

From the Principal's Desk

January 19, 2017



Quick
Links

[School
Site](#)

[School
Calendar](#)



Holy Spirit School

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

2nd Quarter Closes January 27th

Amazingly we are at the end of the 2nd quarter of the school year! We have so many exciting events that are upcoming in the near future especially with the start of Catholic Schools Week on Sunday, January 29th. Please be sure to look at the information included here and on the school calendar in order to be up to date with all of the "goings-on" here at Holy Spirit.

The end of the 2nd quarter is a great time to take a look at your student's school supplies. Many students are arriving in classes without pens, pencils, paper, notebooks, etc. and students are telling teachers they have run out of or lost needed materials. Thank you for your assistance with this.

On Tuesday, January 24th we will have yearbook pictures taken of all clubs and sports teams associated with the school (for example, Chess Club, Student Council, CYO tennis, basketball, etc.). If your student will be involved with these pictures, please have them wear their dress uniform to school. Students who will be in pictures for CYO related sports should bring that uniform with them to school.

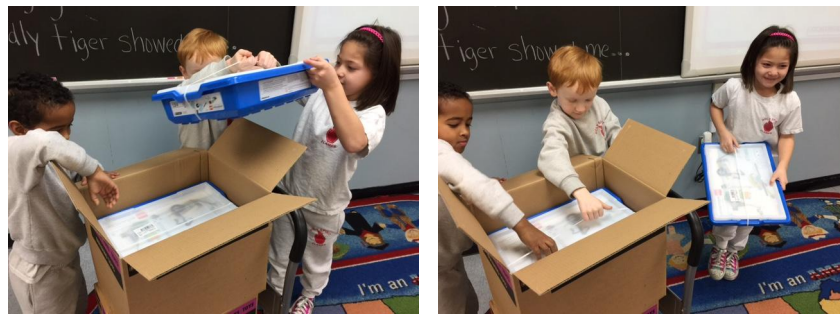
Please remember tomorrow, January 20th is a no school day in honor of the Inauguration. We will have an early dismissal on January 27th and Extended Day will close at 5:00 pm that day. If you are interested in participating in the March For Life as a family, please find information on the church website: 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.

I am hopeful that the registration materials for the 2017/2018 school year will go home on Monday, January 23rd. I apologize for the delay but was awaiting final approval of certain pieces.

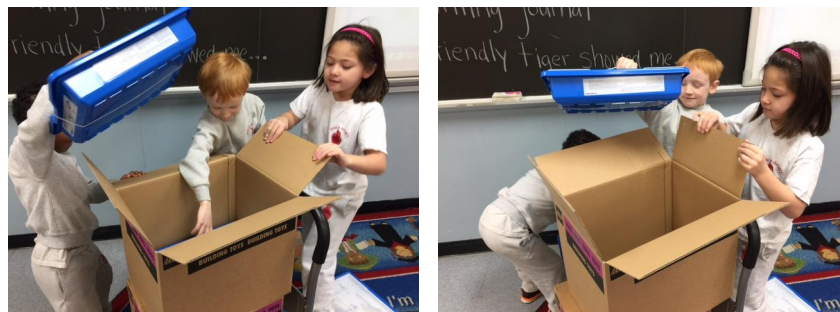
You should have received a grocery bag and "needs" list of items. This collection is a part of our Catholic Schools Week celebration. Each year we choose a charitable organization to partner with in order to continue to instill the benefits of service to others with the students. This year we have chosen the Little Sisters of the Poor and we are blessed to have on the schedule a visit from the Sisters so that they can speak to the children about their own mission of service to others.

Our "Dimes for Devices" classroom challenge is off to a rousing start with Mrs. Crone's 3rd grade class already capturing 1st place by filling their class bottle today. The 2nd and 3rd place prizes are still out there waiting to be claimed and every class can earn a dress down day! When a bottle is filled with dimes it contains approximately \$500.00. If all twenty homerooms fill their bottle we will have an additional \$10,000 to put toward upgrades and purchases (a single ActiveBoard system can cost upwards of \$5000.00). I hope you are able to assist us in this endeavor.

A tremendous thank you to those families who have made donations to benefit our robotics program. Eight brand-new WeDo 2.0 robots arrived this week and eighteen Ozobot robots are in the ordering process. We cannot wait to continue to expand our students' knowledge of coding and to give them the opportunity to explore with these devices in connection with their curriculum standards.



