



The Cougar Connection



Heavenly Father, we thank you for the blessing of our Catholic School. May we be fully aware of Your Son Jesus and our commitment to further Your kingdom by modeling Jesus' love in all we say and do. Amen.

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER:

Dear Families,

I pray all our families have had a good start to the New Year. Every New Year brings hope for a bright future filled with happiness and success. Let us also hope and pray that we grow closer to God so that we may strengthen our faith to become better disciples spreading love and peace in our homes and communities.

St. Columba has just ended its first semester. We are half way through the school year! As fast as the year moves on it always amazes me how fast the children grow and mature. One of the beauties of Catholic Education is being able to work together with parents to ensure that our students are reaching their full potential and practicing God's word in their daily lives. Report cards are just one indication on how your child is growing. Therefore as you review your child's academic progress let's continue to keep in mind what we can do together to ensure that your child is indeed working to their best potential. Report cards will go home on February 2, 2018. Please make sure they are reviewed with your child, signed and returned to school the following week.

It is with sadness that I announce Holy Family Catholic School will be closing its doors June 2018. Holy Family has served its community for over 60 years but could no longer sustain itself. The Diocese and neighboring schools, including St. Columba have opened its doors to their students who wish to continue with Catholic education. Please keep the community of Holy Family in your prayers so that God may bless them during this difficult time.

Registration will be officially open as of Sunday, January 28th. This is our first day of Catholic Schools Week. St. Columba will be hosting its annual Open House and is looking forward to having its families visit us. The teachers have been working very hard to prepare their students work that they take with pride. We ask that you download the registration tuition contract on our website and return it to school as soon as possible. We are requesting that all returning families register as soon as possible or before the end of May. The Bishop Flores Scholarship has been open since January and will close on February 28th. This is a reminder that families must apply for the Bishop Flores scholarship in order to be considered for any tuition assistance from St. Columba. On Wednesday, January 30th the faculty and staff will have refreshments available in front of the school office for Parents and Volunteers from 7:00 – 9:00 am as a token of our appreciation for your continued support towards our mission in Catholic education.

Blessings,
Ms. Navarro

PRAYERS: Continue to keep in prayers all our families and extended families who are experiencing difficult times. Our St. Columba community is a true blessing.

PARENTS IN PRAYER: Do you have a half hour free on Wednesday mornings? Come join other St. Columba parents Wednesday's from 8:00 – 8:30 am in the school library as we prayer the rosary for our school community. We'd love to have you join us.

REGISTRATION FOR 2018/2019: Registration will open up for the 2018/2019 school year on January 28, 2018. You can download the registration forms on our website at stcolumbaschool.org. For further information please contact the school office M-F from 7:30-3:30 at (858) 279-1882.

DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 27-

- Spaghetti Dinner 4:30-8:30

JANUARY 28-

- Catholic Schools Week Begins
- Open House 10:30-12:00
- Scholastic Book Fair Opens

JANUARY 29-

- Morning Assembly 8:00
- Spirit Day
- Book Fair hours 7:30-3:30

JANUARY 30-

- Student Appreciation Day
- Book Fair hours 7:30-3:30
- After School Band 2:55-4:55

JANUARY 31-

- Parents in Prayer 8:00-8:30 Library
- Parent Volunteer Appreciation Day
- Book Fair 7:30-3:30
- After School Spanish Gr. 1-2 3:00-3:30/Gr. 3-4 3:30-4:00

FEBRUARY 1-

- Teacher Appreciation Day
- Book Fair hours 7:30-3:30
- Mythology Club Gr. 3-8 3:00-3:30
- Spanish Gr. 5-8 3:30-4:00

FEBRUARY 2-

- All School Mass 8:15
- Formal Dress Uniform
- Grandparents Day
- Book Fair Ends 7:30-12:00
- Minimum Day 12:00

SAVE THE DATES

FEBRUARY 9-

- 8th Gr. Fundraiser Lunch

FEBRUARY 24-

- Father/Daughter Dance

MARCH 10-

- GALA 2018

RAFFLE PRIZE STUDENT INCENTIVES: St. Columba's Annual GALA/Auction will be held on March 10, 2018. As one of our biggest fundraisers of the year, we have asked each school family to sell a minimum of 10 raffle tickets. The student incentives for this year are as follows. All students who sell their 10 raffle tickets by February 23rd will receive free dress on Monday, February 26th. The students from each class who sell the most tickets will be entertained with a movie, pizza, and popcorn. Each highest seller may also bring 1 friend to this afternoon delight.

