

# From the Principal's Desk

January 18, 2018



## Quick Links

[School Site](#)

[School Calendar](#)



**Holy Spirit School**  
***Inspiring Minds / Igniting Hearts***  
**2017 / 2018**  
**"Respect and Responsibility in Action"**

## ***A Special Reminder Regarding the March for Life...***

As we walk the hallways and overhear student conversations, a frequent topic today is whether students are attending the March for Life. I certainly would love to have as many as possible attend! If your family is indeed attending the March, please, please, please let both your child's homeroom teacher and Mrs. Wild know so that we may account for student absences correctly and without having to call a plethora of families.

If you are attending, please know that you will be in the thoughts and prayers of those of us here "holding down the fort".

Stay warm tomorrow!

We are still receiving re-registration paperwork (Yeah!). A reminder that the due date for returning the paperwork was yesterday. As stated in the Financial Agreement, if both

paperwork and payment are not received on or before February 1st, a place for the student will no longer be held until paid.

When 2nd quarter report cards are sent home, included in the envelope will be an accounting of each family's PSSC volunteer hours. If you've not yet taken the opportunity to log volunteer time via the link under the PTO tab on the school website, please do so now so that we have as true an accounting as possible for your family. Reports will be run by Friday, January 26th. Questions? Please contact your PSSC representative.

**A reminder that club pictures (things like chess club, Student Council, Math Olympiad, etc. )will be taken for the yearbook on Tuesday, January 23rd. Students who anticipate having their picture taken should come to school in their regular dress uniform. Students who are a part of a sport team (tennis, basketball, cheerleading, etc.) should BRING their team uniform to school with them.**

A favorite day at Holy Spirit is just around the corner - Grandparents Day. Please see the flyer below for the date and particulars.

*-Maureen Ashby*

Principal

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## *Uniform Updates*

*Uniform changes are never easy as they bring associated costs and a break from what has "always been". Our school uniform has not seen any updates in numerous years and so the decision was made to look at some of the new offerings from our vendor, Flynn & O'Hara. One of the main goals was to bring the uniform back to the traditional colors of the school: maroon and grey; thus, the blue polo shirt is being retired.*

*For years the two different colored polo shirts helped designate the middle school students from the elementary students - that distinction will now be seen instead with a*

*difference in the skirts for the girls and pants for the boys. The maroon polo will be used throughout all of the grade levels beginning next year.*

*A refresh and update of the embroidery on the polo (and the fleece) was also done to incorporate the full school name and the flame symbol.*

*Additionally, it was decided that the prekindergarten students will go into a uniform in order to solidify their status as Holy Spirit students.*

*As soon as the paperwork with Flynn & O'Hara is finished and the timeline of production of the new pieces is known, that information will be passed along. The specific uniform policy will be provided at that point as well but hopefully the pictures below will give you a sense of the changes. The pieces will be available in the office as well if you would like to see them.*

*There will be a one year "grandfathering" of the current uniform as this is particularly important for rising 5th and rising 8th graders.*



PreK & Kindergarten girls Fall & Spring - Maroon jersey dress w/ logo (traditional plaid jumper and/or pants with polo for Winter)



PreK - Grade 5 boys - steel grey pants (same as current pants; still have shorts option for Fall & Spring)  
Maroon polo w/ logo



Grades 1-5 girls Fall & Spring option - Plaid skirt (no more grey skirt)  
Maroon polo w/ logo  
(traditional jumper and/or pants with polo option for Winter)



All students PreK-8, as applicable, will be in the maroon polo w/ logo



Grades 6-8 girls - year round - grey wrap-around kilt  
Maroon polo w/ logo



Grades 6-8 boys - year round - dark grey pants  
Maroon polo w/ logo



Prek-8 - optional - full zip fleece w/ logo



New logo for polo, jersey dress, and fleece

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***Catholic Schools Week 2018***



## Schedule of Events

### Sunday, January 28

- 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 29

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

### Tuesday, January 30

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

### Wednesday, January 31

- **“Service Day”**
- **Special guest speaker: Sr. Catherine from the Little Sisters of the Poor @ 10 am in the gym**
  - Please come join us and our guest speaker
- PTO luncheon for the faculty/staff

### Thursday, February 1

- **“Student Appreciation” Day**
- Dress-down day (follow school policy for dress-down days)
- All school movie/popcorn in the afternoon

### 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, Deacon LaDuca and Deacon Grodek do within the school and parish community, but also the efforts of those involved with the parish Religious Education office and youth ministry.



