



St. Pius X Regional School News Notes



December 13, 2018

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.

SPX CYO GIRLS AND BOYS BASKETBALL



Basketball practices have started! Please contact Nick Trice, SPX Boys' Basketball Commissioner, NSTrice@co.pg.md.us or Jawara Marierose, SPX Girls' Basketball Commissioner, jawara@gmail.com if you are unsure of your child's team assignment and/or coach.

The Archdiocese of Washington (ADW) has posted currently scheduled games. Click here for [ADW Basketball Schedules](#) or visit <http://wdccyo.sportstech.net/Scheduler/>. If you have a game over the weekend, remember to wear your jersey over your uniform on Friday! Go Cavs!!!!

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR THANK YOU!

Thank you for your help in making the SPX Christmas Bazaar 2018 so memorable for our students. A tradition like this is not possible without the support of so many.

If you volunteered and did a take-home project, please make sure to **submit your VSP hours by Wednesday, December 19**. Hours cannot be submitted after that date.

If you have any **outstanding receipts** from the Bazaar they must be turned in by **Wednesday, December 19**.

Questions? Contact the Bazaar Chairpersons
spx.christmas.bazaar@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, December 13

- *Progress Reports Distributed
- *K Christmas Play, 9:30-11:30, hall
- *K Spanish, 3:00-3:45pm, SG I
- *ASL Club, 3:00-3:50pm, Library
- *After School Spanish Club, 3:00-4:00pm, Library
- *Cub Scout meeting, 6:00-7:00pm, 6B
- *Scouts Santa's Helper, 6:00-8:30pm

Friday, December 14

- *3rd - 8th gr Reconciliation, 10:00-12:00pm
- *Honors Chorus, 3:00-4:00pm, Music
- *2nd and 3rd gr Book Club, 3:00-4:00pm, Library
- *Chess Club, 3:00-4:15pm, 2B
- *Cadette Troop, 5:00-6:30pm, Art
- *7th and 8th gr Holiday Dance, 7:00-10:00pm, Hall

Monday, December 17

- *Band with Etter, 3:00-4:00pm
- *8th gr Math Club, 3:00-4:00pm, Art
- *Striders 3:00-4:15pm

Tuesday, December 18

- *PK-1st gr Class Mass, 10:30am
- *SGA Full meeting, 11:50-12:34pm, Couture's room
- *Yearbook, 3:00-4:00pm, Lab
- *Band with Martens, 3:00-4:15pm
- *Living Gospel rehearsal, 3:00-4:30pm, Church
- *Righi Scouts, 4:30-5:30pm, 2B

Wednesday, December 19

- *Chorus Concert, 10:00am and 7:00pm, Church
- *8th gr Academic Club, 3:00-4:00pm, Math room
- *Green Team, 3:00-4:30pm, Lab
- *Tiger Den meeting, 5:30-6:30pm, 2B
- *Girl Scout Troop, 5:30-7:00pm, Art

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

Saturday, Dec 22-Tuesday, Jan 1

- *Christmas Break

Wednesday, January 2

- *Return from Christmas Break

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 2019-2020 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.



CHRISTMAS VACATION

Please take note of our Christmas Vacation Schedule: Friday, December 21st will be an early dismissal day with **NO ESP**. Our Christmas vacation starts on Monday, December 24th and classes will resume on Wednesday, January 2, 2019.

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.



Golden Apple

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!](#)

DROP IN AFTER CARE

Please use this link to register for [DROP -IN AFTERCARE](#).

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.

7TH AND 8TH GRADE HOLIDAY DANCE TOMORROW!

The Middle School Social Committee will be hosting a DANCE for SPX students in 7th and 8th grades THIS Friday, December 14th. **This is a more formal dance and we encourage the students to dress in holiday festive attire.** Attire for the girls can be dresses and the boys can wear nice slacks (like khakis). Doors to Nelson Hall will open at 7:00pm. The \$10.00 price of admission will include a DJ, snacks, and drinks. As always, appropriate attire is required. Door prizes will be awarded during the evening. Parents must pick-up your children promptly at 10:00pm. **PLEASE NOTE THAT IF A CHILD DOES NOT HAVE A PERMISSION SLIP SIGNED BY THEIR OWN PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN, THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED INTO NELSON HALL.** Permission slips were sent home today and are posted on the school website. Extras will be available in the school office. Any interested chaperones who are compliant with the Child Protection Policy should contact Mariana Lathrop at 301-938-7678. Chaperones need to be available in the Hall from 6:00 to 11:00pm. VSP hours will be earned for chaperoning.



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0944A4A82AA1FE3-7thand1>

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.

A NOTE FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE – TIS THE SEASON FOR COLD AND FLU



▪ **Do not send a student with a fever to school, and do not return them to school until fever-free for 24 hours without any medicine help** (fever-reducing medicines include acetaminophen [Tylenol], aspirin [Bayer], ibuprofen [Advil or Motrin], or combination products like Pediacare, Dayquil, Triaminic, Theraflu, etc). And please, *do not* give fever medicine and then send student to school; it will wear off in 4 hours and you will have to come take your child back home anyway. Fever medicines mask illness symptoms--your child can still be contagious, passing illness along to others at school.

