



ST. SEBASTIAN PARISH SCHOOL'S

# BRICK LOT *Bulletin*

August 2018

## From the Principal's Office



Welcome to the new school year! I'm excited to welcome back our returning students, families, teachers and staff. I hope you all will join me in extending a warm welcome to our new students, families, and teachers as well.

St. Sebastian Parish School is a great community of education and faith, and I consider myself lucky to be helping to lead this community as we begin the 2018-19 school year.

### New Teachers

We are pleased to welcome the following new teachers. Michelle Pillar will be teaching third grade. Michelle has 17 years of teaching experience, most recently in West Virginia. Megan Ritchie will be teaching junior high science and health. She comes to St. Sebastian after four years of teaching junior high at St. Mary's School in Massillon. Although not new to St. Sebastian, this year Scott Mason will take on the role of enrichment teacher, in addition to his roles as librarian and band director.

### Dress Code

This year we have made several small changes to the dress code. I will summarize a few here, but please be sure to consult the dress code policy if you have any questions. Shoes: This year Sperry or topsider style shoes are acceptable, but please adhere to the non-marking soles requirement, and athletic or casual shoes are still not permitted. Socks: In addition to the traditional knee-high socks or tights, girls may wear any other style of sock that covers the ankle bone (no "no-show" styles). Physical Education: Students in grades 4-8 may wear any plain, solid color shirt or pair of shorts (no school-purchased shirt required). Dress Down: Leggings will be permitted as long as the sweater or blouse worn is fingertip length front and back. Shorts must also be fingertip length with no holes. Spirit Wear: Spirit Wear will be again be allowed on Fridays

except during Lent and Advent. Thank you for your cooperation in adhering to the dress code as we help our students learn to carry themselves with dignity as one of God's creations.

### Junior High Spanish

This year the Spanish curriculum will undergo some major changes. Partly in response to parent surveys that requested stronger preparation for high school-level language learning, junior high students will be taking Spanish classes twice a week, with the goal of covering the coursework for a typical Spanish I class over the course of the two years of junior high. Palma Sferro will teach these classes in addition to teaching Spanish to younger students. More details will be provided soon. Thank you to the School Advisory Committee for their work on this initiative. Please know that you may contact any member of the committee ([sac@students.stsebastian.org](mailto:sac@students.stsebastian.org)) or myself if you have any ideas or concerns you would like to share.

### Summer Updates

Thanks to our maintenance crew for all their hard work over the summer! In addition to their many annual cleaning and repair projects, they have replaced the carpet in three of the classrooms and installed four new Smartboards. In keeping with our technology plan and the widespread access many of our students have to Chromebook laptops (all students in grades 6-8 will be issued their own Chromebook again this year), the school purchased new Chromebooks for all of our K-8 teachers using funds dedicated to professional development. These "two-in-one" laptops have capabilities of both a tablet and a computer, and we are happy to provide our teachers with these great educational resources in an effort to further personalize the learning for each student.

### Teacher Training

The week before school, our teachers will receive training related to the new Chromebooks as we welcome international Google expert Eric Curts to St. Sebastian once again. I have no doubt he will pass along a great deal of information and inspiration to our teachers! Our teachers and staff will also spend time reviewing and reinforcing the school's safety plan. Please know that school safety remains our top priority, and we consistently discuss, evaluate and update it as needs arise. The teachers will also spend one day together at the Jesuit Retreat House in Parma. The theme of the day's retreat is "Accompanying God's Children: The Gift and Vocation of Teaching." Attending Mass together and spending the day nourishing our minds and spirits is the perfect way to start the new school year. Here's to a whole year of nourishing the minds and spirits of your students!

Yours in Christ,

Anthony Rohr  
Principal

**SPECTACULAR**  
The Spectacular Has Moved to Spring!  
Save the Date:  
**March 2, 2019**

### Questions or Suggestions?

Questions or suggestions for the newsletter? Please email Anne Dennée, Newsletter Editor, at [Anne@DenneeFamily.com](mailto:Anne@DenneeFamily.com).

## From the STEM Coordinator



This past May was very busy for St. Sebastian students in the realm of STEM. Following our highly successful STREAM Night, we still had quite a bit of work to do! Students in grades six and eight embarked on visits to Camp Christopher, during which the sixth grade learned about erosion and brainstormed ways to help prevent it in the future. Meanwhile, the eighth-graders had a crash course in biomimicry. It was the first step in forming a lasting partnership with Camp Christopher for many years to come. In the 2018-2019 school year we are planning to bring our seventh-graders back to camp to implement their erosion solutions, and the sixth- and eighth-graders will again return for more learning as well.

