

# Small school. Big heart.



**School Website** 

**Parish Website** 





Dear Parents and Guardians,

I have a confession to make: In working to catch up on big projects (safety review, accreditation, casting the musical), I neglected to launch a Lenten collection. Let's fix that...

FROM next Monday through next Thursday, we will collect personal care and cleaning items for our St. Vincent DePaul Pantry. Items can be brought to homerooms for student points and sorted into Houses for house points. Items

needed: Body soap, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, combs and brushes, dishwashing soap, detergent, wipes, etc. I know it's only a four-day drive, but I have faith in this community! Please be generous.

### FUNDRAISER FOR HONK! JR.

The **Duck Gram fundraiser is going swimmingly!** Orders are being taken until Monday, April 3. These darn ducks are so cute, a couple of students bought some for themselves! We've even had grandparents and cousins get in on the action to surprise students from outside our classroom walls. There is an order form on this newsletter in the windows below. Just click on the image to see the pdf version. Order early! Order often!

Second Posting:

### SPRING CONCERT AND ART FAIR

Our Spring Concert and Art Fair will be Wednesday, May 17. The art fair will be open from 5 p.m. until 6:20, and the artwork will be displayed throughout the main building in our halls. Students need to check into their homeroom for the concert no later than 6:15, and the concert will begin at 6:30 in the gym.

### SPRING CONCERT ATTIRE

All students: Leave the dark wintry colors at home (dark green, navy, brown, etc.). No white or black...it's all about color!

**Boys:** Collared shirt in a single (solid) summer or spring color (no white or black); necktie (long preferred) and uniform pants. School shoes or dress shoes - no flip flops.

**Girls:** Dress or skirt with coordinating modest top. Bright colors, pastels or florals, please. Hems must be at a modest length (about 4" above the knee or longer). Sandals may be worn if they have a heel strap (safety concern on stage). Dress slacks may also be worn, if in the spirit of bright or pastel colors.

### **CELEBRATE MRS. ELL!**

Mrs. Joyce Ell, after *many* years of dedication to our school community is retiring at the end of this school year. Mrs. Kristine Seitz will be working in the main office next year, and has been learning the ropes for the past several weeks. Mrs. Ell says she'll "be around as needed" and we know she won't go far with several grandchildren in the building, but it will still be a change for all of us (me, especially!). Joyce is the one who keeps track of all of us, fills all the gaps when something is forgotten, or someone needs something, or a sub is needed, and she knows where *everything* is! No one deserves this respite more than Joyce. We'll be figuring out some ways to celebrate her and thank her. I'll keep you posted.

Last, I have heard from a couple of people about the sadness, worry, or despair that comes with news of yet another school shooting. Believe me, the safety of the children is always first in my mind, and every single one of us worries about this possibility. I haven't said a lot about this topic for some time, but please keep these ideas in mind:

- School shootings are usually carried out by people familiar with the school, and there seems to be someone who knew the perpetrator as a troubled person. The enemy is almost always from within.
- In order to carry out an act like this, a person must have access to firearms. Using a gun to harm someone else because of one's own despair will not be on the list of possibilities unless the person can get to a gun.
- What helps the most is to know each other better, to be aware of children who withdraw from others or who are tormented socially and do everything

you can to help that situation. Keep building up our community.

- The next best thing to do is to know your child's friends' <u>parents</u>. I think people would be offended if the school surveyed our households for the presence of firearms, but YOU can certainly find out - not even in a judgmental way, just as information or prevention. Remember that children are fascinated by guns and many gun deaths are accidental when a gun was not properly secured. Before your child visits someone else's home, find out if there are firearms on the property, and how they are secured. Better yet, if you are a gun owner, make other parents aware of the steps you take to be a responsible one.
- It's better to be prepared than scared, and there's a limit to how much and how often we should remind our children of these dangers, but we're still going to give your child the routines and procedures he or she needs to feel as safe as possible.

We are scheduling an ALICE refresher for teachers and a schoolwide drill with Pierce Township Police for sometime after the Easter Break, and I'll send you details. We will also be undergoing a "Stop the Bleed" training before the beginning of next school year.

In this season of Lent, when we are repenting, or working toward better connection with Our Lord, we would do well to remember that we are an Easter people - a people of hope. Let us do what is reasonable, let us love one another in a way that seeks out the broken-hearted and helps them find peace, let us be aware of safety procedures and contingency plans, let us keep our children first...and then let us trust in the mercy of God.

Have a blessed evening, Mrs. I

Buy Festival Raffle Tickets Here!

I



Sunday, April 2 - Palm Sunday Friday, April 7 - Good Friday (No School) Sunday, April 9 - Easter April 7-16 - Spring Break April 17-21 - Eighth Graders in Washington, DC!



Parent Education Evening: Internet Safety for <u>Teens</u>

All parents of teenagers and preteens are invited to an education program on internet safety on

Tuesday, April 4 at 7 p.m. in the McNicholas High School café. This 90-minute program will be presented by Steve Smith of <u>A Wired Family</u>. It will include updates about apps newly popular among adolescents as well as information about online bullying and the effects of social media use on adolescents. There will also be an opportunity for Q&A. Thank you to the McNicholas Parents Club for sponsoring the event.





## ATTENTION MOMS!

Mark your calendars for April 22. Come and enjoy some time with



### **SWEATSHIRTS AND FLEECE!**

St. Bernadette School expanded our partnership with All Star Sportwear to include uniform polos, sweatshirts, and fleece. <u>Click here</u> to see what is on our page so far. All Star Sportswear has been our vendor for class shirts, house your son(s) watching a movie. Only \$6.00 per person and it includes popcorn! RSVP by April 14th by sending in your money in an envelope marked Mother/Son Event.

shirts, and athletic gear and will be giving us the same great service for uniform items, too. All Star Sportswear is located at 787 Ohio Pike, right across from Thomas More School. Orders can be placed online and picked up at the store. Questions? Call Brian at 753-1400.







