From the Principal's Desk



January 6, 2022



Holy Spirit School Inspiring Minds/Igniting Hearts 2021/2022

"In work there is dignity"

New COVID Guidelines

Welcome back! I do hope that you enjoyed a blessed Christmas and joyful New Year. I know we got off to a rough start with some of the technology this morning, but hopefully most, if not all, of the issues have been addressed. Please be sure to communicate with your child's teacher if something is still ongoing. The last thing I want is for anyone to be stressed about today (or possibly tomorrow); this is a nice way to just get the students back together and start to think about some structure and routine as we look forward to heading back into the classrooms in person.

While we were out on break, the Fairfax County Health Department provided updated guidance with regard to isolation and quarantine protocols as related to COVID-19. These updates are in alignment with those from the Centers for Disease Control and the Virginia Department of Health. These updates include what is listed below and apply to new recommendations for schools also.

As many of you know, there has been a tremendous uptick in the number of our students who have tested positive over the past week or so. Please keep in mind that although there is a reduction in the isolation period, you should monitor your child's symptoms very closely and if he/she is still presenting as sick after five days, for the benefit of the whole community, keep them home.

One of the greatest stressors on our community though will be if faculty and staff begin to test positive and we are unable to adequately and safely supervise students in classrooms.

So, not to sound like a broken record, but if your child seems to exhibit any signs of illness, please keep them home.

For those who have had their children vaccinated, please be sure to read carefully the guidance with regard to timing and whether your child would need to quarantine following a close contact.

If You Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolate)

Everyone, regardless of vaccination status:

- Day 1 to 5:
 - **ISOLATE! Stay home regardless of your vaccination status** . Avoid contact with others in your household. Do not share personal items, and use a separate bedroom and bathroom, if possible.
 - Do not leave home (except to receive medical care) until:
 - At least 5 days have passed since symptoms started or since the date of your positive COVID-19 test AND
 - You have not had a fever for at least **24 hours**, without the use of medicine that reduces fevers AND
 - You have no symptoms or symptoms are resolving.
- Day 6 to 10:
 - If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving, you can leave your house. Continue to wear a well-fitting mask to reduce any risk of infecting others.
 - If you have a fever, continue to stay home until 24 hours after your fever resolves.

*If an individual is unable to consistently and correctly wear a mask (e.g., young children, developmental issues, etc.), they should isolate themselves at home for the full 10 days.

**If anyone in a household is in the process of being tested for COVID-19, all children should be kept home until the results are known.

If You Were Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (Quarantine)

If you have been boosted **OR** received your second dose (and an additional dose if immunocompromised) of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months **OR** received your first dose of J&J vaccine within the last two months:

- Day 1 to 10
 - Wear a mask around others.
 - Test on day 5, if possible.
 - If you develop symptoms, get a test and stay home.
 - If you test positive for COVID-19 during this 10-day period, follow the isolation guidance above

If you received two doses of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines more than six months ago and are not boosted **OR** received one dose of the J&J vaccine more than two months ago and are not boosted **OR** are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated:

- Day 1 to 5:
 - Stay home and away from others.
 - Test on day 5 if possible. If you test positive for COVID-19, follow the isolation guidance above.
- Day 6 to 10:
 - Continue to wear a mask around others.
 - If you develop symptoms, get a test and stay home. If you test positive for

COVID-19, follow the isolation guidance above.

It should be noted that the Fairfax County Health Department will no longer be providing clearance letters for students to return to our school. It is imperative that parents communicate fully and regularly with the school nurse to determine the period of time that students will be excluded from school.

Review of all mitigation practices will be reassessed regularly for situational awareness and to continuously inform planning. Ongoing modifications to mitigation policies will be informed by the information provided to educational institutions and will be shared with the community.



A reminder from the front office:

Information regarding re-enrollment for the 2022/2023 academic year was sent home prior to the break with the "youngest or only" student in each family. Please be sure to look through everything and to take the time to work through the process now in place via the PowerSchool Parent Portal. There is a letter with specific instructions on how to navigate that and, of course, Mrs. Laclede is happy to assist (llaclede@holyspiritflames.org).

