



Holy Spirit

EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

WEEK OF JANUARY 9TH – JANUARY 13TH

Monday, January 9:

Tuesday, January 10:

Fast Forward to Pre-K 3 for rising CEC students 8:00 a.m. Library
Contemporary Eucharist for Epiphany, Grade 1-8 Parish Hall 8:05 a.m.

Wednesday, January 11:

Fast Forward to Kindergarten for rising EC students 8:00 a.m. Library
PTO General Meeting and Used Uniform Sale 8:15 a.m. Parish Hall

Thursday, January 12:

No Chapel, Grades K – 8
Fast Forward to 5th Grade for rising 4th Grade students 8:00 a.m. Library

Friday, January 13:

Holy Spirit EYC 'Big Game' Night 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Youth Room

Saturday, January 14:

ISEE Testing 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
(please pre-register with Ms. LaRocca in the Admissions Office)
Safeguarding God's Children 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Youth Room
ACTS in Action at HSEC 9:00 a.m. until ???

IMPORTANT NEWS

The Next Big Step!!!

Please join us for three very special 'Fast Forward' presentations this week, as we discuss the transition of students going into Early Childhood, Lower School and Middle School for the first time! Knowing that transitions can be intimidating, these 'Fast Forward' sessions are designed to answer questions, allay fears, provide pertinent curriculum information, and allow parents to meet faculty members in a casual, relaxed environment. All 'Fast Forward' presentations will take place in the Library at 8:00 a.m., immediately following carpool. We look forward to seeing you there, and we can't wait to watch your child take 'the next big step'!

Fast Forward to Early Childhood Tuesday, January 10th for CEC parents of Kittens and B'flies

Fast Forward to Kindergarten Wednesday, January 11th for Pre-K 4 parents

Fast Forward to 5th Grade Thursday, January 12th for 4th Grade parents

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

"Spotlight on Holy Spirit Episcopal School"

Thursday, January 26th, 2012

6:30 p.m.

This event is our annual curriculum Open House.

Throughout the evening, teachers will present our curriculum in their classrooms, and all our different activities will be highlighted.

Be sure to encourage your neighbors and friends to join us to see all that HSES has to offer!!

Safeguarding God's Children

This program has been put in place by the Episcopal Diocese to protect children and youth in our churches, schools and diocesan institutions, and is required for anyone employed by HSEC or HSES, or anyone who works, volunteers or comes in contact with children for 6 hours or more within a year. Our remaining on-site Safeguarding God's Children classes are scheduled for **Saturday, January 14th at 9:00 a.m. and Thursday, February 9th at 6:00 p.m. in the Youth Room.** If you have additional questions regarding this program, please contact KariAnn Lessner at dcfm@hsechurch.org or visit the Episcopal Diocese webpage at <http://www.epicenter.org/safechurch/>.

IMPORTANT NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Coach O. took a poll on Thursday, January 5th, 2012, asking all middle school students which sport they were going to play in the Spring 2012. The results showed 6 boys for baseball, 14 girls for softball and about 35 students for track. **Parents: the Athletic Department at HSES is trying to see if we will have enough players to make a baseball team.** Please take the time to talk to your child about considering playing baseball or we may have to consider canceling the baseball season. Coach O. will take another poll next week before he makes the final decision to cancel or make a team. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS UPDATE



So far this year Holy Spirit Episcopal Middle School Students have donated **344 hours** of their precious time to their communities. Thank you for your leadership and being the influence the Creator intended.

HOLY SPIRIT IN THE NEWS!!!!

The **Houston Chronicle** featured Holy Spirit's upcoming 50th Anniversary on the cover of its **Ultimate Memorial** section on January 5th. Read all about it through this link: [Holy Spirit school to mark 50 years](#)

AUCTION UPDATE

The Holy Spirit Community Auction is around the corner!

You should have received your Save the Date card by now. The big event will take place on February 4, 2012! Mark your calendar and arrange your babysitters now - - this is going to be a fantastic evening. We have acquired some terrific auction items, but still need more. Contact Christine Paige- Acquisitions Chair (crpaige@comcast.net) or Brooke Frank (bbfrank@hses.org) for information on donating.

Sissy Gregory Pictures are available for the auction again. These black and white 11 X 14 photographs have been a HSES auction tradition for 10 years now. This year the number of photos will be limited to 30, so sign up now. The signup sheet is at the front desk with Ms. Lona.

