

TAKE-HOME TUESDAY 5/3/2022

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 2-6: Teacher Appreciation Week

May 6: **Children's Scholarship Fund Applications Close**

May 6: Return labels with address for Tiger Trek

May 8: Mother's Day

QUICK LINKS:

[Submit Take Home Tuesday Requests](#)

[School Calendar](#)

UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Field Day: Yesterday your child should have brought home a Field Day/Junior Olympic information sheet. For students PK-5, there should have been another piece of paper explaining Tiger Trek. Please return the five address labels to school with five full addresses of possible donors by Friday, May 6th, which is this Friday so we can start sending letters out. This is all you have to do for Tiger Trek. Middle School students will not be doing Tiger Trek since they have their Junior Olympics.

We will also need volunteers for Field Day. I know we have been using Sycamore this year for volunteer sign-up, but since I had Field Day sign-up from last year I figured we could reuse it. Please sign up to help us on May 20th from 8:00-12:00. You must be Safe Environment certified to sign up. <https://bit.ly/STBFieldDay22>

In case your student did not bring home an information sheet, you can find it attached toward the end of the newsletter.

8th Grade Parents: RSVPs for 8th-grade dinner are due TODAY. Please let us know if you plan on attending and how many will be in your party.

Summer Library Programs: Attached you will find the Summer Reading Program from the Omaha Public Libraries. Also, the libraries have a ton of free events over the summer like arts and crafts, wildlife encounters, author visits, entertainment, education/life skills, read to a dog, escape rooms, character storytimes, and regular storytimes. I encourage you to stop into your area library to grab a packet of summer activities. I plan on typing up these activities into a digital document. OPL doesn't have these published online and are not able to print us lots of copies.

We are Hiring!

We have quite a few open teaching positions at St. Bernard this year due to relocation and retirement. I first want to thank the teachers who are leaving for their hard work and dedication to our school over the years, and I would happily have each of them back if I could!

If you or someone you know might be interested in any of the following positions, please send them my way.

- Middle School Math and Science
- 5th Grade Teacher
- 3rd Grade Teacher

Send resume, cover letter, and letters of recommendation to Emily Finley at efinley@stbernardomaha.org. For more information click the following link: stbernardomahaschool.org/about-us/staff/jobs

Children's Scholarship Fund: Applications are due this Friday, May 6th! If you are in need of tuition assistance, you must complete the application for Children's Scholarship Fund. If you are already receiving Children's Scholarship Fund you must reapply to continue getting tuition assistance.



Scholarship applications for the 2022-23 school year are now open. New and requalifying families please visit our [website](#) to complete the application.

NOTE: Requalifying families will NOT have their scholarship automatically renewed. They must fill out the application every year AND continue to qualify.

Families MUST submit 2021 financial documentation or else THEIR SCHOLARSHIP WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Call and make an appointment if you have any questions about the application. CSF does NOT accept any drop-by appointments.

EPS Bottles in Classrooms: Starting this week, classrooms will have an oversized baby bottle that we want to fill with coins, cash, or checks to help support Emergency Pregnancy Services. Emergency Pregnancy Services is an organization that provides free and life-affirming services to women facing unplanned and/or undersupported pregnancies. Help support this cause by having your children donate a few extra coins or dollars! We will collect all the bottles on May 19th.

Life is Messy: We have about 20 copies of Matthew Kelly's *Life is Messy* books at the school for any parent that might want one. Matthew Kelly is a New York Times Bestselling Author. This book is about "putting our lives back together, and allowing ourselves to be put back together when life doesn't turn out as we expected it to." The only thing we ask of you is that when you finish the book you pay it forward to someone else. It is a quick less than 200 page read. Thanks goes out to Father and the parish for allowing us to give these away at school. There are also all the Matthew Kelly books available in the church foyer for free. Stop by the office to pick up *Life is Messy*.

School Improvement Plans (SIP): In an effort to maintain transparency, I want to keep you all updated on our current School Improvement Plans. Over the past ten years, these plans have typically changed with every new principal, which has left the school without the structure needed to achieve these goals. The goals the school had when I first stepped into this role were technology integration, balanced literacy, and faith formation. Technology integration has been almost fully achieved and now we are in the stage of upkeep on technology. We are continuing our work with our faith formation goals. Our balanced literacy goals were an effort to increase reading scores. This is still a goal we intend to achieve. However, we did not have a framework in place in order to achieve that goal, so this year we had to take a step back to begin building the framework in which we can then start achieving our goals.

The framework for how schools run is called Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). Our SIP team and the entire staff worked hard this year to implement the academic side of MTSS which is called Response to Intervention (RTI). This system gives teachers a clear and consistent way to help students who may be struggling or who are high-ability learners by having different tiers of support/instruction/intervention depending on students' needs. This is the first step to balanced literacy as teachers, students, and families need to know if their child requires more support and how we intended to make that happen. This system also streamlined how we document the ways in which we are helping all students succeed.

