

The Class of 2019
will attend the
following schools
in the fall.

Archbishop Carroll
High School

Bishop Shanahan High School

> Conestoga High School

> Great Valley High School

Malvern Prep

Merion Mercy Academy

Notre Dame Academy

St. Joseph's Prep

Villa Maria Academy

St. Norbert School is profoundly grateful for all those who have taken a role in supporting the 2018-19 St. Norbert School Annual Fund.



Please visit the Ways to Give tab at https://school.stnorbert.org/to join this important effort.





## Class of 2019: Onward and upward!

"I think our class will be remembered for our talents, our great sense of humor, and our school spirit," says SNS Student Council President Blaise Watson. As these 8th graders look forward to graduation and starting high school this fall, it's a time for students, their families, and the faculty and staff of SNS to reflect on the lasting influence of the SNS experience.

Deanna Laudadio, mother of 8th graders Lacey and Riley, reflects on her family's choice of SNS and Catholic education: "Sending our children to St. Norbert's School was one of the best decisions we've made. Children today face so many disruptive influences from society and the media. It's more critical than ever that the values of family and faith that we express at home are instilled in the classroom as well. St. Norbert's has done

just that." Deanna adds that SNS "feels like a second home, has a wonderful sense of community, and has given our children the academic foundation needed to succeed."

That strong academic foundation is evident in the impressive scholarships earned by SNS 8th graders. To date, the Class of 2019 has earned \$249,000 in academic scholarships. Over the past nine years SNS graduates have been awarded nearly \$2.5 million in scholarships and two SNS students have received prestigious Neuman Scholarships.

"We want our graduates to leave St. Norbert's School with the academic and faith foundation that will carry them through high school and beyond," says SNS Principal Mary Kay Hennessy. "When

### Class of 2019: Onward and Upward! continued

our alumni come back to visit, it's great to hear how they are making their mark and paying it forward."

In addition to their academic accomplishments, members of the Class of 2019 have served as excellent role models for younger students. Eighth grade teacher Rose Greskoff says, "This class is particularly friendly and kind to each other. They are well-liked by students and teachers. The younger students, including their 3rd grade buddies, really look up to them."

Looking back on the past year, Blaise says: "Some of the highlights were our 8th grade talent show, the Christmas Nativity, our 100th Day celebration, and the visit from Philadelphia Eagle Zach Ertz. SNS has given us a wonderful foundation of academics and religious values that will carry us through life. Our class is truly a family and we are so grateful to this wonderful school, teachers, and community."

















# Broadway retuned to St. Norbert's this spring when a very talented group of St. Norbert students partnered with The Springer Studio in the production of "Seussical The Musical, Jr."

In about 8 weeks and 37 hours of rehearsal time, Mrs. Mary Jo Springer, owner and manager of The Springer Studio based in Phoenixville, brought Horton the Elephant, the Cat in the Hat and many other favorite Dr. Seuss characters to life on stage. And this couldn't be done, of course, without the amazing talent and creativity of our very own St. Norbert students who ranged in age from 3rd to 8th grades. Our students transported the audience from the Jungle of Nool to the Circus McGurkus all while watching Horton the Elephant protect JoJo and the Whos and an abandoned egg. In the face of danger, ridicule and a trial, the powers of friendship, loyalty, family and community emerged triumphant.

Back for her 4th year directing the St. Norbert spring musical, Mrs. Springer put on another fabulous show for our community. In her own words, Mrs. Springer summed everything up: "This year's Spring Musical, "Seussical the Musical, Jr." was definitely my favorite one! It is a classic tale of being true to yourself, whether you have a one-feather tail or others think you're crazy for believing what you believe. My favorite theme, repeated by our hero, Horton, is 'A person's a person, no matter how small' which speaks volumes as we face the challenges that we face today in our society. "

This year's cast was only 30 students, but the talent and creativity of this small group was as great as a cast of 100. Mrs. Springer said, "Although our cast was very small, the students who dedicated their time and talents to this production were fantastic- and all of their hard work paid off! I hope they all had as much fun performing in this show as I had directing it."









#### Surprise Visit Scores a Touchdown for a Special Student

Thursday, April 11 was no ordinary day at St. Norbert's when Philadelphia Eagle Zach Ertz surprised third-grader J.D. Sobota and his classmates with a visit!

J.D. has been bravely undergoing intense radiation treatment to treat his arteriovenous malformation (AVM), which occurs when there is a tangle of abnormal blood vessels connecting arteries and veins in the brain. During his treatment in February, Ertz responded to a Tweet of J.D. in his special treatment mask decorated like his favorite Eagle's football helmet, telling J.D. to "Stay strong!"