### All Volunteers and Staff must register with SafeParish™

Instructions for setting up your SafeParish<sup>™</sup> account are <u>HERE.</u>

New to volunteering? You start by opening a SafeParish<sup>™</sup> account, get the needed on-line training, and learn about any required background checks. Click on the link to get started!



### A special message from Mrs. Lana

Music is VERY analytical, greatly enhances critical thinking, and improves math scores and self- confidence! Kickoff the new year with Piano Lessons with Mrs. Lana. Special discount for our St. Bernadette students ONLY! Contact Mrs. Lana for details about

registration, screening, learning materials, and scheduling before space runs out! <u>\_Ilana@stbernadetteamelia.org</u>\_\_\_\_\_\_



Set up your Titan Account for school lunches.



### You May Be Eligible

Even families who <u>don't</u> receive government subsidies can be eligible

Lunches are provided through West Clermont School District and are made on our premises. Lunches are \$3.00 this year.

To set up your account, you will need your child's school ID number. This is the same ID number seen on your child's Gradedlink page.

You should be able to create your <u>Titan account</u>, load the **PaySchool account** and <u>apply for</u> free or reduced priced lunches. for Free or Reduced Priced lunches. Go to your Titan account and click on "Meal Application." Click through the form until you are able to note your income or other qualifying circumstances. Although families receiving SNAP benefits are automatically eligible, they still have to apply every year. Make sure you've taken advantage of this service, if you are able.

Apply for free or reduced priced <u>lunches.</u>





### TOTUS TUUS 2023

Seems incredible, but we are preparing for Totus Tuus 2023. Teens meet Sunday June 11 – Thursday June 15, 2023, 7:00pm-9:00pm. Click for the Teen Registration forms. Children in Grades 1 – 6 meet Monday June 12 – Friday June 16, 2023 from 8:40am-2:30pm. See Children's Registration Forms. Full SE6 Parish Family Pot Luck is Wednesday June 14, 2023, 5:15-6:15pm in the St Bernadette Gym. This is a full SE6 Parish event, so we will have room for 150 children and 80 Teens. We will need over 100 volunteer adults and four host families from the 4 churches of our SE6 Parish to make this work for all. <u>Click HERE to volunteer!</u>



### SUMMER FESTIVAL

Thank you to those of you who have already signed up to help with the 2023 festival. We are currently looking for booth chairs, as well as help with set-up and clean-up. <u>Please use this sign-up</u> <u>link for more information</u>. If you have any questions about volunteering for the festival, please contact Jennifer Harris (513-604-6851) or <u>Jennifer.harris411@yahoo.com</u>. Let's work together to help make the festival this year a success!!

The Grand Raffle this year will be online only. Please share the link below with your family and friends.

<u>Celebrate Life! St Bernadette 2023</u> <u>Festival Grand Raffle by St Bernadette</u> <u>Parish Festival | BetterUnite</u>

# **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

### Help PTO with School and Parent Events!

This button will take you to a sign up form...All kinds of help is needed...everything from helping to set up a concert to organizing an event. A few of these may require SafeParish registration.

### **PTO and School Event Assistance**

### Supervise Students During Lunch Periods

Lunch supervision is a big help to the teacher in the cafeteria! Requires SafeParish registration.

#### **Cafeteria Assistance**

### **Recess Volunteers**

This service requires SafeParish registration. Get your steps in and spend a half hour from 10:00-10:30 for morning recess, or about an hour during lunch recess. Your presence will increase playground safety by giving the teacher on duty another pair of eyes, and the kids will love seeing you there!

### **Playground Patrol**

# **Quick Links**

Lunchroom volunteer sign-up

Recess volunteer sign-up

St. Bernadette volunteer sign-up

**Newsletters/Handouts** 

2022-2023 School Calender

Parent/Student Handbook under revision

Parish Website

To set up Lunch Instructions

Free and Reduced online application

<u> PTO</u>

Schoolbelles (code S1952)

**Gradelink** 

### FACTS Login

### **Remind Sign-up**

Virtues in Practice (at home materials -Year 3, Year of Charity)

**Kroger Rewards** 

**Box Tops Bonus App** 

<u>1n5 Foundation</u> (great mental health information)

<u>Mind-Peace (to find mental health</u> providers - click on "Search for <u>Providers"</u>)

<u>Beacons of Light - Pastoral Planning and</u> <u>Parish Families</u>

**SafeParish instructions** 

# COVID-19 LINKS

Ohio COVID Vaccine Program Get the Shot Ohio Search Available Vaccine Sites Myths and Facts: COVID Vaccine Cincinnati Children's COVID site Clermont County Public Health

If you or your child is exposed to someone with COVID, wear a mask for 10 days. If symptoms develop, assume you are positive for COVID and start the isolation period. If you remain symptom free, test on Day 5. If the test is negative, finish out the remaining 5 days wearing a mask. If you test positive, begin your isolation period.

If a parent is positive, it is important to isolate away from your child(ren) at home, otherwise you continue to expose the child to COVID and the mask wearing will continue 10 days past your last date of infection. (yikes) Children who are close contacts should absolutely stay in school and stay masked for

10 days. Teachers will also be masked whenever they are a close contact. We have a modest supply of rapid tests. Call the office if you need one.



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