

February 16, 2018

From the Desk of Mr. Poole

Dear Parents,

I would like to thank all of our families for coming out for the Mardi Gras Party on Friday night. The Pot Luck dinner was a lot of fun, and the PTO did a great job getting the gym ready in a short period of time. Our thanks, also, to Mr. Daniel Acosta for being our DJ for the evening!



Tuesday was Mardi Gras, the last day before Lent begins. Many of our

classes had their St. Valentine's Day parties because Feb. 14th fell on Ash Wednesday this year. At the end of the day, everyone gathered for a prayer service to bring our focus back to the season of Lent. Students prepared their Lenten promises and they were burned in the brazier. The smoke is symbolic of our promises being offered to our Lord and the remaining ashes a reminder of Ash Wednesday.

'Remember, man, that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.'



EPIPHANY - THE BEST OF YOUR HOMETOWN



Show your school spirit and VOTE for Epiphany in the Culpeper Star-Exponent BEST OF YOUR HOMETOWN Reader's Choice Awards for 2018. Epiphany has nominations in the categories of **Best Preschool, Elementary School, Middle School and Place to Work**. Under Community VIPs we have nominations in the **Best Teacher and Best Administrative Assistant** categories. You can vote once PER DAY for every email address you have. We appreciate your support. Voting has begun and runs through 2/18/2018. Go to: starexponent.com/bestof to cast your vote.

CULPEPER TIMES - THE BEST OF THE BEST OF CULPEPER

The Culpeper Times has also kicked off their **BEST OF THE BEST OF CULPEPER** this week! PLEASE go follow the link below to vote for Epiphany categories of Preschool and School! Tell your friends and family, too!
<http://culpepertimes.com/best2018/>



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CELEBRATE READ ACROSS AMERICA at EPIPHANY

Bring your family to celebrate Dr. Suess' birthday and Read Across America! Story teller and author Barb Lawson will be joining us for a fabulous and interactive performance. Students will move from room to room after the presentation and participate in activities that including a crafts, games and stories read by exciting guest readers. **Save the Date: Monday, March 5 6:00-7:30 p.m.**

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

OPEN HOUSES

Epiphany will hold two Open Houses next week. On Tuesday, February 20 from 9:00-2:00, we welcome families to visit that are interested in Kindergarten through Grade 8 next year. Culpeper County school students have a day off, so if you would pass the word to your families, neighbors and friends, we would love to show them our wonderful school!

On Wednesday evening, there will be an Open House for our youngest students! Our preschool will be open from 6:00-7:00 p.m. for families to visit, meet the teachers and hear about our great preschool program. If you know anyone that has children preschool age, we hope that you would let them know about Epiphany and invite them to attend.

REGISTRATION and TUITION ASSISTANCE

All families have now received their **Registration Packages** for their currently enrolled students for the 2018-2019 school year. If you need another application for a sibling or two, please call the school office. In the envelope you will find forms completed with the information we currently have on file, and information about required immunizations, applying for tuition assistance, and tuition payment options. Also note that the Registration Fee for currently attending students is \$50.00 instead of \$75.00. On March 1, the Registration Fee will again be \$75.00 per student.

Please be reminded that **applications received through February 28** from current Epiphany families and parishioners of Precious Blood, Our Lady of the Blue Ridge, St. Isidore the Farmer and St. Peter have priority placement over applicants from the general public. It is important to return applications as soon as possible, as unfilled seats will be open to the general public on March 1.

Word of mouth is our best advertisement! Do you have a family member, neighbor, friend or acquaintance that may be considering a Catholic school education, or even an option to public school? Please ask them to call the school office to discuss the registration process and to schedule a tour. Parents, if you refer a family that attends Epiphany for the 2018/2019 school year you will receive a \$250.00 tuition credit!

In addition to multiple tuition assistance resources through the Diocese of Arlington, Epiphany also has assistance for qualifying applicants. **Any family that will request financial assistance of any sort must complete an application and provide the required documents annually through FACTS Grant and Assessment**. This is an online application and may be completed in either English or Spanish. We ask families to complete the application process, including submission of supporting paperwork, as soon as possible, but **not later than Friday, March 5, 2018**. Please enter this link into your browser: <https://online.factsmgmt.com>

This is open now! Please don't delay!

Please note that an **Application for Admission must be also submitted** to Epiphany Catholic School to be considered for financial assistance. Please call the office (825-9017) or email (office@epiphanycatholicsschool.org) with any questions.

Volunteers and VIRTUS Requirements

Thank you, parents, for coming in to the office to pick up VIRTUS compliance paperwork so that you may volunteer at Epiphany! Your commitment and willingness to help teachers in the classroom, volunteer in our lunchroom, chaperone field trips and help where help is needed is a true blessing to us all. We appreciate ALL of you and the work you do!

