



# ST. SEBASTIAN SCHOOL

Celebrating Over 100 Years of Catholic Education

April 18, 2018

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Dear St. Sebastian School Community,

Spring... Winter ...."Sprinter" Greetings! We started the week with "Let it Snow" playing on the morning announcements, talking about embracing the moment, regardless of whether it's what we wanted (or perhaps didn't want, in the case of snow). It's been a great week with added fun of children playing and sliding down the snow mounds at recess!

Remember when you were applying for your driver's license years ago? Many friends I knew Sophomore year of high school would leave class during the day, disappear, and not tell anyone where they were going. We would later either learn from these friends that "I passed my driver's test and got my license!", or, heard nothing. When friends wouldn't report back on their whereabouts...you knew not to ask. It's often easier to share successes once they occur than dare to reveal hopes and goals, due to fear of not potentially accomplishing the end goal, as well as being vulnerable with others.

This parallel came to mind when we considered how to share that our school community was visited by a team from the Archdiocese last week for an award we have applied for and are finalists for. Schools may apply for "Exemplary Awards" in specific categories, needing to submit evidence of how we meet the expectations for the distinction. Many schools apply throughout the diocese, and it is then whittled down to a handful of finalists. Our staff felt convicted to pursue the award of "Educating the Whole Child." Though we do not yet know the final decision, we were chosen as finalists, and I think it's fair to say everyone in the building collectively felt great pride when preparing for and reflecting on the day of the visit. We considered, as always, who we are at Seb's, the work we do each day, who we serve, and how we strive to serve our students' host of educational needs. This important work has been the case for countless decades at St. Sebastian School and continues today.

Though there is vulnerability in sharing this in case we "don't win" this go-around, it was an important opportunity to intentionally pause and evaluate ourselves and our work. The visiting team participated in a three hour walking tour, visiting classrooms, with students, with staff, and seeing first-hand a typical day in action. When the visit was over, we reflected as a staff and in many cases, with our students. It was clear everyone felt pride in our school and hopeful for the opportunity to be recognized for the many ways we indeed serve to meet the needs of the whole child. Win or lose, we felt energized by our own recognition of what takes place on a typical day and in laying it all out there. We will keep you posted! A very special thanks to our team of teachers who laid the groundwork in submitting our application, especially to Mrs. Shambarger, in overseeing the process.

Finally, please pray for our 8th graders and chaperones who head to Washington D.C. this Friday through Sunday for a class trip. Stay warm, be safe, and keep smiling through the snow.

God bless you,  
Ms. Grams

**THANK YOU** – We greatly appreciate the 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents for providing a delicious lunch for our staff last week.

**SEB'S SPIRIT DAY FRIDAYS** – Beginning this Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, and every Friday (continuing next school year as well) students may wear any spirit wear top along with school uniform bottoms. An email was sent out last night with more details. A copy of the email was sent home today with family mail carriers.

**YAC VOLLEYBALL: MAY DEADLINE** - Parents, if your middle-school children are interested in playing Volleyball next fall, please make sure you register them before the May 31 deadline. Registration forms are available online at <http://bit.ly/SebsYAC> or in the St. Sebastian school office. Be sure to get the Sport Physical sheet, too - it's good for two years, and you'll need to have your child's doctor complete it. Anyone interested in being a coach or assistant coach can contact Diana Kokalis at [sdk1998@yahoo.com](mailto:sdk1998@yahoo.com) or 414-265-6513.

**READERS ARE LEADERS UPDATE** - Congratulations to the following student(s) for earning the following points! Keep reading!!!!

**10+ POINTS**

Ella Rose Banks  
Aaryn Cummings

**25+ POINTS**

Milond Hill-Kirkendall

**75+ POINTS**

Angelo D'Amico

**100+ POINTS**

Oliver Rebholz

**DROP-OFF REMINDER** –If you are dropping off your children on 54<sup>th</sup> Street in the morning, **please** remember to pull up and let the children out of you vehicle right before the crosswalk or immediately after it. If you stop anywhere else in line, it causes back-ups on 54<sup>th</sup> Street as well as delays for the other families who follow the correct procedure. This will help our system run smoothly and prevent tardy situations.

