



Holy Spirit
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Saints' Stories & News

January 15, 2010

GENERAL INFORMATION



HEARTBEATS FOR HAITI



Fourth graders at Holy Spirit are once again mobilizing to raise funds to help the victims of a natural disaster. **Heartbeats for Haiti**, a one-day fundraiser, will be next Thursday, January 21, during morning and afternoon carpool, and during all lunches. The money the fourth graders raise will benefit the Episcopal Church Disaster Relief Fund, and will be directed to help the Haitians as they recover from the devastating earthquake that struck their homeland.

Watch for further information, and please give generously as these compassionate young people come out with their collection buckets next Thursday to help those who are in need.



PTO FAMILY GUMBO NIGHT, JANUARY 15

Tonight 6:30-8:00 PM

Please come and join us for a great night out with the HSES community!



NO SCHOOL ON MONDAY, JANUARY 18!

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr., there is no school on Monday, January 18.



SECOND QUARTER READING AWARDS, JANUARY 19

The next Reading Awards Program for grades 1-8 will be on Tuesday, January 19th starting at 8:25 AM in the main sanctuary. Students should wear their official uniforms.



JANUARY BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS, JANUARY 21

Grades 1-8 Birthday Blessings will be held during the regular 8:25 AM chapel service on Thursday, January 21.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS: HOMECOMING—FRIDAY, JANUARY 22!

Join us for a great event! The girls' & boys' varsity teams will play, and there will be plenty of food and drinks for all. There will also be a Spirit competition during your art classes for all grades, and the winning grade gets a pizza party! There will be prize drawings during the games for gift cards, toys, and even Rockets basketball tickets. You must be present at the time of each drawing in order to win. Each halftime will feature a free throw competition for prizes. Contestants will be chosen by random drawing.

Homecoming T-shirts (\$15.00) are being sold during morning carpools. Additional Homecoming spirit merchandise is available as well. Concessions and Chick-Fil-A will be available during the game. As you can see, this is an event for the whole family. Get ready for some basketball!!!



Homecoming Schedule:

Friday is a Spirit T-shirt Day. Show your Saint's pride by wearing an HSES spirit shirt.

(All events to be held in the Gym unless otherwise indicated.)

- 3:00 PM Pep Rally—Everyone is invited. EC-K parents are invited to pick up children at 3:00 PM or from carpool and bring them to the gym to join in on the fun.
- 4:30 PM Varsity Girls Basketball versus Wesley Academy
- 5:30 PM Varsity Boys Basketball versus Wesley Academy
- 6:30-9:00 PM Alumni Reunion Gathering (Youth Room)

Please note: Students attending Homecoming must be accompanied by an adult.



SPOTLIGHT ON HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

The HSES annual curriculum open house, called *Spotlight on Holy Spirit Episcopal School*, is a festive evening that “spotlights” our school by highlighting family involvement, fun activities, and academic achievements. This is a night for the whole family held on **Thursday, January 28, 2010 from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM.** Throughout the evening, students will perform, teachers will have curriculum materials available in their classrooms, and power point presentations will run in the gym, highlighting a variety of student activities. During this time, the fifth grade Science Exposition projects will be on display in the middle school hall, the third grade’s animal projects will be featured in the library, and the walls of the school will be covered with students’ artwork and academic reports.

Spotlight on Holy Spirit is a wonderful time to see the school at its best. It is a very busy and exciting evening, and the enthusiasm of the staff, faculty, parents and students is contagious. Please join us for this special event.



THE STUDENT COUNCIL PARENTS' NIGHT OUT TALENT SHOW!

Friday, February 26th, 6-9 PM

Kindergarten—8th grade students are all invited!

Please join the Student Council as they host this fantastic event! Students—come and perform, or just come and enjoy the show! The money raised will be donated to help the victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

LIBRARY NEWS



THANK YOU FOR THE DONATIONS!

During the month of January, we are celebrating the New Year by reading new books that were donated to our library. We have fun reading the donation plates in each book. Each child’s face lights up when the book they donated is shared with their class. Thank you, again, to all of you who so generously made it possible for us to add these new books to our library collection.



READING AWARDS

Reading Awards for grades 1-8 will take place Tuesday, January 19, at 8:25 in the Chapel. All reading programs continue through March 31. Accelerated Reader continues through April 15. There is still enough time for students to earn the certificates or trophies that will be awarded at the end of the school year.



ANDREA WHITE VISIT

Andrea White, former Houston Mayor Bill White’s wife, will speak to our middle school students January 20, 1:20 P.M., in the Parish Hall. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our students to hear this local author. An author visit enables our students to expand their life experiences and ideas.





