

From the Principal's Desk

January 25, 2018



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

End of the Quarter...

The 2nd quarter comes to a close tomorrow, Friday, January 26th.

Please remember that this is an early dismissal day for all students (11:30 am) and that Extended Day will be open.

A reminder that re-registration paperwork is past due. The re-registration fee increases to \$150/student if not received by February 1st.

Current families who have siblings who may be joining us next year, please submit application materials to Mrs. Laclede as soon as possible.

As noted last week, an accounting of each family's PSSC volunteer hours will be included with the 2nd quarter report cards. Reports will be run tomorrow Friday, January 26th so I encourage you to take the opportunity to log your time. Questions? Please contact your PSSC representative.

An item that will not be included with reports cards for grades 3-7 is Scantron scores. Due to the inclement weather experienced at the beginning of January the testing window was extended another week. As soon as we are given the "okay" from the Office of Catholic Schools to print those reports we will send them home.

Catholic Schools Week begins on Sunday, January 25th. Our students will participate in the 9:00 am parish Mass and I encourage all of our students to proudly wear their uniforms to any of the Masses they attend. Additionally, we have our Open House for prospective families beginning at 1:00 pm - please help us by spreading the word to your friends and neighbors. Thank you!

Information regarding Grandparents Day continues to be listed below.

A reminder that Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, is Wednesday, February 14th. All of our students will attend the 9:00 Mass that day and receive ashes.

The up and down temperatures seem to be in full swing. Please note that we send the students out for recess as often as possible and more than a few end up being cold when they arrive at school with no coats. Additionally, we are not immune from the winter colds and flu - please remind your students to wash, wash, wash their hands and to cough and sneeze into the crook of their arm. Please refer to the handbook for policies concerning student illnesses; I would respectfully ask that you keep your child at home if he/she is complaining of illness so that we can help minimize the spread of colds and the flu.

That all being said, Spring will arrive and with it our annual 5K race to benefit the school's Resource Program. Please see the launch letter below as well as information on the t-shirt logo contest.

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

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
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Inspiring Minds
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-8th 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 & 1st Grades:

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

2nd, 3rd & 4th Grades:

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

5th, 6th, 7th & 8th 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 9th
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



Holy Spirit School's Spring Talent Showcase & Dance



SAVE THE DATE!!!



Saturday, April 28th, 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!!

5K Spirit Run to benefit Holy Spirit's Resource Program
Saturday, May 19th
Lake Accotink Park



Dear Holy Spirit Community,

For those who were able to join us at the 5K Spirit Run in 2017, we were truly blessed with a beautiful morning, 213 runners who crossed the finish line, and a spirit of community that was shared by all the families who participated. We raised \$12,000 for our ever-growing resource program so we can continue to meet the needs of our students with special needs and those who need resource support at Holy Spirit School. This year we hired a paraeducator to work with the students who need it most in the classroom. Our part-time reading specialist works in small groups and provides one-on-one assistance in reading remediation. Our full-time resource teachers touch the lives of all the students, not just those with special needs. They are in the classrooms working with the classroom teachers and are there before and after school to provide additional assistance to students when needed. We support more than 30 students in our school who need resource assistance in the areas of ADHD, Autism, Dyslexia, Intellectual Disabilities, Learning Disabilities, and other special needs. This fall we welcomed a new pre-school student to our expanded resource program. All these services need financial support to pay salaries, purchase equipment, and provide training for our teachers.

This year, on May 19, we will hold our annual 5K Spirit Run at Lake Accotink Park in Springfield. As always, our goal is not only financial, but we hope that this annual 5K brings the Holy Spirit to all those who participate. There are many ways to participate:

Become a sponsor: Gold, Silver, Bronze or 5K Friend;

Encourage your child to enter the t-shirt design contest;

Register for the race – <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Springfield/flamesspiritrn>;

Follow us on Facebook and share our posts with friends and family.

It is our goal to continue to raise awareness of our special education program at Holy Spirit School. This year's theme is "Respect and Responsibility in Action." As Catholics we teach our children that it is our responsibility to respect all of God's children and in the words of Pope Francis,

"An education in the fullness of humanity should be the defining feature of a Catholic School."

Thank you for your continued support of all our students at Holy Spirit School and I hope to see you on May 19th at Lake Accotink Park. **Early Bird Registration starts now and continues until March 31, 2018!**

Blessings,

Sue Gibbons, Race Coordinator
sgibbons@holyspiritflames.org

Show Your Spirit!

Show Your Creativity!

**Create the 2018 5K Spirit Run
T-shirt design and go down in Holy
Spirit School History!**



**The winning design will be featured on
over 250 race t-shirts, recognized on our
Holy Spirit School and 5K Spirit Run
social media, the Spirit Run race page,
plus receive a free race entry!**

Guidelines:

- **Design must incorporate this year's theme:
"Respect and Responsibility in Action"**
- **Your design can only contain 2 different colors.**
- **Please submit your design on 8 1/2" x 11 paper to front office.**
- **Include your name and grade on the back of design.**
- **Deadline for submission is by the end of the school day on
February 9th.**
- **All Holy Spirit School students are welcome to submit a design.**

Questions? See Mrs. Gibbons in Room #15

Already Ready to Sign-Up to Race?!
[Click Here](#)



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".



Family Bingo for Life

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

Saturday, January 27th

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. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Players 12 Years and Older: \$5• Players Under 12 Years: \$3<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extra Cards \$1• Free for children under 5 years who are not playing.	Snacks Sold <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pizza • Hot Dogs• Nachos • Soft Drinks	Prizes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cash Bingo Prizes• Additional prizes for other games All children will receive a prize.
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 **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** 

For information, contact Ron Poussard at 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

Soup Makers Needed!

Fridays February 16 - March 23

Supper 5:30 - 7 PM

Join us!



Can you donate your favorite
meatless soup to the
Friday Lenten Soup Suppers?

Contact Carol Eldridge
(703) 978-7141 or
cle74@hotmail.com

OR

www.HolySpiritChurch.us
click the yellow button

Volunteer!

Sponsored by the Holy Spirit Parish Squires

GEORGE MASON PATRIOTS vs. George Washington Colonials



**Saturday, February 10th
4:00 PM**

**George Mason University
EagleBank Arena**

Cost: \$15.00/ticket

(Squires will provide vouchers for snacks at no additional cost.)

Contact Aldo Domenichini at 703-850-4826 or
dcjasper07@verizon.net for more information.



[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

Sharon Chomko
Cafeteria Manager



Family Folder Flyers

The following flyers can be found on the website in the folder labelled "January 25, 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 Talent Showcase "Save the date" flyer
7. Winter Chess Club flyer
8. Grandparents Day flyer
9. Peter Pan - 7th & 8th grade audition information flyer

5K Spirit Run:

1. 5K Launch Letter
2. 5K Logo Contest flyer
3. 5K Sponsorship Letter

Parish Flyers:

1. That Man is You flyer
2. Family BINGO flyer
3. Renaissance Vespers flyer
4. Lenten Soup Suppers
5. GMU vs GW basketball game - sponsored by HS Squires

Community Flyers:
