



February 23, 2024
School Newsletter

Important Dates:

~Living Stations of the Cross - To assist your Lenten journey, we would like to invite you to our 7th and 8th grade students' **Living Stations of the Cross**. This moving presentation and Lenten reflection will be presented on Friday, March 8th, at 7:00 pm in the church.

~Scrip News - Due to no school on Friday, March 1st, there will be no Scrip the week of Monday, February 26th. The next locals order will be on Monday, March 4th. Please have all orders in by 9am. [Click Here](#) for a list of local establishments.

~Standale Chick-Fil-A Give Back Night - Mark your calendars for Thursday, March 21st, from 5:00-7:00. The Standale Chick-Fil-A will give us a percentage of all sales during that time. You do not need to have a flyer. Support your PTA and enjoy dinner!

~Madagascar, Jr. The Musical - Coming Soon! - Come see our students perform the Madagascar, Jr Musical on Saturday, March 23rd, with shows at 2:30 and 7:00. Use the attached ticket form to reserve your spots and see our students act, sing, dance, and entertain you!

~Paper Gator Color Day - Families who bring in a large grocery size paper bag filled with items for the Paper Gator on Thurs., March 28th, will have a Paper Gator color day. Acceptable items include school/office paper, newspaper, junk mail, hard/soft cover books, magazines, shredded paper (bagged in clear plastic), paperboard, and cardboard (12"x12" or smaller). Students will assist you as you arrive in the morning. Let's care for the environment, raise funds for the PTA, and fill the Paper Gator!

~Enrollment and Registration for 2024-25 - Enrollment for 2024-25 is almost here! This year you will be able to reenroll an existing student, add a new student, sign your Enrollment Agreement, and view and sign your Tuition Contract all online. You will receive an email from FinalSite (previously School Admin) in the next couple of weeks. Upon receipt, you may login to review, make changes, sign both Enrollment Agreement and Tuition Contract, and pay the registration fee, as well as view and complete any outstanding Checklist Items listed for your students. If you are waiting on financial aid results or participate in Scrip, those items will be added upon review and your Tuition Contract will be revised accordingly. We hope moving everything online will save you time, as well as save some trees. If at anytime you prefer a paper copy of something, we will be happy to provide it.

~2024-25 School Calendar - We have had a number of requests for the 2024-25 School Calendar. The finalized calendar will be sent out shortly. In the meantime, here are a few of the dates you may need for next year:

Aug. 20	First Day of School	Dec. 23-Jan. 3	Christmas Vacation
Feb. 17-18	Mid-Winter Break	April 7-11	Spring Break
April 18	Good Friday No School	June 5	Last Day of School

Sat., February 24th

~YMCA Night 7:15-9:30 pm

Fri., March 1st

~ Prof. Dev. Day – No School
CDC Open

Mon., March 4th

~Early Childhood Screening
No School for Y5/KDG

Wed., March 6th

~Early Childhood Screening
~4th Grade Songfest
7pm at West Catholic

Fri., March 8th

~Living Stations of the Cross 7pm

Wed., March 13th

~Titan Toddler Time 10:15-10:45

Sat., March 16th

~Evening of Worship 6:30pm

Thurs., March 21st

~Titan Give Back Night @ Chick-Fil-A 5-7pm

Fri., March 22nd

~3rd Qtr. Ends
~Newsletter/Calendar

Sat., March 23rd

~Madagascar, Jr., the Musical
2:30 & 7pm

Tues., March 26th

~PTA Mtg. 7pm

Thurs., March 28th

~Paper Gator Color Day
~3rd Qtr. Report Cards Online

Fri., March 29th

~Good Friday, No School
CDC Closed

Mon., April 1st

~Easter Monday, No School
CDC Closed

Tues., Apr. 2nd- Fri., Apr. 5th

~Spring Break/CDC Open



~Parish Wide Easter Food Drive – As we strive to serve others throughout the year, one thing we can do as a community is to come together to provide Easter food for those less fortunate. Students are encouraged to donate something from the list below:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Canned Fruit – In its own juice or in 100% Juice | Boxed Potatoes |
| Canned Vegetables (Low Sodium or No Salt Added) | Boxed/Bagged Stuffing |
| Canned Tomato Products (Low Sodium or No Salt Added) | |
| Whole Wheat Pasta | |
| Rice (White/Brown/Wild) | |
| Canned Tuna/Chicken (Low Sodium) | |

2nd Quarter Bring Up Grades

(BUG) Awards



Gr. 4: Ethan L., Felix P.

