

SACRED HEART OF JESUS SCHOOL

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



FROM THE DESK OF DR. MAGINNIS



We are now into October and it appears the heat wave has finally left. Never have we seen local schools dismissed early because of the heat. Hopefully this goes down as a rare event that doesn't happen again. We did have several days that were quite challenging for students and staff alike. Luckily teachers kept students hydrated throughout those days and utilized parts of the building that do have air conditioning such as the library and computer lab. Recently staff and friends have been doing a great job sprucing up the building with fall decorations. We have many new plants gracing the entrance and some beautiful fall displays both in and out of the building.

We have a few personnel changes: For many years we have had two or three secretaries covering the office. Starting next week, B.J. Newcamp will be our full time secretary. This will give some consistency in the day to day operation of the school. Meanwhile, the parish office also has a new secretary – Marie Amspacker has recently filled that role replacing Marie Swineford. Krista Barnhill will be working as the new classroom aid to help Mrs. T. in the kindergarten room.

Our next big school event is coming on October 13 where school is let out early to accommodate parent-teacher conferences. Another important day is November 3, which is when we have the annual Open House. This is the evening that parents, students, alumni and friends are all invited to visit the school. It is always a festive event.

One area we are focusing on this year is school safety. We do work hard to keep all doors locked during the school day. Even when we attend mass on Thursdays we now keep the church door locked and have someone monitor who can enter the church. Inside the school we are making improvements such as replacing the regular breakable glass in the classroom doors with strong security/safety glass to add a degree of protection. We are also replacing our old classroom door locks with stronger ones that are quickly lockable to secure a classroom. The school also established a safety committee and several staff members will be attending conferences throughout the year to improve school security and safety. The parish council has also been sending members to safety improvement trainings to help with safety at both the church and school.

Currently we are researching the possibility of bringing back the ski club for grades 4 and 5. Years ago we did have a ski club here that Fr. Bateman supervised. We now have parent volunteers who have an interest in bringing it back and overseeing the program.

Reminder that the school asks for 25 hours of service time during the year and an additional three hours for the annual benefit auction. Service hours can be completed by a parent or an immediate family member who is willing to help. It's best not to wait for May to get these hours for it may be too late and families are billed for incomplete service hours. Luckily there are many opportunities throughout the year to get involved.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 10/7 *Picture Day*
- 10/10 *Vision & Hearing Screenings*
- 10/11 *Pellman's Sale Begins*
- 10/13 *Conferences: Dismissal @ 11:30, Progress Reports; No ASP*
CSW meeting @ 6:00
- 10/20 *HSA meets @ 6:00*
- 10/25 *Scrip #2 begins*
- 10/26 *Pellman's Orders Due*



A Middle States Accredited School



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN KINDERGARTEN?

It is hard to believe our first month of school is over already! September was such an exciting month! For teachers and students, it was a month of change and new beginnings, new surroundings, new friends, new experiences, new skills and new challenges. I have really enjoyed working with your children.

This month, your child will explore the world of learning and will develop many new basic skills at school. During the coming weeks, we will continue to learn how to follow directions, work and play together, practice good citizenship and develop a broader understanding of the world around us. In Language Arts we will be working on learning letters and sounds while reading the weekly stories. Also, they will begin to learn sight words. During the next few weeks in Math class, we will be learning the numbers 1-10, patterns and positions. This month the focus in Religion will be God Made The World, prayers, and I am Special. Happy Fall!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 1ST GRADE?

In first grade we have been very busy exploring the changing seasons. In the weeks to come we will be exploring the life cycle of the pumpkin and doing some fun pumpkin data collection in small groups. As we move forward into fall, we will continue to discuss fall related topics, including some fun with bats!

We continue to grow as independent readers and spellers in language arts. The skills we are working on this month include: main idea and details, story plot and story retell. Our phonics skills include short o, e and u, and r and s blends.

In math, we are finishing up our chapter on addition. We really enjoy interacting with our math lesson on the Smart board!

In religion, we have been exploring the sacrament of baptism and learning more how to pray and hear God's voice in our hearts. Our days are always very busy in first grade but we have so much fun!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 2ND GRADE?

In religion we are studying how Jesus shows us how to love others. Last chapter we studied the first three commandments which honor God. Now we are looking into commandments four through seven. We will be talking about honoring our parents, treating each other with respect, and respecting others belongings. The students will learn that their actions towards others are also directed to God. When we hurt others, we hurt God Himself. In reading, we will be reading a short story called "A Tall Tale: How Does Texas Honor the Battle of San Jacinto?" We will be working on main idea and details, as well as reviewing cause and effect. In spelling, we are working on the long (i) spelled I, igh, ie, and y, also we will be working with word parts and word families. In Grammar, we are looking at Proper nouns and abbreviations. In math, this week we are starting to subtract two digit numbers! We will be looking at two digit fact families, and then we will regroup a ten as ones! In science we will be finishing up our leaf unit. The last thing we will be doing is looking at the character and structure of our leaf. We will be identifying what kind of leaf, seeing how it will sink or float, counting how long it takes to drop from a high place and measuring how long our leaves are, as well as looking at its appearance. Last but not least, social studies, we are taking our community further! We will be looking into our state and country! We will be learning some very interesting facts! Be prepared to be amazed!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 3RD GRADE?

