



ST. BRIDGET SCHOOL

BRIDGET BULLETIN

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 28

MAY 5, 2010

INFORMATION ~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ IMPORTANT DATES

From the Principal's Desk...

HONORING MARY OUR MOTHER

The Catholic Church has traditionally associated the month of May as a time to honor Mary, the Mother of Jesus. We, too, honor our own mothers on their special day, May 9th.

Let us consecrate ourselves to the Blessed Virgin Mary during the beautiful month of May. The following prayer is actually an extended *Hail Mary* with an act of Consecration inserted between the two parts of the traditional prayer. Since the *Hail Mary* is one of the most familiar and beloved prayers among the body of the faithful, the Church has retained the use of the "thou" language. In this prayer, the formal language is retained in the traditional part while using the more intimate "you" in the section of personal consecration.

Act of Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary

From the commencement of the day, O most Holy Virgin, we salute you in the words of the Angel Gabriel: "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus." We offer you, O most holy Mother, all our thoughts, all our affections, all the prayers, alms, acts of piety, charity, and mortification that we shall perform during the course of the day. Obtain for us the grace to do them all with great purity of intention, and a desire of pleasing God, which alone can draw upon us His benediction. We consecrate them to your most holy and Immaculate Heart, beseeching you to enrich them with its merits, to permit us to adore with you the most Holy Trinity, the Divine Heart of Jesus, and to implore through you the grace of our conversion and that of all sinners. O Mary, our good Mother, keep us from all sin during the course of the day. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

An Open Letter to the Parents, Faculty and Administration of St. Bridget School: This week, a group of committed parent volunteers met for the first time to address the way in which your child(ren) are delivered to and picked up from school.

For every one of you who has questioned the creator of the carpool protocol, you were well represented on the committee! There were parents of kindergarteners who are new to the process and sometimes, bewildered by it; parents of middle schoolers whose children wait in crowded layers on Snowball in the afternoon; and parents who have occasionally skipped the blacktop procession and walked to a car parked elsewhere to make a 3:00 dentist appointment.

A fair amount of independent "research" (mostly observation about what actually happens at drop-off and pick-up) had been done before the meeting. Parent comments (things that had been brought to the attention of the PAC and the administration previously) had been organized and reviewed before the meeting also.

Strengths of the current system were identified:

In our hurry-up world, it does actually move fast—477 kids out of a very small piece of real estate in about 20 minutes.

Its top priority is safety so that children are not unnecessarily at risk for accident/injury.

Shortcomings were listed and discussion of possible solutions began; more on this later...

A plan was made to continue working and propose a simplified carpool protocol. The "new and improved" approach will be one that includes diagrams of all the possible entrance and exit strategies. Parents will be encouraged to participate in learning more about the "how and why" of our current, seemingly complex ritual!

But, perhaps more importantly, the hope is to spell out the rules more clearly so that it will be unnecessary to create additional rules. Stay tuned! When this hard working group is finished in the coming weeks, you'll see a write-up posted on the website after the

administration gives its blessing to the work, and you can offer your feedback. Your comments may prompt some additional fine tuning, and then perhaps we hope to have a “test run” of the new-and-improved ideas in June as the school year winds down.

Thank you for your patience and support of our work.

Carpool Review Committee

SCHOOL NEWS ~

Welcome Back Classpacks: Watch for an email later this week with school supply lists and Classpack order forms.

The Bulldog Boutique: New Spirit Wear items will be offered this spring! We now have Bulldog belts, flip-flops and even items for your dog, to name a few!!! We will offer these items for sale next week on the blacktop at pick-up. Please stop by and check us out!

Race Results: On Saturday, May 1st, the Bulldog Blast 5k Run was a huge success! Thanks for all of your support and [results](#) are now available online at <http://www.runridrace.com/results/>.

Barnes and Noble Book Fair: Thursday, May 6th from 4:00 – 8:00 PM, please join us at Barnes & Noble, Libbie Place for our *spring bookfair!* This is a convenient way to purchase what you need, all in one place, and support St. Bridget School. The *summer reading books* will be available for purchase. Barnes & Noble will give a percentage of the net proceeds from the bookfair sales to our school for all purchases. What a great opportunity to shop for Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, graduations, birthdays...and don’t forget the lattes! Visit the library homepage for more information and vouchers. Encourage literacy and support our school! See you at the Bookfair. The Summer Reading list for the 2010 – 2011 school year is on our website: <http://www.saintbridget.org/parents/downloads/Summer%20Reading%20Books%202010.pdf>.

Spirit Day: Friday, May 7th, bring \$1 and wear your baseball caps and jerseys! All donations will be forwarded to the Catholic Heart Workcamp, which is our Parish Mission Trip. The church is sending 77 campers to Lancaster, PA and 43 to Prince Frederick, MD. The campers will spend the week sleeping on the floors of a classroom, helping people in the community refurbish, paint and clean their houses, and growing in faith. This is a powerful opportunity for our youth to serve, build community and most importantly, grow in faith. Your spirit day contributions help to make the mission trip possible. Thank you for your generosity.