**Holy Spirit** | *Inspiring Minds*  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL | **Igniting Hearts**

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a blessed Christmas break (plus the extra snow days) and enjoyed some much needed rest and time with family. 2018 promises to be as exciting, fun and full of learning as 2017! We are just a few weeks away from celebrating Catholic Schools Week (January 28-February 2). This year's theme is *Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.* Our school-wide service project this year will again benefit the *Little Sisters of the Poor*. The *Little Sisters of the Poor* are a religious order whose mission is to serve the elderly poor. We are asking that each student in prek-8<sup>th</sup> grade fill a brown grocery bag (which will be sent home) with their grade-level assigned canned items (see attached). Of course, filling more than one bag is always welcome! The items will be donated to the St. Joseph Home in Henrico, VA. The school is very fortunate that Sr. Catherine from the *Little Sisters of the Poor* will be on campus Wednesday, January 31 at 10 am to collect the donations, and speak with the students regarding religious life and the work and mission of her order. Parents are invited to attend! Thank you for your support!

Blessings,

Natalie Evans  
Assistant Principal





## LITTLE SISTERS *of the* POOR

Each student to bring in any one of the listed items for their grade in any quantity.

**PreK, Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> Grades:**

- Paper Goods
  - Paper Plates (small & large sizes)
  - Plastic Ware Utensils
  - Paper Cups (hot or cold)

**2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grades:**

- Dove Bar Soap (individually wrapped)
- Toothpaste
- Mouthwash
- Ladies Deodorant

**5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades:**

- Lotions (unscented)
  - Hand Sanitizer
  - Paper Towels
  - Paper Napkins
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"Nobody can do for little children what grandparents do. Grandparents sort of sprinkle stardust over the lives of little children." - Unknown



February 9<sup>th</sup>  
is  
**GRANDPARENT'S DAY at Holy Spirit School!**

9:00 AM Mass followed by classroom visits

Students come to school at the normal time. Grandparents join them for 9:00 AM Mass. Grandparents meet grandchildren in the school at 8:30 AM for the walk to church. After mass, Grandparents are invited to join their grandchildren in the classrooms for refreshments and some enjoyable activities.

Students without Grandparents available are encouraged to 'adopt' a grandparent for the morning. This could be a friend or neighbor. Please send us a note if such an arrangement is being made



# 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:

3rd Grade- Friday, February 2

4th Grade- Thursday, February 1

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!  
[atoussaint@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:atoussaint@holyspiritflames.org)

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Holy Spirit Players is proud to present...

# AUDITIONS



Who: 3rd Quarter 7th & 8th Grade Music & PE Electives  
Where: Music Room  
When: Tuesday & Thursday January 30th & February 1st  
During Elective Class 8:15-9:15 am

Audition materials can be found on the "Auditions: Peter Pan Jr" Page on Power Learning. Students in both Music and PE Electives have been enrolled into the page and should be able to access the material. There will be a schedule to sign up for coaching times if needed, for help in preparation for your audition. Please don't hesitate to sign up!

For any questions, please contact  
Mr. Toussaint at [atoussaint@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:atoussaint@holyspiritflames.org) or  
Ms. Gregas at [jgregas@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:jgregas@holyspiritflames.org)

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# **Holy Spirit's Logo Design Contest**

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**We Need a Logo for our Upcoming Reading Fundraiser!**

## **BUCKS FOR BOOKS**

### **Details:**

- All students at Holy Spirit School are eligible (one entry per student)
- Logos will be judged by a panel of teachers & administrators
- The winner will be announced during Catholic School Week at the end of January
- The winner will receive a Dr. Seuss reading t-shirt and will earn a dress-down day for their class!
- The chosen logo will be used in all advertisements for the fundraiser

### **Entry Instructions:**

- Submit entry on a sheet of white paper
- Must include the name of our fundraiser, "Bucks for Books"
- Use color and be creative
- Include your name, grade, teacher at the bottom of your entry

## **BUCKS FOR BOOKS**

**Kicks off Friday, March 2**

Questions? Email Mrs. Schnitzius at: [tschnitzius@cox.net](mailto:tschnitzius@cox.net)

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# Holy Spirit School's Spring Talent Showcase & Dance



**SAVE THE DATE!!!**



Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm



The talent showcase is open to all students in all grades. You can sing, dance, play an instrument, perform a scene, recite a poem, or even perform a skill like hula hoop or martial arts! We've also had jugglers, magic acts, and comedy



The Lobby art show will again be held for those who wish to submit artwork.

*Talent registrations (auditions) will be in March*



Important Forms will be coming soon!!

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**Holy Spirit**

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

&

little sparks

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

*Inspiring Minds* | Igniting Hearts

## *Delivery is Scheduled!*

### *Learning Today...Leading Tomorrow*

We are on track for delivery of all 28 ActivPanels the week of January 29th. Installation should take between one and two weeks.

That firm date again drives home the point that we are counting on each of our Holy Spirit families to support the campaign. Thank you, thank you, thank you to those families who have already donated.

The Promethean ActivPanel is an award winning device that is powered by an external Android-based mini PC which can be upgraded over time in order to keep pace with advances in technology.

For our 21st Century Learners interactive technology is as "normal" a part of their learning as the overhead projector was to most of ours. When used well, interactive technology increases teacher-student engagement and has been shown to boost overall performance. Although Holy Spirit School prides itself on maintaining a healthy balance between traditional learning methods and technology-based learning, as an institution that inspires life-long learners and ignites servant-leaders through a program of academic excellence grounded in the traditions and values of the Holy Catholic Church we know that we must keep pace with the changing world of education technology.