The WeDo robots have arrived!



I hope you enjoy this additional long weekend and thank you for all you do for our school community.

-Maureen Ashby



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!

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](#)

It's time to Roller Skate!



[Click here for Parent Letter](#)
[Click here for Permission Form](#)

**5K Spirit Run
Save the Date!
May 20, 2017**

Dear Holy Spirit School Family,

The resource program at Holy Spirit school has been committed to supporting students with mild to moderate disabilities as well as students who need organizational or academic support for many years. Beginning in the fall of 2015, we expanded our resource program and welcomed students with Intellectual Disabilities and other more significant needs into our classrooms. This school year, 2016, we were able to continue to increase our expanded resource program with an addition of four new students. These students are in the classrooms with their peers where they are learning side by side. This inclusive environment benefits the students, the teachers, the staff, and the entire Holy Spirit School community.

This growth was made possible through the generous support of organizations like Porto Charities, Inc. and the Knights of Columbus Kovar and the funds raised through our 5K Spirit Run last year. Those funds were utilized to hire a part time reading specialist to the resource support team and to purchase technology dedicated to the needs of our students.

Holy Spirit School will be hosting another 5K Spirit Run on Saturday, May 20, 2017 at Burke Lake to again raise funds and build community spirit. Despite the wet weather, last year's race was a great event. It created a wonderful opportunity for the parish community and the school community to come together as one. Our theme for this year is "Building the Future through Faith and Family." With your help, we would like to "build" on the efforts of last year to ensure that this year's 5K is an even greater success. Listed below are

several opportunities to show your support for our school.

- Create. Encourage your children to enter the T-shirt design contest. The winner's design will be featured on the official race T-Shirts, and the winner will receive one free race registration.
- Participate. Enter the race! Invite your families, friends, and neighbors to register. We encourage individuals, groups, families to walk or run.
- Volunteer. Volunteers are needed to prepare and distribute registration packets and to assist at various stations on race day. (Earn volunteer hours on a Saturday.)
- Sponsor. If you or someone you know has a business and would like to sponsor this race, we offer sponsorships at different levels. Please contact one of the race coordinators for additional information.

Registration details coming soon!

Thank you. Go Flames!
Sincerely,

Sue Gibbons and Sara Hicks
sgibbons@holyspiritflames.org, shicks@holyspiritflames.org



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

See the "Flyers" section at the bottom for sponsorship information

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

Twinbrooke Music- in the Twinbrooke Shopping Center.

twinbrookemusic.com

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

toysrus.com

Amazon.com- search "Yamaha soprano recorder."

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me!
lgullickson@holyspiritflames.org



2017 - 2018 Financial Aid Applications

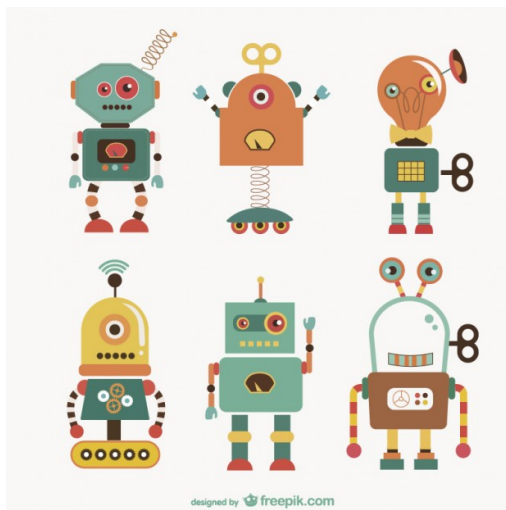
Applications are now being accepted for the 2017 - 2018 school year.

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/3QVGGQ>.

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

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. Eight of the WeDo 2.0 robots have arrived! We are in the process of buying a class set Ozobots in order to provide an additional type of experience.

We certainly will still accept donations large or small to help grow this program.

Thank you!



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!



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](#)



Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labeled "January 19, 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. [Skating Letter](#)
4. [Skating Permission Form](#)
5. [February Lunch Menu](#)
6. [3rd and 4th grade Recorder Flyer](#)

5K Spirit Run:

1. [5K Spirit Run Parent Letter](#)
2. [Spirit Run T-shirt Flyer](#)
3. [5K Spirit Run Sponsorship Letter](#)

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](#)

