



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: March 3, 2010 Second Week of Lent

<p>Thursday 3-4-10</p>	<p>MS Student Council after school CHILDFIND Testing PK and K 4th-5th grade Math Club Bakugan/Pokeman Club after school today Library Club after school TERRA NOVA TESTING TODAY – 2-7th Grades STUDENTS NEED TO BE ON TIME TO SCHOOL THIS WEEK – TESTS BEGIN 8:15AM</p>
<p>Friday 3-5-10</p>	<p>TERRA NOVA TESTING TODAY – 2-7th Grades STUDENTS NEED TO BE ON TIME TO SCHOOL THIS WEEK – TESTS BEGIN 8:15AM Ms. Grabe's Dance Classes after school</p>
<p>Monday 3-8-10</p>	<p>CHILDFIND Testing PK and K</p>
<p>Tuesday 3-9-10</p>	<p>2PM DISMISSAL TODAY Varsity Cheerleading Practice after school</p>
<p>Wednesday 3-10-10</p>	<p>Dance Classes today after school Preschool Field Trip to Theatre Building Children's Choir Practice – 6:45PM in Church HSA Spring ROOM REP meeting – 7PM in Heidenreich Hall</p>
<p>Thursday 3-11-10</p>	<p>Preschool Field Trip to Theatre Building MS Student Council after school 4th-5th grade Math Club Library Club after school</p>
<p>Friday 3-12-10</p>	<p>April Lunch Orders are Due today 8th grade Chocolate and Bulb Sale orders due Ms. Grabe's Dance Classes after school</p>

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

Thank You from Ms. Lowe, Our Librarian

Dear Families and Friends of St. Benedict- On behalf of the of the students and teachers at St. Benedict I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for your tremendous support of this year's Scholastic Book Fair. With your help, we were able to raise over \$4,000 in Scholastic Rewards Dollars! The profits earned have been designated toward purchasing books and technology for the library. Your support is so appreciated! Thank YOU!

NO Band or Strings lesson the first week of March due to Terra Nova Testing.

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

Thank You to Sante Iacovelli, Principal of St. Benedict High

School Mr. Sante Iacovelli, Principal of St. Benedict High School has recently announced that, due to personal reasons, he will not return next year to his position as principal at SBHS Over the past fourteen years, Mr. Iacovelli has served as teacher, dean and principal/co-president of the high school. I would like to express my gratitude for his service to this parish and school community. I ask that you keep him in your prayers as he seeks his new career path.

Please turn in Spring Picture Order Forms for K-7 Students as soon as possible. Thank you.

Looking for an opportunity to support our faculty and administration in a very rewarding way?

The 2010 – 2011 Advisory Board Membership Drive is kicking off this month. We are in need of parents to represent the Preschool, Elementary and Middle School, as well as volunteers with special talents in the areas of strategic planning, facilitation and organizational change management. Please consider becoming involved in the school in this very rewarding way. If you are interested in learning more, please e-mail ESAdvisoryBoard@stbenedict.com.

IT'S HERE!! - ANNUAL 8TH GRADE SPRING FUNDRAISER

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is tradition at St. Benedict that each year, the 8th grade class hosts a special fundraiser to help defray the costs of their class trip and related expenses. The 8th graders will be selling high quality chocolate candy and spring flower bulbs. All items are priced affordably at \$5 (chocolates) or \$6 (bulbs) making the fundraiser easy to support and make great gifts for families and friends, for either Easter or Mother's day.

The sale starts on March 1st and ends on March 12th (see attached pdf file for additional information). Check your child's backpack, March 1st, for the order forms, order submission details, and delivery times, as they differ according to which product you buy. New this year, the 8th graders will donate bulbs that they will plant this spring,

beautifying the Parish grounds. If you wish to donate additional bulbs to the 8th graders for their community project, please mark **DONATION** on your order form next to that item.

Please help us raise the money for our class trip and support our community project! The Class of 2010 appreciates your kind support and generosity!

The 8th Grade Class of 2010 - St. Benedict Elementary School

*Saint Benedict's
Ball & Auction*

*Dinner at Tiffany's
April 17, 2010*

The invitations have been mailed, auction items are arriving daily and last minute preparations are being finalized. The Ball & Auction is only six weeks away!

Check out this month's Ball & Auction newsletter for an update on the menu for the night, the fund-a-need program, parking voucher availability and live auction items.

There are still a few raffle tickets remaining for the St. Benedict Tuition Raffle*. If you are interested in purchasing a \$50 raffle ticket, please contact Kerry Kinsloe at Kinsloe@sbcglobal.net.

