



Website: [www.smsberea.org](http://www.smsberea.org)

February 2016  
School News

Mr. Andrew Carner  
Principal

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### A Note from the Principal

As I write this Newsletter, we are making final preparations for Catholic Schools' Week. We hope your family will attend the exciting events planned throughout the week.

The annual Ice Cream Social and Family Dance will be held on Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 8:00pm. This is always a FUN evening with lots of ice cream and dancing to the DJ. A special thank you to the PTO for their tireless work in preparing for the annual Open House to be held on Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, from 12:30 to 3:00pm. In addition, we would like to give a big thank you to the parents and Junior High students who have volunteered to talk with our visitors about academics, extra curricular clubs, and the many activities SMS offers. The students will participate in a Prayer Service on Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00am and students may dress in SMS Spirit wear or the school uniform; the "Breakfast with Parents" is scheduled for Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 7:00 to 8:30am; and the Preschool Art Show and Concert is ready to go on Wednesday evening, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm. In addition, some of our students will participate in the SMS Annual "Spelling Bee" on Tuesday afternoon to see who will qualify to represent SMS in Washington D.C. There will also be a special surprise for the students on Wednesday afternoon. The final event will be an all school Mass on Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, at 1:50pm. All of these events are specifically planned to allow our teachers, students, and parents to spend time together as a community. This is always a busy and enjoyable week and I invite you to join us.

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 to 6:30pm. These conferences are **not mandatory** and will only be scheduled at the teacher or parent request for students having difficulty in a subject. A form was included with your child's 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report Card that will be sent home on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Parents are asked to complete this form and return it the next day. My office will prepare a schedule and notify parents of their conference time.

Hopefully you have received your Re-Registration packet for the 2016-2017 School Year. The FACTS payment plan will again offer an 11-month payment plan with the first installment due in July. The registration fee remains at **\$250 PER FAMILY Kindergarten through Gr. 8**. This fee must be paid at the time of registration and is non-refundable. Also, the **Preschool registration fee will remain \$100 PER FAMILY** and is also due at the time of registration. Fr. John will continue to require that parishioners contribute to the church on a weekly basis and to donate to the school by using the blue envelope that is included with your monthly church mailing. Please complete the re-registration forms and return along with fees to the school office no later than **FEBRUARY 29<sup>th</sup>**.

On a final note, congratulations to Mrs. Rolinc's and her husband, who are awaiting the birth of their first child this spring! We are all very excited for them. Mrs. Traci Bodamer will be the substitute for the First Grade during the last few weeks of school. Mrs. Bodamer has been affiliated with SMS for some time and was a Kindergarten teacher in our building a few years back. She is fully certified and very familiar with our procedures. We are fortunate to have Mrs. Bodamer on hand when the stork arrives!

### **SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY**

SMS continues to practice safety protocols and drills. Currently, we are planning to hold the second Lock Down Drill for this school year - we are mandated to hold three. The faculty and staff are well prepared to handle an emergency. The Berea Police and Fire Departments attend our safety drills to help insure that our Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) continues to address all safety concerns within our building and on our campus. The school's EOP is on file with all first responders and the State of Ohio.

The Berea Police Department has assigned two School Resource Officers to SMS as liaisons. These officers are familiar with our school, assist us with drills, and patrol our campus. We are grateful for their vigilance and expertise.

Visitors to the school know that SMS is locked down 24 hours a day – everyday. Parents, friends, and guests of SMS can only enter the building via the office. NO person will be permitted past the office unless arrangements to visit a classroom, volunteer, or attend a parent/teacher conference have been made in ADVANCE. Parents picking up children from our Day Care Program during school hours will be asked to remain in the office area and their child will be brought to them. The administration continues to attend Safety and Security Workshops offered by the Berea Board of Education.

