

Inspiring Minds | Igniting Hearts

Mrs. Maureen Ashby, Principal 8800 Braddock Road, Annandale, Virginia 22003 (P) 703.978.7117 (F) 703.978.7438 www.HolySpiritFlames.org

November 7, 2014

Dear Parents,

Report cards go home today. We ask that only the signed envelope be returned to the homeroom teachers; please keep the report card itself for your records. All students have areas of strength and others that may need some extra attention; setting achievable goals is important at all ages and work much better when parents and students are on the same page. Thank you for all you do to support your students and the teachers; we look forward to seeing you during the conference days.

The Race for Education is finally right around the corner! The big day is Thursday, November 13^{th} . The schedule is as follows: Pre-K and Kindergarten will run from 8:30-9:30 am; 1^{st} and 2^{nd} grades from 10:00-11:00 am; $6^{th}-8^{th}$ grades from 12:30-1:30 pm; and $3^{rd}-5^{th}$ grades from 1:45-2:45 pm. All students should wear their winter P.E. uniform for the day. Please feel free to stop by and support your student(s). Thank you to all those who have contributed financially; it is not too late if you have not had a chance!

The Fall Box Tops for Education Drive was a huge success. We topped all previous donations by bringing in \$1,007.00 worth of Box Tops. Thank you to all who participated. The classes who brought in the greatest number of Box Tops will have a dress down day (details will go home through the appropriate homeroom teachers).

The Student Council did a super job of combining both Spirit Week and the annual Ton of Love food drive. Sister Annie at Christ House in Alexandria was most grateful for the 2,525 food donations. Additionally, the inaugural Turkey Shoot proved to be a good time for all. The \$369.00 in donations were converted into gift cards from Giant and sent along to Christ House. Thank you for again showing what a caring and supportive community Holy Spirit is to those less fortunate.

Yearbook picture make-ups will be held November 20th. If your child was absent on the original picture day or you desire a retake, this is the day. Homeroom teachers will have forms available.

Although we have not yet reached Thanksgiving, we are gearing up for Toys for Tots. The annual gift collection will be held December 1st – December 5th. Our Giving Mass will be held Friday, December 5 at 9:00 am. In preparation for the collection, the Publishing Center can use some assistance in getting the boxes ready. Next Wednesday, November 12th anyone looking for a couple of volunteer hours is welcome to stay after morning drop-off to assistance with wrapping boxes and cutting letters. If you have any questions, please contact Sheila Lamb (her contact information is listed in the school directory).



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Lastly, our Middle School students will be living out their baptismal call to be both leaders and servants in a very tangible way beginning in November. Holy Spirit Parish has had a long-standing relationship with the Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA) and our Middle School students will now have the opportunity to assist in both the child care center and food pantry. Students will go by advisory group and spend the morning help where needed. Please offer your prayers for the success of this outreach opportunity.

Thank you for reading all the way through this letter. Enjoy your weekend!

Blessings always,

Maureen C. Ashby Principal