6TH GRADE SPAGHETTI DINNER: Come out and show your support this Saturday, January 27th from 4:30 – 8:30 pm in the parish hall for a great spaghetti dinner while enjoying great company and lots of fun. If you haven't purchased a ticket you can purchase tickets at the door. Adults are \$11.00 and children 11 & under are \$6.00. Tokens for beer & wine are \$6.00.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OPEN HOUSE: We welcome all our families, parishioners, and friends to join us this Sunday, January 28th for Mass starting at 9:30 followed by Open House 10:30 – 12:00 pm. We invite you to visit our classrooms, preschool and our computer lab. Bring a family who might be interested in finding out more about our school, and why Catholic Education is the gift that lasts a lifetime. Also coming home today with your child is the schedule of events planned for Catholic Schools Week.

BISHOP FLORES SCHOLARS FUND: Reminder: For any family that is in need of tuition assistance, please go to Bishop Flores Scholars Tuition Assistance Program and apply. Application forms are available online just go to <http://www.bishopfloresscholars.org>. **Deadline for applications is February 28th.** Tuition assistance awards will be finalized March 23rd. Schools and families will be notified via email late March or early April. Another important reminder; please do not apply through FACTS!

GRANDPARENTS DAY: Grandparents Day is just around the corner. Come join us for this special day Friday, February 2nd. The morning will start with Mass at 8:15 am, followed by a Continental Breakfast from 9:15 – 9:45; grandparents will then visit the classrooms. Students recess 10:10 -10:30. At 10:45-11:45 we end the day with students performing a special program for our grandparents. This is also a minimum day, 12:00 dismissal. Extended care is available from 12:00 – 6:00 pm.

SPORTS SCHEDULES:

Team	Date/Time	Location
KG Soccer	1/27 10:20	St. Michael's Field 2
St. Columba vs. Notre Dame		
Boys 1st & 2nd Grade	1/27 11:15	Madeleine
St. Columba vs. Madeleine (red)		
Boys 3rd & 4th Grade	1/27 10:20	Nativity Field 1
St. Columba vs. Nativity		
Girls Varsity Soccer	1/27 11:00	Holy Trinity
St. Columba vs. St. Vincent		
JV Boys Basketball (gold)	1/27 2:40	Saints Court 2
St. Columba vs. St. John of the Cross		
JV Boys Basketball (gold)	2/1 4:00	Christ Lutheran
St. Columba vs. Christ Lutheran		
JV Boys Basketball (gold)	2/1 5:30	Christ Lutheran
St. Columba (gold) vs. St. Columba (green)		
JV Boys Basketball (green)	1/27 3:25	Saints
St. Columba vs. All Hallows		
JV Boys Basketball (green)	2/1 5:30	Christ Lutheran
St. Columba (green) vs. St. Columba (gold)		
Varsity Boys Basketball	1/27 1:00	Good Shepherd
St. Columba vs. Holy Trinity (white)		
Varsity Boys Basketball	1/27 1:45	Good Shepherd
St. Columba vs. Holy Trinity (blue)		

8TH GRADE FUNDRAISER LUNCH

Reminder: Friday, February 9th the 8th grade is doing a special fundraiser lunch. The lunch includes; pancit, fried rice & lumpia for \$6.00 per lunch, extra lumpia 2 for \$1.00. All orders must be received by Monday, February 5th, no exceptions as food has to be pre-ordered. Please remember regular hot lunch will not be served that day. If your child does not order this fundraiser lunch, please make sure they bring their lunch.

ST COLUMBA SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Our Scholastic Book Fair is almost here! The book fair will be opened for business starting January 28th through February 2nd. This is a fun event that encourages the love of reading, connects kids with books they'll love to read, and helps to get supplies and books for our classrooms. The book fair hours are Monday through Thursday, 7:30 am – 3:30 pm, and Friday, 7:30 am until 12:00. Also, we are in need of volunteers to help shoppers find books, make purchases and to staff open hours. Please contact Sonia Ortega; Ortega.sonia@att.net or call the school office to sign up.

“BLACK & WHITE” GALA 2018:

Join us Saturday, March 10th from 6:00 – 11:00 pm at the Four Points Sheraton located at 8110 Aero Drive. We need every family's commitment in making this fundraiser a great success. Our true test of success will be in meeting our objective, a nice hefty profit on our \$5K drawing. Each family received 10 tickets to sell, and your support is needed by selling these tickets. This is a wonderful way to help support our school, but we can't do it without your help. So jump on board, and help to make this event a great success.

JAMBA JUICE SPORTS FUNDRAISER

Jamba Juice will be on campus Friday, February 2nd from 12:00 – 12:30 pm. Order forms were sent home last Friday, and must be returned by January 30th. This fundraiser is to help raise funds for new sports uniforms. Your support is greatly appreciated.