Gr. 6: Marcus A., Justin H., Grace M.

Gr. 7: Carson A., Charlie S.

MARCH IS READING MONTH

We love to read! During the month of March, we put an extra emphasis on celebrating the importance of reading. To help celebrate Reading Month, local author, Sarah McCormick, of “The Skunk Who Couldn’t Smell” will be visiting our school and reading to our Kindergarten – Grade 2 students on Wednesday, March 6th. See the attached order form if you would like to pre-order a signed copy of her book. Stay tuned for information coming home soon with more details about March is Reading Month!

Awesome Authors Club!

Congratulations to the following HS published authors for the month of February.

KDG: Iris S., Kate S., Ayla D.

1ST: Addy W., Finley D., Emma W., Shai D., Alivia M., Isabelle Z., Bennett H.

2ND: Ryan L., Kane B., JJ J., Jade N., Abigail P.

3RD: Annie N., Quinn H., Lila G., Liberty P.

Birthday Book Club

Thank you to Sylvia B., and Alex G., our newest February Birthday Book Club members. Their donation to the school library is greatly appreciated!

In return for their generosity, they will receive a color day pass.

In Sympathy



Please keep in your prayers, **Mrs. Ryan** on the passing of her Uncle, **Miss Olsen** on the loss of her Grandmother, **Mrs. Houdek and Family** on the death of her Grandfather, and the **Arsulowicz and Radlinski Families** on the passing of their Great-Grandmother. May the memories of their loved ones live on in their hearts and bring them peace.

March Birthdays!



Hailey Y.
Declan A.
Keira G.
Iris S.
Amelia P.
Arianna B.
Nolan L.
Max B.
Mrs. DiGiovanna
Mrs. Berndt

Henry G.
Amalia D.
Brycen P.
Henryk K.
Vera M.
Henrik S.
Ellenor S.
Case O.
Mrs. Sweedyk
Mr. Thompson

Jared B.
Oliver L.
Charlotte K.
Josiah J.
Nicholas J.
Liam S.
Emilio M.
Ms. Reynolds
Mrs. Kelly

Addison B.
Nolan B.
Jackson P.
Maxwell V.
Cora G.
Cassius Z.
Madelyn B.
Mrs. Stroh
Mrs. Kalahar

Religious Education News

Confirmation Retreat is this Sunday, February 25th, beginning with 10:30 am Mass-2:30 pm. Please be sure to get permission slips turned in to the Religious Ed Office. Candidates will meet in the multi-purpose room after Mass. Pickup should be at the church as we will be finishing the retreat in the chapel.

First Communion Commemorative Platemaking will be on Saturday, March 9th, at 9:00 am in the cafeteria. One adult needs to accompany each child. Please return your platemaking envelopes either with the payment to indicate that your child will be participating, or marking it that your child will not be participating. We need to know how many plates to order.

Virtus Reminder: Now is the time to be sure your volunteer requirements are complete if you would like to participate in field trips with your child. Go to **Virtus.org** to register for the online class and complete the required paperwork.

LINK BOX

[Blackbaud Financial Aid Application](#)
[NW Youth Soccer Assoc.](#)
[West Catholic Strength Training Info](#)
[Future Falcon News - WC](#)

Holy Spirit Mission Statement

Our mission at Holy Spirit School is to learn, live, and share the message and teachings of Jesus Christ.