Our Gravity Racing Challenge team (grades 5-7) overcame tremendous odds and built five cars, all of which were raced on May 20 during the All-American Soap Box Derby's Gravity Racing Challenge. For a while, it looked as though we wouldn't be able to race at all, following the fire in the lab that damaged the cars and melted the protective Styrofoam parts. After replacing parts and passing inspections, all of our team members were given the opportunity to go down the famous hill once in a Soap Box Derby car during team day, and they had a ball! Unfortunately, on the day of the race, all of our cars came in second place in each heat, resulting in a much shorter race day than last year! All in all, the drivers had fun, and they learned about tools, cars, and teamwork. We will be racing four cars next year, and our team will be stronger than ever!

In June our Garden Club began meeting on Mondays for some harvesting and, well mostly, weeding. This year we had planned to transplant seedlings from the lab into our transformed garden, but God had other plans. The fire suffocated most of our seedlings, so we again had to purchase seedlings from Graf Growers. This year, since we were a bit late, we were limited in

our choices, so we are currently growing tomatoes, Brussels sprouts, celery, basil, cilantro, and collard greens. We have already harvested lettuce and lots of delicious strawberries, and we have purchased new polymer timber to create an additional 16 beds for next year. With God's grace we will begin anew in the spring and continue harvesting as much as we can for the Good Samaritan Hunger Center. I'd like to offer a special thank you to Anysia Reimund, Arabelle Loyed, Anne Rea, and the Petit and Rothkopf families for their help throughout the summer.

Also in June we had a small group of students attend the University of Akron's Women in Engineering Camp. This weeklong camp encouraged young ladies to explore various areas in the field of engineering. Attendees included Abbey Monaghan, Anne Rea, Fiona Yori, Sydney Borges, and Julia Pentasuglio. They went on a field trip every day and created multiple things including their own pinball machines! Julia went on to win an award for her bridge design. Nice work, ladies!

In August several teachers will be attending the Diocese of Cleveland's STREAM Academy to acquire new skills to share with their students this school year. I will also be teaching a module about our Global Cardboard Challenge to other teachers in the diocese. We love to share our gifts with others! In addition, our teachers will also be attending another Google workshop taught by Eric Curts. If you "Google him," you'll learn about all the amazing things he plans to present to our teachers. We will, in turn, share this knowledge with your children. We are looking forward to building upon our fantastic STEM foundation this year by incorporating even more technology and hands-on opportunities. Stay tuned!

Yours with Christ,  
Mrs. Kelly Gupta

## News and Notes



### Girls on the Run

Every member of the St. Sebastian's Girls on the Run team finished the 5k race that marked the end of the program last May, including some of the parents of our participants! Congratulations to sixth-graders Lola Hall, Reese Kelly, Claire Kinkelaar, Sophia Magee, and Gianna Pillitiere; fifth-graders Sienna Byard, Kathleen Jones, Rowan Kelly, Lilianna Williams, Zoey Zachardy, and Anna Zahoranski; and fourth-graders Catalina Boville, Molly Catalano, Violet Gibbs, Ellie Salisbury, and Alexis Wentz. Thank you to coaches Mary Heffern, Molly Karg, Mari O'Neill, and Stacey Zahoranski for all their time and dedication to the team.

### HALO Leadership Retreat

Congratulations to the following students who participated in a leadership retreat sponsored by the HALO Foundation: Kathryn Kastelic, Julia Pentasuglio, Anne Rea, Andy Thomas, and Sophie Walker. These students, who were nominated by their teachers, spent three days in June developing their teamwork and leadership skills with other middle school and high school students from our community.

### Power of the Pen

Congratulations to last year's seventh-grade Power of the Pen team, which earned third place in Ohio in the PenOhio state competition at the College of Wooster on May 25. The team included Emma Doucet, Kathryn Kastelic, Julia Pentasuglio, Elizabeth Schlueter, Andy Thomas, and Ella Thomas. Thank you to moderators Sally Weakland and Maggie Blischak for another great year!!

