



February 15, 2018

Nan-o-Gram

Our Mardi Gras dinner/auction was a spectacular success! It was such a fun party and I thank all of you for contributing your time, talents and treasures to make this important fundraiser the success we all wanted and hoped it would be! The turnout was great and I so enjoyed seeing so many parents, grandparents, parishioners, old and new friends, and community supporters of our school having a wonderful time. I just love our Holy Spirit Catholic School family! You are the best!

My overflowing gratitude to the amazing Marie Smith for organizing this event from start to finish, addressing every little detail! Marie and her crew that included so many of you really outdid themselves resulting in a truly memorable event. Many thanks to Corey Wight and his catering crew for another buffet of Cajun deliciousness blending perfectly with the Mardi Gras theme, and Corbett Auctioneers are just the very best at being entertaining while ramping up interest for the live auction items, which this year were absolutely amazing! Many thanks as well to our multi-talented faculty and staff for their promotion of the event, creative classroom auction projects and high energy during the actual auction.

On another positive note, next week we host the WCEA Visiting Accreditation team from Tuesday through Friday. We are privileged to have as our chair Sr. Catherine Kamphaus, the Associate Superintendent of the Diocese of Salt Lake City. She will be joined by four Catholic educators from the Diocese of Idaho, the principal of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic School in Grangeville and three qualified classroom teachers. They will be tasked each day to visit every classroom, meet with students, staff, and administration to gain a true picture of our fine school.

Our accreditation document is a comprehensive, reflective narrative (supported by analyzed data) that focuses not only on academic achievement but also our Catholic identity and practices. The self-study is a powerful tool that

helps us address our strengths as well as areas that need improvement...all to improve student learning. It's laborious, but well worth the effort!

Our initial visit was in 2012 and we received full accreditation status. As far as I know we continue to be the only accredited K-8 school in Bannock County. I am confident we will again receive full accreditation status. The document is available online or hard copy for anyone who would like to read it, please do contact me if interested. I am very proud of this school and all who continue to work so hard to make it a great educational institution for our children. God bless and thank you for everything!

Keep reading to your kids,
Mrs. Corgiat

2018-19 PRE-REGISTRATION/LETTER OF INTENT

It's that time of year again when we begin planning and budgeting for the upcoming school year which involves knowing how many students are planning to attend.

If your child will be returning, please submit your pre-registration through FastDirect. It is very easy to do and of course environmentally friendly☺. You just sign into your FastDirect account, scroll down underneath the email section and you will see the re-registration section in red to the right of your child's name. You will either answer yes (they are coming) or no (they are not coming). Make sure to click on "submit" to save your answer. You are also able to enroll any new students that will be attending the school next year. You will find this underneath the "student names" in this same section. Once we have received your answer, you will be billed for the \$100 deposit which secures your child's spot for next year. REMEMBER, all deposits and registration fees are non-refundable. **PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION INFORMATION BY MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2018.** Please contact Miss Polly if you have any concerns or questions, 232-5763 or hennessypo@hscs.idaho.org.

For those families needing tuition assistance/scholarship applications are available in the office or on the school web page.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE REQUESTS

Parent Teacher Conferences for students in grades ELF – 8th grade are scheduled for Feb. 26 and 27. Conferences will be held from 12:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. on Monday and from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Please email Polly if you need to request a specific time for your conference by **FRIDAY, FEB. 16**. Scheduled times will go out next week. Thank you!

UPCOMING DATES

Feb. 16 – Stations of the Cross @ 2:15 in the church
Feb. 16 – 18 – Hallissey Basketball Tournament for 7th & 8th grade boys and girls in Boise
Feb. 19 – Presidents' Day – No school or childcare
Feb. 20 – 23 – Accreditation Review
Feb. 26 & 27 – Parent Teacher Conferences – No School

OFF TO BOISE



trip.

Good luck to our seventh and eighth grade students who will be traveling to Boise to play in the Hallissey Basketball Tournament. These students will be playing a full weekend of basketball with their peers from across the state. Please keep them in your prayers for a safe, fun

DID YOU KNOW THIS ABOUT HSCS?

We've all heard the importance of **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)** school, but did you know that Holy Spirit Catholic School is a highly functioning **STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts, Math)** school? Keep reading for proof of how we do:

FLL (2018 FIRST LEGO League Robotics)

- Students raise \$1200 annually to support this program by running summer camps.

COMPETITION PROJECTS

- **River Redemption Team:**
 - Visited and researched the 1st Street Engineered Wetland.
 - Proposed a clean-up and sustainable maintenance plan to Mayor Blad and City Council.
 - City Council implemented several of their proposals.
 - Team won First Place at the Pocatello Regional Tournament for Project Design.
- **Drops of Hope Team:**
 - identified that many communities in Africa do not have access to clean water.
 - Students made jewelry and stocking stuffers out of used Legos to sell. They also posted a sign on our school website and Facebook page where donations could be made to *Wells for Africa*. Through these sales

and donations made they raised over **\$10,000** which will benefit the community of Madala in Africa.

● **Wells R Us Team:**

- Developed a well system for homes using under-producing wells. Homes in the Pocatello Creek and Lava Hot Springs area could benefit from this technology.
- This team won First Place at the Pocatello Regional Tournament for both Robot Design and Robot Game.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATHCOUNTS TOURNAMENT:

- Sixth place finisher in City Tournament out of 115 competing students.
- Five out of our 13 students finished in the top 30%.

CITY-WIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

- First place finish in the 2017 Season

CITY-WIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE BOWL

- Top individual finisher

As you can see competition among schools begins at the middle school level, but that doesn't mean that is where the learning begins. As early as kindergarten students are building structures out of popsicle sticks to see how much weight they can withstand; discovering which type of spherical objects can best be used for support; creating their own catapults; raising trout from eggs, and more. Each year projects get more detailed enabling the students to become successful at these competitions.

STANDARDIZED TEST SCORE COMPARISON

These scores reflect the averages for the school as a whole. These percentages reflect the ratio of students who **scored proficient or advanced** based on projections to the Idaho Standards Achievement Test.

- **Reading: 95.6%**
- **Math: 94.5%**
- **Language: 91.3%**

BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE

As we continue to teach our students to be "Faith filled Christians" we have incorporated the reinforcement of a different virtue/character trait and prayer for each month as follows:

- August/September – Kindness – Holy Spirit
- October – Goodness – Hail, Holy Queen
- November – Self Control – Apostles Creed
- December – Faithfulness – Angelus/Hail Mary
- January – Peace – Guardian Angel
- February – Love – Morning Offering
- March – Patience – Act of Hope
- April – Gentleness – Divine Mercy
- May – Joy – Prayer to the Holy Spirit

HSCS Rocks!!!