



St. Bridget Parish School

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September 25, 2018

Dear St. Bridget Parish School Families,

Autumn Psalm of Fearlessness

-Ed Hays

**I am surrounded by a peaceful ebbing,
as creation bows to the mystery of life;
all that grows and lives must give up life,
yet it does not really die.**

**As plants surrender their life,
bending, brown and wrinkled,
and yellow leaves of trees
float to my lawn like parachute troops,
they do so in a sea of serenity.**

**I hear no fearful cries from creation,
no screams of terror,
as death daily devours
once-green and growing life.**

**Peaceful and calm is autumn's swan song,
for she understands
that hidden in winter's death-grip
is spring's openhanded,
full-brimmed breath of life.**

**It is not a death rattle that sounds
over fields and backyard fences;
rather I hear a lullaby
softly swaying upon the autumn wind.**

**Sleep in peace, all that lives;
slumber secure, all that is dying,
for in every fall there is the rise
whose sister's name is spring.**

October Lunch Menu: The October lunch menu was sent home in BEE Books today.

Dress Code: Please remember that this is the last week to wear shorts and/or sandals to school until next May! Please also remember to send a jacket of some type to school with your child.

Twilio – Parent Messaging System – Testing: As part of our Sycamore student information system, we utilize a program called Twilio to distribute text messages to parents and staff in the event of weather-related school closings, late starts, or early dismissals. Within the next week we will send a **test message** to the primary cell phones listed in Sycamore. I'll send an email as well to inform you of the date/time the text was sent. My text will be brief, as the program limits the number of characters that can be sent.

MAPS Testing – September 24 – October 19: The testing window for MAPS testing opened this week. Students in Grades 1-8 will be assessed in Reading (1-8), Language Arts (2-8), and Math (1-8). Teachers will each determine a schedule for their classroom. Fall test results will be distributed to parents at our November Parent-Teacher Conferences.

St. Bridget Brat Trot 5K – This Saturday: We will sponsor the 2nd annual Brat Trot this Saturday, September 29. This event is offered in connection with the St. Bridget Parish Block Party.

All skill levels are welcome – run or walk! Start time is 10:00 a.m., with check in at 9:30 in the school parking lot.

We are in serious need of more help to run the event, including route guides, check-in table, and so on. Click on this Sign-Up Genius link to sign up for an hour of your time!!

[2018 Brat Trot](#)

First Reconciliation – Parent & Candidate Meeting – Sunday, September 30: Second grade families are reminded of our parent and candidate meeting at church on Sunday, September 30 at 1:00 p.m. This meeting is for all families whose child will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year.

Home & School Meeting – Monday, October 1: Our Home & School Committee serves as a connection between our school families and school. All school parents are members of this organization just by having a child at St. Bridget Parish School. Most of our Home & School sponsored events are intended to provide an opportunity for school families to come together to meet each other, socialize, and simply enjoy each other's presence. We believe it is beneficial to know the families of the children our own children spend multiple hours with each day in class. Working together helps to build a strong school community!

K-5 Hearing Testing – Tuesday, October 2: K-5 students will have their hearing tested Tuesday, October 2. If these preliminary results suggest a need for further testing, a note will be sent home. All students in these grades will be screened, unless a note is received from the parent indicating the child should not be screened.

No School – Monday, October 8: Students do not have school Monday, October 8 due to a teacher inservice. This affects all students in the School District of River Falls.

PreK Apple Orchard Field Trip – Thursday, October 11: Our PreK students will take a field trip to the Maple Leaf Orchard Thursday, October 11. The permission slip will be sent home tomorrow. Students will be transported by school bus, departing at 9:30 a.m. and returning at 11:30 a.m. Students will eat lunch as usual when they return to school. Students will be chaperoned by their classroom teacher. Student cost is \$5.50. **Parents who wish to go along to help chaperone will need to have their online background check and safe environment training completed by Friday, October 5. (See last week's E-Buzz.)**

Celtic Games – Thursday, October 18: Everyone is invited to join in the fun at our Celtic Games Thursday, October 18 from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Buy your tickets at the door – gym entrance. Celtic Games is a middle school service project designed to provide a late afternoon of games, great food, and raffles. Middle school students will be taking charge of the activities, hoping for a GREAT turn-out of PreK-5 students and their families to attend and participate in the event! Our eighth grade class will be selecting a charitable organization to receive the proceeds from this project.

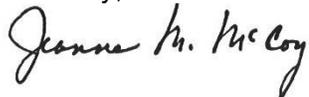
Save the Date – Grandparents Day – Thursday, October 25: Please ask your child's grandparents to save the date for our annual Grandparents Day celebration! The reservation form will be sent home at a later date. As last year, the program will be held at 1:30 p.m. at St. Bridget Parish Church. We will begin with a short prayer service, followed by a student program, and end with a reception in our Fellowship Hall. This is designed to be a special time for children and their grandparents. As a result, parents may not attend, unless helping with the reception. You may sign up to help at this link:

[Parent Helpers for Grandparents Day 2018](#)

No School – Friday, October 26: Students do not have classes Friday, October 26 due to our Diocesan Fall Conference in Rice Lake. This inservice day just affects St. Bridget Parish School students. The River Falls School District will have classes as usual on that day.

May God bless your week!

Sincerely,



Jeanne McCoy
Principal