From the Principal's Desk



October 15, 2020



Holy Spirit School Inspiring Minds/Igniting Hearts 2020/2021

"Protect the Creation; Praise the Creator"

Earthquake?

Every year, the International ShakeOut Day is the third Thursday of October and so today we participated in the *Great Shakeout*. Each year schools are expected to have students participate in an earthquake drill....just in case. Be sure to ask your student about it. (Do you remember where you were when Virginia experienced the 5.8 magnitude earthquake in August of 2011?)

The PTO's Fall Fundraiser kicks off next Monday, October 19th with a goal of raising \$20,000. The folks from **Boosterthon** will arrive and start off the program of fun activities and character education with the students. A flyer is provided below.

In the meantime, visit <u>FunRun.com</u> to see how to get started. Here, you can access the character content for this year, as well as support our school!

Please consider supporting the PTO and the school in this endeavor.

The first PTO Spirit Wear day is scheduled for next Thursday, October 22nd. Hopefully you received your wonderful Spirit Wear that was delivered yesterday. Please remember that in order to be out of uniform on Spirit Wear days, students must be wearing official Spirit Gear that was purchased via the PTO either last year or this year. (No random Holy Spirit shirts.) Thank you!

We will be switching over the Winter Uniform on Monday, November 2nd. At that time, the

younger boys must all transition over to the grey pants (no more shorts). The younger girls must be in either the plaid jumper or the grey pants (no more skorts or maroon dresses). All students must move over to the PE sweatsuit (students may wear the shorts under their sweatpants, if they choose).

As we move into chillier weather, please remember that the building does tend to run cold, especially in the hallways. During instructional time, if students are cold, they may only wear either the uniform long-sleeved shirt or official school fleece with their regular uniform. If students are cold on PE days, they may only wear the PE sweatshirt during the school day.

Know that we do go outside as much as possible. As the temperatures dip, it is important that students have appropriate outerwear.

We have begun to receive inquiries regarding **travel over the Thanksgiving break**. Although the CDC does not have restrictions/guidance regarding quarantining following domestic or international travel, it is certainly something to think about. If you are choosing to travel, as mentioned last week, please consider whether it is wise to send your student back to school immediately following - especially if you are travelling to what is considered a "hot spot".

We have been amazingly fortunate thus far to have not had to deal with closing classrooms or worse; this will continue only if everyone in our community continues to shoulder the personal responsibility of being considerate of everyone else and checking themselves with regard to personal behaviors. If we have a positive case in the school, the Health Department must immediately become involved and decisions regarding closures, etc. are taken out of the school's hands.

In that vein, it has been decided to cancel this year's Trunk or Treat evening event. The CDC has specifically named these types of events as being "high risk" activities. So, we will pivot and come up with some alternative activities that we can safely do here during the school day on Thursday, September 29th. For those who have been here and participated in the past, I know this is a big disappointment (for me too as my family loves to put together our booth each year). I am erring on the side of caution with this one both in terms of mitigating the possibility of an attendee unknowingly being sick and in order to be sure we do not violate gathering size restrictions. Please be on the lookout for requests from room parents for donations as we nail down what we can do so that our students from little to big have some type of fun activity in addition to the planned activities for the conclusion of the Boosterthon fundraiser.

The **SPIRIT WEEK** flyer is below! The Student Council has planned some great days. Please remember that the **Ton of Love Food Drive** is an important part of our Spirit Week as we help our neighbors in need. A reminder that **Friday**, **October 30** is a no school day for students while the teachers participate in professional development.

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for November 10th and 11th. Please keep an eye out for information on sign-ups. All families are required to participate in a conference.

The OUTDOOR CLASSROOM/GARDEN is still a work in progress. Please consider assisting this weekend so that we can finish this up and make it a usable space for the students while the weather is still terrific for being outside. This is a great way to pick up required PTO Service Hours.

Thank you for all you do to support Holy Spirit School!

Click here to volunteer to help in the Outdoor Classroom/Garden



Principal

Required Symptom Screening Questionnaire

We continue to work on an App for the daily health screening. Students must continue to arrive at school each day with a paper copy of the completed form. We are asking for the paper copy for now as trying to manage emails from families at the start of each day is not workable or practical for the staff.

Required Symptom Screening Questionnaire - 8.27.2020



WHAT IS THE DANCE FIT?

Elementary students will dance and exercise for 35 minutes to fun, choreographed dances and group fitness exercises to raise funds. One grade (cohorts separated) will be dancing at time in the gym socially distanced. Since the Event is 35 minutes, if you donate \$1 per Dance Minute, you'll donate \$35 to our school.

Our Dance Fit video content was created in partnership with Just Dance—the worldwide dance game! All music and dance moves are family-friendly.

HOW DOES THE COLOR RUN WORK?

Middle School students will be participating in a color run on October 29th. The event will be 1 cohort per Race Track OUTDOORS. Funds are raised through FunRun.com - Register NOW!

GET READY FOR THE FUN!
OUR PROGRAM STARTS OCT. 19TH



FUNRUN.COM

Just announced!!!

The Used Uniform Sale will be on Friday October 23 in the Quinn Room!

Please use the outside entrance from 3:30 to 5:30.

We need donations to help stock the sale! If you have extra items that you no longer need or if your child/children has/have grown out of any clothing pieces, please consider donating to the PTO's Used Uniform Sale!!!! Drop off at the office or see Melanie Bennett

in Vanpool Slot #2.

