



Dear Parents and Students,

Recently, I heard a homilist give an Advent preaching with the message of Jesus' birth in our own lives. How is Jesus alive in us? He encouraged the congregation to take time to reflect on what our gifts and talents are. In that reflection, as we name our gifts, that is how Jesus is alive in us! As we use those talents and gifts, we are giving birth to Jesus' love in the world.

My prayer and hope for each of you is that you may be aware of God's presence and love in your life. Celebrate Jesus' love! As you are blessed, may you be a blessing for others throughout the new year!

Love and prayers,
Sr. Margaret Joanne

May it be the best year yet!



Around the School ...

We Are Proud Of You!

Congratulations to Megan Haley whose name was drawn for the 2011-2012 T.S. Buzby working student scholarship. The amount of \$600 has been applied to her second semester tuition.

Financial Statements

The Finance Office will be mailing statements of tuition and fee payments for 2011 after the first of the year. This information can be used for the Illinois Education Expense Credit on your Illinois state income tax return. You may contact Mrs. Becky Jones at 787-1595 ext. 156 if you do not receive your statement by January 31, or if you have any questions regarding the tuition information.

Financial Aid Applications

Families will not have to come to the school to obtain the 2012-2013 financial aid applications. SHG will include the application in the tuition packet which will be available on the SHG website after **January 15th**. Please contact Mrs. Becky Jones at 787-1595 ext. 156 with questions you may have regarding tuition or financial aid.

National Honor Society

Is your junior or senior student applying for National Honor Society? Following is a quick run down of the requirements for application.

Membership is based on the criteria of Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character. To be eligible, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of five semesters at SHG; have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.8 (out of 4.0 weighted grade point average); have a minimum of 60 hours of service on record by December (80 hours for seniors) with a required 12 hours to the community, 12 hours to Church or religious community, and 12 hours to SHG; are able to cite previously held offices of leadership or leadership roles with the school or the larger community; and are able to present witnesses to the quality of the character.

Applications are available on Mr. Golitko's classroom website or at <http://goo.gl/7uAYn>. Be working now to get the necessary elements in place before the **January 23, 2012** deadline.

SHG Snowball

We are so excited to have those of you who signed up to attend the SHG Snowball on **January 13-15, 2012!** Registration is from **6:00-7:00 p.m.** at the SHG main campus (1200 W. Washington) on Friday, January 13. SHG **DOES NOT** accept walk-ins. We ask that you come having eaten dinner and be ready to begin at 7:00 p.m. The weekend will conclude at noon on Sunday, January 15 ... please have a ride available at this time. Remember to pack a **sleeping bag, pillow, comfortable clothing** (most students wear sweats all weekend,), **a towel, shampoo, soap, toothbrush**, etc. There is an optional talent show on Saturday night, so bring anything you might need to perform. In addition, please bring a 2-liter bottle of **soda** and a bag of **chips** or **cookies** to share with everyone ... these items will be collected at the door. If any parents are interested in volunteering to help with check-in or serving meals throughout the weekend, please see the attached form.

City Tournaments

January is the month of the winter sport's City Tournaments. Please support the Cyclones teams as fans are always welcomed and appreciated!

Boys Basketball - January 19-21
Wrestling City Duals - January 20

Girls Basketball - January 24-26
Swimming/Diving - January 24

Mostaccioli Sunday

Sacred Heart-Griffin's 53rd Annual Mostaccioli Dinner and Raffle will be held on Sunday, March 4, 2012 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The student kick-off will be **Wednesday, January 25**. On the kick-off day, all SHG students will receive six adult dinner tickets (\$60) and four raffle books (\$40) totaling \$100. The current financial policy states that "each student is required to sell the assigned quota for Mostaccioli Dinner Raffle. Any portion of the quota not met will be charged to the student's tuition account." (2011-2012 Student Handbook, Tuition and Fees, Page 4)

Family Dance

The Sacred Heart-Griffin Annual Family Dance will be held on **FRIDAY, February 17, 2012** from **8:00-11:00 p.m.** This event is by far the favorite of all the social activities at SHG. Fathers accompany their daughters and mothers accompany their sons for an evening of visiting, dancing, and fun. **DRESS CODE FOR FAMILY DANCE** – Dresses and tops should reflect a concern for Christian values in being both modest and tasteful. Low cut and bare mid-riffs **ARE NOT ALLOWED**. The front of the dress or top must be cut above the breast line in a solid material. The back of the dress or top must be cut above and not at the waistline in a solid material. Strapless dresses or tops are inappropriate for an evening of dancing and are highly discouraged. If in doubt, do not buy it; do not wear it. Gentlemen's attire includes a dress shirt and tie, dress slacks, shoes, and socks. **NO JEANS ARE ALLOWED!** Those dressed inappropriately will be asked to leave.

Tips for Staying Healthy

The following are guidelines/precautions to adhere to during this cold and flu season:

- wash hands frequently
- cover mouth when coughing and/or sneezing
- stay home with a temperature
- don't share drinks

If a student is not feeling well and appears to have flu like symptoms, we will call a parent immediately to have them pick up the student. We may take the student's temperature to help us assess where we should have the student in the interim. Students with flu-like illness must remain at home for at least 24 hours after they are free of fever, or signs of a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications.