FAVORITE BLUEBONNET BOOK?

During the week of January 25-29, Holy Spirit students will be voting, along with students across the state of Texas, for their favorite Bluebonnet book. To be eligible to vote, students must be enrolled in grade 3, 4, 5, or 6, and they must have read or heard 5 books from the 2009-2010 master Bluebonnet list. During library class, students will turn in their completed voter registration certificate, sign the voting sheet, and cast their ballot. As soon as the ballots are tabulated, the winning book for Holy Spirit will be announced and submitted to the Texas Bluebonnet Committee. The Texas Library Association will announce the state's winning book sometime in February. As soon as the state winner is released, we will announce the news to our Holy Spirit students. The Texas Bluebonnet Award reading program was established in 1979 to encourage Texas children to read more books, explore a variety of current books, develop powers of discrimination, and identify their favorite books. This is always an exciting time in the library as our students have an opportunity to participate in the voting process. We are getting excited to see which book the students will choose.

TECHNOLOGY NEWS



LOWER SCHOOL

Brrr...indeed it's winter! In the midst of the Arctic blast, K- 4th grade students viewed a [BrainPop video on Snowflakes](#) and then demonstrated their ability to creatively use mouse skills to [make-a-flake](#) by designing their own unique snowflake for our Lower School wall display. Be sure to stop by and view some of their creative work!



MIDDLE SCHOOL

We have had an exciting start in our first week of the newly formed Graphic Design class! [Students received an overview of the class](#) and learned about the basic elements and principles of design. Throughout the quarter you can check out some of their work, which will be featured on the wall display across from the Art room.



VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS



VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS LINK

Parents, please go to the HSES website, click on 'Homework,' and you will be able to go to the link for the *Visual and Performing Arts*. Here you will find all the latest pertaining to the choirs and their performances, production dates for grade level shows with all the information you will need to fill your calendar. Check it out!



BLACK BOX PRODUCTION THE TEMPEST

The fifth and sixth grade classes are preparing for the Black Box Production of Shakespeare's, *The Tempest*. This production is scheduled for Wednesday, February 10, at 2:00 PM, and Thursday, February 11, at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM. All students in both grade levels will be participating in this version of one of Shakespeare's greatest comedies. Please mark your calendars now for this event, and come reacquaint yourself with the writings of Shakespeare.

ATHLETICS



HSES SAINTS DISPLAY CHARACTER AT HOLIDAY CLINIC

Over the winter break, HSES students David Guefen, Chinaza and Onuchi Ndee, Kolbe Robinson and Nicholas Skoumpourdis spent time developing their basketball skills at a holiday clinic sponsored by the



Rockets. In addition to working on ball handling, shooting and defense strategies, students represented Holy Spirit well by displaying character while playing the sport. Fifth grade student Chinaza Ndee was selected as the “Most Valuable Person” (MVP) among all participants, while seventh grader David Guefen was selected as “Most Focused.” Both students were awarded with autographed Rockets posters. Additionally, David Guefen and Kolbe Robinson were selected to shoot the “money ball” and were awarded cash prizes by shooting *three consecutive shots*, which included shooting from the men’s three-point line. All of the above awards were based on students displaying characteristics of participation, sportsmanship and teamwork. Go Saints!



Submitted by Alison Robinson

STUDENTS IN THE NEWS

A STAR IS BORN?



Landon, a 7th grader at HSES, and his sister Morgan were at Academy on Tuesday shooting a commercial. He and his sisters have been working actors in Houston for about 6 years. Landon has worked as a model for local and national companies like Wal-Mart, Academy, and Dell Computers, just to name a few. His latest commercials are for Space Center Houston, Academy, and a City of Webster informational commercial.



ALUMNI



*Left: Dimitri Skoumpourdis and Brandon Kisch, both '07, come to visit and go to Lessons and Carols. Please notice Dimitri's tie. The shorter fellow in the middle is current 7th grader Nicholas Skoumpourdis. A formidable group, to be sure.
Right: Danny Kisch (yes, he is Brandon's brother), class of '03, comes back for a visit. Danny is a Junior at USC, and about to head out for a week in Madrid and a semester in Budapest. Must be nice.*

HSES EVENTS

OUR ENSEMBLE CHOIR and SHOWCHOIR PERFORMANCES



Many thanks go out to director Dottie Hogan, our Ensemble Choir, and our Showchoir for their fantastic performances—both before and after Christmas. Great work!

