December 18, 2017

Dear Parents,

Blessed Sacrament School is pleased to announce our upcomingAnnual Science Fair. Giving students the opportunity to research and create a Science Fair Project helps them develop problem-solving skills with a scientific approach. Your child's teacher has already received the timeline and rules that need to be followed in order to ensure that all guidelines are met. Science fairs are always a great way to tie in many skills that have been learned into one fun learning experience.

Each child will have ample time to work on his/her project, allowing appropriate time to complete each assignment. Students must turn in each section of their project as required by the timeline. **Parents must sign the information BEFORE the child submits to the teacher. All projects are due NO LATER THAN Wednesday, January 31, 2018.**The following pages are to help during the science project process. We have included a schedule of due dates that need to be followed and a detailed guide of what the project should include. All children in grades 3-8 are required to submit a summary report to their teacher and MUST NOT be attached to their tri fold.

Your child is required to submit a Science Fair Project, which will be graded based on visual and oral presentation. The project will be judged on the following criteria:

1.	Creative Ability/Originality	10 pts.
2.	Scientific Thought	40 pts.
3.	Thoroughness	20 pts.
4.	Skills	20 pts.
5.	Clarity	10 pts.

Judging will take place at a campus-level on February 2, 2018. Judges will be selected by the campus science teachers. There will be 3 winners per class (1st, 2nd, 3rd places) and one overall winner. All judges will use the same criteria to determine campus winners. Winners will receive more information at a later date.

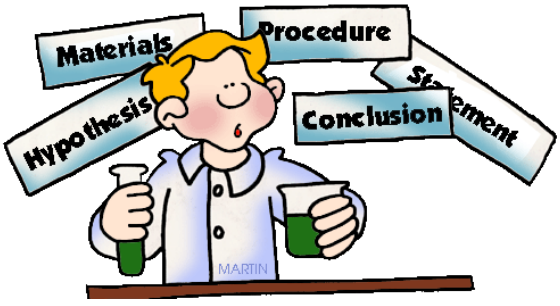
Please review contents of this packet which includes:

- **Parent Acknowledgement Form due on Wednesday, December 20, 2017**
- Timeline of Events
- Science Project Checklist
- Judging Criteria
- Grade-Appropriate Topics

Thank you for your support and we look forward to a memorable and successful Science Fair.

Yours in education,

Science Department



Parent Acknowledgement Form

I, _____, understand that my child, _____is required to complete and turn in a Science Fair Project due on January 31, 2018. NO LATE PROJECTS WILL BE ACCENPTED. I acknowledge that I have received all information on the Blessed Sacrament Science Fair and have reviewed the attached timeline of due dates with my child.

_____

Student Name

_____

Teacher/Grade

_____

Parent Signature

DUE: December 20, 2018

Timeline

Annual Science Fair

3rd- 8th Grade

Due Dates	Item Due
December 18, 2017	Project parent information packet sent home
December 20, 2017	Parent Acknowledgement Form due
January 12, 2018	Topic and hypothesis due for approval
January 19, 2018	Materials and Procedures due for approval
January 26, 2018	Results and Conclusions due for approval
January 31, 2018	All projects must be turned in
February 1, 2018	Project setup – BSS Cafeteria
February 2, 2018	Annual Science Fair Judging ☺

Parents: Students have ample time to work on projects at home. Please use this time to plan and prepare. ***All projects must be turned in on time***

SCIENCE PROJECT CHECKLIST

- **1. Choose a topic that is interesting to you.**
- **2. Write a Big Question that you can investigate by yourself.**
- **3. Research your topic using books, encyclopedias, magazines and information from professionals, such as doctors,engineers, researchers, teachers, veterinarians and librarians.**
- **4. Form a hypothesis, a good guess about what the outcome of the experiment will be.**
- **5. Write a step-by-step procedure to test your hypothesis.**
- **6. Make a list of materials that will be needed for your investigation.**
- **7. Make a chart that will help you when collecting and organizing data.**
- **8. Carefully conduct the experiment several times, be sure to follow the science safety rules. Keep written records of the results in a notebook or spiral.**
- **9. Draw a conclusion and organize the results of your experiment on easy-to-read charts and graphs.**
- **10. Construct a display, using charts, graphs, photos, illustrations, signs, and/or models.**
- **11. Prepare an oral presentation to explain your project.**

DUE DATES BREAKDOWN

This is a schedule of de dates for your child's science fair project. These due dates have been set in place in order for your child's teacher to assist during the process of the science project. Please note: each due date will also count as a science grade. Every assignment is designed with an appropriate timeframe, therefore, all assignments must be turned in ON TIME.

