



ST. BRIDGET SCHOOL

BRIDGET BULLETIN

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 10

DECEMBER 2, 2009

INFORMATION ~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ IMPORTANT DATES

SCHOOL NEWS ~

8th Grade Bake and Casserole Sale: On Tuesday, November 17th, we raised \$1,021.49 towards the end of the year trip for the 8th grade students. A big “thank you” to our families who purchased casseroles and baked goods during parent – teacher conferences. Special “thanks” to Margaret Hilldrup and all of the volunteers who helped with this endeavor!

November Spirit Day: November 20th we collected \$454 to purchase gifts for our Parish Christmas Sharing family. Thank you for your continued generosity. This year, our family consists of a mom and three children, a 4 year-old boy, and 9 and 12 year-old girls.

Thanksgiving Food Drive: Monday, November 23rd, the Student Council was able to distribute 785 non-perishable food items for Thanksgiving Day to St. Joseph’s Home run by the Little Sisters of the Poor. Thanks to all who made that possible! A “special thanks” to Mr. Lang for transporting our donations to their destination.

Bulldog Boutique: Thursday, December 3rd, the Bulldog Boutique will be on the Blacktop. If you would like to order something for Christmas, please have your orders in by Friday, December 4th. Thanks for all of your support! The Dortches, thedortches@verizon.net

A Note from Admissions: December 4th is the deadline for all applications of families who have siblings who would like to attend St. Bridget School. Information and applications can be accessed on our website at www.saintbridget.org. If you have any questions, please contact Pamela Wray in the Admissions Office at 288-1994 ext. 305. Thank you!

Change in Youth Basketball Schedule: December 5th there is an important change in the Youth Basketball schedule. Please note:

1st/2nd Grade Girls- 1PM-2PM
1st/2nd Grade Boys- 2PM-3PM
3rd/4th Grade Girls- 3PM-4PM
3rd/4th Grade Boys- 4PM-5PM

12/12- NO GAMES SCHEDULED

12/19- Normal Schedule Resumes

Middle School Band – Mandatory Mondays: Monday, December 7th is a Mandatory Middle School Band class from 2:50-3:40 PM.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass: Tuesday, December 8th at 9:00 AM. All are welcome!

Special Christmas Performances: Tuesday, December 8th The Baker’s Dozen will perform at the Jefferson Hotel at noon, and December 17th at 10:30 AM, the Baker’s Dozen and the Handbell Choir will perform at Westport Manor Nursing Home.

Poinsettia Sale: Friday, December 11th, the poinsettias can be picked up between 2:30 and 3:00 PM in MPH, or the flowers can be delivered directly to your child’s homeroom. Thanks to all those who ordered flowers to help the 8th grade class.

Kindergarten Information Meeting: Monday, December 14th at 9:30 AM in the Church Hall (basement). Parents of Kindergarten applicants for the 2010/2011 school year are invited to join us to learn more about the admissions process. You will also have the opportunity to register your child for the Kindergarten assessments.

Christmas Purse: Tuesday, December 15th is the deadline to send in your Christmas Purse envelope. This tradition allows all of our children to share in the joy of giving. Can’t find or didn’t get your envelope? Any envelope will do. Just write, “Christmas Purse” on the front. Thanks so much to all who have already sent in their “Christmas Purse” envelope.

Yearbook Orders: Friday, December 18th is the deadline to order the 2009-2010 Yearbook! The yearbooks are \$25 each again this year. Please see the link: <http://saintbridget.org/events/downloads/YearbookOrderForms.pdf> to take you to your yearbook order form.

Box Top Contest: Friday, December 18th ends this Box Top collection contest. Clip your Box Tops from participating items, and send them in with your child. Please remember to label all bags/envelopes with your child's homeroom number to receive credit! The homeroom with the most labels will receive a cafeteria treat! Questions? Want to help? Contact Meghan Hess at Meghan.hess@comcast.net.

Spirit Day: Monday, December 21st. Donate \$1. The proceeds from the December Spirit Day will go to support Father Matthias' school in Africa.

Financial Assistance: February 19th is the deadline to apply. Applications for tuition assistance for the 2010 – 2011 school year will be available when we return from Christmas break. If you feel that you may need help meeting your tuition obligation next year, please apply for assistance. Those who received assistance this year **must reapply**. Applications will be available online this year. All applicants for tuition assistance are also reviewed by the Diocese for additional assistance from the McMahon Parater Foundation. This enables us to spread our assistance a little further. Watch for further details about the application process.

Pledge Reminder: As the calendar year rolls to an end, please be sure that your pledge to the church for 2009 has been honored. Remember that to qualify for the parish tuition rate, you must pledge to the church AND the pledge must be paid. If you are not sure what you might owe, please call Kimberly Lapkin at 282-9511. Those whose pledges are not honored will not be eligible for the parish tuition rate next year.

Field Trip Reminder: When a class plans a field trip, the cost is determined based on the number of students who should be participating. If your child does not participate, it does not change the cost to St. Bridget School. Therefore, you are responsible for paying the fees whether or not your child attends. Thank you for understanding.

