

April 19, 2018

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Small school. Big heart.

From the Desk of Mrs. Ingram

Some curriculum gets taught sooner than we'd like.

Dear St. Bernadette Families,

In the past few weeks I've had conversations with individual children and parents about incidents related to sexual language, behavior, or information. In each case it has seemed unusual that a child of that particular age was expressing some particular aspect of sexual development information, but...some curriculum gets "taught" sooner than we'd like. After I return from D.C., I'll be assisting Mr. Reardon with the sexual health classes in grades five through eight. The curriculum increases in depth and complexity as the children get older, but we do not teach slang words, or anything against Catholic teaching. Still, children learn quite a bit from each other, older sibs or sitters, television, and the internet. While some families are more progressive when teaching their children about puberty and sexual development, even the most conservative families have curious children who want to test what they know with one another.

The point is this: Much like that sad moment when Sally tells Johnny Santa isn't real, talking about sexual development marks the end of a part of childhood. Discussing sexuality with your child before *you're* ready can be a source of disappointment, sadness, or even anger. If your child surprises you with new information or inappropriate language, keep the lines of communication open, stick to simple language and age-appropriate explanations, avoid shame, and teach respect. You might be forced to have a conversation sooner than you wanted, but it doesn't have to be traumatic. Together, we will help our children have healthy attitudes about themselves and each other.

Blessings,
Lizanne Ingram

P.S. Mr. Shaffer and I depart for Washington, D.C. with the 8th graders on Monday morning. Announcements and any other communication next week will come from Mrs. Ell's mailbox, and there will not be a newsletter. Pray for our safe travel, please!

Chocolate Sale next week!

The seventh grade is taking chocolate bar orders during lunches next week. Chocolate will be delivered to homerooms at the end of the same day. \$1.00

All proceeds benefit the Class of 2019's trip to Washington, D.C.



Details for the Chocolate orders are **HERE**

QUICK LINKS

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(code S1952)

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Looking Ahead...

- **Fri, April 20:** Walk-a-thon
- **Sat, April 21:** First Communion (5 p.m.)
- **Sun, April 22:** First Communion (11 a.m.)
- **Mon, April 23:** 8th grade departs for DC
- **Wed, April 25:** Last day for Mother/Daughter registrations. Mass at 8:15
- **Fri, April 27:** Kindergarten Assessment

ON THE HORIZON...

- **Sun, April 29:** Mother/Daughter Brunch

Registration Update

We have 202 students enrolled so far for K-8 next year.

Preschool registration is underway and currently has 25 3 and 4 year olds enrolled.

Please continue to refer students to St. Bernadette. We have the most room in Preschool and Kindergarten.



MOTHER/DAUGHTER BRUNCH

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Mother/Daughter Brunch. This event will be held on Sunday, April 29th from 12:15-2:00. Mothers and daughters of all generations are invited to celebrate with brunch and a special activity. It will be held in the St. Bernadette Gym and the cost is \$10 per family. **Reservations must be made by April 25th.** No admissions at the door. [Click here](#) to see the flyer for more information and to print out the reservation form.



YEARBOOK

Do you have some candid photos we could use in our yearbook? We have a special email address just for this purpose. Please see the **FLYER** for details about submitting photos to Mrs. Proffitt.

ALSO: Links to special handouts:

Info for the Bandit Football Team (K-2) - Deadline: 4/27

Schoolbelles End of Season Sale 4/24 - 4/29

**** 6th and 7th Grade: End Hunger Games event at McNick! ****