- ***NOTE:** A normal core body temperature is 97-99°F (36.1-37.2°C), most accurately measured rectally or tympanically (ear canal). Oral and forehead temps are *not* reliable; we measure tympanically at school. Health Dept. and School policies require a student to be sent home if 100°F (37.8°C) or higher. Although 99-100° (37.2-37.6°C) can feel uncomfortable & make the forehead feel “warm,” these are 'low-grade' temperatures, often due to non-illness, benign, or temporary causes, like under-hydration, intense concentration/stress, vigorous exercise/play, seasonal allergies/pollen, hot/humid weather, immunization reactions, etc. Fever of 102°F (38.9C) or higher requires medical attention for possible bacterial or viral illness, heat stroke, severe injury/trauma, etc; some medicines and diseases can also induce high fevers. (*see school website Health Topics for more info*)
- **Repeated vomiting and/or diarrhea at any time indicates illness or infection; keep child home for at least 24hours AFTER the last episode** to allow for adequate rest & recovery, and to reduce spread of illness at school; call your Physician/Licensed Provider if illness symptoms persist.
- **A student diagnosed with Communicable disease and/or who misses 3 or more days of school due to illness or injury, must submit a Physician/Licensed Provider's Back-to-School clearance to RN before returning to class.** Included diagnoses: Pink eye, Flu, Pneumonia, Strep throat, Ringworm, Impetigo, Measles, Chicken Pox, Whooping Cough/Pertussis, Tuberculosis/TB, Meningitis, Hepatitis, HIV/AIDS; complications of *or* prolonged Asthma, Diabetes, or Seizures; severe trauma/injury and/or surgery. Contact RN for accountability details & Back-to-School Clearance requirements.
- **Keep child home for at least 24 hours after the first dose of any prescribed antibiotic.** Student may return thereafter, provided any remaining symptoms will be manageable at school.
- **A student with open skin lesions may not be at school until AFTER examined by a Physician/Licensed Provider and a Back-to-School Clearance note/proof of treatment is submitted to RN.** Before student returns to class, all exposed lesions must be completely covered by Band-Aids or appropriate/approved head cover. (*see school website Health Topics for more info*)
- **Parent will be called if student has Lice/Pediculosis; student does not have to leave school until the end of the day, but proof of approved Home or Professional treatment and re-check by RN is required before student may return to class.** A second treatment in 7-10 days is strongly recommended. (*see school website Health Topics for more info*)
- **When student needs to go home, please arrange for prompt pick up within 30-60 minutes.** Student will rest & wait in HR. You must sign student out from school at the Front Reception desk; for everyone's safety, we cannot release a student to anyone not authorized to pick up (*must be listed with us as a Primary or Secondary Emergency Contact*)

A NOTE FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE – TIS THE SEASON FOR COLD AND FLU cont'd

Form links for Medications a child may need while at school

Allergy Action Plan:

https://www.stpiusbowie.org/files/1114/9693/7843/ALLERGY_ACTION_PLAN_ADWform6.pdf

Asthma Action Plan:

https://www.stpiusbowie.org/files/8014/9702/6284/ASTHMA_ACTION_PLAN_ASTHMA_Rx_AUTHORIZATION_ADWform9.pdf

Medication Form:

https://www.stpiusbowie.org/files/3515/3632/3081/Form_8_Student_Medication_Authorization_.pdf

CHRISTMAS PLAYS, CONCERTS, AND PERFORMANCES



As our students are busy preparing for their Christmas concerts, plays and performances, we wanted to ask for your cooperation when attending these events. Parents arriving for morning events should park directly in front of the church, so that the back lot is kept open for recess. When arriving for afternoon performances, please park as you would for an afternoon dismissal/carpool. Please note that anyone leaving the performances at 2pm or later may be caught in the parking lot until dismissal. Please be considerate so that all may enter and exit without problems.

Please be aware that siblings of the performing students may not be called out of class to watch the performance, nor will they be permitted to be dismissed early. Early dismissal of the performers is highly discouraged as well, as it creates confusion at dismissal. If you still choose to have your performing student dismissed early, please let the school know with a note via the student's homeroom teacher. Per school policy, parents must pick up students for early dismissal at the front desk, where sign-out is required. Finally, we ask that **all visitors sign in at the front desk and stay in the assigned room for the performance. Parents and guests are not permitted to wander around the building or visit classrooms.** Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

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.



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.

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.

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.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD cont'd

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!!

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 Sign Up Genius link will be posted in a future edition of News Notes in either December or early January. Please watch this space for updated information. VSP hours will be granted for assistance. The forthcoming sign up genius list will include more details for volunteers.

Some ways that families can help support the open house include:

- *serve as a tour guide (parents only please and training will be provided as outlined below);
- *speak at one of our four supporting parishes the weekend prior to the open house (January 19 and 20, 2019—script will be provided);
- *donate food or drink as specified on the forthcoming SUG list;
- *staff a club booth at the activity fair;
- *help with set up/clean up in the kitchen and Nelson Hall;
- *assist with publicity (post flyers at workplace and/or local shops.);
- *work in the kitchen, etc.

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!

If you would like to help support the upcoming open house, please use the following link to view current volunteer opportunities:

[Click Here For Sign Up Genius Open House Volunteer Opportunities](#)

Thank you, in advance, for all of your support and assistance!

SAVE THE DATES

December 13– Progress Reports Distributed

December 14 – 7th and 8thgr Holiday Dance, 7-10 pm

December 7 – Purse Bingo, 7:00-10:00pm

December 19 – Chorus Concert, 10:00 am for students, 7:00pm for Parents, Church

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

December 21 – Early Dismissal, No ESP



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>