

SHSF NEWS



Monthly Newsletter of Information

November 2014

Harvest Bazaar Results

On October 25 our entire community came together to show their support for The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales. Our annual Harvest Bazaar was once again a huge success.

Thank you to all our students, parents, parishioners, and friends who played some role in this year's bazaar. A special note of appreciation goes to all the chairs and workers of the many booths and various activities. A special note of thanks to the Ladies Sodality of St. John's for organizing the pasta dinner. You are all truly amazing! We could not have done it without you.

We certainly can understand and know why we have heard so many positive comments about how wonderful an event it was and the sense of community it fostered.

Because of all your hard work, and after all expenses, we raised \$14,000 for our school this year. (\$3000 better than last year!!!) We are so very grateful.

Mission Statement

Providing excellence in academics and a deepening faith in God and Gospel Values in an environment that is caring, challenging, and respectful, striving to develop in every student the habits of thinking critically and acting responsibly in daily life.



The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales 307 School Street Bennington, VT

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Thanksgiving Food Drive

It has become a yearly custom for the students at The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis to collect canned goods during the month of November (the 1st through the 26th) for the needy in our parish and in our community. If every child would bring in two, three, or four cans, it would provide much happiness for those who are less fortunate. This is a particularly good time to give thanks for what we have and share with those that have little. Our contributions in past years have made a significant difference in this mission of service.

There will be several boxes placed in each classroom during the month. We would like to have a huge amount of canned goods ready to be given to His Pantry (a local food shelf located at our parish church).

If you would prefer, our students are also collecting toiletry products to be distributed. These items can also be brought to school and we will see that they get to the Parish Center. Thank you for your help and assistance.

CALENDAR NOTES

NO SCHOOL

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

VETERANS' DAY

EARLY DISMISSAL (NOON)

FOR TEACHER IN-SERVICE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

NOON DISMISSAL

EARLY DISMISSAL (NOON)

ON WEDNESDAY

NOVEMBER 26

Celebrating Soccer!

Congratulations to our soccer teams who recently completed their season. We will be having cake and ice cream for all of the players and their families on **Wednesday, November 12, at 7:00 PM.** This will be held in our multipurpose room.

Soccer parents are asked to help assist with this event. Please call Mrs. Guetti to see how you can help.

If your child has not returned their soccer jersey and shorts, they must do so this week. We are keeping a list and we will check off your child's name once we receive their uniform.



School Board Committees

We are looking for interested parents who might like to serve on one of our School Board's functioning committees.

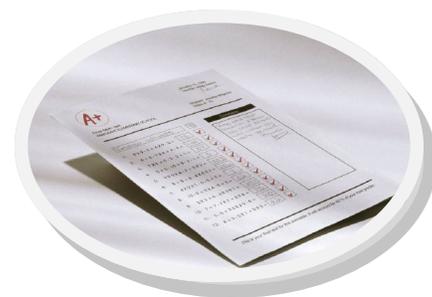
These committees include:

- Physical Plant/Health and Safety
- Development and Advancement
- Family Spirituality
- Curriculum and Resources
- Technology

There are no terms and committee members can serve for as long as they like. There is always so much to do, but with your willingness to serve, we can do even more for our school. If you are interested or know of someone who would like to become involved, please call (442-2446 Ext. 3), e-mail or speak to Mr. Estes in person.

Fall Trimester Ends

REPORT CARDS COMING



Our fall trimester ends on Wednesday, November 26. Report cards will be distributed at Parent Teacher Conferences on December 4 and 5 for Kindergarten through Grade 4 only and on Wednesday, December 3, for students in Grades 5-8. Parent Teacher Conferences for middle school are optional, but they can be requested if thought to be necessary..

It is always important that we praise our children for what they have done well and encourage them to do better in areas where they may be having difficulty.

Basketball Season Approaching

Students in Grades 6, 7, and 8 who are interested in playing basketball for our school's two teams will begin practicing soon for the upcoming season. Practices and home games will be at the Parish Center on West Main Street. Playing on these teams is a big commitment and one that should be taken very seriously. Boys and girls who want to play must attend all practices

Information regarding dates and times for practices and games will be sent home with Middle School students once all the details have been finalized.

We wish our boys and girls well as they begin their season.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING FROM ALL OF US
AT

SACRED HEART ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL!

From the Principal's Desk

“Success seems to be largely a matter of hanging on after others have let go.” This quote by William Feather illustrates the value of perseverance, the second in our Timeless Values series. Children can be taught, from a young age, to stick with a task and not give up. There are countless inspiring stories about people who simply refused to give up on their dreams.

Why is perseverance so important? Perseverance is a character trait that is essential for becoming a success in personal relationships, social situations, and business endeavors. It is value that will serve your child well throughout life.

How can you help your child develop perseverance? Here are a few ideas:

- ◆ Help your child set specific, realistic goals: Aim your child at a “door,” not a “wall.”
- ◆ Define small steps to reach goals: Breaking down a task makes it more doable.
- ◆ Identify who and what can help: Cultivating teamwork helps in reaching any goal.
- ◆ Monitor progress: Be realistic, yet encouraging as your child stays with the task.
- ◆ Reward persistence: Recognize and point out when a child works at something and cheer him or her on when he or she doesn't give up.
- ◆ Read books about famous people who have persevered: This will help your child realize his or her dreams. Children can be deeply moved and inspired by such stories. After all, we all love the story of *The Little Engine that Could*.
- ◆ View this video: [youtube.com/watch?v=hzBCI13rJmA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hzBCI13rJmA)

Finally, model perseverance for your child. Talk with your child about a time you had to stay with a task, how you felt about it, and why continuing to pursue it was worth the effort. Your own actions are your child's most important lesson.



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We are always seeking new students. If you know of any family who may be interested in enrolling their children, please let us know or have them give us a call. Word of mouth is a great marketing tool. Maintaining our enrollment is crucial to our existence. Please help your school community.