The month of October will be very busy. In Language Arts, the students will listen, read, and write about neighborhoods and communities as they begin Unit 2. They will continue to increase spelling skills, as well as develop and apply key comprehension skills that good readers use as they read, with a focus on sequencing, drawing conclusions, and identifying main idea and supporting details. Math finds the students continuing to improve their fluency with simple addition and subtraction facts.

We will be using a variety of on-line resources to help with our 5 minute tests. They will also be using their knowledge of place value to add and subtract larger numbers with and without regrouping.

In Social Studies, the students will be studying maps. They will learn the features included on all maps, and will identify a variety of different maps and their uses. We will continue our study of living things in Science by investigating plants and animals. We will discuss characteristics of each, as well as where they live and how they survive.

Finally, in Religion the students will be focusing on becoming God's holy people. We will discuss how we can know Him, love Him, and serve Him in this world so that we can have eternal happiness. During this month of the Holy Rosary we will also spend some time learning about Mary's role in the church and the Rosary. Please take some time as a family to get out and enjoy God's creation during this beautiful month.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 4TH GRADE?

Fourth Grade is working their way through a fun and educational October. In Language Arts, students are working on the unit Making a Difference. In this unit, students will listen, read, and write about how people can make a difference in their communities. As they progress through the unit, they will also develop and apply key comprehension skills that good readers use as they read. Our Fourth Grade authors will begin working on the genre of personal narrative in Writer's Workshop. In Math, students are finishing up time. They will then move on to place value.

In Science, students are continuing their study of weather, including the tools used by meteorologists and how to read weather maps. In Social Studies, Fourth Grade is exploring the natural regions of Pennsylvania. In Religion, the students will be learning how God speaks to us through the Church and its leaders. They will also be gaining more knowledge about the saints through their Saint Project.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 5TH GRADE?

In October fifth-grade will study Ancient Greece and early civilizations in the Americas. Our project on Ancient Egypt will be due on October 17. In science we will continue our study of plants in Chapter 2 of the science book. We're also patiently watching our soda bottle terrariums growing in the window sill and they will hopefully be ready to take home during the parent-teacher conferences on October 13. In math class the students will be dividing by one-digit divisors (Chapter 3) and in religion we'll be learning about how the Eucharist is the center of Christian life. Students are reminded to have at least three summary points in the reading folders by the end of the month.



MUSIC NOTES

It is my pleasure to once more teach music to your wonderful children. All classes start with a song of praise.

Kindergarten explores pairs of opposites: high/low, fast/slow, up/down, and enjoys playing Three Blue Pigeons. First grade learns the musical alphabet - the foundation of everything to come. Second and third grades work on how notes move and actual note reading. The focus of fourth is rhythm and fifth is harmony. All classes use our beautiful resonance bells.



TECHNOLOGY

Computer classes are off to a great start. We began the year with grades K-2 reviewing the parts of the computer and basic navigation of the Internet. Kindergarten and First grade now have accounts to access ABC Mouse in class and are using the site for fun while learning. All grades have had instruction on Internet Safety and Cyberbullying. Fourth and fifth grades have also had instruction on plagiarism and how to do proper Internet research in order to prepare a short essay on Internet Safety and Cyberbullying. Coming up in the near future, students in grades 3-5 will begin working on basic coding skills. As a reminder, students may access the computer class website at home if they would like to by visiting: mrsmeiercomputer.weebly.com, there is a tab for Approved Sites that the kids really like using during Free Time in class and all sites are kid safe!



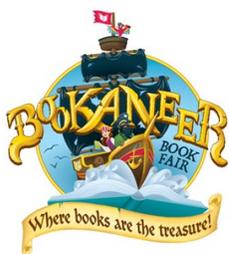
HSA NEWS

The Sacred Heart School Home & School Association (SHS-HSA) is busy planning our year's events! Make sure you're not missing out on important SHS-HSA updates! Sign up for REMIND text alerts and follow us on Facebook at Shs-Hsa. We would like to say THANK YOU to Leslie Ames and her helpers for overseeing the Marianna's sale and to Sharon Whitesel for handling our first SCRIP sale. This month brings another SCRIP sale as well as our popular Pellman's cheesecake fundraiser (a big shout-out to Sharina Harshbarger, our new Pellman's Chair). We would also like to thank Chris Koenig for stepping up to organize our school's participation in the Halloween parade this year, as well as give props to Lacie and Tim Wert for their years as parade Chairs. Hopefully, the weather will hold out this week for our Family Night at the Barnyard Corn Maze in Ferguson Valley. Last year was an absolute blast, and we can't wait to do it again! Our first Catholic Schools Week meeting is Thursday, October 13, at 6:00pm, in the school's Faculty Room. The equivalent of a public school's "Spirit Week," we encourage parents to come to this meeting to learn about CSW and how they might help with this weeklong event that celebrates our school, our faculty, and our students. If you are a non-Catholic family, you are still able to serve on this committee. Our next meeting is Thursday, October 20, at 6:00pm, in the school's Faculty Room.



