From the Principal's Desk



September 24, 2020



Holy Spirit School Inspiring Minds/Igniting Hearts 2020/2021

"Protect the Creation; Praise the Creator"

Can you believe it is almost October?!

Seemingly we are settling into a bit of a flow and routine for our days here at school; I certainly hope you are find the same at home. It is difficult to believe that the official start of Fall has arrived and that next week will bring the beginning of October.

Below is information for this evening's virtual parent meeting for band. If your child is in grades 4-8 and interested in band, please be sure to take part beginning at 7:00 pm.

A reminder that this Sunday, September 27th, Holy Spirit Parish and School will host the Annual Diocesan Mass Celebrating Disabilities Awareness Month. This will be the 10:30 am Mass. Please join us.

Beginning on Tuesday, September 29th, we will be hosting the Design for Excellence Visiting Team assigned to us for the final step of our re-accreditation process. On Friday, October 2nd, we have an 11:30 am dismissal from school due to the conclusion of the self-study. There is NO afternoon Extended Day on that Friday.

1st Trimester interims will go home on Friday, October 9th. For students in Grades 3-8 who have a 75% or below, a paper interim will be sent home. Please be sure to make use of the

Parent Portal to check in on how your students are doing. If you have questions about your login credentials, please contact Mrs. Laclede (llaclede@holyspiritflames.org).

Monday, October 12th is a NO school day for everyone.

A few words about emergency drills. As you might imagine the policies and procedures surrounding the regular drills that we do here at school (fire drill, tornado drill, etc.) are looking just a bit different. The purpose of the drills is, of course, to develop a bit of muscle memory as to what we do and where we go for various emergencies. For now though, we have been asked to not have all of the children exiting the building at once for a fire drill or crouching together one on top of another in the hallway for a tornado drill, etc.

Rest assured, we are still practicing those drills, just in small groups for right now. Currently, we are in the thick of the all of the fire drills we are required to do during the first month of school. During each week set groups are exiting the building on particular days at particular times. We will build on that going into next month when the days/times/groups become more random

All of the other drills we are required to run will also take place just in modified versions.

The first PTO Spirit Day is scheduled for Thursday, October 22nd. The monthly Spirit Days are opportunities for students to come to school in their official spirit gear instead of their uniform. Please remember that acceptable spirit gear are those items that were purchased via the PTO Spirit Gear Store.

Before we know it the Student Council sponsored Spirit Week will be here (week of October 26th)! Please watch for information on all of the fun to come in the next couple of weeks. I highly encourage everyone to participate as fully as possible in the various dress-up days and activities.

Enjoy the weekend!

-Maureen Ashby

Principal

Required Symptom Screening Questionnaire

We continue to work on an App for the daily health screening. Students must continue to arrive at school each day with a paper copy of the completed form. We are asking for the paper copy for now as trying to manage emails from families at the start of each day is not workable or practical for the staff.

Required Symptom Screening Questionnaire - 8.27.2020



BAND PARENTS' ZOOM MEETING

Thursday, September 24, 2020, 7:00pm

Meeting ID = 881 1849 1762 Passcode = g4jMbT

What your child will need to start Band at Holy Spirit School:

- Attached Lesson and Tuition Agreement (filled out). Scan or take a
 picture of the Agreement. Send a copy to rlittle@holyspiritflames.org.
 Write a check out to--Garwood Whaley Music Program--students must
 sign up for lessons for at least half of the school year (January). Mail
 the check and copy of the Lesson & Tuition Agreement to:
 Garwood Whaley Music Program
 1816 Duffield Lane, Alexandria, VA 22307-1172
- Instrument--I suggest that you rent to own to start out. (June purchase)
 (Clarinets and saxophones will also need 4 extra reeds--size 2.5 for
 now.) A representative from Music & Arts will be at this zoom
 meeting with information about renting an instrument. We have a
 limited number of school instruments to rent. (\$30.00 per year—Do
 not let the cost of the instrument keep your child out of band.)
- 3. Music Book-Essential Elements for Band-Book 1 for your instrument. (All band students need to purchase this book!) Once you have the book, it is important to go to myeelibrary.com enter the Student Activation Code (on title page of book), and watch the video. Watch the video with your child. (This is very important!) Information about how to care for, set up, and get a sound on your instrument is provided. Next, students can click on the videos to start listening to good sounds. The first notes (number exercise to listen and play along) are: Flute, Trumpet, Trombone=#9 Clarinet, Saxophone=#5 Drum=#2
- Music stand for home practice. Very important for good posture, breathing, and proper technique. (Music kits, for each instrument, are available at Music & Arts stores. They will include a music stand.)

AGENDA

7:00 pm

Opening information about the band program for all band parents--(Concerts, Band Festival, trip, Solo Festival, District Band, Diocesan Honor Band, practice records, and more) – (Chaperones need to be Virtus compliant!)

7:10 pm 7:30 pm Music and Arts representative speaks about renting instruments Dr. Little will briefly speak about each of the instruments.

Robert Little, Band Director rlittle@holyspiritflames.org

cell=703.470.2846 (Be sure and include school name. I teach at 6 schools.)

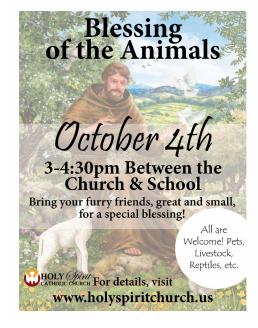
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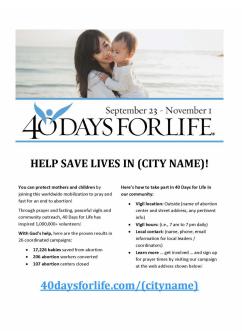
Band Parent Meeting Information

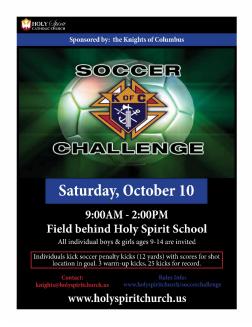
Band - Lesson and Tuition Agreement

Parish Happenings!









A Public Service Message from the Holy Spirit Knights of Columbus

VOTE EARLY!!

Www.holyspiritchurch.us









Community Happenings!







FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "September 24, 2020" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

Family Folder

School Flyers:

1. Box Tops/Amazon Smile/Harris Teeter Rewards

Parish Flyers:

- 1. Blessing of the Animals
- 2. Middle and High School Youth Ministry Kick Offs
- 3. 40 Days for Life
- 4. Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge
- 5. Illuminated Rosary
- 6. Voting

Community Flyers:

- 1. St. Paul VI High School Open House opportunities
- 2. Cub Scout Flyer
- 3. Pope John Paul the Great High School Open House information