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# From the Principal's Desk

August 31, 2017



## Quick Links

[School Site](#)

[School Calendar](#)



## *Holy Spirit School*

*Inspiring Minds / Igniting Hearts*

*2017 / 2018*

*"Respect and Responsibility in Action"*

## **Week 1 - Success!**

**Wow! The first week has just flown by with the excitement of seeing old friends, meeting new friends and settling into the routines of the classroom.**

**Before I get too far - remember that tomorrow, Friday, September 1st is an early dismissal (11:30 am) for everyone and that there is NO afternoon Extended Day.**

**Thank you for your cooperation as we continue to fine tune the carline in the lower lot both in the morning and afternoon. As most have seen, there are now directional arrow signs in the parking lot. Yes, we are asking you to drive all the way to the top of the lot and then circle back to the bottom. This has a few benefits for us as it helps elongate the traffic pattern preventing backups as well as assisting in keeping the car lines as straight as possible (when cars cut across the middle they are not always straight behind the car in front thus hampering the next line from being as full as possible). I would ask that you be cognizant of your speed when on campus and of course, please do not use your cell phone while your car is moving or when you have pulled in front of the school.**

**The afternoon Vanpool spots for the upper lot will go home tomorrow, Friday, September 1st. Families should begin to use those spots on Tuesday, September 5th so please be sure your children know**

where to go to find you.

**A reminder that if you are late arriving to Vanpool and the chains have already been put in place you must drive down and get in the carline in the lower lot. Your children will be walked down and will wait with their classmates. It is for the safety of everyone that we cannot have children being walked out of the Vanpool lot.**

**As we move full swing into having lunch recess, first, let me say "thank you" for providing us with extra eyes and hands on the playground. Again, please remember that no parent should be on their cell phone while children are present. If you see behavior that is unsafe or aggressive, you are there to intervene - it is most helpful when the parents on duty are active participants in the monitoring of the children.**

**Next week is a big week with Back to School Nights. Tuesday, September 5th is the night for grades 1-5 and Wednesday, September 6th is for grades 6-8. Both evenings begin in the gymnasium at 7:00 pm. Our intent is to provide an overview of the new Power Learning system for you. We are diligently working on a multitude of glitches that have surfaced with regard to student logins so I appreciate your patience as we get all of that straight. As a parent you will have your own login credentials to the site which we will explain next week. Parents of children in prekindergarten and kindergarten are more than welcome to attend to hear the overview information. A reminder that Back to School Night is not a time or platform to have an individual conference with the classroom teacher but instead is a general information night regarding curriculum, grading, class procedures, etc.**

**Representatives from CYO will be present from 6:30 - 7:00 pm for registration for basketball (grades 3-8).**

**Next Friday, September 8th we will celebrate the birthday of the**

**Blessed Mother Mary. On that day, please send your child in with a flower to help create a homeroom bouquet. All of the children will process with their flowers up to church for Mass and we will present the flowers in honor of Mary. If you can join us for the 9:00 am Mass we would love to have you.**

**The first Scantron testing window for grades 3-7 will begin Monday, September 11th.**

**I highly encourage you to visit the PTO Volunteer Fair on Wednesday, September 13th. The PTO has a large number of committees who need assistance. The PTO is the organization that provides all of the "extras" for your children - they organize Field Day, provide the DJ during Spirit Week, fund the buses for field trips, provide a classroom stipend for teachers to purchase some of the "fun" items in their classrooms and so much more. For those who sent back the form opting themselves out of joining the PTO, I hope that you will reconsider that decision. As much as it would be great for your tuition to cover everything for your student during the year, it really does not and so participation in the PTO and the events that the organization sponsors is really key.**

**This has gotten quite long, so I will end for now. Thank you for the privilege of assisting in the education of your children. We are blessed as a faculty and staff to have them in our classrooms and our lives and we look forward to watching them grow over the course of the year.**

*-Maureen Ashby*

Principal

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Back  
@ School  
Night

Tuesday, September 5th  
Grades 1-5  
7:00 pm

Wednesday, September 6th  
Grades 6-8  
7:00pm

We will provide an overview of the Power Learning site so parents of children in Prekindergarten and kindergarten are welcome to attend to hear that information.

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Friday, September 8th  
9:00 am Mass

Celebration of the birthday of the Blessed Mother Mary

Please send in a flower (or two) to assist in creating a homeroom bouquet as we honor our Mother Mary

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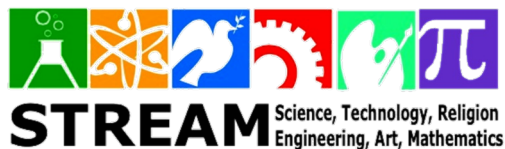
It is time to prepare for roller skating!

