



The Sacred Heart of the Matter



Charleston, WV

~ Sacred Heart Grade School ~

October 2022

Our Mission

In the context of a Catholic community, Sacred Heart Grade School strives to help students fulfill the potential of their God given talents and abilities by guiding them to develop themselves spiritually, intellectually, physically, emotionally, aesthetically, and socially.



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Follow us on Twitter @SacredHeartGS or text "follow SacredHeartGS" to 40404 to receive text updates. Visit the Sacred Heart Grade School website shgs.us for news and information. Remember to follow us on Instagram sacred_heart_grade_school and like our page on Facebook!

Dear Parents & Students,

Welcome Fall! Our hours of sun are getting shorter, the air is getting cooler, and our time indoors is increasing. The warmth and fun of summer are decreasing, slowing down.

One of the morning readings in September that seems very fitting right now is from the Gospel of Luke. Jesus is visiting Mary and Martha and Martha gets upset because Mary is just sitting and listening to Jesus. However, we know that Mary had chosen the better way. The way of stopping and listening.

A phrase that we have all heard and said, "I just want a chance to slow down!" That has been said here in the office a few times over the past weeks. And it's true. We all want to slow down a bit. Fall gives us that chance to slow down. Slow down to look at the leaves, slow down to drink hot coffee on the cool mornings. Most importantly, slow down to spend time with God— that is the most important.

I hope you have the time to intentionally slow down this month. I know it's busy, but I hope you have a moment or two to stop and see the leaves and taste the coffee and just be.

In Kindness,
Anne Davis



CONGRATULATIONS!

To Sawyer Gladys on the birth of his new baby sister, Elsie!

THANK YOU!

- ♥ To our PVA for our delicious birthday cake
- ♥ To SHGS faculty and staff for the time, love, and preparation they devote to the school year!
- ♥ To Father Higgs for his ongoing support of SHGS!
- ♥ To SHGS parents for their amazing and ongoing support of their children's learning!
- ♥ To all parents who have volunteered to help at school



Mass with Bishop Brennan

Bishop Brennan will be here to celebrate Mass with Sacred Heart Grade School on Tuesday, October 11 at 8:15 a.m. This will be a very exciting day for us all. Third Grade, 3B, is in charge of Mass on this day. We are so excited to have the Bishop with us on this day. Please join us for this celebration!

HALLOWEEN!

Our school Halloween celebrations are scheduled for **Monday, October 31!**

SHGS will have a **Halloween Costume Parade** on the morning of October 31, weather depending. The parade will be held on the blacktop part of the playground for TH, ECE, and PreK and around the block of our school for grades K-5. Times will be announced in a later email. Parents are encouraged to come to the parade. More details will come as the event draws near. Costume guidelines are below. Please understand that students may wear a costume, but they do not have to dress in costume. If they prefer to wear Halloween dress down clothes that is, of course, fine.

After the parade, students will change out of their costumes. Please see the guidelines below for more details about costumes and changing after the parade. The Halloween parties will be held in each classroom. Homeroom parents need to contact the classroom teacher to discuss the needs for the day. We will not be having the large gathering in the gym as was done in past years (before COVID). Keeping it to the parade and a classroom party will make it an easier day for all.

Costume Guidelines:

-Students may wear costumes or they may dress down in Halloween clothes (theme t-shirts, Halloween colors, etc.)

-Absolutely no accessories are to be brought to school or carried - If sent, they will be kept in the office where they will be returned to parents after school.

-Costumes must allow students to go to the bathroom independently and must follow dress down guidelines (length of shorts, skirts; no spaghetti straps; no inappropriate messages, etc. See handbook guidelines) **If this is a concern, the student will be asked to change into dress down clothes by teachers or administration.**

-Students **should not wear costumes that suggest violence or might scare other children** (Remember we have 2 year olds and up). **If this is a concern, the student will be asked to change into dress down clothes by teachers or administration.**

-Students must bring a bag of some type that will hold their costume. Students must be able to change out of the costume independently and carry this bag on their own.



