



Principal's News
February 3, 2020



WELCOME!

SSRCS would like to welcome 2 new students:

Lacey Weinhofer in 1st grade and

Matthew Sartori in 6th grade

We are blessed to have you join our SSRCS Family!

SPANISH TEACHER

Welcome to Miss Angela Ehrhardt, daughter of Mrs. Margaret Ehrhardt. Miss Ehrhardt is a SSRCS graduate from the class of 2010, and a graduate from Geibel High School, 2014. She has a minor in Spanish from Seton Hill University, where she also has degrees in Psychology and Theology. Angela is currently attending graduate school at the University of Pittsburgh where she is pursuing her Masters in Applied Developmental Psychology. She is a member of Saint Anne's Parish where she serves as a Eucharistic Minister and 1st Grade Faith Formation Teacher.

2020-21 REGISTRATION/INTENT FORMS

Thank you to everyone who has returned their Registration/Intent forms. If you have not filled out the forms, please do so and return to the office ASAP. This helps us plan for the upcoming year. It also gives you the opportunity to secure your spot early for the 2020-21 school year. If you have any concerns or issues contact me at caiello@sssbv.org . (Extra copy attached)

FACTS

The FACTS registration is open for the 2020-2021 school year. You can go on to FACTS and apply now, using the 2018 W2 figures until you receive the 2019 W2 figures. FACTS will charge a \$35 application fee. However, if you apply by March 15th, 2020, we will return the \$35 fee to you in the form of a tuition credit on your 2020-2021 statement. We encourage all families to complete the registration forms and the online FACTS financial aid application by March 15th, because awards are distributed on a first-come, first serve basis. We try to keep the proportion of aide to each family at the same level every year. We are unable to estimate tuition amounts without a completed FACTS form. However, once the financial aid is processed, we can/will work with you to ensure that you receive funding from every source in which you qualify. Our goal is not to create a financial hardship for anyone, so there are plenty of payment options available, such as monthly, semi-monthly, weekly, every other week, etc. to accommodate various pay schedules.



Principal's News
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Soccer

Registration is now open for the 2020 spring soccer season. Soccer is for students in grades 3-7. The needed forms are attached. Please email MStockey@sssbv.org with any questions.

Support SSRCS and Earn a 90% State Tax Credit

Qualified contributors to the *Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit* (EITC) program earn a **90% state tax credit** while directing their contribution to St. Sebastian Regional Catholic School Scholarship Fund.

Originally limited to businesses, **the program expanded in 2014 to allow qualified individuals to also take part** in the program. Every year, scores of business and individuals enjoy EITC tax benefits while helping students who would not otherwise be able to afford a Catholic education.

FEBRUARY CONFERENCES: February 25, 2020 (Change of date – Originally Feb. 18 – Now Feb. 25)

Parent teacher conferences will be held Tuesday, February 25, 2020. Conference time sign-ups will be sent out later. We will, again, be using Sign-Up Genius for you to schedule your conference. There is no school that day, but students are welcome and encouraged to attend conferences with their parents.

SKATE NIGHT

SSRCS family skate night is Thursday, February 19, 2020 from 6:30-9:00 at Valley Skate Center at 590 Galiffa Drive, Donora PA 15033. Admission is \$6.00 and skate rental are \$3.00. Skate helpers are also available for \$3.00 and there will be concession specials as well. We hope to see you all there for a night of roller skating fun!



Thank you to everyone who helped make CSW a huge success. Attached is a letter about all the exciting things that took place.



Principal's News
February 3, 2020



OPEN HOUSE FOR NEW FAMILIES

Sunday, February 9, 2020, from 12:30-2:30, we will be sponsoring an Open House for new families. Please share this information with anyone you know who may be interested in our school.

VOLLEYBALL JERSEYS

We are looking for sponsors for volleyball jerseys. Sponsors will be recognized at all home games at the admission table. Please contact Mrs. Stockey at mstockey@sssbv.org if you are interested in sponsoring.

VACUUM CLEANER



Due to the generosity of an anonymous donor, SSRCS was able to purchase a new Dyson Ball bagless upright vacuum cleaner with a 5-year warranty!!! Thank you, Ted said it's awesome!

MARDI GRAS DIOCESAN MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE

All students grade 6-8 are welcome to attend a dance at Queen of Angels from 6:30pm-9:00pm on Saturday, February 29, 2020. Admission is \$5 – See attached flyer.



KINDERGARTEN SCREENING & REGISTRATIONS

Kindergarten Screening and Registration will be held Friday, March 20, 2020 for incoming Kindergarten students. More information to follow.

