



ST. SEBASTIAN SCHOOL

Celebrating Over 100 Years of Catholic Education

October 5, 2016

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Dear St. Sebastian Families,

Good morning! I hope your week is off to a great start.

This month holds a number of exciting happenings within our school and parish community. We honor *Respect Life Month* in the Church, the first Fish Fry of the school year begins this Friday the 7th, our magazine sale is wrapping up, our Faculty engages in professional development mid-month, our Seb's team will take to the streets in the *Soles for Catholic Education Walk* Saturday the 15th, local Catholic high schools will visit with our middle school students, our Wednesday series of *Coffee & Convo* begins with our 8th-5th grade parents (see schedule below), volleyball season rolls on, our end of the month Halloween parade takes place, and our Seb's Auction returns "home" to Sebs on the 22nd! And within all of that (and surely even more that I am forgetting) classrooms are buzzing with learning, students, parents, and staff grow together, and we continue to evolve as a community committed to engaging lifelong learners in faith and academics.

Just listing the sampling of events and activities above, I am reminded of when I interviewed, hearing the predominant message of how *"amazing of a community we have here at Sebs!"* How thrilled I have been to experience first-hand this is indeed the case. Along these lines, and within our focus of *Respect Life Month* as a community, it is important to visit the foundational belief of *Catholic Social Teaching*, where the Church proclaims that *"...all human life is sacred"* and that *"the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society."* Further, it declares our belief that *"...every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person"* (www.usccb.org). Let us always encourage our children and one another to view all life in this manner, respecting the dignity of each person *from womb to tomb*, as sacred and belonging to God - the author of life and death - each of us precious in His eyes.

God bless you and your family,

Ms. Grams

PARENT COFFEE & CONVO: Beginning today, Ms. Grams met with parents of 8th grade students to hear of their experiences at Sebs, as well as discuss topics relevant to this age group. Topics specifically involved preparing students for their transition to high school and using social media safely. Please consider attending the on the Wednesday(s) pertinent to your child's/children's grades, when we'll gather from 7:40-8:10am (coffee provided!) as scheduled:

10/12 - 7th grade

10/19 - 6th grade

10/26 - 5th grade

11/2 - 4th grade

11/9 - 3rd grade

11/16 - 2nd grade

11/23 - 1st grade

11/30 - K4/K5

*Please note you are most welcome - and encouraged! - to attend mass with our school community immediately after, at 8:15am, whether you are Catholic or non-Catholic. You are welcome to sit with your child if you join us as an added perk!

ATTENTION PARENTS OF 7TH & 8TH GRADE STUDENTS - HIGH SCHOOL VISITS: This year, we are changing the format of the local Catholic high school visits. Typically, high schools come and visit on various Fridays spread out through the fall months, presenting only to our 8th grade students.

NEW THIS YEAR is the following opportunity regarding our high school visits:

- 1) We are coordinating ONE morning where the schools are invited in
- 2) We are also opening the sessions to 7th grade students (as well as the 8th grade students), as we gauged 7th grade's interest in attending, which was quite unanimous. We also felt it was important in allowing all 7th/8th students the opportunity to understand the process leading up to high school, particularly academically.
- 3) We are inviting Parents & Guardians to attend and hear the information along with the students, hoping you will take advantage of this. (6th grade parents if you'd like to sit in, you are welcome as well!)

Here is the schedule for the high school visits so you can plan accordingly, if interested:

Friday, October 21st:

8:00-8:30am: Marquette High School (boys)

Divine Savior Holy Angels (girls)

8:30-9:00am: Pius XI (all)

9:00-9:10am: (break)

9:15-9:45am: St. Lawrence Seminary (boys)

St. Joan Antida (girls)

9:45-10:15am: Choice of the following schools at this time, with time to follow up with any/all afterward:

St. Thomas More (all)

Dominican High School (all)

Catholic Memorial High School (all)

(visit still pending: Messmer)

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to come in and join us. Coffee and light breakfast selections will be offered

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE DATES: The following are dates for local Catholic High School Open Houses, again for your planning purposes, as interested. See their websites or attend the visit day on 10/21 at St. Sebastian School for more information:

