

# St. Bridget School

*Mission*  
St. Bridget School provides an excellent Catholic education in an environment where the message of Jesus Christ is taught, lived and shared.



## Irish Times

Learning Through Christ's Love

5 B's: Be Caring  
Be Fair  
Be Respectful  
Be Responsible  
Be Trustworthy

### Calendar of Events

### Volume 19, Issue 12

December 7, 2018

#### December 11

Hansen 2nd Grade to Park Towers

#### December 14

Hot Lunch-Paninos  
PreK PM Christmas Party

#### December 15 & 16

Scrip Cash & Carry after all weekend Masses

#### December 17

PreK AM Christmas Party

#### December 18

K-8 Band Concert 9:00 a.m.  
PreK 3 Christmas Party  
Christmas Concert 6:30

#### December 19

Christmas Classroom Parties 10:15 a.m.  
11:25 Dismissal No Aftercare or Preschool

Begin Christmas Break

#### January 3

Classes Resume

#### January 4

Scrip Orders Due  
Spirit Day-wear Spiritwear

#### January 11

Scrip Pickup  
End of 2nd Qtr  
Hot Lunch-Culver's

#### January 18

Report Cards  
11:25 Dismissal No Aftercare or Preschool

#### Notes From The Nurse

If your child has been sent home from school due to a fever or vomiting, they must be kept home the following school day. If your child has a fever, they must be fever free for 24 hours with no medication in order to return to school.

#### EMERGENCY INFORMATION

With winter weather fast approaching; our method of communication for snow day cancellations will be email and text messaging. **YOU MUST UPDATE YOUR PROFILE ON SCHOOL SPEAK BY INCLUDING YOUR CARRIER IN ORDER TO RECEIVE TEXT MESSAGES.** If you do not do this, your only notification will be via email.

#### Drive Slowly

When driving through our parking lot for any reason, please drive slowly!

#### Did you Know?

State law prohibits the use of a hand-held cell phone while driving in a school zone.

#### Cold Weather

Unless it is raining or the wind chill is below zero, all children receive twenty minute of outside recess each day. Please make certain that your child is appropriately dressed in a coat, mittens and hat. All girls should wear pants, or sweats under their skirt or jumper to keep their legs warm. Also, please make

sure to label all clothing with your child's name.



#### Christmas Concert Grades K-8

Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 18th for our annual Christmas concert to be held in St. Bridget Church at 6:30 p.m. All grades will be praising the Lord in song. Details will be sent as to "how to dress" for the occasion.

#### Order Your Yearbook

Yearbooks are now on sale! Forms with information were sent home today. Yearbook orders will only be taken online at [ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://ybpay.lifetouch.com) and enter yearbook code 13660019. Deadline for orders is March 8, 2019.

#### 8th Grade Art Class Needs Your Help!

Please continue to bring in plastic caps or lids for our 8th grade art project.

**Square 1 Fundraiser**  
WOW! Many thanks for such an awesome response to our Square 1 fundraiser which generated nearly \$2000.00 to support our awesome art program!



#### St. Bridget Night at Portillo's

Join us on Wednesday, December 12th at Portillo's from 5:00-8:00 p.m. St. Bridget will receive a generous 20% of your total bill. A flyer was sent home today. Please make sure to show the flyer when you order in the restaurant or mention the St. Bridget flyer at the drive through before ordering so that St. Bridget will get credit.

#### Scrip News

Having a hard time with a upcoming Christmas gift idea? We have the answer: purchase a St. Bridget Scrip Gift Card. Last chance will be at Cash & Carry on December 15th & 16th after all weekend Masses. They even make great stocking stuffers!

**Shamrock Shuffle  
Save the Date  
Saturday, March 9th  
6 00 p.m.  
at Mauh-nah-tee-see Club**

#### Boylan Dates

Future Titan Night Information: Fans of all ages are invited to our Future Titan Basketball nights. Join us at 5:30 p.m. during the following games for giveaways, treats, and Future Titan fun!

December 14: Girls' Basketball (Boylan vs. Belvidere)  
February 1: Boys' Basketball (Boylan vs. Jefferson)

December 7, 2018

Dear Parents,

I don't envy your difficult task of raising children in today's world. With the current daily barrage of social media facing our youth, I often feel relieved that my own four children are at an adult age. Technology has been causing us some headaches at school but I would imagine that is only a small percentage of the drama that must unfold outside of the school day. My youngest daughter was just entering high school when MySpace became a thing with her generation. I remember her sitting at the computer, probably a Macintosh classic, finding pictures from all the parties she wasn't invited to. I hurt *for* her, but encouraged her to step away from the computer and focus on her true friendships. She didn't even have a phone to occupy her time, thankfully, as today's kids do. I wonder what will society be like when my grandchildren are teenagers. Ugh.

I have had conversations with teachers who recognize that students are different today than in decades past and I have had similar conversations with you parents who share their frustrations in coming up with solutions when dealing with behavior challenges with their children. Some children today seem to have difficulty resolving conflicts, they struggle with anxiety and perfectionism. Mood and behavior disorders are on the rise. I recently read an article in "Educational Leadership" that promotes a new book addressing three changes in our society that may have contributed to these issues: "the disappearance of unstructured, outdoor childhood play, the growth of media and technology, and the fact that kids are "unemployed"- in that they often don't have meaningful ways to contribute to the family or community, especially ways that aren't achievement or competition oriented"

So what do we do since "old methods" don't necessarily work with today's youth? We are currently tackling that on our end in the school. Conduct referrals and detentions seem not to phase some students. Parents have told me they have taken away all technology and privileges and still the child has not self corrected. The same article states that we adults make the mistake of taking their misbehavior personally. If we can see the child having difficulty meeting the needs of the situation, we can turn to problem solving and ask "What skills does the child need to strengthen in this moment?" or "What routine or aspect of the environment needs to change for the child to succeed?" An Apprenticeship Model is suggested, consisting of a **connection** between adult and child as the foundation for discipline, **communication** about the behavior or problem at hand, and **capability building**. (a systematic approach to building that child's skills, both social-emotional and life skills) It sounds like if we work together we can better help our kiddoes forge their way in today's world. The book is titled, "The Good News About Bad Behavior: Why Kids Are Less Disciplined Than Ever- and What to Do About It (Public Affairs 2018) and it's definitely on my Christmas list this year! So stay tuned...

Above all we have the cornerstone of our faith. At Mass one day this week Fr. Browning spoke of our need to be childlike in our openness to Christ's love. What a wonderful gift you have given your children to afford them a Catholic education where they get to be reminded of Jesus' love and acceptance of them on a daily basis.

Enjoy the weekend.  
See you at Mass

Blessings,  
Mary Toldo