

# FAMILY BULLETIN

## Calendar

September 5: Labor Day,  
**Campus Closed**

September 6: High School  
Night, 7:00 PM, Cafeteria

September 7: School Liturgy,  
8:15 AM, Church

September 7: Data Night, 7:00  
PM, Cafeteria

September 7: Girls Volleyball  
vs. SLKF, 4:45 PM, @ St.  
Clement of Rome

September 8: Flag Football  
HOME vs. OLPH, 4:00 PM

September 10: Cross Country  
Meet, 7 AM, City Park

September 12: Mission Club  
Meeting, 3:15 PM, School

September 14: School Liturgy,  
8:15 AM, Church

September 14: Grandparent's  
Club Meeting, 7:00 PM,  
Cafeteria

September 16: End of First  
Interim

September 17: Cross Country  
Meet, 7:00 AM,

September 18: SBS Family  
Mass, 11:00 AM, Church



## Data Night

Attention parents of children who took the ACT Aspire at St. Benilde School last spring... This coming **Wednesday September 7 at 7:00 PM in the Cafeteria**, we will hold our annual data night. This night is an opportunity for you to not only get your child(ren)'s test scores from last year, but learn about the types and purposes of standardized tests, how to read your child's scores, how St. Benilde performed overall, and how we plan to use the ACT Aspire and STAR tests to improve student learning. Even if your child(ren) did not take the ACT Aspire, you are also invited to attend. Finally, you are unable to attend, you child(ren)'s scores will be sent home on Thursday.

## High School Night

We look forward to seeing students and families in Grades 6 and 7 for our annual High School Night on **Tuesday September 6 at 7:00 PM in the Cafeteria**. During this night, you will have the opportunity to learn more about the high school application



process. More important, you will get the chance to interact with Admissions Directors and other officials of the Catholic high schools of the Archdiocese of New Orleans Family of Schools. This is a great way to get a jump start on the application process and finding your “best fit” school. *And pass the word... all 6th and 7th grade students in East Jefferson Catholic Schools are invited to attend.*

### ***Schools Confirmed to Attend***

Archbishop Chapelle High School

Archbishop Rummel High School

Academy of Our Lady

St. Augustine High School

Brother Martin High School

Cabrini High School

De la Salle High School

Dominican High School

Holy Cross High School

Mount Carmel Academy

Sacred Heart Academy

St. Katharine Drexel Prep

Ursuline Academy

## **Confetti Eggs for the Fair**

This is just a friendly reminder that we will be collecting **empty,rinsed eggshells** in **their carton each Friday!** Please keep in mind that we will **continue** to collect eggshells **every Friday until October 7th, 2016.** **The specifics of the collection are listed below.** We encourage you to continue donating **empty,rinsed eggshells** for the Confetti Booth, as that is the most **POPULAR BOOTH** in the entire fair, next to the Chicken on a Stick Booth, of course! Our children love cracking confetti eggs on their friends and family! We need to have enough eggshells to get us through the entire fair, which is around **50 large** garbage bags filled with cartons of eggs! So, we truly need your help in order to accomplish this goal and we are positive that our families can help us meet, if not exceed this goal!

- Please bring in **empty,rinsed eggshells** in **their carton** every Friday until **October 7th, 2016.** You can place the carton of eggshells in the **box** that will be located in your **child's classroom.** **Please note** that they **can not** be dropped off in the **cafeteria** any longer and they must be placed in the box in the classroom.
- **Please label** each carton with **your child's name and grade with a black marker.** That way, we can keep track of individuals that donated and their grade.

- In return for your donation, you can earn 1 Benilde Buck per egg or 1 Dress Down Day for a carton. **However, there will be a 5 Dress Down Day maximum for your donation. So, the most Dress Down Days that you can earn is 5 for your donation. However, please do not let that discourage you! We need your eggs!**
- In order to keep the momentum going, we are launching the **fiercest class competition** that the school has ever seen! **We can not wait to see which class wins! We assure you that the class parry will blow your mind!**
- We had heard from several people that You Tube has a video that shows the best way to crack an eggshell to make a confetti egg is to use a butter knife, crack the top of the egg, pull back the cracked eggshell, and pour the egg into your pan to cook! Now, those of you that are You Tube experts may be able to find an even better way!