St. Lawrence Seminary - 10/9
Messmer - 10/16
Pius XI - 10/23 & 10/24
St. Thomas More - 10/23 & 10/24
Catholic Memorial High School - 10/26
St. Joan Antida - 10/27
Divine Savior Holy Angels - 10/30
Marquette University High School - 10/30
Dominican High School - 10/30

I would encourage each family to visit the schools your student is interested in at this point, regardless of finances. Often times there is considerable financial assistance available, and we encourage you not to limit your options until talking with the Admissions departments at the various schools you are interested in. Academic performance and perseverance is typically the biggest indicator of where your student is eligible to attend. We encourage our students to explore all options.

* More information will be coming home separately with 7th and 8th grade students in the coming days, specifically on testing dates, admission deadlines, and how St. Sebastian will assist in the process.

PACKER'S DRESS-DOWN DAY! - Students have been rocking' it being dressed well in their uniforms each day! Therefore, on Thursday, October 20th (the day we take on a certain team in Chicago), students may dress in Packers attire, and/or green, gold, and white if you don't have "Packers" gear. Jeans are fine. All attire must adhere to dress down day policy (essentially, nothing too short, tight, or revealing, and clothes free of rips or tears). Please note that all hats will be kept off during the school day. Students choosing not to participate may wear their uniforms.

POWER SCHOOL – Parent log-in information for new middle school families is being sent home today. The goal is for all other new families to receive their log-in within the week. Please watch for your envelope to come home with your mail carrier.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL WALK - The Soles for Catholic Education Walk is just around the corner. You can still register at catholicschoolswalk.org (\$10 per person registration fee). The Walk is on Saturday, October 15th at Mt. Mary University starting at 10:00am. The parking is somewhat limited at Mt. Mary, but St. Sebastian has once again been blessed to have a bus donated, thank you Lakeside Buses of Wisconsin, to transport our families and staff to and from St. Sebastian and Mt. Mary. This year, we will have coffee and donuts in the Sebs parking lot from 9:00am-9:30am. No matter if you are taking the bus or driving, all Walk participants are welcome to join us at 9:00am for your morning coffee or hot chocolate, donuts and maybe a little stretching. Also, bring along any gently used shoes to help "stuff the bus" for St. Vincent de Paul. Can't wait to see you there!

9:00am Donuts and coffee/hot chocolate at St. Sebastian
9:30am Bus departs Sebs
9:40am Warm-up at Mt. Mary (front lawn on Menomonee River Parkway)
9:50am Opening prayer
10:00 Walk begins
12:00pm Refreshments, music and children's activities

LOST & FOUND - Though it is still early in the school year, the lost & found box is OVERFLOWING! The lost & found is located downstairs across from the cafeteria entrance. Please visit the lost & found to claim your child's missing items, many of which are in pristine condition: lunchboxes, jackets, sweatshirts, water bottles, etc. Unclaimed items will be donated.

PICTURE PROOFS – If your child had their picture taken when the photographer was here in September, their proofs and ordering information is being sent home today. There is no obligation to order, but if you choose to, you can place your order online or drop it at the school office. Checks should be made payable to Scholastic Reflections. The order deadline is October 17th.

If you feel you need a retake, a parent needs to contact the school office before October 14th.

BUZZ BOOK UPDATE – Please note the correct email address for Rivera, Tom & Lillian:
lilyrivera28@gmail.com

Also, the Stempel family has changed their phone number. The new number is 414-810-1094.

SCRIP UPDATE – We now have Metcalfe's Scrip cards available for those of you who shop for groceries there. And we carry our usual Pick N Save, Meijer, Piggly Wiggly, Sendiks and Sentry Super Saver Scrip cards as well. All of these stores pay 3%, 4% or 5% net proceeds. Don't go grocery shopping without them!

COACHES NEEDED – The Youth Athletic Committee (YAC) is in need of basketball coaches for 5th grade boys this coming season. If you are interested, please contact Michael Lehmann for details at 414-745-9987 or email mlehmann2@wi.rr.com

ROSIE READERS - Congratulations to the following students for their progress on the Rosie Reader program:

Completing the letter "R" in R-E-A-D-I-N-G:

K4 - Layla Peterson, Marcos Rivera, and Cora Hatten

K5 - Eleanor Hegerty

Keep up the good work!

