



St. Bridget Parish School

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May 6, 2019

Dear St. Bridget Parish School Families,

A Psalm of the Shrine of Spring

O Spirit of Life

not that long ago the trees around me
looked like upside-down roots
dangling in the wind.

Today it looks like great, green clouds had come
to nest in their longing limbs.

The spring breeze that plays in the branches
is full of the song of birds, recently returned.

As flowers lure bees and insects
by their beauty and perfume,
so I am drawn out-of-doors
to smell and feel your presence.

What cathedral made by human hands
could contain the awesome majesty
of your springtime splendor?

And Bach or Handel would be humbled
by the music of this season's sounds,
blended in harmony by your baton.

O you who delight in children at play,
may I not be ashamed to bow in wonder
as I offer, this day, my prayer and adoration
in your sacred springtime shrine.

-Father Edward Hayes

Home & School Meeting – Tonight: Our Home & School Association will meet tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the Before/After Care Room. Among our topics: Staff Appreciation Week (this week), all-school picnic (June 7), RF Days Parade cook out, and new committee members for 2019-20 (see last week's E-Buzz for position descriptions). Please join us!

Staff Appreciation Week – May 6-10: Our Home & School Association has selected the theme: "RISINIG UP to Excellence: Celebrating our St. Bridget Parish School Staff!" for this year's Staff Appreciation Week. Please see last week's flyer for the ways your family is asked to participate in making this a special week for our school staff. Thanks, in advance, for your many expressions of kindness to our staff! We are grateful!

Uniform/Dress Code Reminders: Now that May has arrived, students may wear shorts/capris. Since your children have grown since fall, please check length to make sure shorts, skirts, or skorts are no shorter than “fingertip length”. Shorts may not be worn to Mass, but capris in uniform colors (navy, khaki or tan) may be worn on Mass days. Shorts/capris must be dressy, and of solid color (navy, khaki or tan). They may include the larger style, cargo-type, pockets. On Fridays, solid color athletic shorts (narrow side stripe permitted) may be worn.

Sandals may be worn in May and June, but must have a strap around the back of the foot. Tennis shoes are still required for Phy Ed, and are strongly encouraged for recesses.

SCRIP Reminder: SCRIP rebate earning for this year will end at noon on May 19. Earnings after May 19 will be counted toward next year. Please remember that each K-8 school family is required to either earn \$50 in SCRIP rebates or pay \$100. This is part of your tuition responsibilities. PreK families are encouraged, but not required to earn this SCRIP rebate. Later this week I hope to have a statement for you that shows your family’s status for the rebate earnings.

SCRIP is an easy way to help our parish, and lower your tuition! We have some families that have already earned more than \$400 toward next year’s tuition. Let us know if you are unsure of any aspect of this program. We’d love to help you take advantage of this opportunity.

Grade 2 & 3 – The Works Museum – May 8: Second and third grade students will take a field trip to The Works Museum, Bloomington, MN on Wednesday, May 8. Second grade students will take a class on Light and Kaleidoscopes, and third grade on Mixing Molecules. The permission slip and request for parent chaperones were sent in BEE Books last Monday. Please remember that a bag lunch is needed. Thanks.

Thanks to these parents who will help chaperone: Eileen Baldeshwiler, Anjanette Conway, Indira VanHandel, Woody Fangmeier, Lori Hoeft, and Tim Tryba.

PreK – Carpenter Nature Center – May 9: Our PreK students will take a field trip to the Carpenter Nature Center on Thursday, May 9. The permission slip and request for parent chaperones were sent in BEE Books last Monday. Students will eat lunch at school before the field trip.

Thanks to these parents who will help chaperone: Matthew Aubart, Eileen Baldeshwiler, Stephanie Larson, Nick Carow, Lori Hoeft, Jillisa Rodriguez, Luke Sipple, Jennifer Thompson, and Marann Ward.

Festival of Nations – May 10: Our 6th & 7th grade students will present their Festival of Nations in our school gym on Friday, May 10 from 1:30 – 3:00. These students have each selected a nation to research and present information about, as well as a sampling of food, and an example of dress typical for their country. 8th grade students will present their science fair projects in the gym as well.

Both are open to anyone who would like to attend! Please use the north gym entrance for admittance. Our PreK-5th grade students will also have the opportunity to visit these displays on Friday afternoon.

Music Residency – May 16: We are excited to bring Okello Kelo Sam, an Uganda native, for an African drumming and dance residency on Thursday, May 16. Mr. Okello will present to each of grades PreK-8 during their usual music class, affording students a close-up, small group music experience!

PreK-Grade 4 Spring Program – May 16: Our PreK-Grade 4 students will present their Spring Program Thursday, May 16 at 6:30 p.m. in our school gym. (Grades 5-8 students were involved in the production of *Alice in Wonderland* April 12 & 13 and will not be involved in this May 16 program.) Art work from all grades will be on display in the gym as well.

We will have a dress rehearsal Wednesday, May 15 at 10:30 a.m. This dress rehearsal is open to anyone who would like to attend. Please use the north gym entrance for the dress rehearsal and the program.

Students should report to their classrooms by 6:15 p.m. on Thursday night. Students are asked to dress up for this concert, but no particular colors are required. However, the usual dress restrictions such as no spaghetti straps, bare shoulders, torn/ripped/stressed clothing, and fingertip length or longer skirts/shorts will apply. No jeans, please.

