

# From the Principal's Desk

January 12, 2017



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## *Holy Spirit School*

*Celebrating 50 Years of Inspiring Minds and Igniting Hearts  
1966 - 2016*

## Technology Challenge

Below you will find information regarding what we are calling our "Dimes for Devices" classroom challenge. We are embarking on what we hope will be a fun way to help raise additional funds that will be aimed directly at technology needs in our school. The majority of the current Activeboards in the school were purchased in 2007 and certainly that type of Smart Board technology has changed along with general technology needs in each of the classrooms.

Technology is such a "buzzword" in today's education arena; please know that first and foremost the administration and faculty are striving to keep a balance for our students throughout their educational journey. We certainly recognize that we have a responsibility to educate children to use and explore technology in a safe and responsible manner but also never want to undercut the tremendous value of having a book in one's hand and learning to cut, paste, and color.

Thank you for supporting our endeavor.

After the rather cold weather earlier in the week, it was certainly a treat to have the warmer temperature today. Yet, we all know that the cold is right around the corner again so please be sure that your students are coming to school with appropriate jackets, hats, and mittens/gloves. We try very hard to send the students outside even when the temperature is right around 32 degrees so that they can get some fresh air and run around. It is difficult to send students outside when they are not dressed appropriately. Thanks for your assistance with that!

Reminder that next week is only a two day week for the students. Monday, January 16 is a federal holiday, Tuesday is teacher professional development, and Friday the school is closed for the Presidential Inauguration.

Similarly, please remember that Friday, January 27th is the March for Life. It is an 11:30 am dismissal day for everyone. Extended Day will close at 5:00 pm that day in order to accommodate the guests that will be staying in the building after the event. If you are interested in participating in the March For Life as a family, please find information on the church website: [holyspiritchurch.us](http://holyspiritchurch.us). For students who are going, that is considered an excused absence from school; please let your child's teacher and Mrs. Wild know if he/she will be absent.

Catholic Schools Week is right around the corner, please see the schedule of events below. This is always an exciting week for us as we celebrate all that is great about Catholic education.

Thank you for all that you regularly do to support Holy Spirit School. We have an amazing community!

*-Maureen Ashby*

Principal

*Holy Spirit 2016/2017 - Building the Future through Faith and Family*



## **DIMES FOR DEVICES**

### **January 12 - January 31, 2017**

**Devices don't come a dime a dozen, but dimes can buy us dozens of devices.**

**Announcing the DIMES FOR DEVICES challenge!**

Homerooms will challenge each other across the school to see who can fill a two liter soda bottle full of dimes first. This fundraiser will allow us to update some of our older technology and acquire new devices, helping our students thrive in 21st century learning.

## PRIZES

The first homeroom to fill their bottle will win a pizza party.  
The second homeroom will win an ice cream party.  
The third homeroom will win an extra recess period.  
Each homeroom will win a dress down day when they fill their bottle!!!

Ready, Set, GO!

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**Attention 3rd-5th grade students,  
Board Game Club is back!**

When: January 26, February 2, February 9, February 16,  
February 23

Time: 3:15 to 4:00 p.m.

Where: Room 14

Sign Up Link: [Holy Spirit Board Game Club](#)

Students may bring a favorite board game or use the available club board games. Students are encouraged to bring a healthy snack to eat after school.

Please note: Room 14 is a Nut Free zone.

We will only be able to accept 20 students. You will receive a follow up email to confirm your participation.

If you have any questions please contact us by email  
(or [jmarino@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:jmarino@holyspiritflames.org) or [bfranchi@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:bfranchi@holyspiritflames.org)).

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## Catholic Schools Week 2017 January 29 - February 3, 2017



### Schedule of Events

#### Sunday, January 29

- 9:00 Parish Mass
  - Please join us in celebrating Mass with the Holy Spirit parish community. Students are encouraged to show their school pride by wearing their uniform.
- Open House for prospective families from 1:00 – 2:30pm in the school.

#### Monday, January 30

- "Parent Appreciation Day"
- Look for your parent "thank you" in the morning carpool line.
- Prayer Service – 8:30am

#### Tuesday, January 31

- "Student Appreciation" Day
- Dress-down day
- All school movie/popcorn in the afternoon

#### Wednesday, February 1

- "Service Day"
- Special guest speaker: Sr. Rosemarie from the Little Sisters of the Poor @ 10 am in the gym
  - Please come join us and our guest speaker

#### Thursday, February 2

- Faculty and Staff Appreciation" Day
- This is a great opportunity for your student(s) to write a note of appreciation to their teacher(s).

#### Friday, February 3

- "Clergy Appreciation Day"
- 9:00am School Mass
- Students will honor not only the work that Father O'Donohue, Father Peter, Father Carroll and Deacon LaDuca do within the school and parish community, but also the efforts of those involved with the parish Religious Education office and youth ministry.

