



ST. SEBASTIAN SCHOOL

Celebrating Over 100 Years of Catholic Education

May 16, 2018

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Dear St. Sebastian School Community,

What a fantastic Spring Concert we experienced last night, yet again! Special thanks to Mrs. Karla Hartley and our school children for all of their time, talents, and personalities which collectively make for a special showcase of their gifts! Thank you as well to our teachers for staying late hours and to Mr. Kamenski and the Maintenance staff for their assistance in preparing and taking down all that goes into organizing the concert.

As you heard in the lyrics the students sang out, mixed in with some classic rock songs were a number of Christian rock songs, emphasizing Jesus Christ as our true ROCK through life. We play these types of songs throughout the school year so our students grow accustomed to them, if not otherwise used to this genre of music. Hopefully, this is one category of music they will turn to in life, carrying strong messages of faith, hope, and God's love for them.

At last week's faculty meeting, we spent time reflecting on end of year perspectives, working through an activity that challenged us to consider, "What might *students* be feeling at this time of year?"... "What might *parents*?"... "What might *teachers*?". It is important to keep in mind two things: a) Yes! - the end of the school year is near, while also, b) We still have work to do and goals to accomplish!

At a time when it is easy to let homework slide, punctuality slip, lunches packed be less than stellar, and catch the wave of spring fever, let us not lose sight of the value of instilling the importance of a strong finish. We want to be reasonable with our expectations of our students and ourselves, perhaps scaling back homework, not assigning massive end-of-year projects, spending a little more time outside during the school day as able, and so forth, but we also want to ensure our expectations remain high for academics, conduct, and our overall standards. Thank you for your help in supporting your child to have a strong finish, including arriving to school on time, completing their homework, and prioritizing good sleep and nutrition! Each of these matters.

Let us keep in good communication together as our weeks wind down and keep striving for excellence!

God bless you,
Heather Grams

SPECIAL THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO OUR PAL, ST. COLETTA AND FAITH FORMATION

TEACHERS! In last week's Newsletter, we failed to include our PAL, St. Coletta and Faith Formation teachers, who we want to ensure we celebrate and express our gratitude for all that these teams give to our students and families. A very special thank you to these entities of our parish school for all they do, often "behind the scenes" of typical school day hours, but of equal value, importance, and necessity to the support and formation of our students. THANK YOU all for your goodness and generosity!

SUMMER TUTORING FOR YOUR CHILD - Mrs. Janice Hauf, a certified elementary school teacher with over 30 years of experience is available to help your child. She will work with any grade level, from Kindergarten to Eighth Grade and in any subject required. Please take this opportunity to keep your child sharp and confident. Kindly call 453-5830 (the school office) with your name and number. Mrs. Hauf has been a substitute teacher at St. Sebastian for many years.

SIX FLAGS TICKETS – Congratulations to the students who completed the Six Flags Great America Read to Succeed program. They will receive their free ticket this week. Please watch for this to come home in backpack mail.

SPIRITWEAR SAMPLES – We now have samples of adult sizes of spiritwear, as well as youth sizes. You can look them over before you order if you prefer.

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

Completing the letter "R" in reading:

K4 - Macy Grining

Completing the letter "A" in reading:

K4 - Sophie McCulloch and Archie Ambrose

Completing the letter "I" in reading:

K4 - Maame Dampare

Great job. Keep on reading!!

MONDAY – SPECIAL ACTIVITY & DRESS DAY – On Monday, May 21, our three “Principals for the Day”, Luke, Joe and Maggie Murray, have declared a dress down and crazy socks day. Also, the KO-THI Dance company will be performing at 10:00 AM in the gym (parents are welcome to join us). This performance is a celebratory reward to recognize the achievements of last year’s Forward exams. Thank you to Home & School for sponsoring the dance company visit and to Mr. Rochford for organizing the details.

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

25+ POINTS

Lukas Spellman

50+ POINTS

Dylan Egerson

100+ POINTS

Maggie Murray

STORYTIME AT ST. SEBASTIAN! - The final storytime of this school year is on Wednesday, May 30th, from 8:30-9:30am in the school library. Children ages 2-4 years old, and their parents or guardians, are invited to a storytime with our school librarian, Mrs. Rebholz, for some early literacy and fun! Children will enjoy stories, songs, and crafts. Please register beforehand with Stacey Rebholz at srebholz@saintsebs.org.

FIELD DAY - Field Day is scheduled for Thursday, June 7th. Thank you to the parents and teachers who have put in many hours already in planning this fun event. If you are interested in volunteering during Field Day, please contact Lindsey Mahn at lindseymahn@gmail.com.

HONORS RECEPTION - The middle school Honors Reception is on Wednesday, May 30th, immediately following the all school Mass, around 9:15am. As part of the celebration, all honor students and his or her parents are invited to the reception. Honorees are recognized for their academic achievements and/or effort demonstrated this school year. Parents of students being recognized will receive an invitation this week.

BEATS & EATS - On Friday, June 1st from 5-8pm, Home & School is organizing an end-of-the-year family party, "Beats & Eats," on the school playground. This is an event to bring families together to celebrate another great year with food trucks, music and games. Bring your family, your Sebs spirit, and cash if planning to eat. Music sponsored by H&S. Please see the attached flyer.

7th GRADE PARENT MEETING - On Wednesday, May 30th from 6-6:45pm we will have a meeting for all current 7th grade parents interested in learning more about the logistics of the 8th grade trip. At this time, we will discuss details, fundraising, and general planning. Please bring your questions and calendar. The meeting will take place in the multipurpose room at the church.

HOME & SCHOOL OPEN POSITIONS - H&S has a few open positions for the 2018-19 school year. Please consider joining this fun group of dedicated parents. If you would like more information about, or are interested in being the Volunteer Coordinator, Fundraising Chair, a training year as the Treasurer, or a Grade Level Liaison, please contact the H&S Chair, Molly Ambrose at mambrose@saintsebs.org.

MAY IS THE MONTH OF MARY! - In addition to the month of October, May is a month we traditionally pause to honor Mary, the mother of Jesus, in a special way. Our 2nd graders presented flowers to Mary at last week's Grandparents' Day Mass and May Crowning. Mary now sits in the Front Office with flowers surrounding her, though they are wilting. **We invite your children to bring in any flowers they may have from the garden, your yard, or the store if you wish**, to place around Mary this month - or any time, in fact! - as she always stands at the Front Office doors ready to welcome all into our school family. Thank you for considering contributing to honoring our Blessed Mother in this special way.

\$100 TAX REFUND PER CHILD – Governor Walker recently signed legislation that will allow parents to claim a \$100 refund for each child. You can apply for this refund between May 15 – July 2. Refund money will be distributed in August.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2018/04/17/tax-day-gov-scott-walker-sign-bill-giving-parents-100-refund-checks-each-child/522527002/>

VOLLEYBALL REGISTRATION FOR NEXT YEAR – If your student is entering grade 5 – 8 next year and wants to play on a St. Sebastian volleyball team, their registration is due by May 31st. Forms must be submitted so that teams can be formed. Payment is due before the start of the season. (You can also indicate on the registration form if you intend to play basketball next year.) Forms are available on the website and in the office. Students must also have a pink physical form signed by a doctor. The physical form is good for two years.