IDOT Operation Teen Safe Driving Program

NEW ILLINOIS LAW

As of **January 1, 2012**, all drivers AND passengers in Illinois **MUST** be belted in all seating positions. Everyone must have a seatbelt on whether they are in the front or back seats.

WINTER DRIVING TIPS

Your vehicle should have a survival kit that includes an ice scraper, jumper cables, blanket, gloves, flashlight, basic first aid kit, and a cell phone charger.

Current road condition reports can be found by calling (800) 452-IDOT and posted at Interstate rest areas.

When you are on the road, keep the following things in mind:

- buckle up!
- in RAIN, drive with your headlights on dim.
- in FOG, drive with your headlights on dim, or use fog lights.
- if pavement is covered in snow or ice, start slowly and brake gently. Allow plenty of room between your car and another car at intersections.
- if you start to slide, ease off the gas pedal or brakes. Steer INTO the skid until you regain traction.

Find more tips at: <http://www.dot.state.il.us/winter.html>

SHG GUIDANCE OFFICE UPDATE

COLLEGE INFORMATION:

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES: The Guidance Department receives information regarding various scholarship opportunities for students attending college in the fall. This is by no means a complete listing of all scholarships available to students. There are many university sponsored scholarships that are not listed here but can be found on the university website or by contacting the university's financial aid department. We also file any individual college scholarship offerings we receive in the College Counseling Center. As we receive information on scholarship opportunities, we are updating our website. To view the listing of these scholarships, go to www.shg.org and go to the Student tab. Click on to the Guidance Office link and scroll down that page to the College Scholarships and Financial Aid link. Scholarships are listed alphabetically in the month they are due with a brief description and application information. For more information, please stop by the Guidance Department. In addition, national scholarship offerings can be found by using your Naviance account. Go to the Colleges tab and then click on the National Scholarship Link under the Scholarships and Money heading. This website is hosted by Sallie Mae.

MID-YEAR REPORTS: Many universities require that a mid-year report be mailed for admission consideration. Please ensure that your student has completed a mid-year report and notified his/her counselor of the schools that require a mid-year report. These will not be mailed until mid-January.

The Office of Guidance and Counseling presents

PAYING FOR COLLEGE

When: Wednesday, January 11 at 6:00 p.m.

The presentation will include information on scholarships, loans, and financial aid. Particular emphasis will be placed on completing the FAFSA form.

STANDARDIZED TESTING RESULTS: Standardized testing was done on October 12 for the freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. Results of the STS taken by the freshmen were mailed to parents in December. Sophomores have received their tests at school. Juniors will receive their test results at school after Christmas break. They will also receive information about how they can best utilize their test results to help prepare them for college. Visit www.planstudent.org for more information on using your PLAN Score Report. Juniors will have free access to My College QuickStart. This resource will assist students with preparing for the SAT test, career planning and college searches. Students can access My College QuickStart through www.collegeboard.com/quickstart. The access code can be found on your student's official score report.

COURSE REGISTRATION: Registration for the 2012-2013 school year will begin in February. The counselors will be meeting with each student to discuss course options. A copy of the available courses can be found on the SHG website under the Academics tab in January.

DID YOUR 8th GRADER MISS THE PLACEMENT EXAM?

A make-up placement exam will be held on **Wednesday, January 25 at 8:15 a.m.** Students should enter through the circle drive entrance at 1200 W. Washington and bring a \$10 exam fee and a calculator. To register, please contact Mrs. Theresa Duffin in the Guidance Office at 787-1595 ext. 125.

SHG Incoming Freshman Information Meetings will be held on:

Monday, January 23 at 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 25 at 6:00 p.m. **OR**
Tuesday, January 31 at 6:00 p.m.

ADVANCEMENT OFFICE NEWS

53rd Annual Mostaccioli Dinner



Please HOLD THE DATE for the 53rd Annual Mostaccioli Dinner on **Sunday, March 4** from **11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.** at West Campus! We anticipate this to be a record year as alumni and friends of SHG will want to come back to see the newly renovated West Campus. We usually serve approximately 9,000 dinners in one day and in order to have this day run smoothly we rely on the help of parents and students to volunteer. This is a big fundraiser for the SHG operating budget, raising anywhere from \$90,000 - \$100,000, and also a great way to connect with other parents and students. Please say “yes!” when you hear from our volunteer coordinators Mary Leach and Debbie Nemecek after the first of the year.

Mostaccioli time kicks off on Wednesday, January 25 when student packets are distributed. This is the only required fundraiser for SHG families. Each student will receive a packet of raffle and dinner tickets. Students will receive six adult dinner tickets at \$10 each (\$60) and four raffle books at \$10 each (\$40), which totals a \$100 selling commitment. There are many prizes for selling over the required amount. All information will be provided in the packets.