- **Project Selection:**
  - Three topics should be chosen (sciencebuddies.org is optional) and turned in to the science teacher.
  - Students in grades 3-4 should choose a project with a hard beginner to an easy intermediate level.
  - Students in grades 5-6 should choose a project with a medium intermediate to hard intermediate level.
  - Students in grades 7-8 should choose a project with a hard intermediate to an easy advanced level.

- **Topic and Hypothesis Due: January 12, 2018**
  - The topic and hypothesis should be submitted so that the teacher can discuss and revise them with your child. Attached is a section for students to write their hypotheses to be reviewed with a parent and signed by the parent. THE BIG QUESTION and FORMING A YPOTHESIS forms must be signed by a parent and turned in to the teacher.
- **Materials and Procedure Due: January 19, 2018**
  - Students must make a list of materials that will be used during the project and come up with a detailed procedure as to how the project will be conducted. The PLANNING THE PROCEDURE form must be signed by a parent and turned in to the teacher.
- **Trial 1:**
  - Students should be test their hypothesis with a parent and bring the RESULTS section signed by a parent to their teacher. The results should be documented in their science fair journal.
- **Trial 2:**
  - Students should test their hypothesis a second time (the second trial) and bring the RESULTS section signed by a parent to the teacher. The results should be documented in their science fair journal.
- **Trial 3 with results and conclusion Due: January 26, 2018**
  - Students should test their hypothesis a third and final time (the third trial). The RESULTS and CONCLUSION forms must signed by a parent and turned in to the teacher.
- **FINAL PROJECT Due:January 31, 2017**
  - Completed projects must be turned in. <u>NO LATE PROJECTS WILL BE ACCEPTED</u>

Judging Criteria

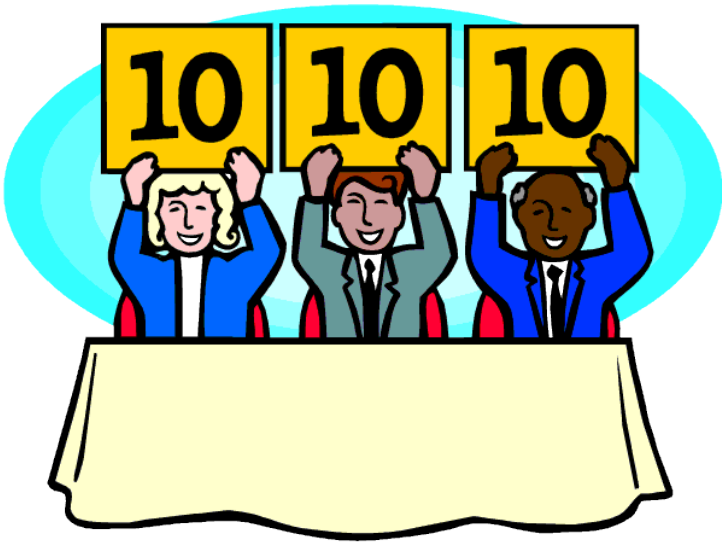
I. CREATIVE ABILITY……...Total 10 pts.
- There was an original question asked.
- The creativity of the study was within the student's ability.
- The student used the scientific method.

II. SCIENTIFIC THOUGHT……Total 40 pts.
- The question was testable.
- The design of the experiment tests the hypothesis.
- The experiment demonstrates a procedural plan (materials, step-by-step procedure)
- There was sufficient data collected to support conclusion.

III. THOROUGHNESS……Total 20 pts.
- The student collected available data for each trial performed.
- The student conducted several experiments, not just one.
- Conclusion was based on data.

IV. SKILL……Total 20 pts.
- The data measurements were done accurately.
- The experiment was student created.

V. CLARITY……Total 10 pts.
- The tri-fold display is organized appropriately.
- Grammar and spelling is correct and legible at a glance.



Teacher_____

☺ScienceProject Record/Schedule☺

1.TheBig Question
(Whatdo youwant tofind out?)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Due Date: **January 12, 2018**
Parent's Signature _____
Teacher's Signature_____

2.Forminga Hypothesis–A Smart Guess
(What doyou think willhappen?)

_____
_____
_____
_____

Due Date: **January 19, 2018**
Parent's Signature _____
Teacher's Signature _____

3. Planning the Procedure

_____
_____
_____
_____

Step-by-Step Description of Experiment:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Due Date: **January 26, 2018** Parent's Signature _____
Teacher's Signature_____

4. Results

Draw Chart,Table,or Graph BELOW

Due Date: **January 26, 2018** Parent's Signature_____
Teacher's Signature _____

5. Drawing a Conclusion

(What did you learn from your scientific investigation?)

Due Date: **January 26, 2018** Parent's Signature_____

4. Results