### **SCIENCE FAIR**

The seventh and eighth grade students have been working for weeks on their Science Fair projects. Under the direction of Mrs. Smith, the students were introduced to, implemented, and have an understanding of the Scientific Process. This concept is a major part of their Science curriculum. I have witnessed first hand in the classroom how this unit was presented to the students. Much time and effort has been devoted to this course of study, and the results are outstanding. The students are well prepared and ready for their presentation to a panel of judges during our Science Fair on January 28th. Compliments are extended to Mrs. Smith for a job well done. Science Fair awards will be presented to the students for 1<sup>st</sup> Place, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, and Honorable Mention. We will keep you posted with the winners of the 2016 Science Fair.



### **CONCERTS ARE COMING!**

Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 2 students will be performing a WINTER VOCAL CONCERT on Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m., in the church. The children, under the direction of Mrs. Roman, have been practicing and are very anxious to perform for all their friends and families.

Also, mark your calendars to attend the TWINKLE CONCERT. Mr. Fortini and Mrs. Lucas have been preparing our youngest musicians to perform on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m., in the school gym. Everyone is invited to attend.

## **PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES**

**February 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>**

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m., on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. This round of conferences is **optional** and will only be scheduled at the request of the teacher or parent. Conference request forms will be sent home on Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, with the 2nd Qtr. Report Card for parent's to complete and return on Monday. Those requesting a conference will be placed on the schedule and will receive a notice confirming the time of your conference.

## **EXTENDED CARE AND PRESCHOOL DAY CARE**

Our Extended Care and Preschool Day Care will be open all day to accommodate students on February 5<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Please complete and return a reservation form for your child to use the day care services on either of these days. Enjoy the long weekends!

## **STUDENT MEDICATION**

**WHEN IT IS NECESSARY FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL TO ADMINISTER PRESCRIBED MEDICATION AND OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIONS, THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES ARE TO BE FOLLOWED:**

1. All school personnel must be informed that the administration of any drug (prescription or over the counter) without the order of the physician and the permission of the patient/guardian could be interpreted as practicing medicine and is PROHIBITED by law.
2. WRITTEN REQUEST must be obtained from the physician AND the parent/ guardian before any medication (prescription or over the counter) may be administered by school personnel. The request must INCLUDE INSTRUCTIONS as to the name of the medication, dosage, time and duration of the medication, and possible side effects.
3. Medication must be in the ORIGINAL CONTAINER (child proof) and have an affixed label including the student's name, name of the medication, dosage, route of administration, and time of administration.
4. The medication and the SIGNED PERMISSION FORMS must be brought to the school by the parent/guardian.
5. New request forms must be submitted EACH school year and as necessary for changes in medication order.

## **POWER OF THE PEN**

SMS will compete in the District Power of the Pen Competition on Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. We are incredibly proud of our student writers for their talent and dedication. We will keep you posted on Team SMS!

## **DRESS DOWN DAY DRESS CODE**

Our next dress down day will be held on Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup> for Stewardship and a \$1 donation for Fr. Marty's Mission in Nairobi. Please refer to the Parent/Student Handbook for the Dress Down Day Dress Code to insure your child is dressed appropriately. Please let your daughters know that YOGA pants are not appropriate and NOT PERMITTED on dress down days. Boys must wear their pants with the waistband worn at the waist. NO hoodies are permitted. Thank you parents, for your attention to this matter.

## CARNATION SALE



*Happy Valentine's Day  
The seventh grade students are holding a  
Carnation Sale for Valentine's Day.  
Each carnation will be wrapped in tissue with  
a gift card attached and  
will be delivered on February 12<sup>th</sup>.  
Don't forget to place your order!  
All proceeds from the sale will be used for the  
Grade 7/8  
Graduation Dinner Dance held each May.*

*Order forms will be sent home or are available  
from Mrs. Patena or the school office.*

## PTO COMING EVENTS

PTO is planning some special events for February. Please be watching for information on a Father – Son Activity and a Malley's Chocolate Sale with delivery just on time for Easter.