### From the Principal's Desk



February 1, 2024



Holy Spirit School
Inspiring Minds/Igniting Hearts
2023/2024
"Faithfulness"

## A Week of Inspiration



A heartfelt "Thank you!" to the Holy Spirit Parish Knights of Columbus for the generous donation to the school's Resource Department. The Knights chose the school to receive over \$700.00 in proceeds from the October BINGO event.

This week has seen a flurry of activities and events all centered around celebrating our Catholic school. We began on Sunday with students representing us so very well at the parish 10:30 am Mass. Monday allowed us time to come together as a community with Father O'Donohue to celebrate what makes us unique and to pray for all those who support not just us but the Catholic school system across our country.

On Tuesday we were "wowed" by the amazing Spellers in the building. Congratulations to all of the homeroom winners who competed in the finals! We ended the day watching a portion of the original "Mary Poppins" movie giving us a sample of what is to come with the

Middle School musical in March.

The faculty and staff were pampered a bit by the parents via the PTO Hospitality Committee with a wonderful soup and sandwich lunch. Thank you to all who aknowledged teachers for the hard work that they put in each and every day.

Thursday we made sure to ignite our hearts for those who are fighting illnesses in hospitals by making cards and bracelets which will be donated to Letters of Love.

Throughout the week and including tomorrow, the students (with the help of their teachers) have been acknowledging and thanking those throughout the building and in our parish who do so much throughout the year to support our mission.

And we did all of that wrapped in our Holy Moments challenge of offering genuine smiles to those we see throughout our day.

Speaking of Holy Moments....the students have begun the Holy Moments Bucket List Challenge! Be sure to ask your student about this. The challenge is meant to provide opportunities for all of us to take what we have learned thus far this year and to tailor those lessons to our own lives. The students will brainstorm ways in which they want to improve their own lives, their lives of their families, and their communities through works of kindness. As we head into Lent, this a terrific time for these projects as we focus on acts of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Catholic Schools Week is always a wonderful affirmation of our primary mission of teaching and passing along our beautiful Catholic Faith to the next generation of leaders in our Church.

The annual Book Fair benefiting our school library begins on Sunday, February 4th. See the flyer below.

Our annual Grandparents Day celebration is scheduled for Friday, February 9th. Information is on the flyer below. The RSVP form is now closed.

Remember that Monday, February 12th is a no school day. This is the reward for meeting the Boosterthon fundraising goal.

The season of Lent begins on February 14th. We will go to Mass on Ash Wednesday at 10:15am.

The next PTO Spirit Gear day is Thursday, February 15th.

Friday, February 16th is a no school day for students. It is a professional development day for the faculty.

Monday, February 19th is a no school day for the President's Day holiday.

The parent portal will close on March 1st and the 2nd trimester ends on March 7th.



Did you create your own Holy Moment this week? Were you aware of your interactions with others this week and provide a smile to those you encounter in the workplace or while out and about running errands? Did you know smiles are "contagious"? When you provide

a genuine smile to someone the recipient feels reassured and a bit more at ease. Plus, when you smile you release endorphins that are "contagious" to others!



# MSCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



Visit our Book Fair in the school library!!



## Sunday, February 4th - Friday, February 9th

#### Hours:

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. (Evening Hours)

Friday (Grandparents Day) 8:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

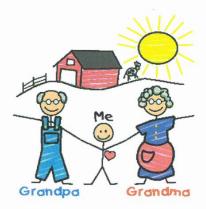
### 25% of all proceeds go to the school library



Click below to sign-up in Connect1 and see class schedules
Payments accepted: Cash, check, credit card, and E-Wallet (click
below to set-up an E-Wallet. Unused eWallet funds will convert to an
eGift card balance within 24 hours. Families can use the eGift card to
shop online in The Scholastic Store. Or the remaining balance can
fund a new eWallet for a future Fair.)

https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/holyspiritschool11

"Nobody can do for little children what grandparents do. Grandparents sort of sprinkle stardust over the lives of little children." - Unknown



February 9th

#### GRANDPARENTS DAY at Holy Spirit School!

9:00 AM Mass (in the church) followed by a reception

RSVP needed by January 31, 2024 - use the link below

Grandparents and their grandchildren should arrive together in time for the 9:00 am Mass and go directly to the church.

Any student who will not have a guest that day should arrive at school at regular time and those students will attend Mass with their homeroom.

After Mass all grandparents and their grandchildren are invited to attend a reception in the gymnasium where we will have a breakfast "treat" and a planned activity.