[Click here to volunteer to assist in your child's class!](#)

See the Family Folder section below for the parent letter, permission form for skating and...

NEW for middle school, the permission form for C'Motion

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Throughout the school year your child will be participating in STREAM activities; STREAM stands for Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art and Mathematics.

The goal of STREAM is to provide students with real-world problem solving opportunities. STREAM allows students to think outside the box with project-based learning.

Below is a list of household materials that we will be using to create our STREAM projects. If you are willing to donate any of the items below, please send them in with your child.

Aluminum Foil  
Baking Soda  
Balloons  
Clothespins  
Colored Tissue Paper  
Cork  
Duct Tape  
Food Coloring  
Legos  
Pipe Cleaners  
Straws  
String  
Toothpicks  
Twist Ties

Please note: At this time we cannot accept any more paper towel/toilet paper rolls.

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**NEW to Holy Spirit!**

**[Click here to register](#)**

# AFTER SCHOOL SOCCER ACADEMY

**COME ENJOY SOCCER WITH US!**

The Players Soccer Academy strives to build confidence, cultivate friendships and create enjoyment through the sport of soccer. We aim to set ourselves apart by instilling the importance of social and character development within all of our participants.



**WHERE:** Holy Spirit School Back Field  
**DATE:** Thursday Sept. 14th - Nov 2nd (8 sessions)  
**TIME:** 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm directly after school  
**GRADE:** Kindergarten - 4th Grade  
**COST:** \$120 per student  
**REGISTER:** [www.ThePlayersSoccerAcademy.com](http://www.ThePlayersSoccerAcademy.com)

The make up session will be Nov. 9th which is a half day so the session will run from 12:00 - 1:00 PM. Please have students bring the appropriate footwear and clothing on soccer days.

**PLAYERSOCCERACADEMY@GMAIL.COM • 703-598-5039**

**THE  
PSA.** 

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**Chess Club Sign-up**  
**Fall Session begins October 2nd**

[Click here for registration page](#)

## Holy Spirit Fall 2017 Chess Club



Chess club is taught by experienced Silver Knights instructors using a curriculum developed by National Masters. Each weekly session is a mix of learning and play. Playing chess is a great way to develop a child's critical thinking skills, sportsmanship, and patience — all while having fun!

### REGISTRATION

To register or for more information, go to:

[www.skenrichment.com](http://www.skenrichment.com)

To request financial aid, please visit our website.

#### Chess Club Details:

- ⇒ All grades and skill levels welcome!
- ⇒ All equipment provided
- ⇒ Dates: Club meets every Monday that school is in session starting 10/2 and ending 1/8
- ⇒ Club meets in Meeting Room 3
- ⇒ Time: 3:20pm—4:20pm
- ⇒ Tuition: \$168 for 12 weeks
- ⇒ Make-up meetings on 1/22, 1/29, if needed
- ⇒ Club does not meet on 10/9, 12/25, 1/1



[www.skenrichment.com](http://www.skenrichment.com)

Questions? Email: [Info@skenrichment.com](mailto:Info@skenrichment.com) or call: 703.574.2070





Holy Spirit School  
Fire & Ice Auction

Mark your calendar now!  
Saturday, November 4th  
Springfield Golf and Country Club  
6:00 - 10:00 PM

A packet with information and raffle tickets  
will be sent home to each family at the Open  
House on August 25th.

See the school website for donor and  
registration information

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# Why should your son join Boy Scout Troop 50?



- ▶ He's between **11 and 17 years old**.
- ▶ He's interested in **hiking, bicycling, knives (and knife safety), first aid, backpacking, swimming, high adventure camping, fire (and fire safety), rifle-shooting (and gun safety), making friends, cooking, hanging out with other guys**, and generally having "fun with a purpose"- one of the goals of Boy Scouting.
- ▶ He's interested in finding out how he can **help others** through ongoing projects for our parish and community.
- ▶ He's interested in learning how to be a **strong leader, a good citizen, a man of character**— with the help of trained adult leaders but primarily through *scouts teaching other scouts*.
- ▶ He's ready to find out more at our first meeting of the school year: **Monday, September 11, 7:15-9:00 pm, Meeting Room 3 of Holy Spirit School**. For more information, contact Scoutmaster Dan Brunk at 703-323-1974 or Committee Chair Regina FitzSimmons at 703-978-0982.

