018-Mid-Term Assessments

January 17, 2019- Scripps School-Wide Spelling Bee. Grades 4-8

January 21, 2019- Martin Luther King Jr. Day: No School

January 25, 2019-2nd Qtr. Report Cards go home.

January 27, 2019-Catholic Schools Week Mass: 10:30 AM

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ January 25th: Dress Down Day-Sponsored by grade 4.
- ◆ January 27th-Open House: 11:30-2:00 PM.

Pre-Kindergarten News

During the month of January, PreK4 will be exploring snow and ice through books, **science** experiments, **art** projects and **music**. In **Math**, we will continue learning about patterns and work on creating our own patterns. In **Religion**, the children will learn about Noah and the ark he built according to God's instructions.



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

Kindergarten News

Happy New Year! We will begin 2019 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 practicing the Sign of The Cross, The Lord's Prayer, and The Hail Mary.

Pre-kindergarten News

In Pre-k 3, the month of January will be filled with winter activities, games, projects, **math, science, social studies and reading skills**. In **math**, we will be focusing on the numbers 1-20. We count the numbers daily so that students will become familiar with them and remember them. We do the same with letters. Letters are reviewed daily and students are really enjoying saying them and learning at the same time. We will add practicing the letters in the child's name too. In **religion**, we will be getting ready for Catholic schools week. We will also be focusing on families. I would also like to continue to practice cutting skills.

First Grade News

We are welcoming in the New Year with some fun activities in first grade. We will be making some snow crafts to review nouns, verbs and adjectives. We will also read many books about winter too. The children will be starting a new program called **Accelerated Reader** this year. The boys and girls will choose books that are just right for their individual reading levels and take a computer quiz. This program is highly successful and I am thrilled the children will have this opportunity to further develop their **reading** skills.

In **math**, we are continuing with Topic 6, which focuses on subtraction through 20. Some of the strategies taught in this topic are; making ten to subtract, related facts, fact families and using addition to subtract. You can help your child at home by reviewing the different combinations to make ten. Our **religion** focus will be on how the Holy Spirit helps us as people and in our church communities. We pray for God to bless each and every one of us and fill us with His Holy Spirit. I wish you all a very Happy and healthy New Year.

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 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.

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, review new **math** topics taught, and practice basic math facts for fluency. Remember to visit www.spellingcity.com and www.pearsonsuccessnet.com. Grade 2 will continue to work as disciples of Jesus. We would like to take this time 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 a follower of Jesus does. We will also begin to prepare for the sacrament of **Reconciliation**, which some of the students will receive in April.

Third Grade News

Third graders finished up the month of December wrapping up some lovely gifts for their parents. We made Christmas tree bookmarks, stained glass nativity pictures, and Christmas angel ornaments! As we begin the New Year, we will focus on the "Twelve Days of Christmas," which actually come between Christmas Day and the Epiphany. In **language arts**, we will learn about possessive nouns.

We will write prayers for peace, snowy stories, and winter cinquains. As we approach Catholic School Week, we will also write about what makes Blessed Sacrament School so special! 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 from Grade 4! We have a very busy month ahead. In **ELA**, we are starting Unit 3. The students will be introduced to Poetry and all the different types and styles of Poetry. I'm looking forward to tapping into their creative side of writing. In **Math**, we are reviewing addition and subtraction facts, as well as mastering our multiplication facts that will prepare us for

division. I have 2 projects in mind for **Science and Social Studies**. We just finished the chapter in **Science** where we learned all about the Muscular and Skeleton System. The students will design a poster board naming all the parts and areas that we covered. For our **Social Studies** project, the students will team up together and design a poster with a specific region of the United States along with a famous person from that area. Each student will have an equal amount of work to do to create a poster. In **Religion**, we started Unit 2, *The 10 Commandments*. In each chapter we will explore and learn about each commandments and what it really means. The students and I look forward to some hands-on activities and projects for the month of January. As a reminder, please check your child's Friday Folder every week!

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 with decimals. 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 teepee homes because they were easy to travel with as they hunted buffalo. In **science**, we are focusing on biology concepts!