[Click Here for CSW Service Project Parent Letter](#)

## Save the Date!

May 20, 2017  
Holy Spirit School 2017 Spirit Run  
Burke Lake Park



### Holy Spirit School 2017 Spirit Run T-Shirt Design Contest

Show your creativity and school spirit by designing the T-shirt for our Holy Spirit School Spirit Run 5K on May 20th!

Winner's design will be featured on the Holy Spirit School Spirit Run T-Shirt and be part of Spirit Run 5K history. You will also receive one free registration for the run.

#### Guidelines:

- Design must incorporate this year's theme "Building the Future through Faith and Family"
- Your design can only contain 2 different colors.
- Please submit your design on 8 1/2" x 11 paper to the front office.
- Include your name and grade on the back of the design.
- The deadline for submission is the end of the school day on January 31st, and the winner will be announced at the end of Catholic Schools Week.

**GO FLAMES!**

Any questions? See Mrs. Gibbons or Ms. Hicks

# It's Recorder Time!!



It is recorder time for those in 3rd & 4th Grade! All students will need to bring soprano recorders and a two pocket folder to music class starting in the 3rd Quarter!

Your first day of recorder will be  
3 Payne- Tuesday, January 31st  
3 Crone- Thursday, February 2nd  
4th Grade- Thursday, February 2nd

Your 3rd/4th Grader will need to bring their recorder and folder to every music class in the third quarter. Recorder attendance and class preparedness will be reflected their music grade.

## Where to Get a Recorder

The recommended brand is Yamaha, which you can find at the following locations:

Music and Arts Center- Locations in Springfield, Falls Church, Oakton, Burke, Mclean and more.

[musicarts.com](http://musicarts.com)

Twinbrooke Music- in the Twinbrooke Shopping Center.

[twinbrookemusic.com](http://twinbrookemusic.com)

Toys R Us- Locations in Baily's Crossroads, Alexandria, Fairfax and more.

[toysrus.com](http://toysrus.com)

[Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)- search "Yamaha soprano recorder."

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me!  
[lgullickson@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:lgullickson@holyspiritflames.org)

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## 2017 - 2018 Financial Aid Applications

Applications are now being accepted for the 2017 - 2018 school year.

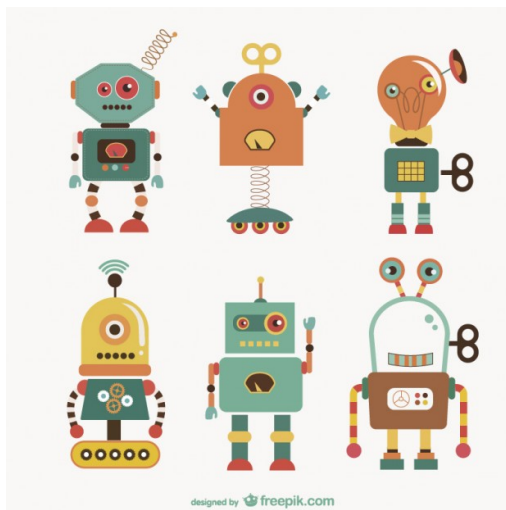
For the upcoming school year, the Diocese of Arlington has decided to once again use FACTS Grant and Aid for the assessment of tuition financial aid. To be considered for the first round of awards, applications and supporting documents must be received by the FACTS Grant and Tuition Aid offices no later than March 17, 2017. Families who currently have financial assistance must reapply to be considered for an award in the upcoming school year.

Apply on-line at <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3QVGQ>.

[Click here for additional parent resources.](#)

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## Robotics at Holy Spirit



Would you like to help us build our robotics program?

Thank you to those families who have already donated to our robotics program at Holy Spirit. We are looking forward to the arrival of our own WeDo 2.0 robots. As a compliment to those we are all seeking to purchase sets of Ozobots which provide for a different type of programming challenge for the students.

Donations large or small are appreciated.

Thank you!

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**Holy Spirit School is now on Twitter!**

**@HSS\_Flames**

**Follow us to see some of the fun and exciting things that go on here at school each day!**

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**Lunch Menu**

Please remember that beverages are **not** included in the cost of the hot lunch meals. If your child is having milk or bottled water with lunch that must be paid separately (the link is available under the *Current*



## *Families tab).*

Please note that we have been apprised of increases in food prices from our lunch vendors. As a result daily lunch prices will increase to \$5.00/day. The new pricing will begin in February.

[Click here for the February lunch menu](#)

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## Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "January 12, 2017" (or follow the links here) For your convenience, some flyers are repeated:

### School Flyers:

1. [Catholic Schools Week Schedule of Events](#)
2. [Catholic Schools Week Service Project Parent Letter](#)
3. [February Lunch Menu](#)
4. [3rd and 4th grade Recorder Flyer](#)
5. [Spirit Run T-shirt Flyer](#)

### Parish Flyers:

1. [Knights of Columbus BINGO](#)
2. [Squire Roses](#)
3. [Spiritual Pilgrimage to Lourdes & Medjugore](#)

### Community Flyers:

1. [Diocese of Arlington Teacher Job Fair](#)
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