You should note that there is a deadline of January 7, 2022 to complete the reenrollment process. The school is blessed to have already begun to receive applications from prospective families and acceptance letters will begin to be sent out to those families on January 10, 2022.

-Maureen Ashby

Principal





CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC SCHOOL

33% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19TH 5-9PM 9506 MAIN ST NO 22B, FAIRFAX, VA, 22031

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE EF4 RDPA OR SHOW THIS FLY ER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$ 150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

PTO Board 2021/2022

President - Tom Fields - PTOPresident@holyspiritflames.org Vice President - Heather Howard - PTOVP@holyspiritflames.org Treasurer - Danielle Hetzler - PTOTreasurer@holyspiritflames.org Secretary - Lee Conroy - PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org

Volunteer Coordinator - Mary Sonnen - PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org Fundraising Coordinator - Carolyn Rutherford - PTOVPFundraising@holyspiritflames.org Homeroom Parent Coordinator - Valerie Overstreet - PTOHomeroomCoorindator@holyspiritflames.org

Volunteering

Please remember that you must be fully compliant with the Child Protection policies of the Diocese in order to perform recess duty and to volunteer in activities where students are present.





Feb. 6 – 11 in the school library. More information coming soon!



COVID-19 Dashboard Information

Virginia Department of Health - Level of Community Transmission: **High** Updated weekly on Mondays using data through previous Saturday. Last updated 1/3/2022

https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-in-virginia/community-transmission/

Holy Spirit School - Total new COVID positive cases while on campus during the infectious period (student and/or faculty/staff): **0** Time period: December 31, 2021 - January 6, 2022

Think about a Daily Health Observation before sending your child to school

Symptoms of COVID-19 may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

Fever (100.0F) or chills Cough Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing Fatigue Muscle or body aches Headache New loss of taste or smell Sore throat Congestion or runny nose Nausea or vomiting Diarrhea

If your child has experienced any of these symptoms in the last 24 hours, please keep your child home, contact your physician, and let us know (attendance@holyspiritflames.org).

If someone in your household has tested positive for or is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, keep your child home and let us know (attendance@holyspiritflames.org).

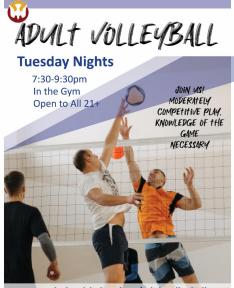
If someone in your household is currently being tested for COVID-19, please keep everyone home until the test results are received.

If your child has received a COVID-19 vaccine and you would like to share that information with the school nurse, it may prove helpful if and when there is a need to contact trace in your child's class.

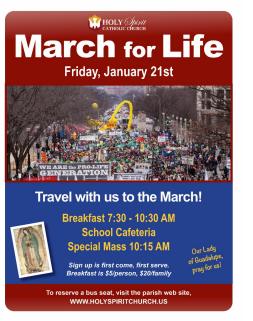
Parish Happenings!





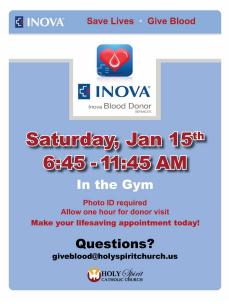


www.holyspiritchurch.us/adultvolleyball









Community Happenings!



FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "January 6, 2022" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.







School Flyers:

- 1. PTO Chipotle Fundraiser flyer
- 2. PTO Talent Showcase flyer
- 3. Overview of Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program

Parish Flyers:

- 1. Christmas Coat Drive flyer

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 March for Life flyer
 HS Winter Retreat flyer
 BINGO flyer
 Adult Volleyball flyer
 Free Throw Competition flyer
- 7. Blood Drive flyer

Community Flyers:

1. Hack BI flyer