

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



This is the second year of our partnership with ICLE, the Institute for Catholic Liberal Arts Education. This partnership has included a lot of change for us. We have new math, grammar, and history curricula. We have been shown new methodologies. We have new staff, a new pastor, and many new students. Change is an inevitable and necessary and exciting part of life. Sometimes change can be scary or can leave you with many questions.

One of the changes I want to make is to do more to foster a sense of community and open communication. To do so, I'd like to host Coffee with the Principal on the first Friday of each month at 8:05 AM in the gym. We will provide coffee or water. You may voice concerns, ask questions, or just chat. We can even choose specific topics to cover if there is interest.

While we have a partnership with ICLE for instructional practices, we also have a partnership with you, our parents. The word partner comes from the Latin *partitionem* (nominative *partitio*) "a sharing, partition, division, distribution" (Online etymology dictionary). What do we share? Well, first and foremost, we share in the teaching of our faith. We share our concerns by communicating with each other instead of about each other. We share advice and experiences so that we learn and grow from each other. We partner because we are stronger together than we can be alone. We need parent volunteers, parent ideas, and parent support. We want to develop a relationship of trust and communication.

If we can support you, our parents, in your child's academic, social, or emotional needs, we want to do so. If we can help you on your spiritual journey, please feel free to reach out. Come have a cup of coffee. Know that you are part of a community, our community here at Saint Brigid Catholic School. I hope to see you on September 6th!

Important Dates

- 8/28: Mass-Middle School ministries-8:00am
VIRTUS Training-6:00-8:30pm
- 8/29: School Picture Day-Free Dress
- 8/30: St. Brigid Spirit Wear Day
- 9/2: No School—Labor Day
- 9/4: Mass-5th grade ministries-8:00am
- 9/6: St. Brigid Spirit Wear Day
Coffee with the Principal-8:05am

Laura E. Wilkowski

Picture Day

Hicks Studio will be in the building on Thursday, August 29 for school pictures. Students may wear free dress for this occasion. Picture envelopes will be coming home with students soon to allow families to order picture packages. Even if you do not order a package, please plan to have your students photographed as the pictures will go in the class composites and in the yearbook. Those families that a picture package will also receive a yearbook at the end of the school year.

Digital Academy Calendar

You should have received an email earlier today with a link to subscribe to the Digital Academy Saint Brigid Activities Calendar. If you click on the link, it will link the calendar to your Google Calendar or Apple Calendar so you can see all school events easily. Going forward, we will be posting all school related activities on this calendar instead of the Google calendar we used last year.

Stay Connected & Mindful of Others

If you have a Facebook account, be sure to like the Saint Brigid Catholic School page and request to join the private page “ Parents of St. Brigid School Midland, MI” for lots of updates, information and reminders.



We ask every member of our school community to be mindful of what and where they post school-related videos and pictures. Please consider that there are a number of children within the school whose parents have expressed a desire that they not be photographed or recorded and then publicly posted.

If you attend a school event such as a Christmas concert, either zoom in to focus only on your child or post the video/picture only on the closed group, Parents of Saint Brigid page, and not on your page which may be seen by the general

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 5 years)
- Get fingerprinted at the Midland Police Department on Thursday mornings from 9-11am (only one time)

New Staff

We are excited to welcome our new staff members this year! Don Maloney will serve as our Middle School Science/6th Grade Homeroom teacher also with Assistant Principal. Karen Kozerski will be filling our role as Reading Specialist. We also added some new shared-time staff to the elementary grades: Heather Porrell (K-8th Art), Patricia Rea Collazo (Spanish), and Kevin Dodick (K-4 PE). Welcome to Saint Brigid!

Don't Forget!

There will be no school on Monday, September 2nd in observance of Labor Day. We DO have school on Friday, August 30th though. Enjoy your long weekend! Stay safe!

Girls Basketball

Our 5th-8th Grade Girls Basketball season is about to begin! If your daughter is interested in playing basketball this year, please have her get a permission slip from Mrs. Mitus or Ms. Corie and return it ASAP. All participants will also need to obtain a sports physical form from their doctor before participating in any practice. Practices will begin in the next week or two. Games start the week of September 9th, running through October. Games will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays. Practices will move to Tuesdays and Thursdays once games begin.

Counseling Services

Jessica Jesberg, counselor with Partners in Change, 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 Mrs. Mitus so that we can get your student on the schedule. Ms. Jesberg will pull students from their least disruptive class period to provide counseling. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Wilkowski.

PTO Meetings

PTO Meetings are held monthly virtually on the second Monday of the month at 6:00pm. 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.

A Google Meets link will be emailed before the first meeting. Our first PTO meeting will be on September 9th at 6:00 p.m.

Student Council & Officer Elections

Beginning on Tuesday, September 10th, fifth grade students may put up posters if they would like to run for a position as a student council officer. Students that are running will be required to give a speech on Tuesday, September 17th. Officer positions include President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

In grades 1st-4th, teachers will hold elections or selections with all interested students on September 17th as well. 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 meetings are held monthly from 3:00-3:45pm. A schedule of meeting dates will be sent out once student council representatives are selected.

