



St. Pius X Regional School News Notes

December 20, 2018



CHRISTMAS VACATION

Please take note of our Christmas Vacation Schedule: Friday, December 22nd will be an early dismissal day with **NO AFTER-CARE**. **PK dismisses at 12:30pm and K-8th grades dismiss at 1:00pm**. Our Christmas vacation starts on Monday, December 24th and classes resume on Wednesday, January 2, 2019.



The Faculty and Staff at St. Pius X Regional School wish you a Blessed Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year!

LUNCH TIME - ORDER NOW FOR FEBRUARY



February lunch orders must be placed by January 12th. Late orders may be placed from the 13th to the 15th of each month for the following month. If you are interested in ordering from Main & Market, you will need to register online at [HTTPS://MAINANDMARKET.BOONLI.COM](https://mainandmarket.boonli.com) with our school password of CAVALIER22. If you have questions, you should call Main & Market at 1-800-381-6511 ext. 1 or email them at support@boonli.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, December 20

- *K Spanish, 3:00-3:45pm, SG I
- *Stem Club, 3:00-4:30pm, Lab

Friday, December 21

- *Early dismissal
 - *1:00pm for grades K-8
 - *12:30pm for PK
- *NO ESP
- *Living Gospel, 10:30am, Church

Monday, December 24- Tuesday, Jan 1

- *No School, Christmas Holiday

Wednesday, January 2

- *Coat Drive Collection
- *8th gr Academic Club, 3:00-4:00pm, Math
- *Tiger Den meeting, 5:30-6:30pm, 2B

Thursday, January 3

- *Coat Drive Collection
- *K Spanish, 3:00-3:45pm, SG I
- *Service Club, 3:00-4:00pm, Art
- *Den meeting, 6:00-7:00pm, 6A
- *Den 2 meeting, 7:00-8:00pm, 2B

Friday, January 4

- *Coat Drive Collection
- *Chorus, 3:00-4:00pm, Music
- *Chess Club, 3:00-4:15pm, 2B
- *Cadette Troop 2386 meeting, 7:00-8:30pm, Art

Please check the school calendar for more information:

<http://www.stpiusbowie.org/school-life/calendar/>

REGISTRATION FOR NEXT YEAR



Information on how to register for the 2018-2019 school year will be coming out soon. Please keep a look-out in News Notes and in your emails for important directions on how to register your **current SPX student** at for the next school year. Registration for **new students** will open on January 27, 2019 after our Open House.

A NOTE ABOUT EARLY DROP-OFFS



Just a reminder that the school does not open until 7:30am. Per page 8 in our Parent Student Handbook, "Adult supervision in the school yard at the St Pius campus begins at 7:30am. The school will not assume responsibility for children who arrive earlier than 7:30am." If you drop your children off in the front before that time, they will have to wait outside. We do offer morning care that begins at 7:00am. Please call Mrs. Fay if you want to start morning care.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SPX GREEN TEAM MEETING

Our guest speaker was a paleontologist from the Dinosaur Park in Laurel, MD. Since some students thought a paleontologist was the same as a veterinarian, we discussed their similarities and differences. We also talked about how the things people do to protect the planet may benefit researchers in the future.



In addition, we studied fossils, real and replicated, that were millions of years old. We learned that "fossil" means evidence of ancient life. Therefore, fossils are not only dinosaurs but many different creatures and things like teeth, plants, and bones.

We learned about the history of the Dinosaur Park, and that it began as a mine for ironstone, which is a rock made mostly of iron. We also learned where the first dinosaur was discovered: England.

Like state birds, and state flowers, there are also state dinosaurs. Maryland's state dinosaur is the Astrodon whose name means "star tooth." When scientists first discovered it, they saw that the inside of its tooth looked like a star and gave it that name.

Everyone roared trying to imitate what a dinosaur may have sounded like, only to learn that scientists believe ancient dinosaurs may have quacked like ducks.

COLD WEATHER POLICY

Now that the weather is becoming cold, the school has received many telephone calls about the children being outside. Our rule is that the children will stay out in the morning and go out at recess unless the temperature is below 30 degrees (that includes wind chill). Please make sure your student (s) come dressed appropriately with hats and gloves. **Please mark all outer wear with their name and homeroom.**



CHICK-FIL-A ORDER INFORMATION



No Chick-fil-a Day in December.

Our next Chick-fil-a Day is Wednesday, January 9TH.

