



## HCA Family Newsletter September 14, 2018

*"Never miss an opportunity to do good."*

*~ St. Francis de Sales*

### September

14 – *Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, our school feast day*

14-16 – **Five Below fundraiser** for the Drama Club

15 – Virtus training for volunteers (must be preregistered), FBH, 9am-1pm

16 – **Chipotle fundraiser** for the Drama Club

19 – Chocolate Buy-out ends. *(If you did not sign up for the buy-out (\$75), you will receive 2 cases of World's Finest Chocolate to sell for our PTO fundraiser.)*

20 – PTO Board meeting, 1:30pm, Conference Room

21 – School Mass, 8:15am; 11:30 dismissal, faculty professional development

28 – School Mass, 8:15am

29 – Council of Catholic Women Mother-Daughter Tea

30 – St. Mary Parish Life Weekend

Recess Duty, 11:35-12:25

7<sup>th</sup> grade parents 9/17-19; 6<sup>th</sup> grade 9/20-10/4; 5<sup>th</sup> grade 10/5-/17

### NOTES

*There are lots of ways you can support Holy Cross. Here are a few that you can try out. Designate Holy Cross Academy at Amazon Smile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)) and [i.give.com](http://i.give.com) and everytime you use these sites, HCA receives a rebate. And don't forget to be saving your **Boxtops for Education**. There is a collection bin right inside the front door. We also **collect printer cartridges (in the workroom) and Coke lids in the office**. All of these little things help to support our school and don't cost our families at all! We just received \$102.63 from Coke Give. Little things can make a big difference.*

**Aviat Care is hiring an after-school childcare worker.** The hours are 2:45-6:00pm. We are looking for someone who loves to be around children and is willing to lead them in play and guide them in completing their homework. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Sr. Miriam Elizabeth at [aviatcare@holycrossweb.com](mailto:aviatcare@holycrossweb.com).

We have an **increasing number of children who have allergies to pets** – particularly cats and dogs. Please do not bring any animals into the school building unless you have cleared it with your child's teacher. We also have **more latex allergies** this year. Before you bring in balloons, please check the allergy list for your child's class. The gloves that we use in the kitchen and in the clinic are latex-free. **The classroom allergy list has been updated on our website.**

We **tested our School Messenger system this week**. It is possible to receive a message by phone, email and text. Some systems require you to opt-in with your carrier to receive the text message. If you didn't receive a text from HCA, your carrier might have blocked the message. If you have Verizon, you will have to opt in. Please text to number 68453 and then text "y" "yes" or "subscribe" to opt in. You should

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then start receiving notifications. If you continue to experience problems, please contact Mrs. Jeffers at [hcsecretary@holycrossweb.com](mailto:hcsecretary@holycrossweb.com)

**Our SCRIP program needs you!** We are **seeking a dedicated individual** who would be willing to help manage the SCRIP program, as one of its volunteer coordinators. Our SCRIP program directly supports Holy Cross Academy (HCA) earning rebates for the school expansion fund through the sale of gift cards for many favorite stores and retailers such as Wal-Mart, Giant, Wawa, Target, Olive Garden, Ruby Tuesday and Regal Theatre just to name a few. The SCRIP Coordinator duties are shared by two enthusiastic individuals who divide the duties. This volunteer position takes approximately 1-2 hours per week and includes placing orders to replenish inventory, picking up and delivering the St. Mary and HCA Scrip bags in partnership with the other coordinator, creating the SCRIP Schedule (once a month), and being the POC for Parishioners who need assistance with setting up an account in SCRIPWARE and/or answering questions. Training will be provided.

We are also **seeking additional volunteers** to help sell after Saturday and Sunday Masses. SCRIP is sold after most Masses at the Church, at the 10:30 Mass at HCA, and at HCA during the week during carpool. This effort takes about 15 minutes after each of the Masses when SCRIP is sold.

If you are intrigued by the possibility of either (1) taking over as one of the Co-Coordinators, (2) selling SCRIP or (3) both, please email [scripcoordinator@holycrossweb.com](mailto:scripcoordinator@holycrossweb.com) for more information. **Thank you for your thoughtful consideration in being a part of this important effort** that directly benefits Holy Cross Academy, our parish school. After all, *It's FOR the CHILDREN!* **Please see our Attachments folder** for a step-by-step tutorial on downloading SCRIP on your smartphone. No need to shop without SCRIP anymore!