Background Screening Reminder: Some of you have not yet appeared on the eligible volunteer list this year because we have not received the necessary documentation from you. Please remember that it takes several weeks to obtain clearance from the Va. Dept. of Social Services. If you think you might want to accompany your child's class on a field trip or help in the classroom, please complete and return the forms so that you can do so. The children love it when their parents participate at school.

There are three parts to background screening: CPS, Volunteer Select and VIRTUS. The Child Protective Services form for the Va. Dept of Social Services and the Volunteer Select form both expire every five years. VIRTUS training only has to be taken once and is kept up to date by reading the monthly bulletin and completing the on-line question(s). As always, we are extremely grateful for your cooperation.

St. Bridget Middle School Track Team: March 2010, the Track teams will be formed. This fun and successful track program is open to all middle school students interested in running. Practices are held twice a week immediately after school for one hour. The track team provides a wonderful opportunity for the kids to get some exercise and fresh air, compete against other middle schools, and learn the skills of a sport that can provide lifelong benefits. It is a wonderful opportunity for parents to become involved in a healthy and fun activity with the kids. If you are interested in becoming a track parent volunteer, please contact Heidi McNelis, Coach, at 762-8888 or heidimcnelis@aol.com. No coaching experience is required. If you can run, jog, or walk with the kids, you are qualified!

Latin Lab: Open Enrollment is throughout the year allowing students to jump on board at 5-week intervals as new, non-cumulative units start. For more information, contact Hunter Cook, 784-5077, huntergcook@comcast.net. Unit #2 start date for Prima Latina (1st, 2nd, 3rd graders) is Wednesday, 12/9, 1:55-2:40 PM. Unit #2 start date for Latina Christiana, (3rd through 8th graders) is Thursday, 12/10, 3:00-3:45 PM. Classes are held in the large nursery at St. Bridget Church, and full course descriptions may be viewed in previous Wednesday bulletins.

AFTER SCHOOL NEWS ~

Dates to Remember:

- Thursday, December 10th, the After School Program will close at **5:00 PM** to prepare for the Christmas Concert.
- Friday, December 18th the birthday / Christmas party will be celebrated.
- Monday, December 21st and Tuesday, December 22nd the After School Program will be open until 6:00 PM.
- Wednesday, December 23rd through Friday, January 1st the After School Program will be closed.
- Monday, January 4th the After School Program will resume.

SAINT BRIDGET EVENTS ~

The Santa Breakfast: Saturday, December 5th, St. Bridget Church is sponsoring *The Santa Breakfast* in the school cafeteria. For more information please see: <http://saintbridget.org/PTO/downloads/Santa%20Breakfast%202009.pdf>.

An Important memo from Mrs. Storti, Music Substitute:

Christmas Concert: Thursday, December 10th at 7:00 PM and again on Friday, December 11th at 8:30 AM is our Annual Christmas Concert. While Mrs. Ivens has been on leave, I have been getting to know your children in the music classroom, and I'm really excited about the Christmas Concert! They are enthusiastic learners, and we have been practicing our concert music now for several weeks. The evening Christmas Concert involves all students in grades K-5 and our performing ensembles. Video Magic will be recording the evening concert and will be selling copies of their video. More information on that will follow. Doors will open at 6:45 PM for general seating. For the evening concert (Dec. 10th), Saint Bridget's students like to get a little dressed up for this special occasion. For everyone - please do not wear jeans in any color or sneakers. Students may wear the same "dress-up" clothes for the daytime concert the next day (Dec. 11th). Middle School students who are not in the concert should wear their school uniform.

Here are some guidelines for grades K-5:

Boys may wear a nice sweater, a turtleneck, a dress shirt and tie, or a shirt and vest with khaki or dark dress slacks. Girls may wear a holiday or church dress (solid colors work best) or a sweater or blouse over dark slacks or a dark skirt with tights.

Chimes Choir:

A white shirt, turtleneck, blouse or sweater over dark slacks or skirt.

Handbell Choir:

A blue, green or purple top over dark slacks or skirt.

Intermediate Choir and MS Girls Choir:

Any solid or separates combination in jewel tones - red, green, royal blue, purple, raspberry, navy, etc. Try to avoid tones in yellow, orange, and gold, please. If your daughter is wearing a skirt, please wear tights or dark hosiery.

Baker's Dozen:

Royal blue concert dress, dark hosiery and dress black shoes (heels should be 2" or less).

If you have any questions about concert attire, you may e-mail Mrs. Storti at mstorti@saintbridget.org or leave a message in the office at 288-1994.

Because this is my first Christmas concert at Saint Bridget School, I would also welcome any parents who are able to help with production details! Please contact me at 288-1994 or mstorti@saintbridget.org if you are able to help in any way.

Springtacular: Looking for a great way to volunteer? How about joining the Spring Carnival committee? We would love to have your help. Email Becky Gleberman at igleberman@mac.com or phone 282-5499.

PTO Press: Are you smarter than a 5th grader? Find out in the second quarter edition of the PTO Press, now available for viewing at <http://www.saintbridget.org/pto/press.php>. Articles include Sky Dome Planetarium coming in February to St. Bridget School, Girls' Night Out plans and vendors, River Roast details, and much more!