*During the 20+ years that Troop 50 has been in existence, it has organized and executed innumerable service projects for local public and private schools, neighborhood parks, homeless shelters, food pantries, Holy Spirit Parish and other parishes, as well as other local ministries, and produced more than 125 Eagle scouts.*

#### Eagle Scout Project at Oakwood School



#### Eagle Scout Project: Computer Recycling



#### Eagle Scout Projects on parish grounds



*Troop 50 offers a Catholic scouting program approved by our pastor and sponsored by Holy Spirit Parish. We emphasize opportunities to grow physically and emotionally, learn to be good citizens and leaders, learn about their faith and earn religious emblems, and serve the community.*

Join today!

Now Forming:  
Holy Spirit Girl Scout  
Junior Troop

For all 4th and 5th Grade Girls

A place for young girls to gain  
**Confidence** through learning new skills;  
**Courage** to be a leader;  
**Character** to live out their values

**Parent Information night Tuesday,**  
**September 12th from 7-8pm** in the School  
Cafeteria

Contact Mary Yelnicker if you are interested  
in joining!

Email: [mad\\_boo@hotmail.com](mailto:mad_boo@hotmail.com)  
Phone: 406-750-0612



go-getter • innovator • risk-taker • leader

*Adult Volunteers are needed*

Please contact Mary Yelnicker for information

# FALL KICK OFF

## YOUTH

### *MIDDLE SCHOOL*

*September 15, 2017*

7:30-9:30PM

All Middle Schoolers (6th-8th Graders) are invited to join us for our Kick Off Meeting in the Holy Spirit School building! We will have manhunt, pizza, and a chance to meet new friends!

Wear clothes you can run in!

### *HIGH SCHOOL*

*September 17, 2017*

7:00-9:00PM

All High Schoolers are invited to join us for our Kickoff Meeting in the Youth Room (located in the school building)! There will be good food, awesome games, and you can meet the new High School Youth Minister!



REGISTER ONLINE at [www.holyspritchurch.us/youth](http://www.holyspritchurch.us/youth)

# Parish Open House

# House

&

Side Dish  
Potluck

# Picnic

Sunday, September 10

Join us for fun and fellowship!

All Are Invited

Open House: 10am-1pm

Picnic: 1-4pm

Many volunteers needed, youth and adult.

Information, and volunteer sign-up:

[www.HolySpiritChurch.us](http://www.HolySpiritChurch.us)



## TOTUS TUUS

WE ARE TOTALLY YOURS, MARY

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge  
invites you to the biennial  
Diocese of Arlington Pilgrimage

SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 14, 2017

BASILICA OF THE  
NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE  
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
IN WASHINGTON D.C.

For more details please visit  
[www.arlingtondiocese.org/  
diocesanpilgrimage](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/diocesanpilgrimage)



## A PILGRIM EXPERIENCE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

- 9:00 A.M.  
Opening Music
- 9:30 A.M.  
Welcome & Rosary
- 10:00 A.M.  
Confessions  
Seek and Find Family Activity
- 11:00 A.M.  
Holy Hour with Reflections on the  
Message of Fatima
- 12:00 P.M.  
Lunch
- 1:30 P.M.  
Mass with Bishop Burbidge  
Blessing of Religious Articles
- 2:30 P.M.  
Eucharistic Procession to  
Saint John Paul II National Shrine
- 3:00 P.M.  
Benediction & Divine Mercy Chaplet  
at Saint John Paul II National Shrine

#### HOW DO WE GET THERE?

Carpool with family and friends to the Basilica.

WHAT IF WE CAN'T STAY FOR THE WHOLE DAY?  
Join the pilgrimage for any part of the day you can!

Need more information? Contact Dawn Beutner at 703-978-1096, [thebeutners@cox.net](mailto:thebeutners@cox.net).

#### WILL THERE BE FOOD AVAILABLE FOR LUNCH?

Pilgrims can brown-bag their lunches, buy lunches from the shrine cafeteria, or pick up box lunches that will be available near the cafeteria during the lunch break.



[Click here for the September 2017 school lunch menu.](#)

Send in a separate menu for each child in your family along with a check for payment. The cost of lunches is \$5.00/day/lunch.  
Reminder that you must purchase milk/water separately in order for your child to receive it - beverages are not included in the lunch price.

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## Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "August 31, 2017 "(or [CLICK HERE](#)). For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

### School Flyers:

1. Auction Sponsor Donation Form
2. September lunch menu
3. Parent Letter - Roller skating
4. Permission form - Roller skating (grades K-5)
5. Permission form - C'Motion (grade 6-8)
6. Chess Club Flyer
7. Players Soccer Academy (grades K-4)

### Parish Flyers:

1. Youth Ministry Kickoff
2. Parish Picnic and Open House
3. Pilgrimage Flyer

### Community Flyers:

1. Boy Scouts Troop 50 Flyer
  2. Girl Scouts Flyer
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