**Back-to-School Forms:** Please make sure you have handed in these forms: Handbook Acknowledgement, Media Release Form, Health History Update for all students and all health forms, **any corrections to Emergency forms** and Aviat Care registration. *We use our Emergency Forms to update our data base and create our Family Directory. Please make it a priority! If we do not receive any corrections, we will have to go with the information that we have. This is the LAST CALL for changes!*

**The Parent Portal for Power School is open.** Letters have gone home to new families with directions about how to access this and your passcode. Any returning families who are not sure what to do should email Sr. Frances Carol at [sfcarol@holycrossweb.com](mailto:sfcarol@holycrossweb.com) and Sister will send you directions and your passcode.

**Do you like to meet new parents at the school!?** Do you want to be a part of a fantastic event!?! Then come help us with our Grandparents' day luncheon! Please contact Wendy Roche at [hokieswb@hotmail.com](mailto:hokieswb@hotmail.com) to get involved!

Our **Drama Club** invites you to join us for a fundraiser at Chipotle ([28 South Gateway Drive](#)) on Sunday, September 16 from 4-8pm. Please see attached flyer. **The Drama Club is raising funds for our Spring production of Mary Poppins.** Please present the flyer, valid for in-store purchases only. We cannot hand

out flyers at the door (*that is cheating, their words*). Please share and share and share. We stand to make 33% of the sales for every HCA friend and have a delicious meal.

**Go back to school shopping for supplies, treats and accessories.** Bring flyer or show on your smart phone and mention HCA before checkout. Please help Drama Club raise funds for our Spring production of *Mary Poppins*. Stop into **Five Below in Central Park** 9/14 through 9/16 and a portion of your purchase will go to Drama Club.

**Art Classroom Update:** Please consider sending in a smock for your child to wear in the art room. The children become so engaged in their work that they sometimes look like a piece of art themselves. An art smock could be: an old t-shirt, an apron or anything that will cover their clothes.

**Square 1 Art:** We will be participating in Square 1 Art again this year. Most students will begin making their work this week. Orders will be placed in October. Please consider a Square 1 Art gift for friends and family. The proceeds fund materials for our art program.

**Attention Parents: If you want to volunteer in the classroom this year,** coach, be a cub scout or girl scout leader, or be a chaperone for field trips, you must complete the 4-hour VIRTUS class along with an additional volunteer packet that you may pick up from the office. A VIRTUS class will be held at Holy Cross on Saturday, September 15th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You must register online at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) and go under the "live training tab" and sign up under our location. Please note that you can't be late to attend the VIRTUS class and it's adults only, no children allowed! If you have already done the class and paperwork, you do not need to do it again at this time. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Jeffers in the office.

Dear Parents, the "Battle of the Books" is a literary book club open to 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade students. The books selected for reading are chosen each year by diocesan librarians. The program culminates in May with a competition against 20 other diocesan schools. A team of five students will be chosen from the club members to compete in this annual event. However, all students who have participated in the book club will be invited to attend.

The "Battle of the Books" club will meet every week during lunch/recess. Students and the coaches will eat lunch together and discuss the latest read. The coaches are Mrs. Ellis and Mrs. Strickland. 6<sup>th</sup> gr. will meet every Monday, 12:10-12:40, in the library. 5<sup>th</sup> gr. will meet every Wednesday, 11:40-12:20 in 3-1.

In order to take an active part in the books discussions, it is imperative that each student complete the assigned reading for that week. Preparation is critical to meaningful book discussion. The students will be sharing the books from the England Run Library that are available. Some books may need to be purchased. Students should return the completed permission slip to Mrs. Ellis or Mrs. Strickland by Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to a stimulating year of exploring, learning, and sharing books! First meetings will begin the week of September 17<sup>th</sup>. Sincerely, the "BOB" coaches.