Holy Spirit
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Titan Sports Update
2-23-24

Titan Sports are Advancing at all Levels

Spring Sports

Spring Sports: If your child is interested in participating in a spring sport, please register them by **March 1st**. Graceac will not accept any late registrations.

Register them at **graceac.com**. Click on the registration links.

Spring Sports offered for grades 3rd and 4th boys and girls

- Track

Spring Sports offered for grades 5th-8th boys and girls

- Track
- Lacrosse

Spring sports offered for grades 6th-8th boys and girls

- Tennis

Spring Sports offered for 5th-8th girls

- Soccer
- Softball

Spring Sports offered for 5th-8th boys

- Baseball

Coaches Needed

- Parent coaches for Track–We need to have 4 to 5 parent coaches present at practices and meets. Please call if you are interested in doing this. No experience needed, the head coaches will tell you what to do. Please email Mrs. Sweedyk if interested.
- Tennis coaches–Graceac is looking for tennis coaches for both boys and girls tennis. Please email Mrs. Sweedyk if interested.

Sports Physicals are Scheduled. These are physicals for any student wanting to participate in sports for the 2024.2025 school year. More information will be coming along with forms to be filled out. We will have two dates for the physicals:

- April 17th will be for students in grades 5th thru 8th.
- May 1st will be for students in grades 2nd thru 4th.

Sports Fee – Thank you to all those who have paid the sports fee of \$85.00 If you have not paid, please do so as soon as possible.

Rosemary Sweedyk
Holy Spirit Athletic Director
rsweedyk@hsparish.org

Spanish Class News at Holy Spirit: February 2024

Kindergarten- We have been learning some winter clothing in Spanish such as gorro-winter hat, bufanda-scarf, guantes-gloves, pantalones-pants and botas-boots. We continue to practice colors, numbers through the calendar and the song, “Invierno” which means winter.

First- Students are doing well with being able to say some winter vocabulary (see kindergarten news above). See if they can sing to you the clothing song and Invierno song that we’ve been doing. We’ve also been reviewing numbers up to 20 and days of the week.

Second- Students continue to work on/learn winter vocabulary by identifying activities they do in the winter, identifying their favorite by writing and drawing it and identifying clothing they wear in the winter. We’ve also been reviewing color vocabulary in this theme.

Third- We continue to listen to and spell in Spanish using winter vocabulary. We started our song about a girl and her cat and will continue in March. We are also practicing vocabulary online using the site rocalingua.com. Students know how to access it: it’s a great place to reinforce what they are learning with me in Spanish class.

Fourth- Fourth graders continue to learn about Srta. Amarilla and Sr. Azul in the adventures they have together. We are about halfway through the “songs-stories” as there are 6 episodes!

Fifth- Thank you so much for your donations! Students really enjoyed their fiesta and there was a ton of food/drinks for all! We are currently learning the Spanish speaking countries; ask your child to tell you how many there are and what they are learning about them. In March, students will do a brief report on one country-in Spanish!

Sixth- Lately, students have been helping to create a story in Spanish using our vocabulary for Unit 4. Students have been responding to statements in Spanish using the yo form (I) of the verbs we are practicing.

Seventh/Eighth- Students are working through Unit 5 vocabulary. We are learning the vocabulary through stories and online practice. I’ve introduced a site called Quizlet in which they can practice the vocabulary in a variety of different formats outside of class. If students are absent or need extra practice, this site is where they should go.

4th hour Spanish 8 Students are halfway through Unit 7. Soon, they will be learning about the Castells of Tarragona (human towers). My goal is to get through Unit 10 with them before the end of the school year so they can take the placement test and hopefully test out of Spanish 1. We are on track so far!

Sra. Loreal Long, K-8 Spanish at HS

Featured Author of the Month

Congratulations to Bennett H., in 1H, for being the Featured Author of the Month. He has won a lunch of his choice, and his story is featured below.

