

FAMILY BULLETIN

Calendar

January 4: School Resumes,
Start of Third Grading Period

January 5: Godspell Jr.
Auditions for 7th Grade, 3:30 -
5:00 PM, Cafeteria

January 6: School Mass, 8:15
AM, Church

January 7: Soccer at HOME vs.
St. Philip Neri, Cleary
Playground

January 8: Boys Basketball vs
OLPH, 4:00 PM

January 9: Godspell Jr.
Auditions for Grades 4-6, 9:00
- Noon, Cafeteria

January 9: High School
Application Day, 8:00 AM

January 11: Soccer AWAY vs.
St. Edward the Confessor, 4:00
PM

January 12: Spelling Bee, 8:15
AM, Teen Center

January 12: Boys Basketball vs.
St. Mary Magdalen, 5:00 PM

January 13: Grandparent's
Club Meeting, 6:30 PM,
Cafeteria

January 14: Class Picture Day,
School Uniform Required



Faith :: Foundation :: Future.
Family

Here We Grow Again!

Apparently Santa and his elves were not merely content to drop things off at your houses on Christmas! They have also been very busy at school!

Here is just a sampling of what we have been able to improve!

- ✦ New Front Doors for the Library and Teen Center.
- ✦ A New Exterior Door for the new Prekindergarten 2 classroom.
- ✦ Improved Fencing in the Outdoor Play Area of the Loreto Early Learning Center.
- ✦ New Classroom Furnishings & Equipment in the Moving Along and Stepping Up classrooms in the Loreto Center, and in the Prekindergarten 2 and 4 classrooms in the Rainbow Building.



The Luck of the Irish Spring Gala

Plan to join us for the party of the year at the “Luck of the Irish” Spring Gala on Saturday, April 9, 2016 **in Metairie** at the Landmark Hotel (Copeland Tower). The Gala will begin at **7:30 PM**. Groups purchasing sponsorships at the Gold level or higher will also get exclusive access to the Sunset on the Lake Patron Party upstairs at the Landmark from 6:30 - 7:30 PM. Order forms will be coming home after Thanksgiving, or you can order online now at www.stbenilde.com/irish-spring.

Please note... only 40 seats remain for the Sunset on the Lake Patron Party! So get your table reserved ASAP!

Ticket order forms can be found on the school’s main website and through the main office. Paper copies will come home to families later this month!

✦A New Smart Touch Computer in the Prekindergarten 4 classroom.

✦New iStartSmart Literacy Technology in Second Grade.

✦A Television for Updated News and Photos outside the front office.

And coming over Easter Break...

✦New Classroom Furniture & Lockers in the Middle School Math Classroom (courtesy of the #iGiveCatholic campaign!).

A special thank you to the St. Benilde Men’s Club (our elves) for their help in moving furnishings over Christmas Break to make this all possible. Thank you also to our families and benefactors. Your gifts through the St. Benilde Fund and the revenue we receive from the Building Maintenance Fee make all of these improvements to the school possible. They will benefit our children for many years to come.

You can see some of the new and improved equipment on the school’s Facebook page as well!



Prepare Ye the Way

The St. St. Benilde Drama Club is proud to announce this year’s musical, *Godspell Jr*, a musical rendering of the Gospel According to St. Matthew. This popular, fast-paced, and faithful rendition of the parables, teaching, passion, suffering, and death of Jesus Christ has been delighting audiences and transforming lives for decades, and we are proud to bring it to St. Benilde School this year. The performances are set for **February 25-27, 2016** in the cafeteria.

A team of St. Benilde faculty will direct the performance. Mrs. Downey will be the Stage Director; Mrs. Lacoste will be the Choreographer; and Mr. Higgins will be the Music Director. Mr. Downey will be working behind the scenes with lighting and sound.

Students who wish to audition for a roll on stage may do so during the first week of January. **Seventh Grade students** will audition on Tuesday, January 5, from 3:30 - 5:00 PM in the cafeteria. **Students in Grades 4-6** will audition on Saturday, January 9, from 9:00 AM - Noon, also in the cafeteria. Cast lists will be posted on Monday, January 11.

For students who wish to participate, but would rather work behind the scenes instead of on-stage, Mr. Downey will be coming to each classroom during the first two weeks of January to help them sign up. Backstage rolls include stage managers, set decorators, lighting assistants, sound assistants, and construction crew. Our goal - as much as possible - is to have the students run the show under adult guidance and direction so that as many students as possible can experience the benefits of the performing arts.

If you have questions regarding on stage rolls and expectations, please contact Mrs. Downey at adowney@stbenilde.com. If you have questions regarding backstage rolls and expectations, please contact Mr. Downey at jdowney@stbenilde.com.

Student Fun Day Announced

On December 2 during the #iGiveCatholic campaign, Mr. Downey announced that we would have a Fun Day at school to celebrate our successes if we could meet and exceed the Whitman Family Foundation Challenge in just one day. Needless to say, our community did not just meet the challenge... we blew it out of the water! So to keep his promise, Mr. Downey is proud to announce that the fun day will be on **Friday, January 15, 2016**. All the details are not finalized, but students can expect plenty of time to watch movies, eat popcorn, and jump around in some awesome inflatables on this day. In the case of inclement weather, the backup day will be Friday, February 5, 2016.

Early Childhood Faculty Positions - Updates!

On January 4, 2016, St. Benilde School will open a new classroom in our Early Childhood Programs: Prekindergarten 2. This move will allow us to expand our programs, ultimately welcoming an additional 16 children to our school this year and even more in the future. Prior to the Christmas Break, the school released announcements regarding faculty positions. Attached is an update to those announcements:

Classroom	Lead Teacher	Assistant Teacher
New Beginnings	Mrs. Kelly Bassil	Ms. Alyssa Scott
Taking Steps	Mrs. Darlean Hilbun	Ms. Tori Scott (AM) Mrs. Laura Guzman (PM)
Moving Along	Mrs. Joanne Bourgeois	Mrs. Sarah Hinrichs

Classroom	Lead Teacher	Assistant Teacher
Stepping Up	Mrs. RAchel Murakami	Mrs. Kayce McFarlain
Prekindergarten 2	Mrs. Karen Brown	Mr. Kenny Marrocolli
Prekindergarten 3	Mrs. Elisa Huber	Mrs. Shannon Antonucci
Prekindergarten 4	Mrs. Ashlie Wilson	Mrs. Lynne Pilie Mrs. Kathy McCann

Children who are currently in Prekindergarten 3 & 4 will continue in their current classrooms. Families of younger ages should have received a mailing from the school over the Christmas Break informing them of which classrooms their children will be placed. Questions or concerns should be directed to Principal & Executive Director - Mr. Matt Downey - at 504-833-9894 or via email at jdowney@stbenilde.com. Families may also contact Admissions Director - Mrs. Shanon Beyerback - at 504-833-9894 or via email at sbeyerback@stbenilde.com.