



Holy Spirit
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Saints' Stories & News

October 16, 2009

GENERAL INFORMATION



BOOKFAIR 2009! JOIN US!



Bookman and Wonder Writer invite you to kick off Bookfair with donations to the library October 12th-16th, Monday-Friday, 8 AM to 3:30 PM. Please visit the library and browse the wonderful selection of books we would like to add to our shelves. This is the only time during the school year we add new books to our wonderful library, so we look forward to seeing you there!

Then don't forget to join Bookman and all his hero support at the Bookfair in the Gymnasium October 19th-21st.

Not to be outdone by the "big kids," this year CEC will have its own book fair! CEC's Bookfair will be held in the CEC Multipurpose Room in the CEC hall.

And plan to attend these other great Bookfair Events:

- Monday, October 19 – Sundae Monday 6:30-8 PM – We invite you to join us for dinner, sundaes and a good time in the Holy Spirit Gym as we kick off our annual bookfair.
- Tuesday, October 20 – Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day 8:30-10:45 AM – This is one of the highlights of the year at Holy Spirit!
- Wednesday, October 21 – Book Character Parade 8:30 AM – This is one of the cutest things you will ever see at Holy Spirit. Kindergarten through fourth grade will dress up as their favorite book characters and parade throughout the school. Don't forget your cameras!

The LRC (library) will be closed for checking out books and taking Accelerated Reading Tests while the Bookfair is going on.



GRANDPARENTS' AND SPECIAL FRIENDS' DAY



Holy Spirit School invites you to attend Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day on Tuesday, October 20th. Please see the attached schedule for the day's events and join us for this great event!



SCHOOL-WIDE COMMUNITY DAY OF SERVICE, NOVEMBER 24TH



Community Day of Service will be here before you know it. On November 24th the entire school will come together to work on a variety of projects supporting several organizations in the greater Houston community. To make this day a success, we need everyone's help. Therefore, throughout the months of October and November, we will be asking for donations of items needed to complete our projects.

During the month of October we will be collecting the items to be used to make hygiene kits for Lord of the Streets. For the kits we will need hotel/travel size toiletries including the following: shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, body lotion, deodorant, and disposable razors.

Your donations may be brought to your child's classroom or the front office.

In November we will be collecting the items needed to make nonperishable sack lunches for MAM (Memorial Assistance Ministries). Each grade level, EC – 8th grade, will be asked to donate a specific item and quantity needed to complete the sack lunches. Last year our students prepared and delivered almost 300 lunches for MAM to distribute to those in need.

Also in November we will begin collecting newspapers to be sorted and prepared as cage liners for CAPS (Citizens for Animal Protection). Information about the November collections will come out in a later newsletter.

Thank you for your support of what has become a very meaningful annual HSES event.



FIRST QUARTER READING AWARDS



The next Reading Awards Program for grades 1-8 will be on Thursday, October 29th starting at 8:25 AM in the main sanctuary. Students should wear their official uniform.



YOUTH SPORTS REGISTRATION

Youth Sports Registration for basketball will be held from 10:00-11:00 AM on Saturday October 24th and 31st.

LOWER SCHOOL



EC HALLOWEEN PARADES

Get your cameras ready, Halloween is coming to the PreK-3s and PreK-4s. At 8:45 AM on October 29th, the Clowns will be showing off their Halloween costumes with a parade through the school followed by a classroom party. Not to be out done, the remaining PreK-3 and PreK-4 classes will have their costume parade and parties on October 30th starting at 8:30 AM. Arrive on time so you don't miss out. Please read your class newsletters for further instructions.



CHESS CLUB WILL NOT MEET OCT. 21ST

The Chess club meeting on Oct. 21st will need to be canceled. The club will resume at its regular meeting time on the 28th. Sorry for any inconvenience. Students are encouraged to bring a snack. Snacks should be healthy, no candy, and easily eaten without utensils. No beverages, please.