**SCHOOL SHOUT- OUT** - Each morning on WISN TV NEWS THIS MORNING, a class of students is featured in a "School Shout-Out".

WISN TV Channel 12 visited St. Sebastian School today and filmed several segments of "School Shout-outs" which will air later. The classrooms that were filmed were:

K5 - Room 111 - Mrs. Behling  
K5 - Room 107 - Mrs. Hentges  
1st Grade Room 105 - Mrs. Schlater  
1st Grade Room 104 - Ms. Thayer  
2nd Grade Room 106 - Mrs. Kozina

Mrs. Behling's class will be featured on the show this Friday, April 20th, between 5:30 - 6:30 AM. (It may be shown more than once during that hour.) You will also be able to go online to view our Shout-Out at the WISN TV website.

The other classes will be featured on the WISN Channel 12 morning show at later dates. Those classes will be notified when we learn of the dates they will be aired.

Be sure to tune in and watch our students and their teacher tell the viewers to "have a great day, Milwaukee"!

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

Completing the letter "R" in reading:  
K5 - Jonathan Frost  
Completing the letter "A" in reading:  
K4 - Ian Melendes  
Completing the letter "I" in reading:  
K5 - Owen Troy

**FISH FRY NEWS!! SAVE THE DATE!!** - 7th grade parents will be working the May 4th Fish Fry next month! May the 4th be with them!! Mark your calendars because this is our LAST Fish Fry of the school year!!!! Come and enjoy all your Fish Fry favorites...fried or baked cod, french fries, chicken nuggets, shrimp chowder, salad bar, and homemade desserts!! You don't want to miss it!! Dinner is served from 4:30-7:30 in the school cafeteria. Don't forget to tell everyone you know about Milwaukee's BEST fish fry!

Want to help and need more info? Contact Amy Struck ([Amy4ever72@hotmail.com](mailto:Amy4ever72@hotmail.com)) OR Lisa Weger ([lisamweger@gmail.com](mailto:lisamweger@gmail.com))

**STORY TIME AT ST. SEBASTIAN** - Families with children ages 2-4 years old are invited to Story Time With Stacey! Please gather in the school library on Wednesday, April 25th, from 8:30-9:00am for stories, songs, and a craft project. Please contact our school librarian, Stacey Rebholz at [rebholz@saintsebs.org](mailto:rebholz@saintsebs.org) or our Home and School chair, Molly Ambrose at [mambrose@saintsebs.org](mailto:mambrose@saintsebs.org).

**SCRAP METAL DRIVE** - The annual scrap metal drive is April 28 from 8:00am-noon on the parking lot at school ([1747 N 54th Street](#)). Any and all metal are accepted. Electronics and flat screen tv's are also acceptable as metal. However, we cannot take old tv's consisting of tubes. And no items with plastic only. Please contact Corina Gencuski at [c\\_gencuski@yahoo.com](mailto:c_gencuski@yahoo.com) or 414-702-1023 with any questions. Any middle school students planning to volunteer at this event, are asked to contact Corina as well.

**GRANDPARENT/SPECIAL GUEST DAY** - St. Sebastian's annual Grandparent/VIP day is on May 2nd. Home and School mailed invitations to all addresses that had been provided. If you have not returned your grandparent form yet, or if a grandparent is not able to attend, and you would like an invitation sent to a "Special Guest" for your child, please send a name and address to the Home and School Chair, Molly Ambrose at [mambrose@saintsebs.org](mailto:mambrose@saintsebs.org).

**FIELD DAY** - Field Day is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 7th. If you are interested in helping with the planning or volunteering for Field Day, please contact Lindsey Mahn at [lindseymahn@gmail.com](mailto:lindseymahn@gmail.com).