



The Benedict Buzz

St. Benedict Elementary School Principal Newsletter
Excel Challenge Honor Create Serve

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

At St. Benedict Elementary School, we excel in educating the whole child by **challenging** students to develop their God-given talents, **honor** each other's gifts and diversity, **create** a Christian community by sharing our gifts, and **serve** the Lord and each other.

Issue: Welcome Back to School, August 26, 2009

Thursday 8-27-09	First FULL DAY OF SCHOOL – LUNCH BEGINS Kindergarten Orientation 4PM in High School Cafeteria Extended Care Begins
Friday 8-28-09	Kindergarten Begins today...FULL DAY Kindergarten Bye-Bye Breakfast Sponsored by the Home and School Association at morning arrival time
Monday 8-31-09	Preschool Begins today – FULL DAY Preschool Bye-Bye Breakfast Sponsored by the Home and School Association at morning arrival time
Tuesday 9-1-09	2PM DISMISSAL TODAY EVERY TUESDAY is 2PM Dismissal Preschool Bye-Bye Breakfast Sponsored by the Home and School Association at morning arrival time Band Recruiting Concert for grades 4-6 Athletic Board Meeting 7PM in Room 215
Wednesday 9-2-09	Wednesday BUZZ emailed – are you signed up? Home and School Advisory Board Meeting 6PM Home and School Room Representative Meeting 7PM Band Program Sign Up 7PM in library
Thursday 9-3-09	Athletic Orientation 6:30PM in Heidenreich Hall
Friday 9-4-09	Opening School Mass 1:30PM in Church Grades K-12

Welcome Back to School – We are Going to have a GREAT YEAR!

*******SCHOOL NEWS*******

Volleyball Practice

Practices for students in grades 4-6 Volleyball will start on Tuesday, September 1st from 2PM to 4:30PM.

Market Day is Back! YUMMY!

An order form will be coming home in the backpacks this week. Families can order online at www.marketday.com or return their order form to the school office by Thursday, Sept. 10th. If families order online, Internet orders can be placed until 11 pm CST on Monday, Sept. 14th. This information is on the back page of the order form. This year, Market Day Pickup is more convenient! The first Market Day pick-up, Thursday, Sept. 17th at 2:45-3:45 in the Social Center.

Attention Basketball and Cheerleading Parents!!

Please plan on attending St. Benedict School's annual Athletic Orientation Meeting next Thursday, September 3, 2009 at 6:30. The meeting will take place in Heidenreich Hall. We will discuss eligibility requirements for students, volunteer requirements for parents and expectations for the upcoming season. I look forward to seeing all of you!
From Chris Deakins, Elementary School Athletic Director cdeakins@stbenedict.com

*******PARENT INFORMATION*******

TUESDAY EARLY DISMISSALS BEGIN FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

Please remember that beginning Tuesday, September 1st and every Tuesday thereafter, school will dismiss at 2PM in order for teachers to have professional development time. Extended care is available on these days.

Save the Date for the Ball & Auction

It's never too early to think SPRING! The location may be changing, but the Ball & Auction still promises to be a wonderful evening filled with delicious food and fabulous auction items!

SAVE THE DATE for the Ball & Auction ~
Saturday, April 17th at the Chicago Cultural Center.

If you are interested in being a part of the Ball & Auction, please contact Kerry Kinsloe @ kinsloe@sbcglobal.net

*******NOTES FROM NURSE KATHLEEN MOORE *******

Welcome Back! I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer!
I am going through all of the medical information that was turned in over the summer and at Packet Day. If you have not already done so, please turn in your Medical Forms as soon as possible.

Here is a quick guide as to what is needed:

Kindergarten-Physical, Dental and Eye Exams

2nd Grade- Dental Exam

6th Grade- Physical and Dental Exams

If your student is new to St Benedict, I will need a copy of your child's Health File from the school your child was previously enrolled in and an Eye exam. All of the Medical Forms are available to be downloaded from our website.

On another note, many parents turned in completed Medication Authorization Forms. These forms are only required for students who need to take medication during school hours for a health condition. If your child does have a medical condition, please contact

me so I am aware of your child's needs. As always, please feel free to call me or stop in my office if you have questions or concerns.