Now that we have RTI in place we will continue to hone that side of MTSS. For the next two years, we will be focused, partly, now on the behavior side of the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support. Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies (PBIS) is what in education we refer to as best practice. With our staff getting trained on PBIS over the summer and at the beginning of the school year, you may start to see some differences in our discipline practices specifically over these next two school years. The handbook might not immediately reflect these changes as our staff learns how to best use PBIS. We also will be looking at either re-introducing Discipline with a Purpose (which is outlined in the handbook) or switching over to a different program that fits inside the framework that is PBIS.

Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies strays away from the strictly punitive discipline measures that do not teach students what they should have done instead. PBIS is meant to praise children for good behavior and explicitly teach them what that looks like. You may see more natural consequences than those outlined on the side of the demerit card. You may see the demerit system/color system change as we learn and implement current best practices when it comes

to behavior. This will be a systems change, which will take some adjustment for everyone. We are hoping to incorporate it at a pace that is comfortable for families, students, and teachers.

Registration Fee + Renroll on Sycamore = Ready to go for Next Year: You must have both of these things done before your child is considered enrolled for next year. Many people have reenrolled but have not paid their registration fee and likewise, many people have paid their registration fee but have not reenrolled on Sycamore. The registration fee is now \$350 and you can reenroll here: bit.ly/STBenroll

School Code is 1700

You will then see the screen below. Click on **"Login"** even if you have never signed into Sycamore. If you have a student that attends St. Bernard, you already have an account. If you are re-enrolling a current student but need to add a new student there will be an option to "Add New Student" once you are logged in. The process after logging in is pretty straightforward, but call me if you have any questions at 402-553-4993.

Calendar: The 2022-2023 Calendar is finalized. There may be changes/edits as we publish this. School Board and Home and School Committee (another reason to joining Home and School!) relayed to me that many families were unhappy with the number of noon dismissals, so we have cut those down significantly. You will, however, see more full days off for staff PD. Our staff must have a specific number of professional development hours each year to be in compliance, which is why you are seeing these days off.

Find the calendar here, and I hope to have it up on the website soon: [2022-2023 STB School Calendar](#)

Summer Camps at Mercy High School for girls in 3rd through 8th grades will be offered in June and July of this summer. We will be offering camps in Athletics, Show Choir, Fine Arts & Creative Writing. Go to <https://www.mercyhigh.org/happenings/> for further information about each camp!

35th Annual Athletic Banquet

Honoring all 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade athletes playing either volleyball or basketball for St Bernards School. 4th and 5th grade athletes will be recognized and are encouraged to attend as an end of the year banquet. If you are planning to attend please fill out the form and turn it into school office with your payment no later than May 3rd. See the attached flyer for more details.

2022 Athletic Club Banquet

Basketball • Soccer • Volleyball • Wrestling • Track



Honoring all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Athletes and Coaches

(4th and 5th grade athletes will be recognized)

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

Dinner & Program (St Bernard cafeteria)

6:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M

(Dress is casual)

Hall of Fame Inductee: Michele Kennedy

Guest Speaker: Korie Tetzlaff, Iowa Western Head Volleyball Coach

Hall of Fame Inductees and their guests, 8th Grade athletes, and
8th grade Head Coaches are *paid guests* of the Athletic Club.

All other attendees are \$10.00

Please complete the form below and send it to school in c/o Kristen Svehla by May 3rd.
Please call, text, or email: Kristen at 402-659-5888 or Kristen.lebedasvehla@plcschools.org with any questions.

2022 Athletic Banquet Guest Order Form

Name(s) of all people attending _____

of Guests _____ at \$10 = \$ _____ Amount Enclosed

of Free Guests _____

8th grade athletes are free. 8th grade head coaches are free.

Hall of Fame Inductees and his/her guests are free. **All other attendees are \$10 each.**

Dear Families,

We are currently planning our Field Day which will be held on **Friday, May 20th**. Here is what you need to know about Field Day:

- **Middle School** students will be participating in Junior High Olympics that our middle school teachers are planning.
- May 20th is 8th graders' LAST DAY OF SCHOOL! 8th graders do not need to bring anything but themselves and a bottle of water. They will clear their desks out and bring all their school items home with them on Thursday. Their graduation will be the following day at 5:00 pm with dinner to follow. 8th grade parents please return the RSVPs for dinner as soon as possible.
- **Students PreK-5** will be participating in outdoor activities from 8:40 to approximately 12. This means that Pre-K PM would miss out. **For those of you with Pre-K PM students**, those students are invited to come to school in the morning for Field Day. Please let Mrs. Sweetman know if you plan on having your PM Pre-K student attend the morning session, so she knows who to expect. PM students can then stay in the afternoon, but AM students will need to be picked up or go to childcare for the afternoon.
- **PK-5 Tiger Trek:** Along with this letter you will find a sheet of instructions and five mailing labels. We are bringing back Tiger Trek! Fill out the labels of family, friends, coworkers, and professionals that may sponsor your child during the time of Field Day they will be running around the building for Tiger Trek to raise money for school. Fill these labels out and send them back still attached to the backing by this **Friday, May 6th**. Put your child's name on the back of the labels. See the attached sheet for more specific instructions. Middle school will not be doing the Tiger Trek since they already have activities planned for Junior High Olympics.
- Students PreK-5 should bring the following items to school that day: A small bag (something similar to a drawstring or swag bag), a water bottle, sunscreen, and a sweatshirt or jacket. Students are not required to bring their backpack that day unless they plan to use their backpack as the bag they bring.
- At 8:00 there will be no parking in the rectory parking lot (north side of Church) until about 12:00. You may still drop off from the parking lot between 7:30 and 7:55. You can still pick up from the rectory parking lot at 3:15. Pre-K parents will not be able to pick up from the rectory parking lot.
- Lunch will be provided by the Knights of Columbus and will consist of grilled hot dogs and chips. If your child would prefer a cold lunch, please plan accordingly. Pre-K students will be included in the lunch on Field Day.
- Field Day is a full and free dress-down day. Students should wear sneakers/tennis shoes. Please also prepare for the possibility of chilly weather. All clothes must still follow school guidelines for dress-down days.
- We will have an in-person all-school Mass on Thursday, May 19th to present 8th-grade scholarship winners. There will be no Mass on Friday, May 20th.
- Unfortunately, silly string is one of the items that has been quite affected by inflation, so we will not be selling silly string this year. However, we will still be selling shaving cream and we will also now sell mini-water guns. Students can use these during Field Day to tag the principal! Students will have a specific time of day where they can "attack" me with shaving cream and water guns. Each item will be sold for \$1.00 and we will sell them starting the Monday before Field Day.

- In the event of rain in the morning, we will flip the schedule to have the outside activities in the afternoon. If it is raining all day, we will move everything indoors. We will not reschedule Field Day due to the weather.

Volunteers:

If you would like to volunteer please sign up using the Volunteer SignUp Genius that can be found by going to this link: bit.ly/STBFieldDay22 or you can give the office a call at 402-553-4993. **Volunteers will need to be here from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm** at the latest. Activities will be done around 11:05, we will tear down the activities, and you will receive a free lunch.

Please let me know if you have any questions not yet addressed,
God Bless and Go Tigers,
Ms. Emily Finley

St. Bernard School Tiger Trek Fundraiser Instruction Sheet **ADDRESS LABEL SHEETS DUE BY Friday, May 6, 2022**

The 2nd ANNUAL ST. BERNARD TIGER TREK SPRING FUNDRAISER will be held Friday, May 20, 2022 to help raise funds to support our continued tradition of academic excellence and help with the educational needs at our school. This year's funds are being raised to help purchase equipment for classrooms and expand a student's experience and opportunities outside the classroom. Students will be walking or jogging around the school on Field Day to promote physical health and happiness. Students will be sending out sponsor request forms to potential sponsors.