Middle School Mock Trial – May 17: Our Middle School students will participate in a Mock Trial on Thursday, May 17. 7th & 8th grade students will serve as lawyers and witnesses, and 6th grade students as the jury pool. Parents are welcome to attend! It will begin at 1 p.m.

Gr. 2 – River Falls Public Works – May 21: Second grade students will be treated to a visit from the River Falls Public Works Department on Monday, May 21. The City of River Falls will set up a variety of vehicles on our parking lot and explain each vehicle's purpose/use to students during an hour long presentation. This program is offered to second grade classes at each of the River Falls Schools.

Gr. 3 – River Falls EMS – Week of May 20-24: Third grade students will learn more about the RF Emergency Medical Services in our city during the week of May 20-24. (Specific date to be finalized.) This visit includes information on the use of 911, first aid, and a tour of the ambulance. This program is also offered to third grade classes at each of the River Falls Schools.

8th Grade Retreat – May 22 & 23: One of our culminating activities for our 8th grade students, and a highlight of their Middle School experience is an overnight retreat. The retreat will be held at Dunrovin' Christian Brothers Retreat Center, just north of Stillwater, MN. Mr. Mike Leary will lead this retreat. Several 8th grade parents will help chaperone the overnight. Students will depart after Mass on May 22 and return near the end of the school day on May 23.

Grades 4-5 – MN Zoo – May 23: Grades 4 & 5 will visit the MN Zoo Thursday, May 23. The bus will depart at 9 a.m. and return at 2:30 p.m. The student permission slip will be sent home next week. Our 4th grade parent chaperones will be Brenda Boetel and Justin Luther. We are in need of two 5th grade parent chaperones.

Track & Field Day – May 28: Our annual Track & Field Day will have a different look this year as the renovation-in-progress of the RF High School track causes us to relocate our event to Hoffman Park on Tuesday, May 28 with an inclement weather date of Thursday, May 30. More details and a permission slip for walking to/from the park will be sent next week. We will have less need for parents to help run events, but welcome all parents to save the date and join us for at least part of the day!

St. B's High School Graduates Walk-Through – May 31: River Falls High School graduates will visit their elementary school for a "walk through" in their caps & gowns on Friday, May 31 at approximately 9:30 a.m. Parents of these seniors are welcome to attend, if available! We are very proud of those graduates who attended St. Bridget's Parish School, and look forward to congratulating them as they visit us Friday morning!

8th Grade Class Trip – May 31: Our eighth grade will be taking their class trip on Friday, May 31 to the Mall of America. More details and the permission slip will be sent home later in the month.

Grades 2 -3 – Carpenter Nature Center – June 3: Grades 2 & 3 will have a field trip to the Carpenter Nature Center Monday, June 3 from 12-2:30 p.m. The permission slip and request for parent chaperones will be sent home next week. Second grade will have a class on insects, and third grade on rocks & minerals.

Gr. 8 Graduation – June 4: Our eighth grade graduation will be held on Tuesday, June 4, beginning with Mass at 6:00 p.m. More details to follow for eighth grade parents! Graduation day is traditionally the last day of school for St. Bridget eighth grade students, and will be this year as well.

Grades K-1 – Carpenter Nature Center – June 5: Kindergarten and Grade 1 students will visit the Carpenter Nature Center Wednesday, June 5 from 9:15 – 11:30 a.m. They will learn more about flowers and pollination. The permission slip and request for parent chaperones will be sent home next week.

All-School Picnic – Last Day Celebration – June 7: Friday, June 7 is our annual all-school picnic lunch. Parents & younger siblings are encouraged to join us for this 11:30 lunch/end of year celebration. We will send a lunch reservation form later in May so that we know how much food to prepare. June 7 is the last school day for students. Students will be dismissed to go home with their parents right after lunch. Because this is a full day for the RF School District, busing will not be available at 12:30 for St. Bridget students. Also, we will not have After Care available on June 7, but there will be Before Care.

Reminder: When the 2019-20 tuition increases were announced last January, we explained that next year's tuition will include regular school-sponsored field trip fees, grade 1-8 PE roller skating fees, PreK & K rest mats, and assignment notebooks for grades 3-6. As you write checks this year for the end of the year field trips, breathe a sigh of relief because NEXT YEAR you will have already paid for your child's field trips as part of tuition! Fees for the 7th Grade Environmental Camp, basketball, the spring musical, and 8th grade activities are not included.

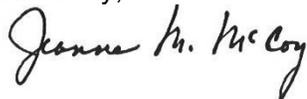
Unfortunately, we are unable to eliminate the permission slips for each activity.

Thanks to the many parents who will help with our end of the year field trips! We are grateful for your help!

These are busy weeks! Any help you can give your child with organization, responsibility for completed homework, sufficient sleep, nutritious meals, a listening ear, and the assurance of your love is greatly appreciated as we want these remaining weeks to continue to be filled with productive learning and development opportunities **right to the very end**. Key concepts as well as the integration and application of material covered earlier in the year are critical and essential parts of the culmination of each year's curriculum. St. Bridget's has a tradition of academic excellence, and I believe that **each** of us has an important role to play in carrying on that tradition – including students of every grade level.

May God bless you for the love and care you provide your children!

Sincerely,



Jeanne McCoy
Principal

Permission Slips Coming Next Week:

All Grades – Track & Field Day at Hoffman Park

Grade 8 Retreat (student & parent)

Grade 8 Class Trip (student & parent)

Grades 4-5 MN Zoo (student only, parent permission sent in April)

Grades 2-3 Carpenter Nature Center (student & parent)

Grades K-1 Carpenter Nature Center (student & parent)