Once again, we are so thankful for the support of our families! This year's fair is going to be the **best one ever** because of you! **If you have any questions regarding eggshells, please contact Roxanne Valenti Directly at [roxannemvalenti@gmail.com](mailto:roxannemvalenti@gmail.com) and she will be happy to assist you! Have a great night!**

## Early Childhood Formation Programs Info

We are pleased and blest that you and your child(ren) have joined our family at St. Benilde School for the 2016/2017 school year. We are excited about the growth of our program and the learning through play opportunities that we are planning for your child. Starting with the first few weeks of the new school year we are working to ensure your child feels loved, nurtured, and safe in their new classroom environment. We are working to help your child establish a daily routine that is comfortable and that meets individual needs within the group, and we are working to get to know the unique personality, background, and abilities of your child.

As we move into September, we wanted to make you aware of the following items.

- ❖ In that effort we need some assistance from you. Please bring a family picture, with a brief note identifying the family members, that we can keep and post in our classroom for your child to look at, discuss with the teachers, and feel comforted by.
- ❖ We invite you to enter your child's class at arrival and/or pick up times to see the teachers and class environment in which your child spends the day. We ask your assistance at arrival to ensure your child's hands are washed and that your child has a clean diaper. This helps cut down on the amount of germs the children encounter during the day. Likewise, we will be sure that your child is delivered clean and ready to go home at the end of the day. Finally, please be sure to pack several changes of clean clothes (bibs and tethers if your child is teething). An oversized t-shirt to wear during messy activities is also helpful.
- ❖ If your child is 18 months or older, please bring water shoes that your child can wear outdoors for sand and water activities.

- ❖ We invite you to carefully review the catered meal menu to select a breakfast and lunch that is easy for your child to self feed and eat. Menus are posted on the school's webpage at [stbenilde.com](http://stbenilde.com), and hard copies are available to take home from your child's classroom.
- ❖ If you are starting potty training or contemplating potty training your child, please ask your child's teacher for the checklist of developmental readiness skills for potty training, fill it out, and bring it back to the teacher. Both you and your child's teachers will need to discuss a plan together to meet your child's potty training needs.
- ❖ The best time to discuss any goals or concerns with your child's teacher is during nap time, which is from 12:00 - 1:15 PM.
- ❖ Within the next week your teaches will be returning paperwork handed out during the back to school nights that is incomplete. If some of the packet of forms does not relate to your child at this time, we simply need you as the parent/guardian to write NA on the particular form and then sign and date the form. All completed forms must be filed out and returned by Friday 9/9/16.
- ❖ The theme and curriculum activities we are exploring this month and into September with the infants thru PreK2 are as follows:

### **Exploring All About Me 8/15 - 9/16**

This includes **social and emotional and self help skill development** through: Daily hello and goodbyes, routines such as feeding, using a spoon, using a cup. Establishing a sleep/rest routine that is consistent with school and home, learning diapering/toiling skills, washing hands, dressing and undressing self skills....

**Cognitive** - Who am I, identifying body and facial parts. Who are we, identifying family, teachers and friends. Reading books often throughout the day that discuss children and those around them.

**Behavior management** - Learning how to play with others and play with materials in a safe and appropriate way. Reading books throughout the day about routines and safe play.

**Physical skill development** - Providing opportunities for children to practice small motor skills (hands) with appropriate play materials, as well as large motor skills (whole body) with appropriate play spaces and equipment. Examples include small motor materials; grasping toys of various texture or pop beads; and connecting toys, blocks, crayons, chalk, etc.... Examples of large motor activities include safe crawl spaces, soft vinyl equipment, low chairs to climb into and out of during meals and table activities, wheeled toys with and without peddles, and balls of various size.

- ❖ We will focus our learning through play opportunities from **The Creative Curriculum**, starting the weeks of 9/19 - 10/14. If you would like to learn more about Creative Curriculum please ask your teachers or visit the website, [www.teachingstrategies.com](http://www.teachingstrategies.com).
- ❖ We would like your assistance in building a “Fall Season” garden on the Loreto playground. See posted activities and announcement from each respective classroom about special activities and how you can assist.
- ❖ We plan to open the second Prekindergarten 2 classroom no later than October 1.
- ❖ The weeks of 10/17 - 10/28 all parents are invited to meet with their child’s teachers to discuss developmental milestones and goals for learning through play activities. Parent/teacher conferences can be arranged daily between the hours of 12noon - 1:30pm during these weeks and other times as needed.