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**Middle School Minute:** *8<sup>th</sup> grade Class of 2019 hoodies have arrived.* I hope your 8<sup>th</sup> grader came home with a cool new sweatshirt that they can wear with their uniform except for Mass. The school store merchandise has been ordered and 7<sup>th</sup> grade has taken a great amount of time in selecting, purchasing and pricing the perfect items. They are learning about cost and will continue to learn about supply and demand. The store will be open every Wednesday during lunch and most items will be from 25¢ to \$1. On Friday we continue to have our snack cart; again all items are \$1. Send your student in with money if they would like to buy snack. **Encore Experiences have started. Your student will have the opportunity to experience all of these offerings, chess, debate, personal finance, get fit, life skills and hacks, and broadcast journalism.** Ask your student about their experiences!

Our Middle School student held their Student Council elections today. These students were elected as officers for SCA: **President Riley Baker; Vice President Jasmine Nguyen; Secretary Charlotte Dreany and Treasurer Charlotte Vorder Bruegge.** Congratulations to each of you. We look forward to seeing what you will do for our school community this year. Our thanks to all the students who ran for office and want to make this an exceptional year for our Middle School.

For the past 2 years, students in grades 5-8 have been invited to participate in **Crusaders for Life**, our own pro-life club. We are in need of a moderator for this group. If you are interested in leading our young people as they grow in an increased reverence for all human life, please contact Sr. Susan Louise. We have a parent who is willing to assist but cannot take this on right now. Thank you for your consideration of this group.

**Casting Call: Drama Club is casting actors and looking for dedicated crew members to star in Mary Poppins, Jr..** Please visit our website <http://holycrossacademydr.wixsite.com/drama>. Follow the directions for auditioning; if you are in grades K-3 or are crew, download the permission form from our website and submit with dues no later than October 29, 2018. As Director I emphasize teamwork, camaraderie and self-control. Drama students not only grow in stature, but also develop an advanced self-esteem, learn public speaking and presentation skills and gain new friends which will carry them through their years, even beyond Holy Cross Academy. Each rehearsal is filled with activities that focus on performing as an individual and as ensemble. I volunteer my time and make a commitment to each student. In return, I ask that each student make a commitment to the Drama Club. I look forward to another great season, Marty Ferraioli. Please support our fundraisers this weekend at Chipotle and 5 Below!

Trunk-or-Treat is back! It will be Friday, Oct. 26 7:00-9:00 pm. Please plan to come for a fun evening of carnival-style games, crafts and of course trunk-or-treating! We will have concessions: soda, water and popcorn. Vendor tables: \$25/ sponsor a game. Decorations are needed! Pumpkins, straw hay bales, Halloween-themed inflatable yard decor, corn stalks and Halloween lights. Donations may be dropped off at school. Please email Tara Durant if interested in helping! [ecdurant@verizon.net](mailto:ecdurant@verizon.net).

**PTO Corner:** Many activities are already on the horizon, and we especially need volunteers for Scrip

Coordinator and helpers; Grandparents' Day helpers; Yearbook Coordinators, Photographers, Editors and Helpers; and many other key positions. Please contact Brian Fannin at [attorney@brianfanninlaw.com](mailto:attorney@brianfanninlaw.com) to express your interest in these or any other positions. PTO Corner wasn't exactly sad and lonely before volunteering for PTO, but he's definitely happy that he did!

There is a date in October--the 25th to be precise--to mark on your calendars. What's that you say, who have grandparents of HCA students living with you, near you, or calling you, writing you, or Skyping you? You already know about Grandparents' Day? Well, you're ahead of the games, fun, food, photos and music that make up that magical day--and if you haven't yet, pencil that day into your calendar, unroll the extra futon, stock up on hot chocolate and check the train schedule--Grandparents' Day will bring you lots of family and lots of fun. If you can help at all, let us know.

**INTERESTED IN CUB SCOUTS?** We are hopeful the weather will hold out for our pack meeting tonight! Did you know Pack 1410 received the Pope Paul VI National Catholic Unit Excellence Award, Gold Level, from the Diocese of Arlington!?

**Pack 1410 is chartered through Holy Cross Academy.** All kindergarteners through 4th graders are welcome to come to our first pack meeting on September 14th at 6:30 PM. We meet in Fr. Brisson Hall. If you are unable to make this meeting please reach out to me. I will put you in contact with the den leader. For additional information please contact Lorie Clark at [lccjccsc@gmail.com](mailto:lccjccsc@gmail.com)



**Calling all Crafters!! Boy Scout Troop 1410 is hosting a Fall 2018 No Frills Scrapbook Crop-A-Thon. Saturday, October 27, 2018 from 9am – 9pm at HCA.** Only \$35.00 per person! You bring your photos and supplies and we will provide a 6ft. table, snacks/drinks (meals on your own), and Boy Scouts to carry your supplies to and from your car. Please contact Torie Baldwin at [vebaldwin1@gmail.com](mailto:vebaldwin1@gmail.com) to register by October 15, 2018.