George's Adventure

This book is dedicated to my sister Lucy

There once was a dog whose name was George. He needed an adventure because he had been stuck in the house. George saw a cat outside of his window and decided to go with the cat.

The cat's name was Maximus. Maximus had a surprise for George. George told the cat he needed an adventure. Maximus told George he is going to the animal pool where there are waterfalls, all the meat you can eat, and you get to make one wish and it will come true.

George was surprised! Maximus says, "Let's go!" When they got to the pool, an elephant guard let them through. George was amazed at all the cool things. Maximus shows George the wishing well and tells him to make a wish.

George wishes to be a pirate puppy and go on another adventure. Maximus wishes for his own little animal pool. The friends say goodbye. George finds a ship and goes on another adventure.

The End

About the Author

Bennett has 2 younger sisters. His favorite color is red. At home he likes to play the game Battleship. He also likes to play with his sisters. He is doing robotics club at school and really likes it. This summer he might do baseball or flag football. His favorite foods are apples and hot dogs. When he grows up he wants to be a construction worker. His favorite vacation was going to Mackinac Island. He really liked the bike ride his family did.



Holy Spirit School Calendar, March, 2024

Lunch Supervision, Grade 3 / For updated information go to www.holyspiritschoolgr.org

					1 <u>No School</u> Professional Development Day Child Care Open	2 Women's Lenten Retreat
3 Gospel Jn 2:13-25	4 Early Childhood <u>Screening</u> No school for Y5 & K Musical Practice 3:15 <u>GOTR 3:15</u> Robotics 6-7p	5 Choir 3:15-4:15	6 Early Childhood <u>Screening</u> GOTR 3:15-4:45 4 th Grade Songfest 7:00 at WC	7 Musical Practice 3:15-4:45 Robotics 6-7pm	8 <u>Mass 8:30</u> Living Stations of the Cross 7:00pm	9 First Communion Plate Making 9:00
10 Gospel Jn 3:14-21	11 Musical Practice 3:15-4:45 GOTR 3:15-4:45 Spanish Club 3:15-4:45 Robotics 6-7pm	12 Choir 3:15-4:15	13 Titan Toddler Time 10:15-10:45 Girls On the Run 3:15-4:45	14 Robotics 6-7pm	15 <u>Mass 8:30</u> Green St. Patrick's Color Day with uniform <u>bottoms</u> Musical Practice 3:15-6:30	16 Student Choir 5:00 <u>Mass</u> Evening of Worship 6:30
17 Gospel Jn 12:20-33	18 Musical Practice 3:15-4:45	19 Musical Practice 3:15-4:45 Choir 3:15-4:15	20 Musical Practice 3:15-5:00 Board Mtg 6:30	21 Musical Practice 3:15-5:00 Chick-Fil-A Give Back Night 5-7pm	22 <u>Mass 8:30</u> 3 rd Quarter <u>Ends</u> Newsletter/ Calendar	23 Madagascar Musical 2:30 & 7:00
24 Palm Sunday Mk 14-15	25 Spanish Club 3:15-4:45 GOTR 3:15-4:45	26 Choir 3:15-4:15 PTA Meeting 7:00	27 Girls on the Run 3:15-4:45	28 Report Cards <u>Online</u> Paper Gator Color Day	29 <u>No School</u> Child Care <u>Closed</u> Good Friday	30
31 Easter! Student Choir 10:30 Mass						

Parish Wide Easter Food Drive

February 14th – March 22nd



During the weeks of Lent, we are collecting donations to support God's Kitchen. Bulk items are greatly appreciated.

- Canned fruit
- Canned vegetables (low sodium)
- Canned tomato products (low sodium)
- Boxed potatoes
- Whole wheat pasta
- Boxed/bagged stuffing
- Brown rice
- Canned tuna/chicken (low sodium)

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”
Colossians 3:17



PTA | HOLY SPIRIT
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

All School Families are invited to join us for a **Family Fun Night** at the YMCA!

We reached our pledge goal for Walking With The Spirit
and now it is time to celebrate our success!