It is the policy of the Diocese that all volunteers, especially in a school setting where every person is in close contact with children, are required to have a background check. This involves completing the compliance paperwork and attending the VIRTUS workshop. **This paperwork will initiate the record for compliance.** We have found that many parents have attended the workshop, but unless paperwork is also completed, a volunteer is not compliant. Paperwork is available in the office. Please stop by or call to request that paperwork be sent home. Thank you again, parents, for your dedication to our students!

OTHER REMINDERS

- If a student will be picked up by someone other than their regular pick up person, the parent must call the office to let us know that other arrangements have been made. If your child is going home with another student, that other student's parent needs to call, also, to confirm that parents have discussed the arrangements.
- Just a reminder that any medication, including over the counter medicine, that at school must be dropped off at the office with the Authorization to Administer Medication form. The medicine must be in the original container with dosage information.
- Parents, please be sure that students have their lunches! If your child does not have their lunch, you will be called to bring it to school. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

We have been very lucky here at Epiphany in the wake of the influenza outbreak. We thank you for your awareness and for informing us when your child has been diagnosed. We ask that you continue to be aware of how your children are feeling. Again, flu symptoms include an abrupt onset of symptoms, fever lasting 3-4 days, chills, body aches, fatigue/weakness/lethargy, cough, runny nose, sore throat. Vomiting and diarrhea is more common in children. Symptom usually last a few days. Complications include sinus and ear infections, bronchitis and pneumonia. For more information visit the CDC website.

CLASS PICTURES

Lifetouch will be at Epiphany to take Class Pictures on March 1 (Tuesday/Thursday preschoolers) and March 2, 2018, for M/W/F preschool and grades K-8. Order forms will be sent home next week and need to be returned by Wednesday, Feb. 28. This is a change from our order process in previous years.

THE TOOTH FAIRY IS COMING TO EPIPHANY



The Tooth Fairy will be visiting Epiphany on Friday, February 23rd at 12:30 pm. Grades K,1,2 will be participating. She will have some fun activities for the children and will discuss the importance of good dental hygiene.

POWERSCHOOL PARENT PORTAL

The Parent Portal is open for the third grading period. We ask parents to continue to monitor student progress using the Parent Portal and communicate with teachers if there are any concerns. Use this link:

<https://arlingtondiocese.powerschool.com/public/>

EPIPHANY STARS THIRD ANNUAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Come on out, families, to the Epiphany Stars Third Annual Basketball Tournament! We would love to hear some noise from the stands to cheer on our boys and girls basketball teams! Concessions are available and volunteers will be taking admittance money at both doors of the gym. This is a big fundraiser for the BGO, which helps to purchase those extra items for our Athletic Department

Friday, 2/16

- 4:00 pm. Grymes-Boys (HOME) vs. St. Patrick's (AWAY)
- 5:30 pm. ECS-Girls (HOME) vs. Grymes (AWAY)
- 6:45 pm. ECS-Boys (HOME) vs. Holy Family (AWAY)

Saturday, 2/17

- 3:00 pm. Legacy Christian-Girls (HOME) vs. Grymes (AWAY)
- 4:15 pm. Boys Consolation Game (two losing teams from Friday's games)
- 5:30 pm. Legacy Christian-Girls (HOME) vs. ECS (AWAY)
- 6:45 pm. Boys Championship Game (two winning teams from Friday's games)
- 8:00 pm. Girls Championship Game (if needed)**

Mark Your Calendar

Please note correction to the February calendar: Epiphany students lead Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 2

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Student Holiday**
 - Monday, Feb. 19 - Presidents' Day
- **First Reconciliation Information**
 - First Reconciliation Parent Meeting Thursday, Feb. 22 at 7:00 at Precious Blood
 - *Sacrament of Reconciliation* Saturday, Feb. 24 at 12:00 at Precious Blood
- **Events**
 - 3rd Annual Stars Basketball Tournament Friday, Feb. 16 and Saturday, Feb. 17
 - Open House (Culp. Co. School Holiday) Tuesday, Feb. 20 9:00-2:00
 - Preschool Open House Wednesday, Feb. 21 6:00-7:00 p.m.
 - Science Fair (Middle School) Thursday, Feb. 22
 - First Reconciliation at Precious Blood Saturday, Feb. 24 at 12:00 p.m.
 - Closed Registration ends Wednesday, Feb. 28

OTHER INFORMATION

- **SCA Meetings**

Pick up at **Main Door** at specified time. Student not picked up will be signed in to afternoon care.

 - Monday, Feb. 26 Pick up at 4:15
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- **Boost and After School Help**

Pick up at 4:15 at **Main Door**. *Students not picked up at main door at 4:15 will be brought to the Pavilion and signed in to afternoon care.*

 - Monday: 3rd Grade
 - Tuesday: Ms. Gaffron
 - Wednesday: Mrs. Heelen
 - Thursday: 4th and 5th Grade
 - Friday: Mr. Saibini
- **Hot Lunches-**
 - Friday, Feb. 23 Pizza
 - Tuesday, Feb. 27 Jersey Mike's