



CONNECTIONS

December 6, 2018

Letter from the Principal

Important Dates

Friday, December 7

- End of 1st Trimester
- Open House & Tour: 9:00 AM
- Noon Dismissal
- Ext Day/Kids Club Open

Sunday, December 9

- Jingle Bell Run

Tuesday, December 11

- Advent Prayer Service: 8:35AM

Wednesday, December 12

- Parents' Club: 7:00 PM

Thursday, December 13

- School Mass (4): 9:00 AM
- Report Cards
- Teachers' Christmas Lunch

Friday, December 14

- Free Dress & Pizza Lunch
- Family Movie Night: 6:30 PM

Tuesday, December 18

- Advent Prayer Service: 8:35AM

Thursday, December 20

- Award Assembly: 8:45 AM
- Christmas Program: 1:30 & 7

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Submit Connections articles to:

M. Mary: m.ancich@stbens.net by
3:00 PM Tuesday.

Dear St. Benedict Catholic School Families,

There is a lot going on around school as we celebrate Advent, prepare report cards, practice for the Christmas Pageant, host new families, all while prepping for a busy Christmas Break that will see construction workers back in the building finishing some of our summer projects! In all the hustle and bustle I wanted to share some "good news" items from around the school.

I am very happy to announce that Senora Altenhofen is "embarazada"! She took advantage of this announcement and explained to her classes that embarazada is an example of a Spanish word that sounds like an English word (embarrassed) but means something completely different. For those of you who do not know the Spanish word, it means pregnant. She and her husband John are expecting their new addition in June! ¡Felicidades Senora!

In the last few weeks the St. Benedict community has contributed \$20,000 of additional funding toward our Capital Campaign. That means we are only \$5,000 away from our \$25,000 goal! (If we are able to raise \$25,000 we have a donor who will match it.) Visit the website to add your donation to the total and put us over the top: <https://www.stbens.net/school/giving/capital-campaign/>

The Middle School Science lab has a new toy. While attending a Technology conference last month Ms. Lisi was the lucky winner of a brand new, next generation Promethean Board. We are in the process of updating our interactive white boards so it was great timing. Congratulations Ms. Lisi!

In other news...

2019-2020 School Year - Tomorrow, December 7th is also our next Open House as we prepare for the 2019-2020 school year. This event, at 9:00 AM is a chance for families to tour the school, meet our staff, and see us in action. If you have a neighbor, a friend, or a relative who is thinking about schooling options for their kids please invite them to this event. If you are on Facebook, please check out the school's page and "share" this event with your friends.

Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Grant Application - I would encourage anyone who is concerned about paying tuition costs for the 2019-2020 school year to fill out an application. This application will make your family eligible for the tuition assistance offered by the Archdiocesan Fulcrum Foundation as well as tuition assistance and instructions for fillin offered by St. Benedict School and Parish.

These applications are due on Friday, January 4th!

More information about it out can be found online at the Fulcrum Foundation's website: <https://fulcrumfoundation.org/grants-and-programs/tuition-assistance>.

Brian Anderson, Principal

St. Benedict Catholic School

New! Robotics Club

The St. Benedict's Robotics Club is coming back! We will be exploring robots, coding, sensors, and real-world applications of technology in this hands-on club. St. Benedict students in Grades 5 through 8 are encouraged to join. We will be meeting on Tuesdays and Fridays during lunch/recess starting the week of January 14th. A \$50 registration fee per student covers equipment upgrades for the club. Questions? Please contact Sarah Heath (s.heath@stbens.net) or Gabriel Torres (gtorres@alumni.nd.edu).

Scrip News

- **Chinook Book:** Get your Chinook Books and apps while they last! Last day to purchase is Friday, Dec. 7.
- **Holiday Contest:** This Friday is the last day of the Holiday Scrip Contest and also the Teacher Gift of Scrip. Please turn in your orders and gifts by Friday afternoon to be counted in the contest. So far, in the contest for highest participation, we have a tie between 1st and 2nd grade for the ice-cream float party. The class(es) with \$6,000 or higher in total sales will win a pizza party.
- **E-Scrip Mobile App:** Register at www.escrip.com. Group name: St Benedict School. Group ID#8566846. You can purchase gift cards via your phone, paying by check or credit card.
- **Buy Scrip Cards:** Wednesday and Friday 8:15 AM-8:45, or other times from Ms. Mary. Also after Sunday morning Masses or through your Thursday envelope.

Chess Wizards

Chess Wizards is a premier chess education company providing fun, informative and challenging chess lessons to students. Chess Wizards teaches children many important life concepts, such as learning the ability to win graciously and accept defeat with dignity and sportsmanship. Students will be divided into groups according to their chess experience. At the end of this session, each student will have had the chance to participate in a mini-chess tournament.

Register online at www.ChessWizards.com.

Questions? Call 866.949.4386

Family Movie Night

Please join us for movie night on December 14 at 6:30 p.m. This month we are watching "Smallfoot". Proceeds will go to help purchase supplies for Extended Day! Pizza and baked goods will be available for sale. Pre-order pizza dinners are also available for \$20 and include four baked goods! Pre-order forms are attached to the Parents Club email and also available in the school office. Please turn in pre-order forms and payment to Ms. Mary by noon on December 14.

Candy Grams

The Kindergarten and 8th grade classes are working together to sell candy grams in December. All proceeds will go to St. Lawrence, our sister parish in Zambia, to help fund the operation of their school. Our goal is to sell over 1500 candy grams. Each candy gram is worth one candy cane and costs \$1 or purchase 10 and get one free. The candy gram forms are included in today's Thursday envelope. Extra candy gram forms are available in the office. The Candy Grams will be delivered to students on Friday, December 21.

North Central Little League

If your player lives or goes to school within our boundary than he/she is eligible to play for 2019 Season. In addition, the Challenger program has been launched for every kid to play ball. For more information please check out programs, season & registration info @ www.NCLLBall.club. Registration deadline is January 20.

Parish News

Immaculate Conception: The feast of the Immaculate Conception (a Holy Day of Obligation) falls on Saturday, Dec. 8th! Mass will be at 9AM in the church. Please be aware that incense will be used during Mass.

Advent Resources: Looking for fun ideas this Advent for the family, or want to learn more about common Advent traditions? Visit our website: parish.stbens.net/advent for fun activities, reflections, events happening during Advent, Christmas Mass times and more!