St. Norbert School came together with steady support through prayers and generosity, raising \$7,600 by dedicating the annual Nickel Race to the Sobota family. The school was then thrilled to find out that Ertz would be happy to meet J.D. in person!

Ertz took his time talking with J.D. and his friends, signing autographs,

and even giving each child a pair of sunglasses. The entire school lined the hallway as he left the building, high-fiving everyone along the way.

The Sobota family was so grateful for such a happy day for J.D..

"This whole year has been things we can't even wrap our heads around - and this is way more than we ever expected, "J.D.'s mom Cecily said.

The entire St. Norbert community continues to pray and offer support to J.D. and his family. His courage and smiling face have been an inspiration to us all.





#### **Dads and Daughters Enjoy a Royal Night Together**

The girls of St. Norbert's and their dapper dads enjoyed a night of dancing and fun at the annual Princess Ball. This year, the theme was Under the Sea with blue, green and silver decor and balloons in the shape of bubbles. The girls had a blast taking photos with their friends in the DIY Photo Booth, and each guest took home a commemorative glass to remember this very special evening. It was truly a magical night for the SNS girls and their dates!





#### Rain or Shine - Mother/Son Baseball is Always a Home Run

The weather didn't cooperate for this year's Mother-Son event at the Reading Phillies First Energy Stadium, but that didn't stop the boys and their dates from having a lot of fun! The skies were clear early in the evening, but Mother Nature just couldn't hold out, and just as everyone gathered in the reserved section behind third base to enjoy a buffet before the game, the skies parted, and the group got soaked. Kudos to the many moms who hung in there sharing umbrellas and rain gear, so the boys could run around and have a good time with their friends. Although the game was rained out, Mother-Son Baseball 2019 will always be a night to remember for the SNS boys and their moms!



#### **National History Day**

National History Day engages students in grades 6-12 in the process of discovery and interpretation of historical topics. Students produce dramatic performances, imaginative exhibits, multimedia documentaries, web sites, and papers based on research related to an annual theme. The 2019 theme was Triumph and Tragedy in History. Individually or in teams of two to five, students research a historical topic, develop a thesis, and create a project to present their argument.

St. Norbert students from grades 6th through 8th participate. Students have a chance to go on to the county, state and then national competitions.









7th grader Lawson Miller took first place in the PA state competition for National History Day. He won first place in the solo performance category. Lawson will compete in Nationals in June in Maryland. Congratulations and good luck Lawson! We are Bulldog proud of you!

#### **Annual May Procession Honors Blessed Mother**

The annual St. Norbert May Procession honoring the Blessed Mother Mary was held on Friday, May 10. The second graders were their First Communion finest, while the eighth grade were their graduation outfits to lead the students, teachers and staff in a reverend procession from the school to the church. The congregation was delighted to see Father Lee return to the parish to preside over the mass with Father Albero as they led a beautiful tribute to Mary. Eighth grader Charlotte Fritz had the distinction of placing a crown of flowers on Mary with second graders Giovannie Permadhi and Elizabeth Laczko attending.





#### Mardi Gras Madness a Mad Success

St. Norbert parents, teachers, staff, and friends enjoyed a night of Mardi Gras Madness for a great cause on Saturday, March 30! Thanks to the tireless energy of a great team of event volunteers, led by Julie Wright and Kristin Ciarmella, the Barn at Liseter in Newtown Square was decorated in beautiful, vibrant colors, with delicious food and drinks and a fun band to round out a spectacular evening!

The generosity and loyal support of our school community helped to raise \$71,000, of which nearly \$11,000 will be targeted for campus-wide security upgrades. Thank you to our sponsors and all who contributed to make the event such an incredible success. See you next year!



#### **Beyond our Doors: Alumni Accomplishments**



Archbishop Carroll junior, Hope Syron, SNS Class of 2016, helped the Lady Patriots clinch the 2019 girls basketball PCL Championship. Bulldog proud!



Senior signing day at Archbishop Carroll included two SNS alumni, Class of 2015. Patrick Griswold will play football at Susquehanna University and Aislinn O'Brien will row at St. Joseph University. Congrats!



Congratulations to SNS alum David Fritz (Class of 2017)! David, the 3-seat of the St. Joseph's Prep Varsity 8 crew, will be going to the Henley Royal Regatta on July 3-7. The V8, who

took home gold in the Stotesbury Cup Regatta and City Championships earlier this month, will compete for the Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup. This is the Prep's 12th visit to the world's oldest and most prestigious regatta.