The students before us today and those who will join us in the future are set to be not only our future fathers, mothers, clergy and religious but also captains of industry, leading entrepreneurs, humanitarians, and scholars.

For those who are ready to donate, please either follow the link below or you may also send a check made payable to Holy Spirit School. Please designate on the memo line "ActivPanel".

[Click here to donate to the Learning Today...Leading Tomorrow Campaign](#)

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45th Annual

# March for Life

Friday, January 19th



Join us for Breakfast at 8:30am in the School Cafeteria,  
followed by a special Mass at 10:15 AM,  
then travel with us to the March.

Busses will leave Holy Spirit at 11:00 AM and return around 4:30 PM.

Our Lady  
of Guadalupe,  
pray for us!



**HOLY  
SPIRIT**  
Catholic Church

To reserve a bus seat, click the blue "March for Life" button on the parish web site ([www.holyspirtchurch.us](http://www.holyspirtchurch.us)). Sign up is first come, first serve. Breakfast is \$5/person.



Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

# Council Free Throw Competition



**Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**7:30 pm**  
**School Gym**

A free competition for boys and girls, ages 9-14. Each contestant competes by shooting free throws. Winners in each category receive a plaque and are advanced to District competition. All contestants receive a certificate. For more information, contact Mike Poumade at [poumade@prodigy.net](mailto:poumade@prodigy.net) or 703-425-8769.

**HOLY  
SPIRIT**  
Catholic Church



# Family Bingo for Life

All proceeds will go to support efforts to protect the unborn.

## Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup>

In Holy Spirit School Cafeteria  
Doors Open 6 PM | Games Begin 7 PM

### Admission

(Includes Book of 3 Cards)

**All proceeds will go to support efforts to protect the unborn.**

- Players 12 Years and Older: \$5
- Players Under 12 Years: \$3
  - Extra Cards \$1
- Free for children under 5 years who are not playing.

### Snacks Sold

- Pizza • Hot Dogs
- Nachos • Soft Drinks

### Prizes

- Cash Bingo Prizes
  - Additional prizes for other games
- All children will receive a prize.



KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS

HOLY  
SPIRIT  
Catholic Church

For information, contact Ron Poussard at [ronpoussard@mac.com](mailto:ronpoussard@mac.com)  
Event sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Holy Spirit Council. Don't miss it!



Washington's Leading  
Early Music Voices

David Taylor, Founder and Music Director

**RENAISSANCE VESPERS**

TREASURES OF CATHOLIC POLYPHONY  
BY SPAIN'S GREATEST COMPOSERS  
*MORALES, GUERRERO, VICTORIA*



**Saturday, January 27th**

**7:30 PM**

**Holy Spirit Church**

5121 Woodland Way, Annandale, VA

"Edge-of-seat vitality . . . an evening of exceptionally interesting and moving music"

~ THE WASHINGTON POST

Admission is **FREE** of charge

**HOLY  
SPIRIT**  
Catholic Church



[Click here for the February 2018 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.

## NEW "LUNCH SEMESTER"

January 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It's time to welcome in the second semester of the school year.

If you would like to purchase lunches for the semester, the cost is \$390.00 and **must be paid online** – under the *Current Families* tab click on the button "Semester Lunch Form". Payments for a full semester of lunches are via credit card through the school's Stripe account.

Monthly menus should be accessed and printed through the school's website – under *Current Families* tab click on "Lunch Menu" button and scroll to the bottom of the page.

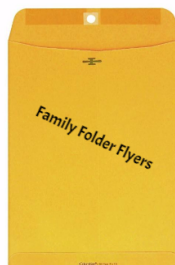
The cost for purchasing lunches will be \$5.00 per day. The ordering for daily and/or monthly meals will remain the same procedure as last year – per child, a lunch menu should be returned to the school with choices circled and a check for full payment must be included.

If your child forgets his/her lunch at home or in the classroom the cafeteria staff will provide a lunch for them. You will receive a \$5.00 fee for each occurrence.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me [schomko@holyspiritflames.org](mailto:schomko@holyspiritflames.org)

Sharon Chomko  
Cafeteria Manager

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Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labelled "January 18, 2018 "(or [CLICK HERE](#) ). For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

School Flyers:

1. February Lunch menu
2. Semester lunch letter
3. Catholic Schools Week Schedule of Events
4. CSW letter from Mrs. Evans
5. Little Sisters of the Poor collection flyer
6. PTO Bucks for Books logo contest
7. PTO Talent Showcase "Save the date" flyer
8. Winter Chess Club flyer
9. Grandparents Day flyer
10. Peter Pan - 7th & 8th grade audition information flyer

Parish Flyers:

1. March for Life flyer
2. This Man is You flyer
3. Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition flyer
4. Family BINGO flyer
5. Renaissance Vespers flyer

Community Flyers:

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