UNIFORM POLICY REMINDER

With the start of the new year, ALL students (with the exception of the Pre-K 3 class) should be wearing the mandatory, red banded bottom polo with the embroidered SSRCS emblem. The polo is sold exclusively at Schoolbelles. The following link will direct you to the uniform policy on the SSRCS website www.sssbv.org => Family Resources => School Policies and Forms => Dress Code for 2019-20 <https://www.sssbv.org/familyresources/PublishingImages/Pages/default/Dress%20Code%20for%202019-20.pdf>



Principal's News
February 3, 2020



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 02-07-2020** Noon Dismissal, Dress Down Day
- 02-09-2020** Open House for New Families, 12:30pm-2:30pm
- 02-11-2020** Mass 10:00
- 02-14-2020** Valentine's Day Party, 1:30 pm & Sarris Candy Sale Begins
- 02-17-2020** No School-President's Day
- 02-18-2020** SCHOOL IN SESSION (change from the original calendar)
- 02-25-2020** NO CLASSES – PARENT CONFERENCES; Act 80 Day (change from the original calendar)
- 02-26-2020** Ash Wednesday Mass 9:00am

- 03-02-2020** PTG Meeting at 3:30pm
- 03-06-2020** Noon Dismissal, Dress Down Day
- 03-07-2020** CYO Volleyball Begins
- 03-19-2020** End of 3rd Quarter
- 03-20-2020** Kindergarten Screening and Registration
- 03-31-2020** Mass with Bishop Malesic at 10:00

#SSRCStrong

Catholic Schools' Week
2020



SUNDAY

Thank you to all the families who spoke at a Mass for the start of Catholic Schools Week. Your commitment to a Catholic education is greatly appreciated. The students who spoke represented our school well and shared many excellent reasons why St. Sebastian Regional Catholic School is a great choice when choosing an education. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive!

MONDAY - Community

The students took time in the morning to sketch pictures of the local businesses on Broad Avenue and decorate placemats for the Mon Valley Hospital. The sketch will be framed and presented to the business with a "Thank You for being a Good Neighbor". This gesture is to help build a positive bond between us and those who are a part of our neighborhood.

TUESDAY - Volunteers

Our school could not be successful without the generosity of our volunteers. The time, energy and talent they share with us creates a stronger school community. A buddy activity took place to create "Thank You" cards and flowers for these special people. Buddy activities provide opportunities for the older students to be role models for our younger students and it is amazing to watch.

WEDNESDAY - Nation

Today's theme for Catholic Schools Week was Nation! Our students started the day by wearing camouflage, or anything patriotic and brought in snack items to send overseas to our military men and women. We also had 2 active members of the armed forces come to our school and shared so many personal stories with our students. They were working together with our kids on the LEGO wall, and they answered every single question that was asked by all of the students.

Along with other activities throughout the day, there is a special story going around about a 104 year old Marine Corps veteran who is asking for people to send him Valentine's Day cards this year. Our students made some heartwarming cards for this honorable man and we will be sending them out to California to make his wish come true!❤️🙏

THURSDAY - Vocation and 100th Day

Sister Geri came and spoke to the student body about her calling to follow God. Our students made thank you cards for all of the Priests and Sisters who devote their life to God's work. For the 100th Day activities we split into buddy groups and spent the afternoon exploring different ways to experience the number 100! 3rd Grade even sang a song about it!

FRIDAY - Students

Catholic Schools Week would not be possible if it was not for the students, who are a part of the SSRCS community. Our morning started with a wonderful prayer service led by 3rd grade and then our students completed the building project that was started on Monday. Buddy Activities soon started with Bingo and proceeded into a group lunch. Students made their own personal bags of trail mix for the big event that was to take place next! Our MPR turned into a VIP movie extravaganza where the children watched Aladdin!

SATURDAY- Family

Don't let anyone dim your GLOW! was the theme for this year's family fun night. This was a Catholic School's Week for the books. We were able to have a meal together as a school family, enjoy games, dancing, face painting, and take tons of pictures in the photo booth. We'd like to say thank you to everyone that helped make this week possible. We'd also like to thank our families for choosing a Catholic education here at St. Sebastian Regional Catholic School! We are going to continue to shine brighter and brighter and we take great pride in doing so.

PENNY WARS

WOW!! The generosity of the SSRCS Community left me speechless. All week the students battled for the honor of being in first place. The true winners are the organizations that will benefit from your kindness. As a whole school, we raised over \$2,000. In the lower grades Preschool took first place. The upper grade honor went to fifth grade. Fifth grade left me speechless when they asked if they could share their place with the third graders. They saw how hard they worked to help others and wanted to recognize them. This act of kindness is what we all strive to be....thinking of others and wanting to share our good fortune with them.