



## ST. BRIDGET SCHOOL

BRIDGET BULLETIN

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INFORMATION ~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ IMPORTANT DATES

### *From the Principal's Desk...*

For lack of a more creative subject line, I will call this a "SBS Refresher 101."

You probably will not read anything new, but hopefully the few minutes you give this will help highlight a few important items.

The first is a point of caution: afternoon dismissal. We have continued to look at the process and, admittedly, there are limitations to most plans. While saying that, we must still dismiss our children as safely as possible. The current plan calls for dismissals from the blacktop, Snowball Lane, and walkers. Generally the blacktop moves in two waves. Most parents have figured out what is best for their family and they come and go smoothly. The process is outlined in the handbook and can be reviewed there in detail.

There are some issues that have been observed which causes both school personnel and parents reason for concern. The most dangerous of these is when children are picked up from the blacktop/MPH and are walked to the car parked on York Road. What happens is cars are arriving and departing the blacktop while pedestrians are attempting to cross York Road to reach their parked car. This is potentially dangerous and frustrating the process of a safe dismissal. PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON YORK ROAD AND WALK CHILDREN FROM THE BLACKTOP.

It has also been noted that on Rainy Day dismissals, some of our parents could use an extra set of hands. If you are traveling with multiple children and leaving your car is difficult, parents have offered to help. If you will identify yourself, someone will be happy to walk your children out to the car. Parents serving on the PAC offered this option. Check the handbook or website for your grade level representative.

A second concern is fairly basic. Please adhere to all traffic signs. "Rolling stops" are observed too frequently. I have received several phone calls and a couple of visitors asking that I do whatever possible to impress drivers to please observe stop signs and travel at posted speed limits. All stop signs are important, but two are particularly important: leaving the blacktop/York Road and the corner of York and Somerset Roads.

Drop-off in the AM generally is fine. Just a few pointers to help this continue to move smoothly: Cold/rainy day blacktop dismissal can be at either school entrance doors, MPH or the flagpole entrances. Drop-off on Snowball Lane can be at any point along the straight section of the sidewalk. PLEASE DO NOT PASS CARS DISCHARGING CHILDREN. Also, the gate (on Snowball Lane) at the corner of MPH and the playground is not an acceptable drop-off area.

Too many rules? It can seem that way, but when one considers that the school has 477 students arriving and leaving via automobiles, guidelines are needed, and for safety, **ALL** must follow them.

### SCHOOL NEWS ~

**Haiti Contributions:** We appreciate the overwhelming response by the Saint Brigid School community for all Haitian relief. So far, your contributions have resulted in \$1,615 being sent to Catholic Relief Services and \$4,145.50 being sent to Father Bordeau at our sister school in Haiti, with a grand total of \$5,760.50. As always, thank you for your continued generosity to support all of God's children.

**Spelling Bee:** Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30 AM was the Catholic Schools Week school wide Spelling Bee. Congratulations to Sophia P. of 2A who won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the school-wide Bee and to Madeline L. of 7C who was the overall winner!

**Tuition Assistance:** If you are going to need assistance meeting your tuition needs next year, please get your application in as quickly as possible. This must be done on-line this year, and the instructions were in the bulletin last week and the week before. You

can now go to the school's website: <http://saintbridget.org/admissions/downloads/2010-2011%20tuition%20assistance.pdf> and get step by step instructions. You do need this year's W2's, but you can use last year's 1040's. The deadline for applying is March 1<sup>st</sup>, but the sooner the better! If you have any questions, call Sally McMullen in the Finance Office (288-1994).

**Wishing Well – Pennies for Healthy Kids:** Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup> through Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> St. Bridget School will participate in the "Pennies for Healthy Kids" program created by the Children's Hospital of Richmond, VA. To make this program successful, students are asked to bring in pennies, other coins and dollar bills. If a student contributes at least one dollar throughout the two weeks, he or she can dress down for a spirit day on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please visit link: <http://www.saintbridget.org/parents/downloads/Wishing%20Well.pdf>.

**Catholic Schools Week Mass:** Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM we celebrate our Catholic School identity. Come and join our celebration.

**Noon Dismissal:** Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> is a NOON DISMISSAL for all students K-8.

**Spirit Day:** Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> is a "Free" Spirit Day. Show your school spirit and wear your school colors: blue and white! We also encourage you to wear Bulldog Boutique Spirit apparel. Bulldog Boutique order forms are always available online. For more information please call Jennifer Dortch at 399-6204.

**Report Cards:** Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> look for your child's report card in his/her backpack. There are 26 children whose report cards will be held because they have materials that they have not returned to the library. There are 11 children whose report cards will be held because they owe money to the After School Program and there are several (I don't have a final number) who will not receive their report cards because they owe money in the cafeteria. PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THESE ACCOUNTS BEFORE FRIDAY, FEB. 5<sup>th</sup>, SO NO CHILD GOES HOME WITHOUT A REPORT CARD.

**Middle School Dance:** Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 10:00 PM is the next scheduled dance. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend with your friends.

**CARITAS:** February 27<sup>th</sup> begins our CARITAS week ending on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Your help is needed by donating items for a light breakfast and nutritious lunch, as well as toiletry items that are given to each guest. Please see the link below for more information: <http://saintbridget.org/events/downloads/CARITAS%20school%20donation%20request.pdf>.