* Value of the tuition raffle is \$5,000 if all 200 tickets sell.
The value will be adjusted accordingly if tickets do not sell out.

Pancake Breakfast - Sunday, March 7th

Let St. Benedict's Cub Scout Pack 3865 made breakfast for you and your family!! Swing on over to the Social Center (Irving Park & Bell) between **9am and 12 noon** for pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, coffee and juice! \$3 for Senior Citizens and kids 10 and under; \$5 for adults and kids 11 and over. Great food, great prices and you'll be supporting a great Pack of Scouts! Bring your friends and neighbors too.

Blood Drive Saint Benedict High School will be hosting a Blood Drive on Friday, March 5th from 8 am to 2:30 pm in room 242 located in the High School. If you are interested in giving blood, please contact Teresa Mueller in the guidance office at (773) 539-0066 ext. 305 to schedule an appointment. Walk ins are also welcome! We hope to see you there!

*******MS. ERIN'S PRESCHOOL BABY BENGAL BITS*******

Preschool Literacy Night Come and join us on Wednesday, March 24th from 6 to 7 pm for the Preschool Literacy night! On this evening come and enjoy some of our favorite children's authors! Each Preschool teacher will be giving a presentation on one author and then will have a craft to go along with the story. Each teacher will have two sessions from you to choose from. Session one will go from 6:00 to 6:25 pm and the second session will go from 6:30 to 7:00 pm. We are asking that parents bring in a new book for our book drive. Boxes will be made available in the preschool foyer and in Ms. Dawn's and Ms. Nikki's classrooms. All book donations will be donated to a worthy cause. A schedule of events will be made available shortly. We hope you can join us on this fun evening!

Re-registration for Next School Year If you are re-registering your child for the 2010/2011 school year, please keep in mind that registration forms are due on Thursday, March 25th. Please submit the registration fee with all the appropriate forms and turn them into Ms. Barb at the front desk. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to e-mail me at EBarrett@stbenedict.com or call (773) 588-7851 extension 601. Thank you!

The Magic Paintbrush Field Trip We are planning our next field trip in the preschool! The children will go and see the production of The Magic Paintbrush at the Theatre Building Chicago on March 10th and 11th. Permission forms have been sent home. If you have not already done so, please submit permission forms and payment to Ms. Barb at the front desk by Thursday, March 4th. We are looking to have two parent volunteers to join us from each classroom to help chaperone the trip. If you are available to join us, please sign up with your child's teacher. Thank you!

******* Notes from Nurse Kathleen Moore *******

Pupils Hearing and Vision was here on March 24th to test the State mandated Grades for hearing and Vision. It was a great success! The students who failed and the students who were absent will be tested on another date later this month. Only the students who failed the tests will get referral letter sent home. If you do not receive a letter by the third week of March your child passed the screening.

This week we are testing Pre-K and Kindergarten children. The students will be given a developmental screening along with the Hearing and Vision screening. This is a free service provided by Chicago Public Schools. If you have not returned your child's permission slips, please do so immediately. We cannot do the screenings without your consent. I watched the testing that was done today and I can tell you the screenings will provide you and your child's teacher with invaluable information. The screeners are doing a fantastic job!

Thank you....and as always contact me at extension 235 if you have any questions.

The HSA Corner

All HSA/Room Representative Meeting Coming Soon

Mark your calendars for the upcoming HSA/Room Representative meeting on Wednesday, **March 10th at 7:00pm**. We will discuss upcoming HSA events, Teacher Appreciation Week Activities and much more! The meeting will take place in Heidenreich Hall.

Home and School Association seeks new leadership

Are you looking to get more involved in the school community? Want to make a difference in your child's education? Look no further....The Home and School Association is seeking 4 new members for the 2010-2011 school year. See the flyer attached for details on applying or nominating for this fun and vital group.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Terra Nova Testing, Grades 2-7 – March 1-5th – please come to school on time
- Childfind Testing – Preschool and Kindergarten – March 2-4th
- End of the second trimester is Friday, March 5th
- Band Solo Fest, Saturday, March 6th
- HSA Room Rep Meeting – Wednesday, March 10th
- Market Day Pickup – Thursday, March 18th
- Second Trimester Report Cards go home on March 18th
- Early/Priority Registration for K-8 is Thursday, March 25th
- No School – Professional Development Day, March 26th
- Living Stations of the Cross – Tuesday, March 30th at 1PM

PRAYER LIST – Please pray for Mr. Accardi's mother and mother-in-law, who are both in need of health and healing.

Peace!

Ms. Rachel Gemo St. Benedict Elementary School Principal
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