

Saint Brigid Newsletter—Ninety-Fourth Edition, 9/7/2022

At Saint Brigid of Kildare, nourished by the Word and Sacraments, we find life in Christ by gathering disciples for worship, service, and education.

From the Principal's Desk

I observed kindergarteners today learning to use the trackpad on a Chromebook. This motion is required for them to log in to the computer, to use the NWEA standardized testing, and to navigate through any online platform for educational use. It is a motion that is not natural to students who can use an iPad before they can read. However, their teacher made the lesson fun by setting up a program for them to make a face using the click-and-drag motion.

As they were working, she would say try not to get frustrated. If you are getting frustrated, ask for help and we will do it together. When students navigated successfully through a lesson, she would say, “you did it! And you stayed calm! You didn’t let yourself get frustrated.”

When students did work themselves into a frustrated state, she would say that maybe they could say a little prayer to ask God to help them calm down.

I think often about the book, “Everything I Ever Needed To Know, I Learned In Kindergarten”. What if we, as adults, did the same things as these

kindergarteners when faced with struggles? First, try to stay calm. Second, be willing to ask others for help or to help others who are struggling. Third, and most importantly, remember that we can always turn to God for help.

Jesus said, “anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” The kindergarteners provide a wonderful example of how to do just that.

Laura E. Wilkowski



Important Dates

- 9/8: Student Council Spirit Day-K-8th Pajama Day
- 9/9: Saint Brigid Spirit Wear Day
- 9/12: NWEA Testing Begins
- 9/12: Virtual PTO Meeting 6:00pm
- 9/14: 5th Grade Mass
- 9/15: Student Council Officer Speeches & Elections
- 9/16: No School-PD Day
- 9/21: 4th Grade Mass

Student Council Elections

Student Council is our student governing body for grades 1-5 grades. Each grade will choose representative(s) to speak for their class' wishes for the year. In addition, our fifth-grade students may run for officer positions. This year, running for President are: Kelsey Dittenber and EJ Watt for Vice-President: Ella Luft and Fletcher Keyes, for Treasurer: Elliot Mitus and Nathan Perera and for Secretary: Madelynn English . Students running for officers will make speeches for the students in grades 1-5 on Thursday, September 15, 2022., with elections following later that day.

In grades 1st-5th, teachers will hold elections or selections for class representative on Monday, September 19th. If your child is interested in being included in the process, they will be bringing home a permission slip to be signed by a parent.

Student Council Spirit Day and Service Project

This month, our Middle School Student Leadership chose the Spirit Day and Service Project for the month of September. The Spirit Day is on Thursday, September 8th and will be pajama day for all students, K-8th grade. Please make sure your student wears pajamas that are appropriate for school.

The Service Project this month will be a \$1 Red & White Free Dress Day on Friday, September 23rd to raise money to benefit Sacred Heart Catholic School in Uvalde, TX.. Many students who were involved in the school shooting at Uvalde, TX have enrolled at Sacred Heart to help their healing process but are unable to cover the tuition cost. Funds raised from Saint Brigid will be donated to the scholarship fund for these students.

PTO Meetings

PTO Meetings are held monthly via Zoom on the second Monday of the month. Our first PTO meeting will be held on Monday September 12th at 6:00 pm. The Zoom link for this meeting is: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86114872879?pwd=VjVjV01qazc5NnNrT1Tc2V2gzb0dhdz09>

We highly encourage all parents to attend and provide ideas and suggestions and ask any questions they may have. Everyone is a member of PTO! Students whose parents attend the meeting will receive a free dress pass.

Scrip Program

Scrip is off and running with several new families signed up already. You can sign up via the RaiseRight app or at ShopWithScrip.com. Whether you're new or an experienced family, please remember to stop by the Scrip to Go table to fill out your TRP form which tells us how you'd like your rebates directed: your family's tuition, another family's tuition, PTO, or Guardian Angel Scholarship Fund.

Sales of physical gift cards have resumed! Scrip to Go sales will happen 2:45 - 3:15 pm, on Fridays in the school entrance. Stop by to order and pay or just to have all your questions answered.

If you're new to scrip, here are the basics:

Buy gift cards for your favorite local, regional, and national brands, and earn rebates since St. Brigid can buy the cards at a discounted price. Rebates offered vary by retailer and can exceed 10%!

The first \$100 in rebates earned by each family is directed to PTO.

Rebates earned after the first \$100 are split with 25% going to PTO and 75% going to family for tuition (can also donate to another family, Guardian Angel Scholarship Fund, or PTO).



RaiseRight™



Counseling Services

Heather O'Farrell, counselor with New Pathways, is approved to provide counseling services for students at school again this year. If you are interested in receiving counseling for your student, please obtain the required paperwork from Mr. Delaney ASAP so that we can get your student on the schedule. If you already picked up paperwork but have not yet turned it in, please do that ASAP as well. Mrs. O'Farrell has already started sessions with students who have returned all paperwork. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Wilkowski.

NWEA Testing

On Monday, September 12th, we will begin NWEA testing. Please encourage your students to do their very best to show their teachers what they remember. Also, please be sure that they have had a healthy breakfast and a good nights sleep! Testing will run for the next two weeks.

Reading Tutors Needed

We are looking for parent volunteers who would like to assist by being a weekly reading tutor with students in grades 3-5. Anyone who has at least a one hour block of time each week and is interested should contact Mrs. Wilkowski at lwilkowski@stbrigid-midland.org.

New Book Fair Format

This year, we will go with I55 Book Fairs rather than Scholastic. The change will allow us to have a larger and better selection of books including classics, Newberry and Caldecott award winners, and Christian books. We will still have many of the same books as the Scholastic book fair as well. The Book Fair will take an online format and will run from November 14-November 17th. If online sales are over \$400 we will receive a 50% commission on sales. Otherwise, we receive a 25% commission.

Lego League Robotics

Our Lego League Robotics is planning to begin next week! Due to the tremendous interest, we may need to split up the students and have a second team or form a Lego League Explore team, which is a non-competitive version for younger kids (2nd-3rd grade). With either of these second team options, we are going to need another couple of parents to volunteer to coach the team.

If you have a child in grades 3-5 who is interested in participating in Robotics this year, please email Tyler Watt at ctylervatt@yahoo.com ASAP so he can figure out how many participants to plan for.

Requirements for Volunteering in the School

Volunteers make the school function well and we welcome any and all volunteers. However, in order to ensure the safety of our students, the following are requirements of the Diocese which need to be completed **before** coming into the school to volunteer in any capacity, including chaperoning field trips and attending classroom parties:

- Complete Standards of Ministerial Behavior & Background Check Paperwork (from Parish Office)
- Complete VIRTUS training (in-person every 6 years; online every 3 years)
- Get fingerprinted at the Midland Police Department on Thursday mornings from 9-11am (only one time)



We need to start planning our float in the Midland Santa Parade on November 19th.

If you are interested in helping in any way with a float to commemorate our 100th anniversary, please join us for a planning meeting on October 11, 2022 at 11am in the Faith Formation Library.

Remember, many hands make light work.

ST. BRIGID CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Saint Brigid 100th Anniversary Alumni Celebration

OCTOBER 1, 2022

4:00 P.M. MASS FOLLOWED BY DINNER
& TOURS IN THE SCHOOL

207 ASHMAN STREET
MIDLAND, MI 48640

RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 17TH AT [HTTPS://REBRAND.LY/STBALUMNI](https://rebrand.ly/stbalumni) OR SCAN HERE

