



ST. SEBASTIAN SCHOOL

Celebrating Over 100 Years of Catholic Education

April 5, 2017

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Dear St. Sebastian Families,



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It is hard to believe we have recently arrived at the 4th quarter of our school year! While there is much to collectively feel pride in thus far, we still have an important final stretch to go. Amidst our many current focuses in the big picture, I wanted to share with you a simple, though powerful story recently shared with me. A little over a week ago, one of our former instructional assistants, Leah Sealey, was substitute teaching for us in a K4 classroom. Soon after, she sent me the following reflection on something that happened that day.

She writes, "I have a whole new perspective on sweets in the classroom after what I was faced with Thursday as I subbed for one of the K4 classrooms. We had 12 cupcakes for 13 students to celebrate a birthday during snack time. I sat the kids down on the carpet and let them know that "we have a problem." Once explained, several hands shot up accompanied by words like, "I want a whole one!" and "Someone cannot have a cupcake." Moments later one student suggested, "You could cut them in half." I added that often times kids don't even eat the entire cupcake anyway so let's try it. Each student got half a cupcake knowing that if they needed another half (or as my supply was lessening, a quarter) they could have one. All the cupcakes were eaten and I didn't notice who did without--neither did any of the students. Truth be told many of us, young and old, sometimes think we need to "have it all" when in fact we only need to be "happy with what is". To take the analogy further some of the kids opted to try each type of cupcake--yellow and chocolate--thus adding a bit more variety in their sharing to boot!"

I loved this story for so many reasons. It was first a reminder that rarely is a situation "perfect" in life, yet there is still great opportunity within it for a beautiful ending, depending how we shape the lesson or adapt to the circumstances. Secondly, I loved the learning process Mrs. Sealey paused to lead the children through, which our teachers and staff continually do on countless occasions throughout a typical school day. I love the Biblical strands of this story - not hoarding our riches, ensuring everyone's needs are met, *fair* not always being "equal", critical thinking to support the common good, and a heart for others, to name a handful. I loved reading of this little one's heart for the good of all, as well as his or her mathematical prowess for division! Every day opportunities present themselves or are intentionally designed to teach our children such important lessons in what it means to be a part of a loving, justice-minded, and life-giving community. How blessed we are to have the gift of one another to grow with, as we take what we learn in our homes and school to share with others in community. Speaking of, be sure to see the exciting note on our upcoming morning of service that our entire school will take part in next week on Holy Thursday. Parents are welcome to come in and join us.

God bless you,
Ms. Grams

PALM SUNDAY -The Mass schedule at St. Sebastian Church for Palm Sunday, April 9, is:

No 8 AM Mass

Cluster Mass at 10 AM

No 10:30 AM Mass

6 PM Mass as usual

ATTENTION: PARENTS OF GIRLS AGES 7-15 - Tosa Fastpitch (TFP) provides the opportunity for girls between the ages of 7-15 from the Wauwatosa, Milwaukee or surrounding areas to play fastpitch softball in an organized recreational venue. Whether your daughter is brand new to softball or is looking to continue working on her skills, TFP is the perfect environment for her. **Please see the attached flyer to join!** (our apologies - this was not included in last week's newsletter).

SCRAP DRIVE - April 8, 8 am- Noon. St. Sebastian Parking Lot. Bring your aluminum cans, old appliances, broken bikes, bed frames, computers (not monitors or TVs), pots & pans, grills, canoes – anything made of metal to the annual parish Scrap Metal Drive. Go to <http://bit.ly/SebsScrap17> to see a complete list of acceptable and non-acceptable items. Got something too big to handle? No worries. Call Scott Hardy to arrange for pick up! [414-607-2141](tel:414-607-2141) or scotthardy001@gmail.com (There will not be a separate can collection by the students this year.)

SHOUT OUT – We want to give a shout out to 7th grade Henry Bresser, who was called onstage last week to play guitar and perform with Green Day at their concert held in Green Bay. Henry gave a rockstar performance – and he got to keep the autographed guitar!

SAVE-THE-DATE FOR GRANDPARENTS (OR SPECIAL GUEST) MORNING! - This year's annual Grandparents (or Special Guest) Morning will be on Wednesday, May 3rd. Please save-the-date and start letting your children's grandparents or special guest in their lives know about this important day. Our program will begin with our all-school Mass at 8:15am, followed by a brief reception in the church Gathering Space, followed by visits to the classrooms with their special student(s). Guests should plan to arrive to the church anytime between 7:50-8:10am. It will be a wonderful day! More details to follow.