#### **2018-2019 Majest Martial Arts HCA Taekwondo Program**

We'll be kicking off our 2018-2019 HCA TKD classes next week. Classes are scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3:45-4:30p.m. Program runs from September 11, 2018 to June 7, 2019. Take advantage of this great opportunity to participate in an activity that is individually based while working in a family setting. At Majest, we teach beyond the "kick and punch". Through taekwondo, students learn the physical and mental skills to apply to their life outside our dojang doors. At the cornerstone of our teaching is respect. We partner with our families to assist students to establish and achieve personal goals and reinforce family values. A percentage of the registration fees will be donated to HCA programs. Transportation is still available. For more information, contact Pearl Conroy at 540.899.5588 or [customerservice@majestTKDfredericksburg.com](mailto:customerservice@majestTKDfredericksburg.com).



**FASL Junior Cotillion Social Dance and Etiquette Classes for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students begin Sunday, September 23rd.** There is still time to enroll your child for the Junior Cotillion of

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Fredericksburg, where they will learn proper etiquette in social situations and ballroom dance lessons. For information, please go to our website: <http://www.faserviceleague.com/juniorcotillion.html> or contact Belinda Leonen directly at [MannersMatterVA@gmail.com](mailto:MannersMatterVA@gmail.com). Proceeds benefit the Fredericksburg Area Service League and support children in Fredericksburg and surrounding areas.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM SAINT JOHN PAUL THE GREAT HIGH SCHOOL**

Saturday - September 29<sup>th</sup> 9:00am - noon - **Super Science Saturday**. This is a great chance for middle school science fans to work high school level labs in Biology, Physics, Chemistry and Environmental Science ... they'll be able to meet our phenomenal science teachers, National Science Honors Society students and have a great time with other science fanatics! The cost is \$30 (to cover supplies) and space is limited. Registration closes on Wednesday, September 26 (last year we had to close registration as this was so very popular an event). NO REGISTRATIONS will be taken at the door.

On Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:00pm, we will host our annual **Fall Open House** This year, all of the diocesan high schools' open houses are on different days to give all a chance to see where their student/family would thrive best (of course, we hope it is here at JP the Great

On Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> our Drama Club will host a Middle School matinee of our Fall 2018 play, **Sherlock Holmes**. Admission is free and if you are interested in having your students attend, we can provide a lesson plan for use before and after the performance, as well as possibly using our school buses to transport your students. The play starts at 12 noon and will end by 2:00, getting your students back to school in time for carpool.

### ***Saint Francis de Sales and the Cross***

*The everlasting God has in His wisdom foreseen from eternity the cross that He now presents to you as a gift from His inmost heart. This cross He now sends you He has considered with His all-knowing eyes, understood with His divine mind, tested with His wise justice, warmed with loving arms and weighed with His own hands to see that it be not one inch too large and not one ounce too heavy for you. He has blessed it with His holy Name, anointed it with His consolation, taken one last glance at you and your courage, and then sent it to you from heaven, a special greeting from God to you, an alms of the all-merciful love of God.*



# SEEKING HOPE & HEALING IN THE MIDST OF THE OPIOID CRISIS

Hosted by Bishop Michael F. Burbidge & Catholic Charities, Diocese of Arlington

September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 | 10AM - 3PM

Registration at 9:30AM. (Mass will be celebrated at 9AM)

Good Shepherd Catholic Church | 8710 Mount Vernon Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22309

Keynote Speaker: **Dr. Michael Horne, Psy.D.**

*Director of Clinical Services, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Arlington*

The day includes a keynote address and a variety of informative breakout sessions.

Bishop Burbidge will conclude the Conference with a Prayer Service for the Intentions of all affected by the opioid crisis.

Free will offering for refreshments and lunch will be accepted.

Registration required. RSVP to attend by **Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>** at [events@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:events@arlingtondiocese.org)



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| [www.cdda.net](http://www.cdda.net)

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