



# St. Bridget Parish School

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October 30, 2018

Dear St. Bridget Parish School Families,

**Why were the saints, saints?  
Because they were cheerful when it was difficult to be cheerful,  
patient when it was difficult to be patient;  
and because they pushed on when they wanted to stand still,  
and kept silent when they wanted to talk,  
and were agreeable when they wanted to be disagreeable.  
That was all.  
It was quite simple and always will be.**

Author Unknown

Thanks to each person that helped to make our Grandparents' Day celebration special for our students! Thank you to parents who helped with set-up on Wednesday night, those who helped with the reception, and served as greeters. Thank you to Mrs. Barb Kujak for a wonderful musical program, to Mrs. Lois Steiner-Wolfe for her amazing keyboard skills, to our teachers who helped students prepare a special gift for grandparents, and were responsible for the clean-up! Thanks, too, to our church staff, who helped us return the Fellowship Hall to its usual arrangement.

The Grandparents' Day prayer service and music program were recorded for us. Due to music copyright protections, we are unable to post the video on our website or on Facebook, but you may view it through this link, and share it with family members:

<https://youtu.be/y6PItYS7rhk>

**Circle of Grace – Safe Environment Training for Students:** This summer our diocese purchased new curriculum to be used for Safe Environment Training for our students. Originally developed by the Diocese of Omaha, the curriculum provides specific lessons for each grade level. Our teachers will begin teaching this curriculum next week, the first week of November. We have sent a parent packet in today's BEE Books and with Middle School students for your reference. Please call or email if you have questions.

**Parent Information Night – What Is Orton Gillingham? – Nov. 5:** All parents are invited to learn more about the Orton-Gillingham approach to teaching reading during our Parent Information Night on Mon., Nov. 5 from 6-7 p.m. We are utilizing this approach in our classrooms, specifically in First and Third Grades. Our presenters, Mrs. Mary Gribble and Mrs. Starla Dixen, St. B's teachers, each have over 100 hours of training in this method of teaching reading and are excited to share the research about this method along with a sample OG lesson. Last summer Mrs. Therese Stacy and Mrs. Michele Jarosh also received initial training in this method. Next summer we hope to train more of our teachers in OG.

**Halloween Themed Dress – Tomorrow:** Students may dress in Halloween colors (orange, black, yellow) tomorrow, Oct. 31. No Halloween costumes, and no inappropriate depictions including witches, skulls, violence, and so forth.

Please remember that we will be attending Mass on Thursday instead of tomorrow due to the All Saints' holy day, and dress in uniform clothing for Thursday.

**Halloween Candy Collection – Nov. 1 & 2:** We are excited to participate in Allina Health's Halloween Candy Collection, an event that promotes healthy living, including candy in moderation, exercise and proper dental care.

On Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will have a collection box at our school to collect candy donations (store-bought and individually-wrapped) from our students. The collected candy will be donated to a program that sends gift boxes to troops overseas, local veterans and first responders. For each pound of candy collected, Allina Health will donate \$1 to local food shelves, up to a total of \$1,000.

If our school collects the most candy (a "pounds per student" comparison based on the number of students at each school) of the participating schools in our area, we will win \$250 to be used towards equipment to help improve the health of our school along with other health and wellness prizes from Allina Health. **St. Bridget's has won the contest the last few years – let's keep the tradition going!!** Last year, we used the \$250 to purchase playground balls for recess, and hope to purchase additional recess equipment this year **if we win!**

**Feast of All Saints – Nov. 1:** Our Catholic Church celebrates the Feast of All Saints on November 1. As a school, we will attend Mass on Thurs., Nov. 1 instead of Wed., Oct. 31. **Please remember to dress in uniforms for Mass on Thursday.**

**Education Committee Mtg. – Nov. 1:** Our Education Committee meeting has been moved from Tues., Nov. 13 to Thurs., Nov. 1 because of Parent-Teacher conferences. We will meet at 6:00 p.m. in the Before/After Care room. This meeting is open to anyone interested in attending.

**End of Quarter/Report Cards:** Our first quarter ends on Fri., Nov. 2. Report cards will be sent home with students on Wed., Nov. 7.

**Grade 2 – First Reconciliation Learning Centers:** Second grade parents are reminded of our First Reconciliation Learning Centers on Sun., Nov. 4 from 1-4 p.m. OR Thurs., Nov. 8 from 3:30 – 6:30 p.m. Parents and students are asked to spend about an hour working on these centers.

**Grades 5-8 - RFHS Newsies – Permission Due Nov. 5:** Students in Grades 5-8 will have the opportunity to attend the dress rehearsal/student preview of the RFHS fall musical on Thurs., Nov. 8. This year's production is Disney's *Newsies*. Buses will depart from St. Bridget's at 8:45 a.m. and return at approximately 11:45 a.m. in time for regular lunch. St. Bridget Parish School will pay for the cost of transportation.

**Grades 1-8 Phy Ed Roller Skating Unit – Permission Due Nov. 5:** Our annual roller-skating unit in Phy Ed will begin on Nov. 28 and end on Fri., Dec. 7. Skates are rented through Skatetime School Programs, and used in our school gym. The permission slip and request for shoe sizes were sent home today in BEE Books and with Middle School students. Cost is \$9 per student. **Please return by Mon., Nov. 5 as shoe sizes need to be submitted on Monday.**

**End of First Quarter/Parent-Teacher Conferences:** Our first quarter ends Friday, November 2. Parent-teacher conferences will be held Thurs., Nov. 8 and Tues., Nov. 13 from 4 – 7 p.m. Parents need to sign up online for a 15 minute conference with each of their child's teachers through Sycamore, our student information system software.

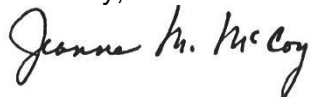
**Have you signed up for your child's conferences? We're missing many families! Login to your Sycamore account to begin.**

We have a tradition at St. Bridget's of parents providing a light meal for our teachers on parent-teacher conference nights as a way of showing appreciation for the hours our teachers spend on behalf of our children. If you could assist with this in some way, please click here for the sign-up: [Parent-Teacher Conference Food Sign-Up](#) (Note: there is a tab for each night of conferences.)

**November Lunch Menu:** The November lunch menu was sent home today in BEE Books and with Middle School students.

Have a great week!

Sincerely,



Jeanne McCoy  
Principal

Sent today in BEE Books & with Middle School students:

- 1) Parent Information regarding *Circle of Grace*
- 2) Flyer regarding Orton Gillingham Parent Information Night on Mon., Nov. 5
- 3) Gr. 5-8 *Newsies* Permission Slip – due Nov. 5
- 4) Gr. 1-8 Rollerskating Permission Slip – due Nov. 5
- 5) November Menu