LIBRARY

Happy Fall, y'all! Autumn is my favorite time of year for many reasons...one being the great stories we get to read in Library. As we enter October, Kindergartners have been enjoying stories about reading with expression. As the month progresses, I will share the engaging story, The Little Old Lady Who Wasn't Afraid of Anything, using our new flannel board and The Big Pumpkin, which the students will help reenact with story props. First grade has completed their book care lessons and has begun checking out library books. They will move on to lessons about Library citizenship, shelving books, and how to choose a "just right" book. Second grade is focusing on the many parts of a book as well as Fiction vs. Non-Fiction and will begin the project, "My Book about a Book." In Third grade, we are entering the world of Dewey and learning how a library is organized. Fourth grade is building on their Dewey knowledge that will conclude with a fun, fast-paced Dewey Decimal scavenger hunt. Fifth grade is utilizing the old-school card catalog that is still in the school library to learn how information is recorded in the card catalog. In the coming weeks, they will have the opportunity to use the Mifflin County Library's OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) to search for books. This year, I am working on creating Library Centers for each grade as a fun, interactive way to reinforce all that we are learning, and I continue to plug away at our new automated library system. So far, I have been able to process 45 NEW books! If you need to contact me, please email lilymaesmama@verizon.net. HAPPY READING!



WHERE BOOKS ARE THE TREASURE!
SHS-HSA ANNOUNCES OUR FALL SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR
OCTOBER 31 – NOVEMBER 4, 2016
FAMILY NIGHT – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2016
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW SOON.



DEVELOPMENT

October is here already! The Development Office has been busy getting back into the swing of things. We can't wait to see everyone at the Barnyard on Friday Night. In the near future, we will be having our first auction meeting. We had a very successful prospective family open house next week and are looking forward to the school open house on November 3rd. Please spread the word to family and friends who will have children eligible for Kindergarten next year! I am still looking for volunteers to join our small development committee. If you are interested, please let me know.



OCTOBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Picture Day Family Night at Barnyard 6-10pm	8
9	10 Vision & Hearing Screenings	11 Pellman Sale Begins	12	13 Parent Conferences: Dismissal @ 11:30:/ No ASP CSW Meeting 6pm	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 HSA Meeting 6:00 pm	21	22
23/30	24/31	25 Scrip #2 begins	26 Pellman's Orders Due	27	28	29



MISSION AWARENESS

From the Business Manager: FACTS Tuition Management –We have had a very smooth start to the new year! If you encounter any problems along the way, either contact Customer Support directly, or contact me and I will try and assist you in any way I can. This system is meant to allow you to be in charge of your account, so let me know if there are any ways I can further customize it for you.

MMS Lunchtime – We have had a smooth start to the new year with this program as well! Most of you are making your payments online at this point in time, but we will accept your payments at the school office. Just remember that those payments only are posted on Friday of each week. You can also go in and create an email reminder to let you know when your account is getting low. Again, please let me know if you have any questions or problems!

REMEMBER: If you have a change in financial status anytime throughout the school year that affects your ability to meet financial obligations, please let us know so we can adjust your payment schedules and/or amounts. You can apply for the National School Lunch Program at ANY time throughout the year as well. Some of you may be eligible for free or reduced lunch. Let us know if we can help in any way. If you are able to pay more tuition than your commitment, your extra payments will go to the Angel Fund to help those who are not able to pay the full amount. All extra payments are tax deductible. Late fees of \$15 will be assessed on any tuition account that is overdue by 7 days each month unless prior arrangements have been made with Sue Parzanese (717-447-2002 or at shfinance@sacredheartlewistown.com). Continue to label all envelopes with name and contents when you send payments in to the school, and write separate checks for each payment. This helps us to credit your payments correctly. If you have not already done so, please send in your payment for school supplies from the beginning of the year. Thanks for all you do for SHS!!



MISSION AWARENESS

“The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves.” -Helen Keller
As we begin Mission Awareness month at Sacred Heart School, this quote by Helen Keller is a great one to bring to our children’s attention. Doing for others, as God intends, will bring us all great happiness. Children may donate to the missions at any time, even \$.25 per week makes a huge difference in the lives of children in under developed countries. Mission Awareness Month is the perfect time to get our children to think of others in their every day lives. We will also be doing a coin drive this month to bring the children’s attention to the missions and how their small donations can make a world of difference. Beginning on October 17th we will ask the children to bring in donations as follows: Mondays - nickels, Tuesday - dimes, Wednesday & Thursday - quarters, and Friday - dollars. Thank you!



Birthdays!

10/06 JohnPaul Pannizzo
10/11 Pia Patel
10/19 Anthony Palopoli
10/25 Tayden Miller
Lily Rivera
Ayden Long
Luke Warfel