The last day to order January Chick-fil-a is, Friday, January 4TH.

GOLDEN APPLE TEACHER NOMINATIONS DUE TO MRS. SCHROM BY JANUARY 7TH! SHOW YOUR LOVE AND NOMINATE ONE OF OUR FINE TEACHERS!

On May 16, 2019 the Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Schools will host the eleventh annual Golden Apple Awards for excellence in teaching. Ten of our Archdiocese teachers will be honored for their outstanding teaching and commitment to Catholic education.



The Golden Apple Award is the creation of the Donahue Family Foundation. Mr. _____ and Mrs. Jack Donahue are parents of 13 children, all of whom were educated in Catholic schools. Eager to express their deep appreciation to Catholic school teachers for providing a quality academic and faith-filled education for their children, the Foundation has established this award in four dioceses around the country.

The nomination forms are due back to Mrs. Schrom by Jan. 7, 2019.

[Click here for the nomination form!](#)

BRASS CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS FOR SALE!



St Pius X School is having a spectacular sale of our limited-edition Brass Christmas Ornament Collection. The ornaments are similar in design to White House Ornaments and samples are on display in the school lobby. Our collection includes: St. Pius X Cavalier, St Pius X Regional Playground, St Pius X Photo Ornament, St Pius X Church, Sacred Heart Church, Ascension Parish, and St Edward's Church. Ornaments are \$5.00 each or 6 for \$20.00. Order forms are going home with students this week. [Completed forms](#) and checks (made payable to St Pius X) may be sent back to school or you can stop by the office to buy one. Orders will be filled daily and sent home with your students. We have a limited supply, so order today! Questions? Please contact Mrs. Bechtel at 301-262-0203 or pbechtel@stpiusbowie.org.

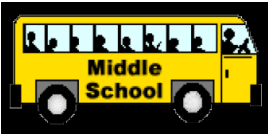
HOW MANY VSP HOURS DO YOU HAVE?



Are you on target to fulfill your Volunteer Service Program hours by the end of the school year in June? Remember that all volunteer hours must be submitted electronically on our website called Track it Forward. **Every volunteer** (including parents, CYO coaches/ officers, School Board members, HSA officers, and Room Parents) **must register online** using this website: <https://www.trackitforward.com/site/st-pius-x-regional-school?type=register>.

After creating an account, volunteer hours will then be submitted by each volunteer, stating the date, hours, activity, and chairperson. Volunteer hours will then be approved electronically by the chairperson. All event organizers must also create an account. Links to the VSP system can be found on our website and app. Register and start recording your hours now to avoid being billed for unfilled hours at the end of the school year. If you have any questions, please contact Nanette Lowe at nanette_lowe@yahoo.com. Details about family VSP requirements can be found on pages 24—26 of the 2018-2019 Parent-Student Handbook.

ALL ABOUT 8TH GRADE



Below is the schedule of due dates for the high school application process. Check your child's Google Classroom Homeroom page for forms, information from the high schools and other updates.

Dates to Remember

| Date | Item | Completed |
|-----------|---|-----------|
| Dec. 10 | Homeroom teachers will process transcripts to go to high schools. Check your high schools for their application due dates and requirements. | |
| Jan. 2019 | HSPT scores distributed by STS to parents electronically. | |

Catholic High School Scholarship Information

Knights of Columbus Scholarship Program

The Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus in partnership with the Knights of Columbus Insurance Advisors is the sponsor of several High School Scholarships for its members and for Catholic students in general. Below is a brief summary of these scholarships and information regarding eligibility for scholarship awards.

The Frederick M. Gossman Memorial High School Scholarship

Designed to assist those Brother Knights holding membership in councils within the jurisdiction of Maryland in paying tuition for their sons and daughters at accredited Catholic High Schools; three grants of \$1,500.00 per year, for up to four years, will be awarded. Awards will be made on the basis of academic excellence, personal qualifications, and financial need. The children of deceased members are also eligible, provided the member was in good standing at the time of death.

The William J. O'Brien Jr., Memorial Catholic High School Scholarship

Three grants of \$1,500.00 per year for up to four years will be awarded. This program is open to any Catholic student who is a resident of the State of Maryland to include children and grandchildren of a member of a Knights of Columbus council within the jurisdiction of Maryland. Applicants must have been officially accepted at or must be students at accredited Catholic High Schools. Applications will be judged on academic excellence, personal qualifications, and financial need.