Grandparents and grandchildren will also have the opportunity to attend the Book Fair in the library, if that is something they would like to do.



It is time to get up off that couch and get ready for the 5K Spirit Run benefitting our Resource Department!!

## 2024 5K Spirit Run

Can you help us?

For many years, Holy Spirit Catholic School has been supporting all types of learners through our Resource Program and Expanded Services at Holy Spirit School. We currently support over 50 students who have mild to moderate disabilities and who need resource assistance in the areas of ADHD, Autism, Dyslexia, Intellectual Disabilities, Learning Disabilities, and other special needs. We continually adapt to help meet the individual needs of our students so they can achieve social and academic success in inclusive classrooms. Our Resource Team includes four resource teachers, a full-time reading specialist, a full and part-time paraprofessional, and a full-time counselor!

To make inclusive Catholic education accessible, the additional costs required for licensed special education professionals, continuous professional development for our staff, and classroom materials are covered primarily by grants and fundraisers. We host a 5K Spirit Run each year to raise funds, build community, and raise awareness.

The 2024 5K Spirit Run will be held in the Holy Spirit Parish neighborhood on May 18, 2024. We are writing to ask for your support and sponsorship for our 5K. Monetary donations will help cover the cost of the race, allowing the profits from race registration to directly support Holy Spirit's Resource Program, enabling children with special needs to receive a Catholic education. Please see the reverse of this letter for sponsorship levels and other ways you can help us make inclusive education possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sue Gibbons, Race Director <a href="mailto:sgibbons@holyspiritflames.org">sgibbons@holyspiritflames.org</a>

Race Sponsorship Information



## Designs must include:

"Holy Spirit School 5k Spirit Run 2024"

Theme: **Faithfulness**Only **2** colors (including black)
Your **name** and grade on the **back**of your design
Must be on 8.5 x 11 paper

Be creative and have fun!

Must be submitted to the office or to Mrs. Gibbons by Febuary 14th



#### Board Game Club is coming to Holy Spirit!

Attention 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4th grade students, Come play fun board games with friends and Miss Cahill and Mrs. Marino!

When: February 21, February 28, March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27

Time: 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. Where: Room 14

The club will meet every Wednesdays from February 21 to March 27. Students may bring a favorite board game or use the available club board games. Parents, please send in a healthy snack for your child to eat.

Please note: Room 14 is a Nut Free zone.

We will only be able to accept 20 students into this club. Since there are limited spots, we ask that you let us know if your child no longer wishes to participate so we may offer the spot to a child on the waiting list. To sign up please go to:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48A5AC2DA0F58-44160070-boad

If you have any questions please contact us by email (<u>ccahill@holyspiritflames.org\_ororimarino@holyspiritflames.org</u>)

Board Game Club Sign-Up

## NEW! February Partners in Faith newsletter and Family Lent Calendar



Sunday Honday Tuesday

Wednesday

The Honday Sunday

Wednesday

The Honday

Th

## -Maureen Ashby

#### **Principal**



#### **Upcoming PTO Events**

Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> \*\*TO BE RESCHEDULED\*\*

Holy Spirit Sponsored Movie Night 6:30pm in the gym

#### Sunday, February 4th – Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>

Scholastic Book Fair – 25% of all sales go toward the school library See Volunteer Opportunities to help out.

#### Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>

Talent Show Auditions 3:15pm – 5:00pm Quinn Room
See Volunteer Opportunities to help out and flier for performance audition sign up.

#### Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

PTO Meeting 6:30 – 7:30pm via Zoom

Meeting ID: 895 9844 5225 Passcode: 268985

See Volunteer Opportunities below for more information.

#### Volunteer Opportunities (1 point/30 mins volunteered)

<u>Spring Fundraiser - Show Trainee and Dinner Trainee</u> (20 PSSC points each) Virtus Certification is NOT required

The Spring Fundraiser will be held on **Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>** in the gym and we are in need of volunteers to support the planning process to make it a success! The 2024 Show Trainee and Dinner Trainee will support the planning and preparation for the big event and will ideally be the Show Chairman and Dinner Chairman in 2025. These positions will have a superstar showing you the ropes with 16 years of experience running the show on his own! Our very own Joe Terpenning will be retiring this will be his final year with us. Take advantage of this opportunity to learn the ropes before his departure. See the flier below for additional details.

Questions? Contact Joe Terpenning <u>Jterpenning@infinitetech.org</u>

#### **Scholastic Book Fair**

The annual Scholastic book fair will run from Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> – Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> in the school

library and volunteers are needed throughout the week beginning February 1<sup>st</sup> for setup, assisting students during the event and breakdown. See <u>Connect1</u> to signup.