MIDDLE SCHOOL



“FALL THRILLER” 6TH – 8TH GRADE DANCE

All HSES 6th – 8th grade students are invited to attend our first dance of the year, ‘Fall Thriller’, on **Saturday, October 24th from 7:00 – 9:30 PM. Admission is \$8.00**, which is used to pay the DJ. Students may wear non-uniform clothes, providing these are in good taste. Students may wear shirts, blouses, walking shorts (no shorter than halfway down the thigh), Capri pants, long pants, and dresses or skirts (two inches above the top of the kneecap or lower). No “muscle shirts”, spaghetti straps, halter-tops, low-cut necklines, or short crop-tops may be worn. Neither abdomens nor underwear may show. Shirts with writing must be in good taste with no obscenities, violence, drugs or alcohol portrayed. Shoes should enable student to dance safely since shoes must be worn at all times.



ALUMNI GATHERING

Students from the HSES class of 2009 have been invited to attend the alumni gathering on **Saturday, October 24th at 6:30 PM in room 503** to receive their yearbooks and socialize with their fellow graduates. Alumni are invited to stay for our dance which follows at 7:00 PM.



COSTA RICA EXCHANGE PROGRAM



!PURA VIDA!

The Costa Rica trip deadline is approaching!! It's a wonderful part of Holy Spirit's rich educational offerings, so don't miss this opportunity. Holy Spirit must let our sister school in San Jose know how many students plan to visit by the end of October at the *latest*.

Students will be in Costa Rica from Feb. 24th through Mar. 5th, 2010. They do *not* have to be fluent in Spanish. The trip is open to fifth through eighth graders.

If you are interested, please contact Connie DuPre, Costa Rican Exchange Director, at cldupre@hses.org for forms and information, or Brooke Frank, Assistant Director, at bbfrank@pdg.net. Forms are available at Lona Wong's desk in the

front office. A \$50 deposit is due when you sign up. The first payment is due on December 14th and the balance is due January 11th.

Do not hesitate to email if you have questions. A second opportunity for information concerning the trip is scheduled for Teacher Conference Day on Nov. 16th. There will be a Costa Rica Exchange Trip table set up in the middle school hallway so that parents do not have to make an additional trip to school.



ECO-link—6TH AND 7TH GRADERS HEAD OFF TO REDCLOUD



The 6th and 7th grade classes and 5 brave faculty members will be flying to Colorado on Monday, October 26th for a week of fun and (hopefully) snow! They will learn about God, the environment, themselves, and each other through a wide variety of fun and challenging activities. Please ask them about it, and check out pictures from the trip in the December 13th newsletter.

Casual Dress Day and Silly Sock Day for Middle School have been changed to October 23rd!

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS



“THE DRUM”



A big thank you to all the parents, staff and students who helped make “*The Drum*” a success. The third and fourth grade students thank you all for coming to the shows and for your encouragement during their rehearsals. The students will now begin their study of *PSIA Music Memory*.



“DEAR EDWINA” CAST BEGINS REHEARSAL



The cast of “*Dear Edwina*” will meet on Monday, November 16, for the ‘all-day’ read through rehearsal of the libretto (script) and lunch. November 16 is a Teacher Conference Day (EC/LS/MS) and there is no school. The cast will meet at 10:00 AM in room 503. They will need to bring a sack lunch, plenty of water, their libretto, and a pencil. Parents are welcome to sit in on this first rehearsal to get the flavor of the show.

Parents who are interested in helping with all facets of “*Dear Edwina*” should plan to attend a meeting on Thursday, November 19, at 8:45 AM in room 503. There will be discussions regarding sets, props, costumes, and, in general, planning a Broadway Junior Musical. We will need lots of help to pull this one off, so please consider being part of the fun.



PSIA MUSIC MEMORY



The PSIA Music Memory CD’s and study guides have arrived for the 2010 Music Memory Contest. The third and fourth grade students all study Music Memory, classical pieces of 16 different composers from the 1500’s to modern day, as part of their music curriculum. If a student in grades three through six is interested in participating in the District PSIA contest and would like the materials to begin their study, please contact Mrs. Hogan by email – DBHogan@hscs.org, or come by room 503 and have a chat!

