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Dear Parents,

Happy Easter! Welcome back!

The very busy 4th quarter is here and the days at school seem to be jam-packed with events. As exciting as the field trips, Zoomba classes, Field Day, etc. are please remind your students that they still need to be attentive to their studies and to finish the year with the enthusiasm and drive that was very evident way back in September. Today, report cards for the 3rd quarter go home. Additionally you should find an accounting of your family's PTO service hours. Please be sure to communicate with the PSSC Coordinators if something does not seem correct. Please also remember that all accounts including tuition, Morning Care, Extended Day, cafeteria, service hours, etc. must be reconciled prior to the end of the school year. Any outstanding financial obligations to the school will result in delays in the distribution of your child's report card and any academic transcripts needing to be sent to new schools.

On that note, as disappointed as we always are when families do not return, we understand that this is the time of year when some families are learning of and/or finalizing work and military transfers. If you know that your student will not be returning to Holy Spirit next year, please let us know as soon as possible.

Next week the students in grades 3-7 will be taking the annual Terra Nova Achievement Tests; additionally the 5th and 8th grades will take the ACRE Assessment. Please make every effort to have your students arrive to school on time as the first test of the day begins at 8:30 am and we cannot admit students into the testing environment once the assessment has begun. Reassurance from you that your student should simply do his or her best and to not stress over these tests would be much appreciated; Holy Spirit students are amazing and I am sure will do a great job!

Over the Easter break sixteen new security cameras were installed. These were installed under the "Safety and Security Minimum Requirements" issued by the Office of Risk Management for the Diocese of Arlington. The cameras can be found both inside and outside of the school building with the intent of covering all exterior doors where students exit or enter the building during school hours. Per the requirements these include side entrances, back doors, playgrounds, the main entrance and common walkways to the parking lots.



A blue ribbon school of excellence that enjoys state of the art facilities and a beautiful private campus located on 15 acres within easy access of the National Capital Beltway. Providing an education of eternal significance in Northern Virginia for half a century.

Holy Spirit School has been blessed for many, many years to have a robust Resource Program in order to meet the educational needs of our students. As we plan for the 2015/2016 school year we will be opening our doors even wider in the hopes of providing a Catholic education to students who may not have had that opportunity to date. Through careful planning and generous financial donations we will be accepting a limited number of students with intellectual disabilities. Being more inclusive is a goal of the Diocese of Arlington and we are humbled to be in a position to accept these exceptional learners into our community.

This Family Folder is filled with important flyers so please be sure to check everything carefully. In addition, please look at the electronic version of the Family Folder on the website. Included there is the public calendar put out by the Office of Catholic Schools for the 2015/2016 school year which will provide some of the common calendar dates for the entire Diocese including the start date for next year (August 31st) and the major holidays. Our internal calendar is still being completed and will be put online soon.

Enjoy the wonderful Spring weather and the ever-increasing amount of color in our surroundings as all of the trees and flowers bloom.

Blessings always,

Maureen Ashby
Principal