COME AND ENJOY THE EVENING!- St.Coletta Day School is excited to announce ColettaScope, their annual student art auction fund raiser. The event will be held on Saturday November 12, 2016 at Mount Mary University. For more details and to get a preview of the art visit the website at www.colettascope.com or like us on face book. We would love for you to meet the students and see their unique talents. You might even find a gift or two to cross off your holiday shopping list.

FISH FRY THIS FRIDAY!! - Please join us Friday October 7 as we kick off the fish fry season. Come and enjoy all your Fish Fry favorites...fried cod, shrimp chowder, home-made desserts...plus our Specialty Soup of the Month--Hungarian Mushroom Soup, prepared by our very own 5th grade mom Laurie Farrell! You don't want to miss it, this soup won't be available in November. Dinner is served from 4:30 - 7:30 in the school cafeteria. Don't forget to tell everyone you know about Milwaukee's BEST fish fry!

JOIN US AT THE ST. SEBASTIAN AUCTION! - We welcome all parish and school friends and neighbors to our Homecoming! Saturday, October 22, 2016 in the St. Sebastian Gathering Space and Church Hall.

- 5:30 – Mass at St. Sebastian Church (counts for Sunday!)
- 6:30 – Food, Beverages and Silent Auction in the Gathering Space
- 8:00 – Guests move to Church Hall.
- 8:30 – Voice Auction Begins
- 9:30 – Music & Dancing with Front Porch Rockers
- 11:00 – Evening Ends

Go to <http://bit.ly/SebsAuction2016> to register online, or pick up a form at the St. Sebastian Parish Office, School Office or Gathering Space. First-time attendees get a free heads/tails ticket! Just \$55 per person, which includes complimentary beer, wine and soda, plus hearty appetizers from McBob's and dessert. You'll also be able to bid on some great items – party at Leff's, passes to Hoyt Pool, bowling, golfing, theater, fishing trips, jewelry, weekend retreats – and several mystery items! Questions? Contact Kelly Bentfield, knadlos@yahoo.com

MAGAZINE/GIFT SALE UPDATES - Thank you so much for helping with the sale. A full report on the financial status will be available soon. We will announce the dates and times for the non-uniform day and root beer float party. The VIP packet and the tuition rewards certificates come from the company. Late orders will be accepted and we will try to count them toward prizes but can't guarantee this.

If you missed the sale but still have family or friends that would like items you can order YEAR ROUND. We still get the profits of any online orders. There are no prizes and no paper orders with the exception of during the sale. The web site is <http://www.gaschoolstore.com>.<[http: www.gaschoolstore.com=""](http://www.gaschoolstore.com)>; Code 2535623. Coupons are not accepted.

CONGRATULATIONS - To the 7th grade boys Volleyball team! They took 2nd place overall in the St. Matthias tournament this past weekend and they have only lost 1 league game thus far this season. Keep it going boys!

**CURRENT PARENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
(contact the office at 453-5830 for information)**

YAC Basketball Coach

Playground Supervision

Lunchroom Supervision

Supervise clean-up at Boutique

You must have completed SafeGuarding training and consent to a background check to volunteer

Extra Mileage Club activities. Wednesday, Oct. 5th is National Walk to School Day! Mileage Club students who walk or ride their bike to school any day that week will earn 5 punches on their card. Also, the Souls for Education walk is coming up . . . Mileage Club students who participate will earn 10 punches on their card. Please use the participation slip below (or write the same information on a scrap piece of paper). Slips with the below information should go to Leah Sealey via the school office or classroom backpack mail. Mileage Club is open to any student in 2nd, 3rd, or 4th grade. Contact Leah Sealey at leahsealey@hotmail.com or 414-774-0836 with any questions

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Participated in (check one or both that apply):

___ National Walk to School Day (any one day between Oct. 3-7)
for 5 punches on their card and/or

___ Souls for Education Walk (Oct. 15) for 10 punches on their card.

Parent signature _____

Return via office or backpack mail to: Leah Sealey