Questions? Contact Mrs. Coney econey@holyspiritflames.org

#### **Talent Show Audition Volunteers**

Volunteers are needed on **Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 3pm-5pm** to help out with Talent Show auditions. Students will preview their acts in front of coordinators to review timing, stage needs, and appropriateness. Volunteers are needed for crowd control, registration, and content review. See <u>Connect1</u> to signup.

Questions? Contact Joe Terpenning iterpenning@infinitetech.org

#### **February PTO Meeting**

Join us via <u>Zoom</u> on **February 20th at 6:30pm** and hear from your PTO president, Mrs. Ploschke, your principal, Mrs. Ashby, and various committees about what is going on at Holy Spirit School this year. Have an idea to share? Want to provide feedback on something? This is a great opportunity for all families to share your thoughts, stay up to date and connect with other parents and the PTO board. Connect1 sign up will be posted soon. For meeting details and to earn PSSC points for attending, please be sure to sign up. Questions? Contact Kristyn Poreba <u>PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org</u>

#### **Talent Show & Dance Event Night Volunteers**

There are many job opportunities for anyone who would like to contribute supplies or help out on the day of the show. Check out <u>Connect1</u> for all opportunities available.

Questions? Contact Joe Terpenning iterpenning@infinitetech.org

#### **Recess Duty**

Volunteers are still needed for the remainder of the school year for recess duty. Families who have completed their required commitment of one day are eligible for four PSSC points for each additional day served. See <a href="Connect1">Connect1</a> to view available slots and other details.

Questions? Contact Amy Mannion PTORecessduty@holyspiritflames.org

#### Reminders

In order to volunteer with any youth in the Arlington Diocese, you must be Child Protection Compliant.

It is time to pull out those dancing shoes, warm up those instruments, dust off your best jokes and get ready to WOW! our community with your talent!

#### HOLY SPIRIT TALENT SHOWCASE & DANCE



## Want to Perform in the Show? Come Sign Up!!

When: February 13, 2024
Where: Holy Spirit Quinn Room
Time: 3:15 – 5:00pm

Auditions/registrations are open to all students who want to perform in the show on April 13, 2024.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR: SINGERS, ACTORS, JUGGLERS, MAGICIANS, MUSICIANS, COMEDIANS, MARTIAL ARTISTS, DANCERS, CLOWNS

\*\*\* ANY TYPE OF PERFORMANCE YOU WOULD LIKE TO DO \*\*\*

#### PERFORMER PARTICIPATION SIGNUP

Student's Name:		
Performing with (if in	a group)	
Talent/Act:		
Everyone who signs	up to perform will perform Pleas	e keep your act to 4 minutes. If you cannot
make it on February 1: discuss.		erpenning (terpenning@infinitetech.org) to
make it on February 1: discuss.	3 but want to perform, email Joe T	
make it on February 1: discuss. NOTES FOR TIME LENGTH:	3 but want to perform, email Joe T	

#### **HOLY SPIRIT TALENT SHOW & DANCE**



### **WE NEED LEADERS!!**

This year the Talent Show will be transitioning to a new leadership format. In preparation for next year's show, we would like to recruit and train a few key roles this year.

Show Chairman: This leader would coordinate and run the show. This includes hosting the Sign Up Day to recruit acts, prepare the lineup the night of the show, and coordinate the DJ and the stage crew volunteers. This position does not have to be an Emcee, but can. The position is funfilled with the preparations of the show and the final performance.

<u>Dinner Chairman:</u> This leader would coordinate the caterers and oversee Dinner/Dessert setup, work with Holy Spirit facilities on room setup, oversee decorating, and oversee check in when the doors open.

Both of these leadership roles are exciting and fun. More importantly, they are essential elements to make this annual tradition and school favorite successful. If interested, please contact Joe Terpenning (jterpenning@infinitetech.org) with questions and training.

#### HOLY SPIRIT TALENT SHOW & DANCE



#### WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

#### SIGNUP AND HELP MAKE THIS EVENT AWESOME!!

WE NEED HELP WITH THE SIGNUP EVENT ON FEBRUARY 13<sup>TH</sup> AFTER SCHOOL AND WE NEED HELP THE NIGHT OF THE SHOW ON APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup>. WE NEED SERVERS, CHECK-IN HELP, DECORATORS, CAKES, DRINKS, STAGE HELP & AUDITION HELP!

