From the Principal's Desk



September 3, 2020



Holy Spirit School Inspiring Minds/Igniting Hearts 2020/2021

"Protect the Creation; Praise the Creator"

Almost there! The first official week of school!



Who could have asked for a better day to begin our school year? We had a wonderful first day together as we celebrated the Nativity of our Blessed Mother. Thank you to Father O'Donohue for visiting us and speaking to us about the importance of having a prayerful relationship with Mary.

Morning arrival and afternoon dismissal continue to get better! Phew!

In order to help speed along the morning arrival, having the daily health screening form ready and accessible to hand to one of the teachers on duty is a must. Thank you for working with us on this as we continue to rely heavily on parents to send to school only those students who are feeling well - better to error on the side of caution.

The afternoon too continues to get better - between Day 1 and Day 2 we knocked over 10 minutes off of the entire dismissal process!

For those in the lower lot car line, thank you especially for your patience. Having your child(ren) know your Family Number is key to getting children out of the building in a timely fashion.

If you are picking up your child for a doctor appointment, etc. - please park out front and call the school office from your car (703-978-7117). Your child(ren) will be call to the Office at that time. Once they are ready, your child(ren) will be walked to the front doors at which time you will be asked to sign them out.

All new families have received information on how to establish your credentials in the Parent Portal. Please be sure that you have set this up by Friday, September 11th. If you have questions, please reach out to Mrs. Laclede (llaclede@holyspiritflames.org)

There will be a demonstration by Dr. Little our band instructor to all 4th graders next week, Tuesday, September 15th. Information on joining Band and how that program will run this year will be forthcoming from Dr. Little.

Similarly, on Wednesday, September 16th there will be a demonstration to all 3rd graders by

Dr. Lee for the Strings Program. Information for parents will come via Dr. Lee.

On 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.

Each day that we have in school, we refine our processes a bit more and the faculty and students are smoothing out the rough edges. It has definitely been a lot of changes, but your children have been troopers! Pray for some sunny, dry weather so we can get outside!

-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

Back to School Nights

Back to School Nights will be held:

September 15 - Grades 1 and 2 September 16 - Grades 3 - 5 September 17 - Grades 6 - 8

Each night there will be two sessions. The first will be from 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm and the second will be from 7:15 pm - 7:45 pm.

For students in Grades 1 - 5, the homeroom teachers will send out a sign-up list for each session so that we may limit the number of parents in the rooms at any given time. Children will not be permitted to attend.

For students in Grades 6-8: the first session will be for parents of students in grades 6 and 7; the second session will be for parents in grade 8 so that we may provide necessary information regarding the transition to high school. The sessions for middle school will be held in the gymnasium.

General remarks from school administration will be prerecorded and made available to families.

SPIRIT WEAR AND SPIRIT DAYS ARE BACK! WEB STORE NOW OPEN!

Spirit wear and Spirit Days are back!

To view and order your **NEW** Holy Spirit Spirit Wear, click the button below or scan the QR code with your smartphone.

The web store will **ONLY** be open for a very limited time and will close **Wednesday**, **September 16th** at 11:59 p.m.

Once closed, spirit wear will be gone for 2020. Don't delay. Order today!

NOTE: Although there is a home shipping option for an additional fee, we would recommend that you have your order shipped free of charge to the school. If so, it will come home

with your child on or by October 13th. If you select the option to have your order shipped to your home, your order may arrive too late.

Our first Spirit Day is *Thursday, October 15th*.

Subsequent Spirit Days are the third Thursday of each month (check the school calendar). *Just a reminder, only items purchased from last year's or this year's Spirit Wear Web Store will be allowed to be worn on Spirit Days.

Spirit Wear Store





Picture Day! It is right around the corner! September 22, 2020

Pictures for the yearbook will be taken on Tuesday, September 22nd.

Please note that you must download and print the attached order form if you are interested in purchasing pictures. We do not have paper copies of the form.

Click here for picture order form!

Ready to play chess?



Our friends at Silver Knights have a great online chess program for our families! They teach new beginners all the way up to advanced tournament players! Registration and more information can be found at <u>chess.skenrichment.com</u>, and if you use coupon code hs2020 you get 50% off your first month!

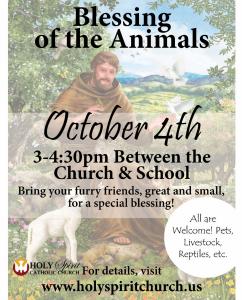


Thank You Mrs. Liss Art Teacher

Parish Happenings!







Community Happenings!



Calling All Boys 11-17 Boy Scout Troop 50 Is Still Scouting!

The Scouts of BSA Troop 50 here at Holy Spirit are finding ways to have fun, serve others, learn new skills, and explore- all while observing current CDC health guidelines. This fall we're meeting outside on Sunday afternoons on the Holy Spirit grounds, and we have virtual opportunities as well. Contact the Scoutmaster, RJ Levin, to find out how you can arrange a visit and meet the awesome Scouts of T-50!

Check Us Out - https://annandale50.mytroop.us/home

Contact Us - rlevinjr@aol.com or Troop50@holyspiritchurch.us





FAMILY FOLDER

The following flyers may be found in the folder labeled "September 10, 2020" on the website. For your convenience, some flyers are repeated.

> Family Folder

School Flyers:

- 1. Spirit Wear Flyer
- 2. Picture Day Flyer
- 3. Box Tops/Amazon Smile/Harris Teeter Rewards

Parish Flyers:

- 1. Blood Drive
- 2. Parish Renovation Phase 1
- 3. Catholic Women's Bible Study
- 4. Parish Online Giving
- 5. 33 Day Consecration to St. Joseph
- 6. Holy Hour with Bishop Burbidge

Community Flyers:

1. Boy Scout Troop 50