Thank you in advance for helping to make the Mostaccioli Dinner tradition live on! Questions?... contact Jen Bettis, Director of Advancement, at bettis@shg.org or 787-1595.

Black & Gold Mardi Gras

Please HOLD THE DATE for the Black & Gold Mardi Gras, **Saturday, February 11** at **7:00 p.m.** at West Campus. The event is sponsored by the Booster Club and will feature live mice races, live and silent auctions, live DJ, photo booth, cash bar, and catering by McCormick’s. Tickets are \$25 each (MUST be 21). Invitations to follow.



Grease ... SHG’s Spring Musical

The Sacred Heart-Griffin High School spring musical, *Grease*, will be holding five performances beginning **Thursday, March 22** through **Sunday, March 25, 2012** in the newly renovated Dominican Hall Auditorium. The “Sock Hop” (children’s event) will be held on Sunday, March 25. Children will have a light lunch, meet-n-greet with cast members, backstage tour, and get to learn some 50’s dance moves with the cast. Tickets to the “Sock Hop” event also include admittance to the Sunday matinee. Ticket information will be available after the first of the year. For more information, contact Bill Bauser at bauser@shg.org or Karen Danner at danner@shg.org.





1200 West Washington Springfield, Illinois 62702 (217) 787-1595 x 149

Parents,

Hello, my name is Becca Benson, and I am the Prevention Coordinator at Sacred Heart-Griffin High School. On January 13th-15th, 2012, SHG will be hosting the Sangamon County Operation Snowball event. Snowball is a three-day lock-in, emphasizing leadership through living healthy lifestyles. Last year, we had over 300 students participate in the event and would love to have your support!

Please consider making a donation:

CHAPERONES: (THIS AREA IS IMPORTANT!)

- _____ Friday evening: 5:30-7:30 p.m. – check-in duty
- _____ Friday night: 7:30-9:00 p.m. – (there will be small groups and set-up for a speaker at this time)
Duty would be signing in late arrivals at the main door.
- _____ Friday night/Saturday morning: 11:00 p.m.-4:00 a.m. (speeches, free time, bed)
Duty would be monitoring the front desk
Need 1 male and 1 female
- _____ Saturday morning: 7:00-9:00 a.m. – serve breakfast/light clean-up (there is a crew of students to mop, wipe tables, etc.)
- _____ Saturday: 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – serve lunch (sandwiches)/light clean-up (there is a crew of students to mop, wipe tables, etc.)
- _____ Saturday: 2:00-4:00 p.m. – (there is free time and talent show tryout at this time)
Duties would be monitoring halls and/or sitting at the check-in/check-out table at the front door.
- _____ Saturday: 5:30-7:30 p.m. – serve dinner (Spaghetti Shop)/light clean-up (there is a crew of students to mop, wipe tables, etc.)
- _____ Saturday: 9:00-11:00 p.m. – (talent show at this time). Duty would be sitting at the check-in/check-out table at the front door.
- _____ Saturday: 11:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m. – (dance at this time). Duty would be chaperoning the dance/monitoring the front desk.
- _____ Sunday: 8:30-10:00 a.m. – serve breakfast and clean-up

FOOD DONATIONS: (please bring to SHG by **Friday, January 6th)**

- _____ I would be willing to donate the following (please indicate quantity):
- _____ Orange Juice _____ Milk _____ Chips _____ Cookies _____ Fruit _____ Bottled Water

SUPPLIES: (please bring to SHG by **Friday, January 6th)**

- _____ I would be willing to donate some of the following supplies (please mark quantity):
- _____ Napkins _____ Plastic Cups _____ Paper Plates _____ Plastic Forks/Spoons _____ Styrofoam Bowls
(for cereal)

Please return this form to SHG Snowball as soon as possible – I will follow up with more information. Thank you for all your help and support! ~Becca Benson, SHG Prevention Coordinator (benson@shg.org)

Parent(s) Name: _____

Phone Number(s): _____ **E-mail Address:** _____

January, 2012

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
1	2 NO SCHOOL	3 CLASSES RESUME	4	5 Theatre Festival	6 Theatre Festival	7 Theatre Festival
8	9	10	11 Paying for College (6:00)	12	13 SHG Snowball	14 SHG Snowball
15 SHG Snowball	16 NO SCHOOL	17 Girls Kairos	18 Girls Kairos	19 Girls Kairos Boys City Basketball Tournament	20 Girls Kairos Boys City Basketball Tournament Wrestling City Duals	21 Boys City Basketball Tournament
22	23 8 th -grade Meeting (6:00)	24 Girls City Basketball Tournament Swim/Dive City Meet	25 Mostaccioli Kick- Off 8 th -Grade Make- Up Placement Test Girls City Basketball Tournament 8 th -grade Meeting (6:00)	26 IMEA All-State (Peoria) Girls City Basketball Tournament	27 IMEA All-State (Peoria)	28 IMEA All-State (Peoria)
29 Catholic Schools Week Catholic Schools – Faith. Academics. Service.	30 Catholic Schools Week All-School Mass	31 Catholic Schools Week 8 th -grade Meeting (6:00)				