Middle School Social Studies

Grade 6: Reviewing for Mid-term, exam is **Monday, January 14th**. It will consist of vocabulary, important people and essays. Next, students will be moving onto Ancient China.

Grade 7: Reviewing for Mid-term, exam is **Friday, January 11th**. It will consist of vocabulary, important people and essays. Next, students will be learning about the Declaration of Independence.

Grade 8: Reviewing for Mid-term, exam is **Tuesday, January 15th**. It will consist of vocabulary, important people and essays. Next, students will be learning about Political Reform and Progressive Era.

We are growing in our faith as we learn about the sacraments of healing. What is on the horizon for grade 5? Reading current events and non-fiction passages, math computations including fractions, science experiments to bring more meaning to biology concepts, 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: We will be starting a new chapter. The theme is: SCHOOL. We are going to learn how to conjugate regular "AR" verbs.

GRADE 7: We will be ending chapter 4 and reviewing for the test, which will come the second or third week of January.

Grade 8: We will be starting our review of Chapter 5. The theme is: FAMILY. We will conjugate some irregular verbs.



Every Day Kindness from our Feinstein Jr. Scholars



Middle School Skills

Grade 6: Finishing up Unit 7. Students will have a mid-term 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 assignments are posted in Google Classroom.

Grade 7: Finishing up Unit 7. Students will have a mid-term 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 assignments are posted in Google Classroom.

Grade 8: Finishing up Unit 7. Students will have a mid-term 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 assignments are posted in Google Classroom.

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.

Correction: David Demelo, Arlisenny Rodriguez, and Jayla Smith received "Honors with Distinction" for the 1st quarter. I originally reported they had received "High Honors." I regret the error. –Ms. DeMarco

Middle School Mathematics

ALL GRADES: Students have homework most weeknights. All students should have simple calculators for use in the classroom and at home when needed. In addition, Khan Academy provides instructional videos and practice sets for all topics. Every student has an account and a mission. Please encourage your student to utilize this valuable resource.

Middle School Religion

GRADE 6: The Unit 2 test will happen the second week of January. The children will be given a Study Guide.

GRADE 7: The Unit 2 test will happen the second week of January. The students will be given a Study Guide.

GRADE 8: The Unit 2 test will happen the second week of January. The students will be given a Study Guide.

Students of the Month-January

Pre-K3: Randy Defex Jr.
Pre-K4: Juan Lux Soto
Kindergarten: Aliana Polanco
1st Grade: Jorge Pimentel
2nd Grade: Esther Demelo
3rd Grade: Sandra Juliana Gonzalez
4th Grade: Abby Jennings
5th Grade: Jaden Givens
6th Grade: Brian Sanchez
7th Grade: Harmony Forrest
8th Grade: Ambar Torres
Congratulations to All!



Middle School Mathematics

Grade 6 students will sit for their mid-year exams beginning on January 10th. Each student will be given a schedule. The exam will cover any concepts and skills from Chapters 1 and 2. After the exam, we will work on patterns and variables in Chapter 3.

Exams for 7th grade students begin on January 10th. The exam will cover concepts and skills from Chapters 1, 5, 6. After the exam, we will work in Chapter 2: Exponents, Factors, and Fractions.

Grade 8 Algebra students have reviewed many concepts in preparation for the high school entrance exams. However, our mid-year exam will focus on skills and concepts from Chapters 1 and 2. Solving inequalities is our Chapter 3 topic.

Grade 8 pre-algebra students also reviewed many concepts for the high school entrance exams. For the exam, however, we will focus on skills and concepts in Chapter 1, specifically integers, algebraic expressions, and solving equations. We will do a review of fractions and operations with fractions (Chapter 2 – Rational Numbers) after the exam.

Fine Arts

Music: Thanks to all the hardworking students and teachers who helped to make our Christmas 2018 Program a delightful event. We have really expanded the musical expertise of the students by adding theatrical components. 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 24, 2019
2:30-5:00PM

Rhode Island State House
Advocate, Educate, Communicate.

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The Hope of the
Harvest is in the
Seed.

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