GYM JAM

It's time for Gym Jam. If you are new to SHGS, this event is so much fun. It's a day filled with games that teach physical skills and just fun activities. Mark your calendars for Friday, Oct. 14 for this event for grades K-5. Everyone will wear their gym uniform that day. All students, TH- 5th grade, will need to bring lunch from home. The cafeteria is in use for Gym Jam so lunch will not be cooked and served there. It is going to be such a fun day!



Trunk or Treat & Movie Night

Join us for a Spook-tacular evening outdoors on Friday October 7th at Greylock Energy starting with Trunk or Treat followed by a Halloween movie (TBD). Popcorn and drinks will be provided by the PVA. Chick Fil A food truck will be there as well. Prizes awarded to best costume and best decorated car! So, wear your favorite costume, bring some candy to hand out for trunk or treat, and join us for an evening filled with film, candy, and spooky fun. Come if you dare!

5:30 Arrival
6:00-7:00 Trunk or Treat
7:00 Movie starts

Please RSVP through the link below!

<https://forms.office.com/r/hQmj8NvcR9>

GRADE UPDATES & PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Progress reports for the first nine weeks were sent home on Friday, Sept. 30. Our first nine weeks will end on **Friday, October 21**, with report cards going home the following **Friday, October 28**. MAP test scores for grades 1-5 will also be in the envelope with report cards.

Parent Teacher conferences for **grades K-5** will be in person on **Thursday, November 3, from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.** **Grades K-5** will not have in person instruction on Thursday, but TH, ECE, and PreK will meet on the regular schedule.

Conferences for TH, ECE and Pre-K classes will be held in **February**.

Parents, K-5, may begin calling the school office to schedule conferences on Wednesday, October 19 at 9:00 a.m.



Teaching Safety– Empowering God’s Children Lesson

On Wednesday, October 12, each teacher in grades K-5, will teach the Empowering God’s Children lessons 5 & 6. These lessons will teach about safe friends, saying no in unsafe situations, and safe boundaries. An opt out form will be sent home on Friday, October 7. If you do not want your child to participate in these lessons, please sign and return that form by Monday, October 10. You will be provided with the lessons so you can review the content at home with your child.

PVA MEETING

The PVA general Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 6 at 8:15 a.m.**

Boxes of Joy

In conjunction with the Sacred Heart Parish Chapter of the Knight of Columbus, our students in grades 3-5 will have the opportunity to pack “Boxes of Joy” for children in impoverished countries. Items such as small stuffed animals, hair accessories, etc... Small things that will fit into a shoebox. Materials with details on how to participate will be sent home this month. As always, this is optional.

There is a \$9.00 amount that has to be included with the box to cover the cost of shipping.

Shorts

The last day to wear uniform shorts will be **Monday, October 31**. Gym shorts can be worn on gym days under the uniform sweatpants. Shorts may not be worn on dress down days.

Clay County Dress Down

Our annual Clay County Food Drive takes place next month. Charleston Catholic and Sacred Heart provide food boxes, Christmas presents, and treats for approximately 250 needy families in Clay County. This holiday service project has been going on for over 30 years. Through your support and generosity Sacred Heart provides the majority of food boxes for this project. This year our goal is to collect at least 125 boxes.

We need to start this project a little earlier this year. **There will be a \$5.00 dress down day on Thursday, Oct. 20.** All money collected will be used to purchase the boxes that are used for this project.

October 2022



Wednesday, October 5	October Dress Down Day PVA General Meeting– 8:15 in cafeteria Used uniform sale– 8:00-10:00 (last one till Jan)
Tuesday, October 11	Mass with Bishop Brennan– 8:15 a.m.
Friday, October 14	No Mass today Gym Jam– wear gym uniforms Bring lunch from home
Thursday, October 20	\$5.00 Dress Down Day for Clay Co. boxes
Friday, October 21	End of 1st Nine Weeks
Monday, October 24	Early Dismissal– 11:30– Teacher Inservices
Friday, October 28	Report Cards sent home
Monday, October 31	Halloween Party Day Last day for uniform shorts
Tuesday, November 1	All Saint’s Day Mass– 8:15
Thursday, November 3	K-5 Parent Teacher Conference Day– No school for grades K-5, regular school day for TH-PreK