The HSA Corner

The Home and School Association (HSA) is an organization of parents and guardians whose mission is to foster closer relationships between parents, school staff and the parish. We are all a part of the Home and School Association at St. Benedict ~ let's work together to provide our children with a wonderful school community! Check out the HSA Corner each week to find out about upcoming HSA-sponsored events!

New HSA Email Account

If you have any HSA related questions or general questions about community activities at St Ben's, please send an email to the new HSA mailbox. The email address is hsa@stbenedict.com

Directory & Volunteer Forms

If you did not submit your Directory Form or your Volunteer Form at packet pick-up day, they have been included as [attachments](#) to the BUZZ. Please download and complete them as soon as possible. Forms can be turned in to Mrs. Marge Lawlor at the elementary school or Mrs. Barb Bennett at the preschool. Thank you for your cooperation as we compile this valuable information. The deadline for submitting forms is September 3rd.

HSA General Meeting/Room Representative Meeting

Interested in being a [room representative](#)? Want to learn more about the Home and School Association? Mark your calendar for [Wednesday, September 2nd at 7pm](#). The meeting will be held in Heidenreich Hall. Plan to join us as we discuss room representative responsibilities and upcoming events ~ think class parties and auction projects!!!

Your input is needed

As an alternative to Java with Gemo, the HSA will be introducing an [evening lecture series](#). The idea is to provide a casual environment where parents can mingle amongst themselves, as well as hear from experts on topics of interest to all age groups represented at preschool, elementary and middle schools. Attached to the BUZZ, you will find a [survey](#) of potential topics for the upcoming year. We welcome

any suggestions that you might have! Please complete the survey and return to either Mrs. Marge Lawlor or Mrs. Bennett. Thank You!

Want to Carpool?

Are you interested in car pooling for the 2009-2010 school year? Do you need help in finding families with similar schedules who live close by? To assist families in coordinating car pools, the HSA will circulate a list of information among interested parents. Please contact the HSA at hsa@stbenedict.com with the following information: Parent's name, address and contact information, number of children and ages, and expected fall schedules (especially for pre-schoolers, make note of half/full day and days of the week).

Girls' Night Out

Thank you to everyone who came to the recent Girls' Night Out at Chief O'Neill's. A jacket was found at the end of the event. Please contact Teri Ford (ford.teri@comcast.net) if you think the jacket might be yours.

2nd Annual HSA Baby & Kids "Green" Garage Sale ~ Saturday, September 19th

Do you have loads of baby or kids stuff lying around your house? Do you NEED baby gear or children's clothes? Are you looking for parent partnership hours? Do you have a Middle or High School student who is looking for service hours? If you answered "yes" to either of these questions, then you need to know more about the **2nd Annual Baby & Kids "GREEN" Garage Sale.**

Drop-off Dates for Donations (come to Courtyard Entrance #4)

Saturday, August 29th ~ 8am - 12pm
Wednesday, September 9th ~ 5:30 - 7:30pm
Friday, September 11th ~ 7:30 - 10:00am
Sunday, September 13th ~ 7:30am - 1pm

If you would like a tax deductible contribution receipt, please be sure to fill out the contribution form attached to the BUZZ. Forms will also be available at each drop-off date.

Baby & Kids "GREEN" Garage Sale

Saturday, September 19th
8 - 11:30am \$1 admission
12 - 1pm Power Hour - no admission fee and all remaining items are 50% off

Proceeds from the sale benefit the preschool and elementary school teacher wish list fund!

Interested in volunteering? Contact Judy Pyke @ neighborjudy@aol.com

Questions? Jane van der Zanden-Thompson @ jmvdz_thompson@yahoo.com or Teri Ford @ ford.teri@comcast.net

*******UPCOMING EVENTS*******

- **Kindergarten Orientation, Thursday, August 27th at 4PM.** A letter was sent home in July regarding this special event. If you did not receive it, please contact the office.
- **Athletic Orientation and Registration, September 3 at 6:30PM**
- **Parent Night for Grades K-5 at 6 PM on September 9th**
- **Monks and Wrenches, Saturday, September 12th**
- **Parent Night for Grades 6-8 at 6PM on September 15th**
- **HSA Baby Garage Sale, Saturday, September 19th**

Prayer List -- Let's pray for a blessed year of learning, friendship and faith for all our school students and families as we begin this special year.

Peace!

Ms. Rachel Gemo, St. Benedict Elementary School Principal
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