We welcome your support in curricular activities and for your feedback! Please stay in touch with us through our school website, emails, and announcements. Thank you!

## Help Wanted

St. Benilde School announces the following positions are currently open. Candidates should complete the appropriate employment application and email to [jdowney@stbenilde.com](mailto:jdowney@stbenilde.com).

Lead Teacher, Early Childhood Formation: The lead teacher works in the Birth-to-Two programs under the supervision of the Director of Early Childhood Formation. Lead teachers are responsible for classroom leadership, including planning learning experiences, recording data on child development for planning and reporting purposes, facilitates active communication between home and school, and providing leadership to the classroom Assistant Teacher. The candidate will have a minimum of a Associates Degree (Bachelor's Degree preferred) in Early Childhood Education or a related field along with a minimum of three years of successful experience working in an Early Childhood Formation program.

Assistant Teacher, Early Childhood Formation: The assistant teacher works in the Birth-to-Two programs under the supervision of the Director of Early Childhood Formation. Assistant teachers are responsible for providing direct care to the children in the classroom, facilitates learning experiences under the direction of the Lead Teacher, and facilitates communication between home and school. The candidate will have a minimum of three years experience working in an Early Childhood Formation program and demonstrate knowledge of minimum licensing expectations for early childhood learning centers. The preferred candidate will also be working towards their degree or CDA certifications.

After Care Counselors: The After Care Counselor works in the school's After Care program for children in Grades K-7. After Care Counselors are responsible for providing direct care to the children in their assigned classroom under the supervision of the Director of Faith and Human Formation. The

candidate will - at a minimum - be a high school graduate, be able to pass a state and federal criminal background check, and be cleared through the Office of Safe Environment for the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

More information and applications can be found at <http://www.stbenilde.com/employment-opportunities>.

## Get School Updates Right on Your Phone

SBS offers a variety of methods for parents to receive school communications through email bulletins, the school's website, Facebook, and Twitter. Now, parents can elect to receive basic announcements via their phone through Remind 101. There are two ways to receive school instant messages:

- A. **Through the App:** On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link: [rm..at/sbspri](http://rm..at/sbspri). Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You will be prompted to download the mobile app.
- B. **Through Text Notifications:** Text the message @sbspri to the number 81010. If you are having trouble with 81010, try texting @sbspri to 504-383-7728.

Messages sent through "The Principal's Office" will focus on whole school announcements such as dress down days, inclement weather, and upcoming whole school events. Many teachers may also use Remind for classroom specific announcements.

## Bi-Annual Mandated Disclosure

St. Benilde School owns and operates a master meter natural gas distribution system on the school campus. The gas systems consist of underground networks of pipelines. The purpose of the gas systems is to provide a reliable and safe economical source of energy for heating purposes to the buildings adjacent to the underground gas pipelines. The pipeline systems have the capacity to reliably deliver natural gas to the customers.

The hazards of natural gas are it is odorless, colorless, tasteless, lighter than air and can ignite and/or explode with tremendous force when mixed with the right amount of air.

Prevention measures taken include:

- adding odorant to the gas to give it that distinctive smell, similar to rotten eggs, to warn us of its presence,
- testing the odorant level each calendar quarter,
- performing annual gas leakage surveys, and
- conducting periodic pipeline patrols.

The following are signs that may indicate a gas leak:

- A hissing or roaring sound (caused by escaping gas),
- A patch of dead or discolored vegetation in an otherwise green setting along a pipeline route,
- Blowing dirt, grass or leaves near a pipeline,
- Continuous bubbling in wet, flooded areas,
- A "gas smell".

Anyone who may smell this odor or notice any unusual conditions on or near gas mains, vents, service lines, meter sets, or especially inside of a building should call the St. Benilde School office

immediately. If you smell a strong gas odor inside a building, notify everyone in the building to leave. Do not operate any switches or use the phone. Go a safe distance away upwind of the gas smell and call the St. Benilde School office. With any gas leak protect life first then property, then notify St. Benilde School.

State and federal laws require excavators to notify LA One-Call 2 days before digging. If any excavation is planned you must notify LA One-Call which will notify St. Benilde School to locate the gas lines. St. Benilde School maintains membership in the LA One-Call program.

To obtain additional information or report a gas related issue call St. Benilde School. The St. Benilde School phone number is (504) 833-9894. The LA One-Call Center phone number is 811.