#### PTO Board 2023 - 2024

President - Christine Ploschke - <u>PTOPresident@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Vice President - Rob Wu - <u>PTOVP@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Treasurer - Karin Floyd - <u>PTOTreasurer@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Secretary - Kristyn Poreba - <u>PTOSecretary@holyspiritflames.org</u>

Volunteer Coordinator - Lauren Schmidt -<u>PTOVPMembership@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Fundraising Coordinator - Toni O'Neill -<u>PTOVPDevelopment@holyspiritflames.org</u>
Homeroom Parent Coordinator - Valerie Overstreet -<u>PTOHomeroomCoordinator@holyspiritflames.org</u>

#### Volunteering

Please remember that you must be fully compliant with the Child Protection policies of the Diocese in order to perform recess duty and to volunteer for activities where students are present.

## **Parish Happenings!**



200 North Glebe Road, Suite 914 • Arlington, Virginia 22203 • Office (703) 841-2511 • Fax (703) 524-5028

## Bishop Burbidge's response to President Biden's pro-abortion rally in VA

President Biden has made abortion the centerpiece of his campaign. At a rally in Manassas, VA, he advocated for codifying *Roe v. Wade* into law. It is incredibly devastating to know President Biden would place "choice" over his sacred duty to protect life.

President Biden's rally took place just four miles from the Manassas Mother of Mercy Free Medical Clinic, where Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington offers free prenatal care to pregnant women in need and their unborn children. In the year after the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health decision, the Diocese of Arlington delivered \$877,000 in free medical care to more than 1,000 women. Going further, the diocese also provided rent and utilities assistance, nearly 400,000 diapers, and 4,000 cans of formula to families in need.

Despite what this administration claims, taking the life of an innocent child is never a "choice." Women who are facing unexpected or difficult pregnancies deserve assistance that affirms and supports life - not destroy it.

Abortion remains the preeminent civil rights issue of our time, yet, just yesterday, the Biden administration announced renewed efforts to increase access to medically unsafe prescription abortion pills. This is clearly not about women's health.

The Diocese of Arlington and the entire pro-life movement will remain steadfast in ensuring parents facing unexpected or challenging pregnancies have the support they need to choose life for their unborn children.

















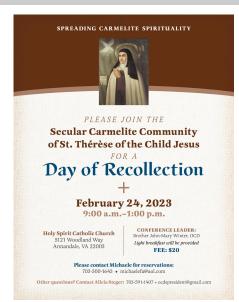


MARCH 2ND 8.30em - 2.15pm St. Joseph Catholic Church 750 Peacthree St. Henridon, VA Register at: arlingtondiocese.org/men











#### 2024 Car Raffle

Tickets have been mailed out to registered parishioners for participation in the 2024 All Saints Car Raffle.

Each \$5.00 Ticket gives you a chance to win all 25 prizes, including

2024 FORD BRONCO SPORT 2024 FORD RANGER TRUCK 2024 FORD MUSTANG 2024 FORD ESCAPE

plus 21 CASH Drawings totaling \$40,000

Drawings held April 27, 2024

If you do not receive tickets in the next couple of weeks, they will be periodically available or can be requested as will be noted in future bulletins and around the Church.

Proceeds from this year's Raffle will help to Pay down the unexpected cost of the church sprinkler system installation.

## **Community Happenings!**



### **FAMILY FOLDER**

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "February 1, 2024" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.



#### School Flyers:

- 1. Diocesan Tuition Assistance Programs Overview
- 2. Book Fair flyer
- 3. Grandparents Day flyer
- 4. Board Game Club flyer
- 5. Partners in Faith (February) newsletter
- 6. Family Lent Calendar

#### 5K Spirit Run

- 1. Sponsorship Information
- 2. T-Shirt Design Contest flyer

#### PTO Flyers:

- 1. PTO Talentshow Sign Up
- 2. PTO Talentshow Volunteer flyer

#### Parish Flyers:

- 1. Bishop Burbidge Letter
- 2. Lenton Soup Suppers
- 3. Eucharistic Conference 2024
- 4. Pancake Breakfast
- 5. HS WorkCamp 2024
- 6. 2024 Women's Conference
- 7. Vacation Bible School
- 8. 2024 Men's Conference
- 9. Day of Recollection
- 10. Bedding for Babies Collection
- 11. 2024 Car Raffle

#### Community Flyers:

1. From Inclusion to Belonging Conference

Holy Spirit School | 8802 Braddock Rd., Annandale, VA 22003

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