

August 25, 2017

Good Morning,

I hope that everyone is doing well and enjoying these last few days of summer. We are excited to see everyone back here at school in early September. As we prepare for the start of the school year, there are several important messages to share with all of you.

(1) **Lunch and Milk Order Form:** Once again this year, all lunch card orders will be placed online, and then billed to families through our FACTS incidental billing system. To order a lunch card for your child(ren), please fill out the form found at the following link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/uOgnHbWTSZDGwmHJ3>

Your child will receive his/her lunch card during the first week of school.

If your child will participate in the **BSS Milk Program**, please use this same form to note this as well (the milk order option is on the second page of the form, which you will access after clicking "Next"). The milk program costs \$55 for the entire year, entitling your child to one carton of white or chocolate milk each school day.

You will notice that the price of daily lunch has gone up to \$4 per day this year. This is our first price increase in five years, and was necessary due to the rising costs of food that we have seen over the past several years. As all returning families know, Chef Tim and his staff strive to prepare tasty and healthy lunches that our children enjoy. The lunch program at BSS is not a money-maker for the school; we provide it as a service to our families, using the cost of the lunches to pay for the food we serve and the wages of our kitchen staff. This price increase will help us come closer to covering the total costs of the lunch program during the new school year.

You'll notice that there is a significant savings for families that choose the half-year or full-year lunch card (up to 10 free lunches over the course of the half year, and 20 during the full year) so we do encourage families to consider that option.

For your planning, the September Lunch Menu has been posted online at <http://school.blessedsacrament.org/thismonthatbss>

(2) **Extended Day Program:** The morning and afternoon extended day programs will begin on Wednesday, September 6. There is no need to purchase extended day cards ahead of time, as all charges will be processed regularly through the FACTS incidental billing system.

(3) **Parent Collaborative Information:** The BSS Parent Collaborative is excited to

begin the new school year, and is working hard to provide many opportunities for parents to be involved in the life of our school community. One of these opportunities is the Room Parent program. If you are interested in serving as a room parent in your child's classroom, please visit the following link to express your interest:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/30e0e4da5ae2ba4fc1-room>

The deadline to express interest is Tuesday, September 12. Room parents will be randomly selected soon after this deadline. This new process worked well last year as a way of opening up the room parent opportunity to a wider group of parents.

Also, please take a moment to visit and join the **Parent Collaborative Page on Facebook**:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/145910572485006/>

This page will be updated regularly by our Parent Collaborative leaders with important information for BSS parents. While it certainly won't be the only way information is communicated to parents, it will be a great way for you to stay connected with life at our school throughout the year.

Finally, the **first Parent Collaborative meeting** of the new school year will be on **Thursday, September 14 at 8:15am** in the cafeteria. We hope that you can join us that morning to learn more about the work of the PC this year, including the many volunteer opportunities that are available for our parents.

(4) Main Office Reminder: Please remember to hand in your Student Verification forms and Health Forms on the first day of school. Assuming all forms are handed in in a timely manner, the 2017-18 BSS Online Family Directory will be published mid-September. Thanks for your cooperation!

Opening Week Schedule:

Tuesday, September 5

- 1st Day of School, Grades 1-8
- 12:00 Dismissal, Grades 1-5
- Middle School House BBQ, 12:00-1:30
- 1:30 Dismissal, Grades 6-8
- 6th Grade Parent Orientation, 6:00pm in the cafeteria

Wednesday, September 6

- Full Day of School, Grades 1-8
- Preschool, PreK and Kindergarten Orientations - 8:30-9:30 in classrooms
- 4th Grade Parent Orientation, 6:00pm in classrooms
- 5th Grade Parent Orientation, 6:00pm in classrooms

Thursday, September 7

- Full Day of School Grades 1-8
- 1st Day of School, Preschool, PreK and Kindergarten
- 12:00 Dismissal for Preschool, PreK and Kindergarten

Friday, September 8

- Full Day of School Grades 1-8
- 12:00 Dismissal for Preschool, PreK and Kindergarten

Enjoy the weekend!

Jim