NEW HSES FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS



Welcome Mr. Brian Smith! A native of Oklahoma, Brian Smith joined the HSES faculty in January. He and his wife have two daughters; one in third grade, and one in fifth grade. Mr. Smith comes to us from the Houston Independent School District where he has served as a Technology Administrator, Case Manager, Middle School Science Teacher and Special Education Resource Teacher. Mr. Smith will be teaching 3rd and 4th Grade science, and will act as our Director of Technology in the future.



HSES is also pleased to introduce Neely Besetsny, RN, as our new school nurse. Mrs. Besetsny (or 'Nurse Neely' to the younger set!) is joining the HSES staff, as a part-time nurse, with many years of pediatric and community nursing experience. Mrs. Besetsny is also the mother of Claire Besetsny, who is in the Teddy Bear class and the Besetsny family is looking forward to the arrival of a new baby in the spring. Please join us in welcoming 'Nurse Neely' to our staff!

LIBRARY NEWS

The Mid-year Reading Awards are Thursday, January 19th, 8:05 a.m. in the Nave. Pins will be awarded to Lower School and Middle School students who have completed reading (or have had read-to-them) their grade appropriate Texas Library Association Reading List Books: 2x2 (K-2nd grade); Bluebonnet (3rd - 6th grade); or Lone Star (7th - 8th grade) books. To ensure your student receives their Award Pin, have them stop by the Library prior to Tuesday, January 17th with their completed reading list OR send an email to (librarian@hese.org), so I can add their name to the list.

It's not too late to bring your monthly reading logs in for prizes and a certificate. Logs from November and December are now being accepted.

HOLY SPIRIT EYC NEWS

Our first event of 2012 is a week away! Sign up now for our fun kick-off to the new year on Friday the 13th - BIG GAME Night! We'll eat pizza and ice cream and play some awesome fun games on the Holy Spirit campus, hopefully with other youth groups - - ***and it's free!!!*** This is a great opportunity to invite friends. Please send an e-mail to Sarah Taylor at youth@hsechurch.org to register or to get more information. *Please register by Wednesday January 11th. HSES students in the 6th - 8th grades are invited.*

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Mark your calendar for Friday, January 27th, 7:00 - 9:00p.m.! That's the evening of our **"Holy Spirit's Got Talent"** dinner and talent show, featuring many Holy Spirit students, parents, and the church community. Make your reservation for the great dinner catered by the Skoumpourdis family that features Caesar salad, pasta, bread, and yummy homemade desserts. Please go to the ARTS section of the HSES website, click on to VPA Happenings, and get your tickets now! This is a fun Friday event – so bring your family and friends and your video cameras! You won't want to miss the action!

"Seussical, Jr" rehearsals will resume next week. All cast members and their families should keep an out for emails that will detail rehearsal schedules.

Showchoir will resume rehearsals next Tuesday, January 10, at 7:30 a.m. The members of the Showchoir will be looking at the music for **"Seussical, Jr."**

CARPOOL NEWS

Carpool has been running very smoothly. To keep it doing so, here are a couple of reminders as we start the new semester:

- Any student walking through the parking lot during both the morning and afternoon carpool must be accompanied by an adult.
- When crossing to or from the parking lot, **whether you are alone or with your child**, please cross either at the crosswalk or at the very front of the carpool line.
- Those picking up students from the carpool location on the west side of campus need to either drive through the carpool line, or park in the east parking lot and walk over to get your child.
- The school day begins at 8:00 a.m. so please allow enough time for your child to arrive at school, unpack and be in his/her classroom **prior** to the 8:00 a.m. bell. Doors entering the school on the east side are locked at 8:00 a.m. after which time your child will need to enter the school through the front office.

Thank you for your help and cooperation in keeping our students safe.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT HOLY SPIRIT

ACTS in Action Jan 14, 2012

Please join us from 7:45 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. as we support **Habitat for Humanity** in its vision of a decent place to live for everyone. We will help build a home in NW Houston, while also assisting Habitat clients earn sweat equity for homes of their own. This is a great Community Service hours earning opportunity for teens (must be 14 or older).

Help us spruce up the **Holy Spirit campus**, as we clean the Parish Hall kitchen, tidy the pew boxes, beautify the church grounds and more. We enjoy the benefits of our campus facilities; help us put our best foot forward (our kitchen especially needs attention, as we must meet Health Department regulations). We will begin at 9:00 a.m. and work until done.

For more information or to sign-up, contact Ricardo Suarez (Ricardo.Suarez@BP.com) or Karen Montgomery (K1Mont@aol.com). When volunteering, please let us know which service project you are volunteering for.