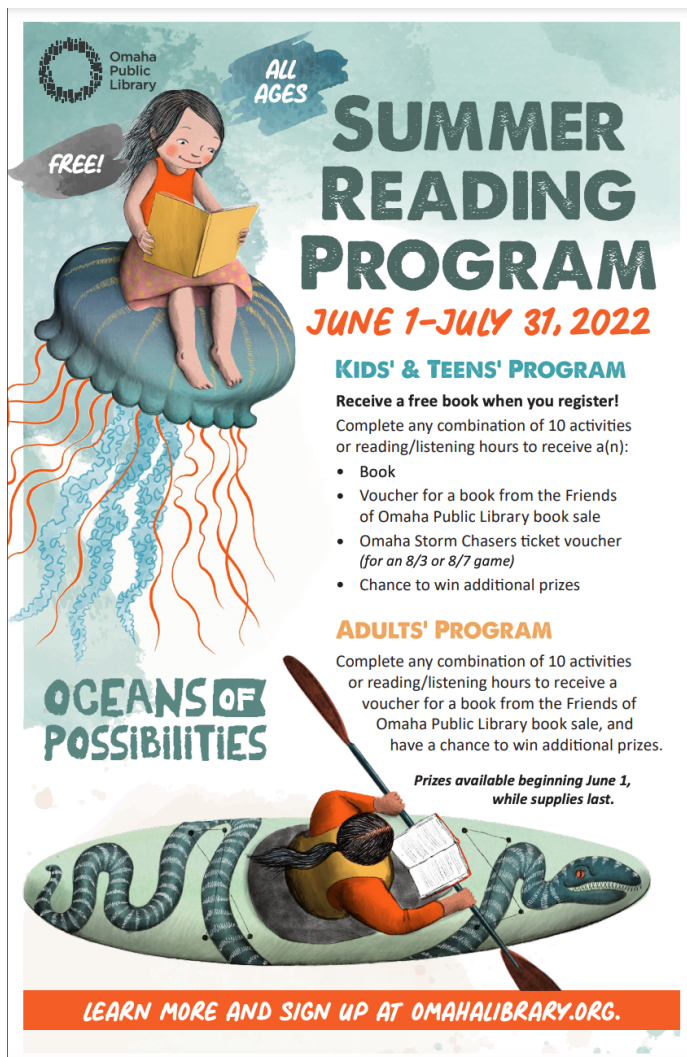
1. Attached are five blank mailing labels, which need to be returned with the names and addresses of people who are potential sponsors (ie: aunts, uncles, grandparents, neighbors etc.) by Friday, May 6th, 2022. Additional label sheets are available from the teacher if needed. *These names will not be used for any other mailing from our school.*
2. **Important!!!** Please print your student's name, grade and teacher on the **back of the label sheet**. This will allow us to know which labels belong to which students for the donation letter.
3. **Please print neatly in black pen directly on the label, or you can print them off on the computer;** please include the name, address, and zip code of each prospective sponsor. **IMPORTANT:** Make sure that all the information fits on one label and is written neatly. The labels are Avery 5160/8160 if you use the attached labels for printing. If your child is in a lower grade (K-4th) then it might be helpful to write directly on the label the student's relation to the potential sponsor, i.e. Uncle John & Aunt Connie Smith or Grandma Linda & Grandpa Josh Smith. This makes it much easier to fill out the sponsorship forms if the teachers and students know how to address the potential sponsors.

LABELS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MAY 6TH.

1. Each student will be sending notes to the individuals on the list asking them to sponsor your child/children in the Spring Tiger Trek.
2. Potential sponsors may be family members, relatives, close friends, and neighbors. Christmas card lists are a great source for these names. Potential sponsors need to be out of grade school and high school (unless they have a job and want to be a sponsor). Don't forget out-of-state relatives and friends. Also, the people you do business with are a good source of names, i.e. barber, dentist, doctor, piano teacher, etc. **Please note that if a couple is living**

“under the same roof,” you must list them both on one label-do not use two separate labels (i.e. Mr. & Mrs. Smith).

3. It is okay for children in a family to include the same sponsor names on their label sheets. For example, three children from the same family can list their grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. on their own individual label sheets. We found that this will help with the success of the event and each sponsor gave money for each individual student.
4. If your family does not wish to have each child send to the same person, then you may split up your addresses among your children. If you choose to do this, please send an attached note back with the labels listing the names of siblings that attend St. Bernard so their names can be included also.
5. If you choose not to send any potential sponsor names and addresses with your child, your child will still participate in the Tiger Trek.



Omaha Public Library

ALL AGES

FREE!

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

JUNE 1-JULY 31, 2022

KIDS' & TEENS' PROGRAM

Receive a free book when you register!
Complete any combination of 10 activities or reading/listening hours to receive a(n):

- Book
- Voucher for a book from the Friends of Omaha Public Library book sale
- Omaha Storm Chasers ticket voucher (for an 8/3 or 8/7 game)
- Chance to win additional prizes

ADULTS' PROGRAM

Complete any combination of 10 activities or reading/listening hours to receive a voucher for a book from the Friends of Omaha Public Library book sale, and have a chance to win additional prizes.

Prizes available beginning June 1, while supplies last.

OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES

LEARN MORE AND SIGN UP AT OMAHALIBRARY.ORG.



OPL LOCATIONS

A.V. SORENSEN BRANCH
4808 Cass St. | 402.444.5274

BENSON BRANCH
6015 Binney St. | 402.444.4846

BESS JOHNSON ELKHORN BRANCH
2100 Reading Plz. | 402.289.4367

CHARLES B. WASHINGTON BRANCH
2868 Ames Ave. | 402.444.4849

FLORENCE BRANCH
2920 Bondesson St. | 402.444.5299

MILLARD BRANCH
13214 Westwood Ln. | 402.444.4848

MILTON R. ABRAHAMS BRANCH
5111 N. 90th St. | 402.444.6284

SADDLEBROOK BRANCH
14850 Laurel Ave. | 402.444.5780

SOUTH OMAHA LIBRARY
2808 Q St. | 402.444.4850

W. CLARKE SWANSON BRANCH
9101 W. Dodge Rd. | 402.444.4852

W. DALE CLARK MAIN LIBRARY
215 S. 15th St. | 402.444.4800

WILLA CATHER BRANCH
1905 S. 44th St. | 402.444.4851

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