Enjoy private access to many of the awesome amenities at the YMCA including the aquatic center, racquetball courts, and four gym courts. There will be YMCA staff supervising all areas including lifeguards in the pool area.

When: Saturday, February 24 from 7:15-9:30pm

Where: David D. Hunting YMCA (downtown)

Important Information:

- **NEED TO BE IN THE BUILDING AT 7:15PM
- **Parking is accessible through the Winter Street entrance.
- **Bring signed waiver for each participating student.
- **Check-in at the community room first for rules
(large room to the right when you walk into the building)
- **Lockers available for storing items, bring your own padlock.
- **Towels **ARE NOT** provided, please bring your own.
- ****Adult must be in pool with children who need assistance swimming or with those children who don't pass swim test.**
- **Water slide height requirement is 48".
- **Pool will close at 9:30.





FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

YMCA OF GREATER GRAND RAPIDS LIABILITY FORM

MY INFORMATION			
TITLE (PLEASE PRINT)	FIRST NAME	M.I.	LAST NAME
GENDER	DATE OF BIRTH	EMPLOYER	

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT- ALL ADULTS MUST COMPLETE

I am aware and understand that the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids assumes no responsibility for any injuries, illnesses, or contraction of contagious and infectious diseases, including coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19"), which I or my child may sustain as a result of my or my child's physical condition or resulting from my or my child's participation in any activities, programs, exercise, or the use of any facility, equipment, or other activities organized or sponsored by the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids & Affiliates (the "Activities").

I EXPRESSLY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I ASSUME ANY AND ALL RISK FOR ANY AND ALL INJURIES, ILLNESSES, OR CONTRACTION OF CONTAGIOUS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES, INCLUDING COVID-19, THAT MAY RESULT FROM MY OR MY CHILD'S PHYSICAL CONDITION OR RESULTING FROM MY OR MY CHILD'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES, WHETHER CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE YMCA OF GREATER GRAND RAPIDS OR OTHERWISE.

In consideration of the privilege of joining, or using the YMCA, I hereby voluntarily waive and release the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids & Affiliates, their directors, officers, agents, servants, volunteers, and employees from any and all claims, now known or hereafter known, for any injury, death, loss or damage, including property damage, or contraction of contagious and infectious diseases, including COVID-19, that I or my child may suffer arising out of or attributable to the Activities, whether arising out of the negligence of the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids or otherwise. I covenant not to make or bring any such claim against the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids & Affiliates, their directors, officers, agents, servants, volunteers, and employees, and forever release and discharge the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids & Affiliates, their directors, officers, agents, servants, volunteers, and employees from liability under such claims. I understand the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids is NOT responsible for personal property lost or stolen while members, guests, and/or program participants are using YMCA facilities or on YMCA premises. All prospective and current YMCA members and guests are screened against a national, state and/or tribal sex offender registry or database.

PHOTO/TALENT CONSENT & RELEASE

I irrevocably permit, authorize, grant and license to the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids & Affiliates the right to use without limitation or obligation, photographs, film footage, tape recordings or other media that may include myself and my family's image, likeness, appearance, or voice (the "Materials") for purposes of promoting or interpreting YMCA programs without further consent from or royalty, payment, or other compensation to me. In consideration of the privilege of joining, or using the YMCA, I hereby voluntarily waive and release the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids & Affiliates, their directors, officers, agents, servants, volunteers, and employees from any and all claims, now known or hereafter known, relating to all liabilities, claims, demands, actions, suits, damages, and expenses, including but not limited to claims for copyright or trademark infringement, infringement of moral rights, libel, defamation, invasion of any rights of privacy (including intrusion, false light, public disclosure of private facts, and misappropriation of name or likeness), violation of rights of publicity, physical or emotional injury or distress, or any similar claim or cause of action in tort, contract, or any other legal theory, now known or hereafter known in any jurisdiction throughout the world, arising directly or indirectly from the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids & Affiliates' exercise of their rights under this Liability Waiver or the production, exhibition, exploitation, advertising, promotion, or other use of the materials, and whether resulting in whole or in part from the negligence of the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids & Affiliates, their directors, officers, agents, servants, volunteers, and employees, and I hereby covenant not to make or bring any such claim in this Photo/Talent Consent & Release Section against YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids & Affiliates, their directors, officers, agents, servants, volunteers, and employees and forever release and discharge the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids & Affiliates, their directors, officers, agents, servants, volunteers, and employees from liability under such claims in this Photo/Talent Consent & Release Section.