St. Bridget Museum of Very Fine Arts and Crafts: Friday, May 7th from 5:00-8:00 PM in MPH, all are invited to attend a parish arts and crafts exhibit co-sponsored by the St. Bridget Saints and Sinners and St. Bridget School. All parishioners and St. Bridget school children are invited to exhibit their works of arts and crafts in “The St. Bridget Museum of Very Fine Arts and Crafts”. There is no charge to exhibit or to attend. Light refreshments will be served, including cheese and crackers, fruit, sweets and punch.

Grades 3-5 Parent / Counselor Coffee: Monday, May 10th from 8:30 – 9:30 AM in the Parish Center Meeting Room (PCMR). Parents of 3-5 graders are invited to attend an informal discussion to share information about developmental phases of these ages. Please RSVP to: loconnor@saintbridget.org.

Flynn & O’Hara Uniform Fitting: Tuesday, May 11th from 3:00-6:00 PM in MPH, representatives from Flynn & O’Hara will be here for a uniform fitting. Your oldest child should have brought home a pink/blue uniform brochure. Please use these brochures as a guide to find any of the school uniform you may need. The toll free number is 800-441-4122. You may also email them at custserv@flynnohara.com. Their website address is: www.flynnohara.com.

Crowning of Mary: Thursday May 13th at 9:30 AM, please join us for the Crowning of Mary Mass. The students will walk in procession from the parking lot into church. Our eighth grade graduates and our second grade first communicants will be featured in a special way during this beautiful Catholic May tradition. To highlight our graduates, we are asking them to wear their graduation robes while the second grade students wear their first communion clothes. This will provide an opportunity for the entire student body to share in two great events that take place each year in our school community-First Eucharist and Graduation! The eighth grade class and the second grade class will take an active part in this liturgy as lectors and gift bearers. Please join us for this special liturgy. Students are asked to bring flowers to school the morning of the 13th. A representative from each class will present a bouquet to the May Queen, Danielle M. and Attendants, Mary P. and Haley B. at the Mass. All are welcome!

Progress Reports: Friday, May 14th, progress reports will be issued.

Fellowship! Golf! Food! Fun!: Friday, May 14th, join our school principal, Ray Honeycutt, in the 7th annual Saint Bridget School Golf Tournament at Glenwood Golf Club. Come on, gents and ladies, it’s on a *mid-May, Friday afternoon* this year! Proceeds will benefit Saint Bridget School and its athletic association. For sponsor and entry information, go to <http://www.saintbridget.org/events/downloads/Golf%20Flyer%202010.pdf>.

PAC Meeting: Thursday, May 20th is the next scheduled PAC Meeting.

Spring Concert: Thursday, May 20th at 7:00 PM in MPH. As always, please be considerate of our teachers, students, other parents, and guests and **stay until the end of the show**. Doors will open at 6:30 PM.

The Spring Concert will be repeated for the School on Friday, May 21st, at 8:30 AM. Those who wish to avoid the crowds may attend this performance. Students participating in the concert may wear their concert attire on May 21st. All other students must be in uniform.

Band Members: Thursday, May 20th is the Spring Concert at 7:00 PM. Band members; please arrive by 6:15 PM. Friday, May 21st is the school spring concert at 8:30 AM. Band members please arrive in MPH by 8:10 AM. Please remain after the concert to return chairs / stands to the closets. Do not leave your instruments at school Wednesday night after school. You may leave your music on the stand in MPH Wednesday & Thursday. **Concert Dress:** May 20th and 21st concert attire may be the same costume required for other ensembles. If no other costume is required, black pants/long skirt and black or white top. School uniform pants are acceptable as well. May 26th attire – preferably black or dark blue pants/long skirt and black or white top. School uniform pants acceptable as well.

Band Concert: Wednesday, May 26th at 7:00 PM in MPH, please join us for our Spring Band Concert. All are welcome! Out of courtesy to our performers, guests, and other parents, please stay until the end of the show. Band members please arrive by 6:30 PM. Mandatory Monday rehearsals are for the Advanced and Middle School Band members: Monday, May 10th from 2:50-3:40 PM; Monday, May 17th from 2:50-3:40 PM; and Monday, May 24th from 2:50-3:40 PM. Mandatory Dress Rehearsal for all band members is on Wednesday, May 19th in MPH, rehearsal will be from 1:50 – 3:00. Wednesday, May 26th, in MPH, dress rehearsal is from 1:50-3:00 PM.

A Note from the Cafeteria: Beginning May 24th, the cafeteria will NO longer accept prepayments for cafeteria accounts. If your account is at a negative balance, you must make a payment to bring your balance to a zero (\$0.00) amount prior to May 24th. If your balance is still at a negative amount after May 24th, you will NO longer be allowed the privilege of charging or even purchasing any food/beverage item on your account. Once your account has been satisfied, you will be allowed to purchase items with CASH ONLY for the remainder of the school year. Students that have a positive balance on their account, will be able to use their account until all of their money has been used. Once an account has been used to the limit of money that has been prepaid on it, you must bring CASH ONLY to purchase items for the remainder of the school year. Thank you for your co-operation.