ATHLETICS



WINTER SPORTS MEETING



The winter sports meeting for parent and athletes will be held on Wednesday, October 21, from 3:30 -4:15 PM in the Parish Hall. Basketball tryouts will be held after school on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 22nd and 23rd.



YOUTH SPORTS NEWS



This year’s Holy Spirit Youth Sports Program is made up of eleven teams with a total of 118 young soccer players. Our program at Holy Spirit plays in the West Houston Christian Sports League made up of 14 Christian churches and schools. Our coaches, who are all volunteers, work with students PreK-4 through 4th grade. Our teams play games each Saturday on fields in West Houston and practice during the week here at Holy Spirit. Scroll to the end of the newsletter for pictures from the games!

Our Youth Sports Program also sponsors basketball and T-Ball/Baseball/Softball programs in the winter and spring. This year’s Basketball sign up is Saturday, October 24 and 31 at 10:00-11:00AM, in the gym.

PTO



FAMILY FUN NIGHT AT FUDDRUCKERS TONIGHT – OCTOBER 16

Parents: just say no to cooking and join us for dinner at the October Family Fun Night at Fuddrucker's on I-10. Come meet your HSES friends starting at 6:00 PM., relax with the kids and help Holy Spirit at the same time. Ten percent of the evening's proceeds will go back to HSES. Parents will need to bring the attached flyer for the school to receive credit. Contact Wendy Wall at wcommunication@earthlink.net with any questions.



NOVEMBER 4 – PTO MEMBER MEETING & USED UNIFORM SALE



Parents: mark your calendar for the first general PTO meeting of the year! The meeting will be in the Parish Hall and begin at 8:15 AM. We will also have used uniforms available, cleaned and ready for purchase!

IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO JOIN THE PTO!

ADMISSIONS AND ADVANCEMENT



ADMISSIONS

Open House for prospective students is **Tuesday, October 27, 2009**. Presentations and introductions begin at 9:30 AM, with division tours following from 10:00 – 11:00 AM. Reservations are recommended, but walk-ins welcome.

Please feel free to invite and inform your friends and neighbors. Spread the spirit!

Holy Spirit Episcopal School's admission office continues to actively recruit students from area feeder schools, including Ascension Episcopal School, Southminster, Sugar Grove Elementary, and Crème de la Crème. Additional recruited schools include Emmanuel Episcopal, Pines Presbyterian, Memorial Drive United Methodist, and more—all from the Memorial Area Preschool Association.



ADVANCEMENT



Fund for Excellence is off to a phenomenal start with over \$108,000 in pledges received to date. The goal for the 2009-2010 academic school year is \$150,000. Thank you to those who have already pledged. If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider your pledge today. Thank you in advance for your support and generosity. Look to hear from your Grade Level Captains on classroom participation, matching gift information, and dollar amount updates. Go Saints!

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH



Holy Spirit
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



TRUNK-OR-TREAT

Come to Trunk-or-Treat on Sunday, October 25 from 4:00—6:00 PM in the east parking lot of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church. What is it? A safe, fun-filled, “no fear” night out for kids of all ages! How does it work?

1. Be a “Trunk-or-Treat” vehicle. Bring a lawn chair and a bowl of candy OR decorate your vehicle, bring LOADS of candy, and hand out treats to the children as they go from car to car.
2. Come in a fun, positive (not scary) costume. Bring a treat bag & Trunk-or-Treat.
3. Bring a friend... Get the word out about how great Holy Spirit really is!

This is a FREE event. Dinner is served too—hot dogs & drinks for everyone! To reserve your spot or to find out how you can help, please call KariAnn Lessner @ 713.468.7796 x201 or email dcfm@hsechurch.org.