GENERAL

This Liability Waiver constitutes the sole and entire agreement of the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids and me with respect to the subject matter contained herein and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous understandings, agreements, representations, and warranties, both written and oral, with respect to such subject matter. If any term or provision of this Liability Waiver is invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any jurisdiction, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other term or provision of this Liability Waiver or invalidate or render unenforceable such term or provision in any other jurisdiction. This Liability Waiver is binding on my estate, heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of the YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids and its respective successors and assigns. All matters arising out of or relating to this Liability Waiver shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of Michigan without giving effect to any choice or conflict of law provision or rule (whether of the State of Michigan or any other jurisdiction). Any claim or cause of action arising under this Liability Waiver may be brought only in the federal and state courts located in Kent County, Michigan and I hereby consent to the exclusive jurisdiction of such courts.

GUEST SIGNATURES

BY SIGNING OR CLICKING TO AGREE, I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD ALL OF THE TERMS OF THIS LIABILITY WAIVER AND THAT I AM VOLUNTARILY GIVING UP SUBSTANTIAL LEGAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO SUE THE YMCA OF GREATER GRAND RAPIDS.

ADULT PARTICIPANT	
PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE
FOR MINOR GUESTS ONLY- I certify that I am the parent and/or legal guardian of (the minor) who is currently under the age of 18.	
MINOR NAME	SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN
GUEST OF	
MEMBER NAME	

Book Order Form

Local author, Sarah McCormick, of 'The Skunk Who Couldn't Smell' will be visiting Holy Spirit on Wednesday, March 6th!

About the Book



Missing out stinks!

Smellarella Skunkerton always knew she was different from the other skunks, but she was never sure why. When the smell of her mom's baking brings her siblings running to the kitchen, Smellarella realizes the problem: **she can't smell!**

If you would like to pre-order a signed copy, please return form and money to your child's teacher by Friday, March 1st.

Cost: \$8 per book.

Payment Options: Cash, Check (payable to: Sarah McCormick), Venmo (@TheSkunkertons – please include parent name, student name, and school).

Student Name: _____ **Student Grade:** _____

Parent Name: _____ **Teacher Name:** _____

Number of Books: _____ **Total Payment Included:** _____

Spirit Night Fundraiser

Thursday, March 21, 2024 | 5 - 7 pm



Join us for food and fun.

Come support local school, Holy Spirit Catholic School! 10% of the evening's sales from our dining room and drive-thru will be donated to support the school.





"Madagascar Jr." Ticket Order Form

When ordering tickets make sure that you order for the times you need. Since we are doing two shows, we will be printing tickets specific for each performance time.

Tickets will be sent home on Friday, March 22 with your student.

Please feel free to order tickets for your family and friends.

All orders must be turned in by Monday, March 18.

Ticket prices are \$6/adult and \$4/student.

Show Dates are Saturday, March 23 (2:30 & 7:00 PM)



"Madagascar Jr." Ticket Order Form

Name _____

Saturday, March 23 @ 2:30 PM Show: _____ Adults _____ Students

Saturday, March 23 @ 7:00 PM Show: _____ Adults _____ Students

Total Adults _____ x \$6.00 = \$ _____

Total Students _____ x \$4.00 = \$ _____

Total.....\$ _____

Please make checks payable to Holy Spirit School.

Turn this form in on or before March 18, 2024

