

October 31, 2017

Good Afternoon,

Happy Halloween to everyone! It has certainly been a busy day here at school as the students get ready for Halloween night. Here are some updates as we reach the midpoint of this week:

(1) **Early Dismissal on Thursday, November 2:** With Parent-Teacher Conferences scheduled for Thursday afternoon, please remember that we will have an early dismissal for all students on Thursday. There will be no afternoon programs, no Walpole bus, and no afternoon extended day program on Thursday. Dismissal will take place according to the following schedule:

11:45 - PS, PreK and K

11:50 - Grades 1-3

11:55 - Grades 4-5

12:00 - Grades 6-8

(2) **Save the Date - Under the Stars Dinner & Auction - Saturday, March 10, 2018:** We hope that you will save the date for our biggest fundraiser of the school year - the Under the Stars Dinner & Auction. This year's event will be held on Saturday, March 10, 2018. We'll have lots more information going out about the event in the coming months, but we want to make sure you at least get the date on to your calendars.

If you are interested in helping to plan for the event, please contact Melissa Dugas at mdugas@blessedsacrament.org. We need many volunteers to make the night a success, so we hope that you will consider being part of our planning committee.

(3) **Emergency Alert System:** As you know, our emergency alert system was unexpectedly tested on Monday morning, when a 90-minute delay was announced for Walpole Schools. Although BSS generally does follow the Walpole schools for cancellations/delays, this was an example of a time where we thought it was best to open on time, despite the announced delay in Walpole. The power was on at BSS, and most major roads were open and accessible to families.

With families coming to BSS from so many different places, we know that our BSS families were impacted in different ways by Sunday night's storm. By opening school on time, our hope was that families would have a safe place for their children to be as they dealt with any challenges at home.

Sending this message by text was the quickest way to get the message out on short notice Monday morning. For future cancellations/delays, you can expect a phone call, text, an email, and online postings as soon as a decision has been made. In almost all circumstances, we will follow the Walpole Schools, but you should wait to hear from us to be sure. Please reach out with any questions about this emergency alert system.

(4) **Halloween Candy Collection:** If you have extra Halloween candy after tonight (or if you just need to get some sweets out of the house!) please consider donating your candy to BSS. Each year at our Christmas Bazaar, we sell the candy as part of our "Sugar Shack" - a popular aspect of the Bazaar, especially for the kids. There will be a collection bin for this candy in the gym foyer starting tomorrow morning.

(5) **Student Pictures & Retakes:** Students who ordered school pictures through Lifetouch should have received their picture order today. We have scheduled our picture retake day for Thursday, November 16. Please plan to have your child's picture taken that day if your child missed the first picture day, or if you are unhappy with the pictures you received.

If there are any specific issues/errors with the pictures you received, you can contact Lifetouch customer service directly through the email or phone number listed on the picture envelope.

Have a fun and safe evening trick-or-treating tonight!

Jim