## AFTER SCHOOL NEWS ~

**After School Statements:** Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup> the 2009 Year End statements for the After School Program were sent home with the children. If you do not have it, please ask your child.

**Fun Friday:** Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> is the third "Fun Friday" of the year. The After School program will be open from 12:00 – 6:00 PM. The cost of the day will be \$20 for one child; \$35 for two children, or \$50 for three or more children.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

**Kindergarten Assessments:** Contact Pamela Wray at 288-1994 ext. 305 or [pwray@saintbridget.org](mailto:pwray@saintbridget.org) to register your rising Kindergarten for assessments for the 2010-11 school year. Assessments for rising Kindergartners are now being scheduled. Please note: the Kindergarten screening day on Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> is only for the Kindergarten applicants whose assessments have already been scheduled for that day. In case of inclement weather, you will be notified by email of any changes.

**Calling all Future Altar Servers:** Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 3:45-5:45 PM; Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> from 1:15-3:15 PM; Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 3:45-5:45 PM and Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-3:00 PM are all training sessions for any St. Bridget parishioner in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and above who would like to be an altar server for 2010. If you are interested, you must attend **any 3 complete** sessions from the above dates. There will be a brief but important meeting for parents at the beginning of the first session in the church. Registration forms are available on the Youth Bulletin Board in the commons.

**Youth League Night at Benedictine High School:** Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM is the Rut Classic against Woodberry Forest School. All youth league basketball players in grades 1<sup>st</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> who wear their jersey will be admitted free to the game. The free admission is for youth players only. Come out and support the Benedictine Cadets next Friday night.

**Mission Spaghetti Dinner:** Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:30 PM in Mother Presentation Hall. St. Bridget Church will hold its fifth annual Spaghetti Dinner to raise money for the Mission Trip 2010 Catholic Heart Work Camps. Enjoy a delicious dinner of spaghetti, salad, bread, dessert, coffee and cold drinks. Tickets for the dinner will be \$8 (pre-sale) and \$10 (at the door) for adults 12 and over, \$5 for children 4 to 11, free for those 3 and under. Family tickets may also be purchased for \$30 (pre-sale) and \$35 at the door. Wine will be available as well for an additional \$4 per glass. Take out is available for \$8 a dinner. Listen to Kent Alley's great music while you enjoy your meal! Tickets will be on sale after all masses during the weekends of January 23/24, and 30/31. Treat mom to a night out, bring the family and invite a friend. We'll look forward to seeing you there! ***In case of inclement weather, a snow date will be announced at a later date.***

**Music News:** Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM, the American Boychoir is returning to St. Bridget, back by popular demand, to give a concert. This world class choral group will present a concert of music from ancient to modern, from classical to popular styles. Tickets for the concert are available in the front section of the church for \$30 (\$15 for students and seniors), and in the back section of the church for \$15 (\$5 for students and seniors). Tickets will be available in the Commons after Masses the two weekends before the concert, anytime through the church website (<http://saintbridgetchurch.org>), by visiting the St. Bridget Church office, or by calling the church office at 282-9511, ext. 328.

**Late Nite Catechism:** Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Grand Opening Event of the Robert A. Sheppard Auditorium at the Benedictine Abbey, 12829 River Road. *Late Nite Catechism*, a one "Sister" play, will be brought from New York. It harkens back to the day when a Nun with a ruler in her hand was a fearsome thing! *The Catholic Standard & Times* writes "Late Nite Catechism is not so much a theatrical event, but... a howling stand-up comedy". With 40,000 performances nationally, it is a must see event! And over 2 million dollars has been collected for retired Sisters through EntertainmentEvents.com. Tickets are \$40 and include dessert and drink during intermission. Tickets will be sold at the door or online at [www.BenedictineHighSchool.org](http://www.BenedictineHighSchool.org).

**St. Bridget's Scout Mass:** Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM is a mass for all St. Bridget's Scouts: Brownies, Daisy's, Cubs, Boys, Girls, adult Scouters, etc. Please arrive early to line up for the processional. Punch and cookies will be served after mass.

**6<sup>th</sup> Annual Junior Book & Author:** February 25, 2010 at 7:00 PM, the Junior League of Richmond welcomes Gordon Korman. Please join us at the Oates Theater at Collegiate School! Tickets are on sale. For more information on Gordon Korman, please visit his website at [www.GordonKorman.com](http://www.GordonKorman.com).

**Benedictine / Saint Gertrude 5K Challenge:** March 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM Benedictine and St. Gertrude High School will host its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 5K Challenge. The walk/run will begin and end in the Benedictine parking lot and will feature the Museum District and Windsor Farms neighborhood. Cost is \$20 per person by March 1<sup>st</sup> or after March 1<sup>st</sup> cost is \$25 per person. Family Maximum is \$60. For more information go to: [www.benedictinehighschool.org/home/calendar](http://www.benedictinehighschool.org/home/calendar) item.asp?id=4701.

**Camp St. Charles:** June 20<sup>th</sup> – July 3<sup>rd</sup>; July 4<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>; July 18<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>; and August 1<sup>st</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> are the dates for the 2010 season consisting of two-week sessions costing \$1085. An additional charge of \$60 will be added for 12-13 year old campers. To register go to: [www.campstcharles.com](http://www.campstcharles.com). Feel free to come to the school office for a copy of a brochure.