# Congratulations Eighth Grade Graduates



## 2017-2018 Academic Achievement & Scholarship Recipients

### ARCHBISHOP HOBAN HIGH SCHOOL

Moreau Scholarship	Sawyer Huckabee
Norman Maynard Scholarship	Veronica Savitski
Ledgends of Holy Cross Scholarship	Brianna Foster
Richard J. Duffy Memorial Scholarship	Brianna Foster, Sophia Stahl
Daniel J. Dietzler Memorial Scholarship	Sawyer Huckabee
Knight Award	Veronica Savitski
Fr. Dujarie Scholarship	Noah Bates
Alumni Legacy Scholarship	Brianna Foster

### ST. VINCENT-ST. MARY HIGH SCHOOL

Irish Academic Scholarship	Benjamin Phillip, Nicholas Senko, Xavier Vesco
Wheeler Family Green & Gold Scholarship	Michael Eickhoff, Tommy Gupta, Riley Jennings, Tariq Montgomery, Andrew Powell, Michael Puglia, Xavier Vesco
The Bader Family Scholarship	Macy Askea
The Hanlon Family Scholarship	Tommy Gupta
Irish Opportunity Scholarship	Tariq Montgomery
Leo P. Longville Memorial Scholarship	George Berger
Gilbride Memorial Scholarship	Tyler Fram
Ray Tricomi Memorial Scholarship	Macy Askea, Michael Puglia
John A. Trecaso Scholarship	Tariq Montgomery
Lynch Family Scholarship	George Berger
Ralph C. Wheeler Scholarship	Luka Krejsa
Jim Kelly Memorial Scholarship	Riley Jennings
Newt Henry Memorial Scholarship	Andrew Powell
Henkel Family Scholarship	Tyler Fram
Freshman Marching Band Scholarship	George Berger

### OUR LADY OF THE ELMS HIGH SCHOOL

The Beck Family Foundation Scholarship	Vita Dee Hershberger
The Virginia and Herman Behrle Scholarship	Vita Dee Hershberger

### WALSH JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL

The Gerstenmaier Scholarship	Dominic Mastromatteo, Emily Skiera
Pedro Arrupe Scholarship	Dominic Mastromatteo
Outstanding Achievement Award	Irish Sullivan

### FIRESTONE HIGH SCHOOL

International Baccalaureate Program	Stephanie Beitko, Cassia Chivers, Nicholas Cody, Dominic Gasper, Owen Quinn
Project Lead the Way Engineering Program	Nicholas Cody, Dominic Gasper, Owen Quinn
Visual Performing Arts Program	Cassia Chivers

### ADDITIONAL AWARDS

Deacon Terry Peacock, Knights of Columbus Scholarship	Tyler Fram
HASA Youth Christian Service Scholarship	Brianna Foster, Tariq Montgomery
St. Irene Principal's Scholarship	Tyler Fram
Father Byrider Award	Cassia Chivers, Xavier Vesco
Daughters of the American Revolution Citizenship Award	Brianna Foster, Riley Jennings, Dominic Mastronatteo, Veronica Savitski
St. Sebastian Sanctuary Society Scholarship	Dominic Mastromatteo
Athlete of Character Award	Macy Askea, Nicholas Senko
Student Christian Athletic Award	Christopher Branham, Cassia Chivers



# ST. SEBASTIAN PARISH

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## SCHOOL CALENDAR AND IMPORTANT DATES

### AUGUST

Welcome Picnic for New Families	August 16 (Thursday), 5:30-7 p.m.
Welcome Back Open House	August 19 (Sunday), 12-2 p.m.
First Day of School (grades 1-8)	August 21 (Tuesday), 7:55 a.m.
Kindergarten Orientation Sessions	August 21-23 (Tuesday-Thursday), 8-9 a.m.
Preschool Orientation Sessions	August 21-22 (Tuesday-Wednesday), times TBA
Kindergarten Half Day	August 24 (Friday), 8-10:30 a.m.
First Full Day of Kindergarten	August 27 (Monday)
First Day of Preschool	August 27 (Monday)
Welcome Back Coffee	August 27 (Monday) 7:30-9 a.m.

### SEPTEMBER

No School – Labor Day	September 3 (Monday)
Pasta Dinner, sponsored by Parish Council	September 8 (Saturday)
HASA Meeting	September 13 (Thursday), 7 p.m.
Confirmation Meeting (8th Grade)	September 24 (Monday), 7-8 p.m.

### OCTOBER

Picture Day	October 2 (Tuesday)
Parent/Teacher Conferences	October 3-4 (Wednesday-Thursday)
No School, Teacher Professional Day	October 5 (Friday)
No School, Teacher Professional Day	October 12 (Friday)
Trunk or Treat Social	October 19 (Friday)
Monster Mash	October 20 (Saturday), 6-8 p.m.
End of First Quarter	October 26 (Friday)
Halloween Parade	October 26 (Friday)
Confirmation Meeting (8th Grade)	October 29 (Monday), 7-8 p.m.

### SAVE THE DATE

- Night at the Races  
**NEW DATE** ~ November 3
- Explorer Day ~ November 16
- Ladies Christmas Boutique  
**NEW DATE** ~ November 18
- Thanksgiving Break ~ November 21-26
- Celebrity Night Social  
**NEW DATE** ~ November 29
- Winter Music Program ~ December 6