AFTER SCHOOL ~

Please mark your calendar: Thursday, May 20th, the After School Program will close early at 5:00 PM due to the Spring Concert. Thursday, May 27th, the After School Program will celebrate the May birthdays. Friday, May 28th and Monday, May 31st, the After School Program will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

Youth Football or Cheering Training: The 2010 Season On-Line Registration is now open to those who are interested in playing youth football or cheering. To be eligible, children must be between the ages of 5-14 (flag football for ages 5-7). For more information, visit the website at <http://wee.westernwildcats.org>. For questions, please send your emails to: westernwildcatsfootball@gmail.com.

Babysitting Classes: Saturday, May 15th and Saturday, June 12th, Bon Secours Health System is offering babysitting classes, starting at 9:00 AM and lasting until 4:30 PM. Safe Sitter is a medically accurate, hands-on class that teaches boys and girls ages 11 to 13, how to handle emergencies when caring for children. A fee of \$55 covers the 1-day (7 ½ hour) program including materials. To register your son or daughter **OR** your babysitter, call 545-1958 or email loveandlearn@bshsi.org. Mail check and completed application to: Bon Secours Health Promotions, 4121 Cox Road, Suite 101, Glen Allen, VA 23060. Registration forms may also be obtained in the school office.

Summer Class Offerings 2010: June 1st through August 26th, Dr. Karen Rooney presents classes for students from kindergarten to high school students. These classes are intended to help students improve reading comprehension and express ideas in writing, develop stronger reading and writing skills, develop SAT vocabulary, and help children build their literacy skills. For more information, please visit <http://www.krooney.com>. You may register on-line or call 804-747-1883.

Summer Lego Camp: June 21st – 25th, July 12th – 16th and August 2nd - 6th, Benedictine will again offer the popular Lego summer camp for rising 4th - 8th graders this summer. Each day starts at 9:00 AM and ends at noon. The cost is \$185 per student per week. If you are interested, please contact Adria Hogan at ahogan@bhsrva.org for a registration form and more details.

R-MC Girls' Basketball Camp: Skill Development Day Camp, June 21-24, at Randolph-Macon College's Brock Sports and Recreation Center. Camp is designed for all ages, all skill levels. Tons of skill instruction & individual attention, competitive drills & games, and contests & prizes will be provided. More information can be found at (804) 752-4714 or www.justsportscamps.com/rmc.

Camp St. Charles: June 20th – July 3rd; July 4th – 17th; July 18th – 31st; and August 1st – 14th 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. Feel free to come to the school office for a copy of a brochure.

MathScience Innovation Center: Monday, July 19th starts the beginning of the summer student programs at the MathScience Innovation Center for 5th through 8th graders. The student programs are weeklong courses and meet for five half days. There is a \$100 fee for each half-day, weeklong course. Priority will be given to students who register by May 30th. If you have any questions please call 343-6525 ext 243 or 245 or visit www.msinnovation.info.

Summer Study* & Exercise: July 26th – 30th from 9:00 – 11:00 AM & 2:00-4:00 PM and on August 23rd – 27th from 2:00 – 4:00 PM at 7 Roslyn Road. The cost is \$250.00. Experienced teachers will work with your child in a small group setting to reinforce **reading, writing, and math skills**. This three part workshop is designed to strengthen comprehension, vocabulary, writing skills, and increase fluency. **Children's yoga class** offered daily prior to instruction to enhance strength, flexibility, and thinking skills!
**individualized & small group tutoring available upon request. Reading, Writing, & Math Objectives:*

- Students will read an engaging book from a summer reading list; active reading comprehension strategies will be taught.
- Journal writing & composition skills reinforced with emphasis placed on mechanics of writing (basic sentence structure, capitalization, & punctuation) and content (writing effective, clear sentences & paragraphs).
- A review of math skills will be included to extend existing understanding of concepts.

The contact is Margaret Simpson (simpsongirls@earthlink.net) 282-5266 or Sally Young (bsrm4@verizon.net)288-2313.

Join Saint Gertrude High School for Summer Camps: Saint Gertrude High School is offering camp opportunities for middle and high school girls. Sports camps include volleyball, basketball, and field hockey. Also being offered will be Teen Yoga and Fitness classes and an Oxygen & Iron Boot Camp. Digital Photography, Drama (for boys and girls) and Safe Sitter are also on the summer calendar. Explore, learn, make new friends, and have fun! For information, contact Maureen Williams at 358-9885 x341 or email mwilliams@saintgertrude.org. Information can also be found at www.saintgertrude.org.

Attend a Fun, Educational Camp: The University of Virginia and the College of William and Mary hosts, this summer, iD Tech Camps – North America's # 1 technology program. During this weeklong, day and overnight program, ages 7-17 create robots, iPhone® and Facebook® apps, websites with Flash®, video games, digital movies and more. With one computer per student and an average of six students per staff, students are given the attention they need to excel and take home a project at the end of the weeklong course. For more information, please visit www.internalDrive.com or call 1-888-709-TECH (8324) for details.