Application period is from October 1, 2018 to February 1, 2019. All applications must be received by the Scholarship Committee no later than February 1, 2019.

Interested parents and students may obtain specific information and applications by writing to:

Maryland State Council
Knights of Columbus
State Scholarship Chairman
PO Box 165
Westminster, MD 21158

Or by contacting our web site at: www.kofc-md.org and clicking on the Scholarship Opportunities link.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD

CURRENT/UPCOMING VACANCIES ON THE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD

Several seats will be available on the SAB at the end of this school year for qualified school parents/guardians who, if selected, would be able and willing to volunteer substantial time to support our school and the administration.

The reasons that the SAB will entertain so many upcoming vacancies at one time are that either member terms are ending, or the family is “graduating” from SPX School.

Current Open Seat available right now:

**One (1) seat—St. Pius Parish

Upcoming Seats that will be available effective June 1, 2019:

***Two (2) seats—**St. Edward’s Parish**, South Bowie

***One (1) seat—**Ascension Parish**, Old Bowie

***One (1) seat—**St. Pius X Parish**, Bowie

***One (1) **At-Large seat**—This seat has traditionally been held by a non-Catholic parent, although all interested school parents/guardians may apply.



If selected for an upcoming vacancy, successful candidates may be asked to attend regular board meetings this spring. Please note that five of the six seats require the applicant to be an active member of that parish. The at-large seat may be filled by either a Catholic OR non-Catholic school parent/guardian. If multiple parents/guardians apply for one seat, the Board reserves the right to schedule interviews of potential qualified candidates.

If interested in applying, please contact Board Secretary Kim Roddy for an application as soon as possible. The board would like to carefully review and vote on completed applications after February 1, 2019 so please request an application and apply soon if you would like to be considered for a seat.

To request an application/obtain additional information: contact Board Secretary Kim Roddy at karoddy@comcast.net

For general questions/obtain additional information: contact Board President Patricia Reimer at patriciareimer@verizon.net or 301-464-1520.

SPX SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE (January 27, 2019 from 1-3 pm)

Please save the date!!

[Volunteer opportunities available—please see Sign Up Genius link **](#)**

SPX School will host an open house for prospective students and families on Sunday, January 27, 2019 from 1 pm to 3 pm. This event showcases our school and “the best of St. Pius”. The open house also traditionally kicks off our celebration of Catholic Schools Week.

A mandatory training session for all tour guide volunteers will take place on **Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 6 pm in the school library**. Tour scripts will be provided. If you are interested in serving as a tour guide, please also save this date!

SPX CYO GIRLS AND BOYS BASKETBALL



Please check with your coaches regarding practices over the Christmas break.



DROP IN AFTER CARE
Please use this link to register for **DROP-IN AFTERCARE.**

CATHOLIC CHARITIES COAT DRIVE – JANUARY 2-11



The St. Pius School Government invites all St. Pius families, relatives, and friends to participate in the Catholic Charities coat drive, beginning after Christmas vacation. From January 2 to January 11, you may drop off your cleaned, gently used coats to the front lobby of St. Pius. During the holidays, look through your closet to donate coats that no longer fit in size and style. Your generosity will benefit people who spend a lot of time in the harsh winter weather, but do not have the means to buy a warm coat. Thank you for your kindness and caring. The coat collection will start January 2, 2019. Please write your child's homeroom on your bag of donated coats.

SAVE THE DATES

December 21 – Living Gospel, 10:30 am, Church

December 21 – Early Dismissal, No ESP

January 2 – Welcome back from Christmas Break

January 2-11 – Coat Drive

January 7 – Home and School Meeting, 7 pm

January 8 – CYO Tag Day \$1.00

January 9 – Chick Fil A



Our Regional Parishes:

St. Pius X Catholic Church
14720 Annapolis Road Bowie, MD 20715 301-262-2141
<http://www.spxbowie.org/>

Sacred Heart Parish
16501 Annapolis Road Bowie, MD 20715 301-262-0704
<http://www.sacredheartbowie.org>

Ascension Catholic Church
12700 Lanham Severn Road Bowie, MD 20720 301-262-2227
<http://www.ascensionbowie.com>

St. Edward the Confessor
1940 Mitchellville Road Bowie, MD 20716 301-249-9199
<http://stedwardbowie.com>