Spirit Days and School Spirit Wear Days

New this year, **every Friday** is St. Brigid Spirit Wear day. On these days, students may wear any Saint Brigid Spirit Wear shirts with uniform shorts, skirts or pants.

In addition, each month our Student Council and Student Leadership will choose one spirit day (examples have included free dress day, twin day, dress like a storybook character, crazy hair day, crazy socks day, pajama day, etc.) **This day is the second Thursday of the month** (starting in October). These are marked for you on the school Digital Academy calendar as well.

Medications

If your child has any medication, even over the counter such as Tylenol or cough drops, we need you to complete a medical form and submit it to the office along with the medication. We are not allowed to give anything to students without a signed form from parents. If you are in need of the form, please reach out to Mrs. Mitus.

FIRST Lego League Robotics

We are looking forward to another exciting year of robotics. Our 3rd-5th graders participate in First Lego League robotics. 4th & 5th grade students compete but we allow 3rd grade students to participate and start to learn for next year. An email with more information and sign-ups will be sent out soon. The season typically runs September-beginning of December.

Math Tutors

We are in need of volunteers to provide one on one math tutoring to students, primarily in grades 3, 4, and 5. If you are interested in learning more about what this entails, please reach out to Mrs. Wilkowski. All volunteer requirements must be met in order to help.

Scrip Program

Do you and your family eat? Do you buy gas? Then you can and should participate in our SCRIP Gift Card Program. SCRIP is a gift card program that allows you to purchase a gift card at its value and earn money for both the school and for you! It is the PTO's main fundraiser of the year. If you purchase a \$100 Meijer gift card, for example, Meijer gives 3% or \$3 back to the school. Every retailer offers a different percentage rebate, some up to 25%! After you earn \$100 for the school, 75% of everything you earn comes back to you in the form of a tuition credit, hot lunch credit or rebate. Not only that, but the cards may be purchased by you, your neighbor or a relative! It is a win-win-win program! If you aren't doing SCRIP and would like to get in on earning money for the school and yourself, reach out to SCRIP Coordinator stbrigidscrip@hotmail.com or stop by the SCRIP To Go table when it is open. Due to only having one seller currently, the SCRIP table will only be open the first Friday of each month. If you are interested in learning how to work the SCRIP table, please reach out as well.



RaiseRight™



Nut Free Reminder

Just a reminder that Saint Brigid School is a nut free facility. Please do not send any product containing nuts of any kind with your student for snack or lunch. Thank you for your cooperation in helping keep all our kids safe.



School Mass Ministry Dates

AUGUST 28, 2024: MIDDLE SCHOOL
SEPTEMBER 4, 2024: 5TH GRADE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2024: 4TH GRADE
SEPTEMBER 18, 2024: 3RD GRADE
SEPTEMBER 25, 2024: 2ND GRADE
OCTOBER 2, 2024: 1ST GRADE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2024 (DEDICATION OF SCHOOL TO OUR LADY): KINDERGARTEN
OCTOBER 16, 2024: MIDDLE SCHOOL
OCTOBER 23, 2024: 5TH GRADE
OCTOBER 30, 2024: 4TH GRADE
NOVEMBER 6, 2024: 3RD GRADE
NOVEMBER 13, 2024: 2ND GRADE
NOVEMBER 20, 2024: 1ST GRADE
NOVEMBER 27, 2024: KINDERGARTEN
DECEMBER 4, 2024: MIDDLE SCHOOL
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2024 (SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION) : MIDDLE SCHOOL
DECEMBER 11, 2024: 5TH GRADE
DECEMBER 18, 2024: 4TH GRADE
JANUARY 8, 2025: 3RD GRADE
JANUARY 15, 2025: 2ND GRADE
JANUARY 22, 2025: 1ST GRADE
JANUARY 29, 2025: KINDERGARTEN
FEBRUARY 5, 2025: MIDDLE SCHOOL
FEBRUARY 12, 2025: 5TH GRADE
FEBRUARY 19, 2025: 4TH GRADE
FEBRUARY 26, 2025: 3RD GRADE
MARCH 5, 2025: 2ND GRADE
MARCH 12, 2025: 1ST GRADE
MARCH 19, 2025: KINDERGARTEN
MARCH 26, 2025: MIDDLE SCHOOL
APRIL 9, 2025: 5TH GRADE
APRIL 16, 2025: 4TH GRADE
APRIL 23, 2025: 3RD GRADE
APRIL 30, 2025: 2ND GRADE
MAY 7, 2025: 1ST GRADE
MAY 14, 2025: KINDERGARTEN
MAY 21, 2025: MIDDLE SCHOOL
MAY 28, 2025: 5TH GRADE
MAY 30, 2025: STAFF



Saint Brigid
Catholic School
A community fully alive in Christ