HOLIDAY HULLABALOO

Please save the date Thursday, November 5 at 12:00 PM for a spectacular luncheon featuring holiday fashions and vendors with everything that's *hot* for your 2009 festivities! If you have a home-based business and would like to feature in our incredible line up of vendors, please contact KariAnn Lessner by emailing her at dcfm@hsechurch.org. Tickets for the

Holiday Hullabaloo will go on sale in October! Until then... start thinking about who you want to share this super fun event with!

This is a reminder that the October Dove Tales (the church newsletter) is posted on line at our web-site, www.bsechurch.org. Please click the link and once on the opening page scroll down and select the Dove Tales icon at the lower left side.

EVENTS



TEDDY BEARS—EGGS AND PUZZLES!



Left: "These Teddy Bears are incredible at puzzles!", say their teachers! "These 3-year-old students are working on 48 piece puzzles of the solar system, but we shouldn't be surprised- this is Holy Spirit!"

Middle and right: These students are experimenting with eggs- raw and boiled versions.



THE WATER LADY VISITS 4TH GRADE



Susan Brown, the Water Lady from The Subsidence District, being assisted by William Reid as she talks about saving our water resources.

Did you know that only 1% of all the water on earth is potable or drinkable by humans? This was a fact that Susan Brown, "The Water Lady," from The Subsidence District, told Mrs. Gearhart's 4th grade science classes when she came to visit on Thursday, Oct. 8th. As a follow-up to their study of ecology, the students had been learning about water, and how it is better to be "water-wise than water-less".

Prior to Mrs. Brown's arrival, The Subsidence District had sent each student a free activity kit containing about \$60 worth of water-saving devices. These included a high efficiency showerhead, a kitchen and bathroom aerator, a drip and rain gauge, a flow rate test bag, toilet leak detector tablets and a water temperature thermometer. Through activities using these supplies, the children were able to determine if they lived in a "water-wise" home or not.

The Water Lady showed them, through dramatic demonstrations, how much water they and their families could save by taking simple measures like fixing leaks or turning off the water when brushing their teeth. She also showed them how much water their new shower heads could save them over older ones often found in homes. She even got students to help in determining how much water goes down the drain when you flush. It was a great afternoon, with lots of laughter and learning taking place.



YOUTH SPORTS GAMES



FALL SPORTS PEP RALLY!



Great job HSES! We had crazy teachers, fantastic games, wild outfits, enthusiastic students, and skilled teams. And we continued our tradition of spirit and excitement! Join us for our Homecoming Pep Rally on Friday, January 22nd at 3pm!



HSES SOCCER TEAM WINS AGAIN!



Perhaps due to an inspirational appearance by our Head of School, Ray Johnson, the soccer team pulled off a hard fought 2-1 victory last week. Fans celebrated, and Mr. Johnson showed his wide variety of athletic skills! We will put a basketball in his hands during our winter sports season.



NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY MEMBERS COLLECT BOXTOPS

Please continue to send in those Box Tops for Education located on your favorite foods. NJHS is shown here busy at work counting the box tops to send to “Box Tops For Education” to earn money for HSES. Don’t forget—there are prizes awarded to the Class and to the individual who collects the most box tops for HSES!

NJHS is also collecting cell phones and ink cartridges (small ones), so clean out those drawers and make money for HSES!



FAMFEST—A HUGE SUCCESS! FUN FOR ALL AGES!





Photo above by Connie Hill.



On Friday, October 2nd, Holy Spirit hosted an afternoon carnival, known as Famfest, in the parking lot of the school. Rock climbing, mechanical bull rides, prize drawings, merry-go-rounds, dunking booths, and face painting made it a great way for families from the school and local community to unwind and kick off their weekend. Join us next year for this great event!

The HSES administration and PTO would like to give a tremendous thank you to all of the parents and teachers who worked and attended FamFest. We had a terrific turnout from the entire school— from CEC all the way to middle school! This was a wonderful community building effort! A special thank you to Connie Hill and Courtenay McNew for leading this huge job; we could not have done this without you!

All photos, unless otherwise noted, are by Barton Ballard.