****The winter uniform switch is quickly approaching (Nov 2)!!!!

Thank you for your support!

Used Uniform Sale - COMING SOON!!!





When: Friday, October 23

Time: 3:30 to 5:30

Where: Holy Spirit School - Quinn Room

Cost: \$5 per item (\$1 for socks/tights)

How to Pay: Cash or Check (made out to the Holy Spirit PTO)

ADDITIONALLY, PLEASE HELP STOCK the SALE!!!

DONATE ANY USED UNIFORMS THAT ARE NO LONGER NEEDED to THE OFFICE or SEE MELANIE in VANPOOL SLOT 2

Important Details-

- Masks will be required
- · Limited volume of shoppers at one time, as needed
- Enter and exit through the Quinn Room's SIDE DOOR
- Plan ahead bring a list of items and sizes needed
- Shopping preference one shopper per family, if possible

Support this PTO Fundraiser While Getting a Great Deal!

Despite not having the Trunk or Treat event, know that we are working on some sort of fun events/activities on Thursday of Spirit Week as a substitute.

Holy Spirit's SPIRIT WEEK Brought to you by the Holy Spirit Student Council! A week of guaranteed fun for the whole school! OCTOBER 26 TH -29 TH	
Monday	Western Day Dress as your best cowboys and cowgirls (There just might be a little line dancing in your future!)
Tuesday	Ocean Day Dress as your best crab, fish, pirate, mermaid, the options are endless! "Protect the Creation, Praise the Creator"
Wednesday	Ton of Love Collection Day of our food for the St. Lucy Project Also Crazy hat and sock day (with uniform)
Thursday	BOOSTERTHON Dress in your P.E. Uniform with fun accessories
Friday	No School Day (teacher professional development)



Monday, October 19- Wednesday, October 28

As part of our annual Spirit Week, the Holy Spirit Student Council is sponsoring a school-wide food drive to support Catholic Charities' St. Lucy Project. Due to the increased demand, our assistance is needed to help resupply the food pantry with the following items:

*please begin bringing items in the week of October 19th

- · Pre-K: Easy Mac- any type
- Kindergarten: instant potatoes
- 1st grade: pasta
- · 2nd grade: tuna
- 3ta grade: canned vegetables (corn, green beans)
- · 4th grade: canned fruit
- 5th grade: cereal (large boxes)
- · 6th grade: jelly
- 7th grade: peanut butter
- 8h grade: canned meats (tuna, Chicken)



Want to Donate Online? Here's how to do it:

Step 1: Use the following link to make donations directly to the St. Lucy

Project warehouse:

https://www.ccda.net/SLPAmazonWishList

Step 2: Enter code: "HS Flames" in the "Gift Message" text box

At checkout, donors (Holy Spirit parishioners, students, staff, family, friends) fill in "Gift Options" as follows:

- Insert "HS Flames" into the "Gift Message" text box provided.
- Check the EMAIL RECIPIENT box and INSERT <u>St.Lucy@ccda.net</u>. This
 automatically sends a gift receipt to Catholic Charities with all the
 information they need to give our organization credit for the food
 donation.
- IF there is more than one food item selected, each item will need "HS Flames" inserted into the "Gift Message" text box and a gift receipt email of St.Lucy@ccda.net (this is because orders can be shipped in multiple boxes and come from multiple distribution centers).
- The donor's name will automatically be included.

All donations will be shipped and received at St. Lucy's Manassas Warehouse. Catholic Charities will unpack each box and collect the gift receipt packing slips. They will also receive the digital email from Amazon confirming the donor's name and items donated.



CLASS CONTEST 2020

Did you know Holy Spirit School earns almost \$2,000 from Box Tops some years, thanks to you!

When: Now until October 23, 2020

How:

 Bring cut-out, non-expired box tops into school. Physical box tops are being phased out and will no longer be accepted after 10/23.

OR

2. Use the Box Tops for Education app to scan your receipts. Don't forget to "give credit" to your child's teacher after scanning each receipt. Go to boxtops4education.com for details.

OR

3. Bring in your grocery receipts and we will scan them for you!

<u>Why:</u> To raise money for Holy Spirit School and most importantly, help your student win an **EXTRA RECESS!**

Winning Class will be announced during Spirit Week!



The Youth Ministry Office hosts a special monthly luncheon just for 8th grade students!

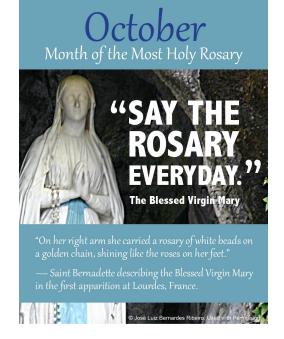
11:15-12 PM Cafeteria

Masks Required. All social distancing protocol as implemented by the school will be followed.



Parish Happenings!









Community Happenings!



FAMILY FOLDER



The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "October 15, 2020" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

Family Folder

School Flyers:

- 1. Spirit Week flyer
- 2. Ton of Love food drive flyer
- 3. 8th Grade Luncheon flyer
- 4. Fall Box Tops Collection flyer
- 5. Used Uniforms flyer
- 6. Boosterthon flyer

Parish Flyers:

- 1. Prayer the Rosary flyer
- 2. Mass for Catholic Healthcare Professionals flyer
- 3. Flag Collection flyer
- 4. Men's Club Oktoberfest flyer

Community Flyers:

1. Dyslexic Edge Conference