DINE IN AND CARRY OUT FISH FRY ON APRIL 7! - Only THREE more fish fry dates remain! Please tell your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to check out this Friday's fish fry which will be staffed by our fantastic regular volunteers and our 4th grade families. We are still in need of volunteers, especially for clean-up, as well as a more dessert donations. If you can help with this week's fish fry, please email Lena Stephenson at roblena@sbcglobal.net.

PICTURE THIS!! - The year book committee is looking for any candid shots of single or groups of students from any school activity. Maybe you went to the pumpkin farm or another field trip and have the perfect smiling face or went to a sporting event and caught a snap shot of the winning shot. We would really like to put them in the pages of the 2016-17 year book. Please send the picture(s) to Mrs. Hartley or put them in her school mail box. Her email is hartleyk@saintsebs.com. Thanks for sharing the smiles.

ALL-SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT - Easter is almost upon us. As we focus on the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ, so too are we mindful of ways we might serve one another as we emulate his love. With that in mind, we have organized an all-school service morning on April 13, Holy Thursday. Grade levels will engage in various projects on site at school that instill our Christian faith to serve others and be instruments of change in our world.

The projects include making no-sew blankets for Catholic Charities' pregnancy and refugee program, making sandwiches for homeless men at the Guest House, making Easter cards for the adult daycare at Catholic Charities, and writing letters for Teach Uganda. We were mindful of finding hands-on projects our students could participate in.

To emphasize the importance of service, we are asking the students to help donate for the supplies. We are requesting **each child (not parents) to donate or work for \$2.00 (or more)** to contribute for our projects. Donations are not mandatory, but the purpose of the event is to teach the students that there are always others with greater needs than our own.

CALL SCOUT FAMILIES - Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and their families are asked to help with the Good Friday fish fry on April 14. Please visit the volunteer portal and sign up for an open shift or dessert donation on or before Friday April 7. Or, if you prefer, email your availability to Lena Stephenson at roblena@sbcglobal.net.

1. Go to the parish/school website: www.saintsebastianonline.net
2. Click on Get Involved
3. Click on Stewardship Portal
4. Login to view Opportunity Calendar and and sign up!

- **NEW TO THE VOLUNTEER PORTAL???**
- Follow steps 1 - 3 above
- Create an account (username and password)
- Click on Apply to volunteer and provide required information
- Once confirmed (may take a day or two), follow steps 1 - 4 above!

GOT ALUMINUM CANS? - For various reasons, Home & School is not hosting a can drive this year. However, any aluminum cans that you and your neighbors have been saving all year can be brought to the scrap metal drive this Saturday, April 8th.

LAST CALL FOR PEANUT BUTTER!! – Our Hunger Task Force peanut butter drive will end this Friday. The category that collects the most will earn a dress down day. The categories are: K4, K5, 1, 2 --- 3, 4, 5 --- 6, 7, 8.

READERS ARE LEADERS UPDATE

Read N Quiz

Students in grades 1st-5th are encouraged to read for pleasure and take reading comprehension quizzes using the Read n Quiz reading incentive program. After successfully passing quizzes, students earn points.

Congratulations to these students for earning the following points!
Keep reading!!!!

5+POINTS

Logan Suminski

10+ POINTS

Keirah Beatty

25+ POINTS

Caelyr Grining

50+ POINTS

Oliver Rebholz

Noah Jones

75+ POINTS

Maeve Bradway

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

Completing the letter "**E**" in reading:

K4 - Graeme Sanders

Completing the letter "**D**" in reading:

K5 - Rhialyn Alston and Romabn Zielinski

Completing the letter "**I**" in reading:

K5 - Eleanor Hegerty

Completing the letter "**N**" in reading:

K5 - Samantha Kokalis

Keep up the good work!

8TH GRADE SCHOOL LUNCH PIZZA FUNDRAISER! - The 8th grade graduation celebration will soon be here and we'd like your help. 8th grade will have "hot-n-ready" pizza, juice boxes and carrot sticks available for school lunch on our last day before Easter Break Thursday, April 13 and two dates in May (the 4th and 25th) to follow. Please use the pre-purchase form below and return to homeroom teacher, school office, or fill one out on the playground before or after school on Friday, April 7th or Monday, April 10th so we will know how much to order! (Students may choose to have pizza in addition to their regular school lunch if they so desire.) Questions? Contact Shaneese Williams sswill727@yahoo.com or Theresa Garcia tmgarci3508@gmail.com

8th Grade Little Caesar's Pizza Lunchtime Fundraiser -- April 13

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

Number of slices _____ x \$2.50 = _____ (#__pepperoni #__ cheese)

Juice Box and carrot sticks add \$1.00 _____.

Total amount = \$ _____

Check payable to St. Sebastian. Fill out a slip for each child, payment can be combined.

If you do not purchase after school you may return this slip via your child's homeroom teacher and backpack mail BY APRIL 10th. Attn: Shaneese Williams
