

Pastoral Administrator Assumes New Duties

Prince of Peace's new Pastoral Administrator and Head of Prince of Peace Catholic School, Fr. Christopher Smith, officially began his duties just before Christmas break on December 15th. Many school families have already had a chance to meet him and talk to him at masses during the Christmas holidays.

Fr. Smith celebrated his first mass with the school this past Wednesday morning in the Church, and continuing in the tradition of Monsignor Brovey, encouraged the children – no matter what work they chose in their lives – to become saints, like St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, whose feast we celebrated January 4th. Fr. Smith has also been visiting our classrooms. He stopped in to Mrs. Bress's classroom for a grammar lesson, to Mrs. Campbell's classroom where students were talking about the wisdom of Solomon, and to Mr. Nielsen's 6th grade Religion classroom where students were studying the Book of Joshua.



Fr. Smith's educational background is prolific. He has a bachelor's degree in liberal arts and a licentiate in dogmatic theology from the Gregorian; he studied for an MBA at the Citadel and French at the Institut Catholique in Paris. This spring, he will complete his Ph.D. in Dogmatic Theology from the University of Navarre in Spain. Welcome to Prince of Peace Catholic School Fr. Smith!

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Principal's State of the School Address: This Tuesday

Tuesday, 7:00 to 8:00 pm in the PAC (Gym). All are welcome to hear our school's principal Dr. Michael Pennell address the entire parish community on the topic of the State of Our School. This will be Dr. Pennell's first opportunity to introduce our new pastoral administrator Fr. Smith to the success story that is Prince of Peace Catholic School; members of the PTO, the School Advisory Board, the Catholic School Management Committee, and faculty and staff will be present too.

Dr. Pennell will also share with families the details of our school's financial situation as well as the challenges of enrollment and facilities renovations and construction possibilities in 2012 and into the future.

If you know families interested in Prince of Peace Catholic School, this would be an opportune time to invite them to learn about the school – especially as we begin to prepare for our 10th anniversary year in 2012-2013!

Welcome New Families to POPCS...and one returning!

Please join us in welcoming 5 new families to our school community! Brayden Dwyer in Mrs. Schaeffer's K5 class, Madelynn Perrotta in Mrs. Farley's 2nd grade class, Mason Shaw in Mrs. Farley's 2nd grade class, Marcos Salgado in Mrs. Campbell's 4th grade class, and the Russell family with Alex in Mrs. Larkin's K4 class, Neil in Mrs. Schaeffer's K5 class, and Andrew in Mrs. Bress' 3rd grade class. We would also like to welcome back Nariah Angell and Saraiya Carr who are joining us again for the remainder of the school year while their father serves in the military overseas.



Send in Your Photos

Do you have photos from a school field trip or activity? St. Lucy's day, the Christmas program, Pow Wow, etc? If so, please email them to Mrs. Simpson or burn them to a CD and send them in. The yearbook staff is looking for candid pictures to use in the yearbook. Thank you!

January is Registration Month at POPCS!

Over the Christmas Holiday you should have received a mailing from us with your registration forms for the 2012-2013 school year. Forms and fees are due before 4:00 PM on Friday January 27th if you want to hold your child's seat for the next school year. We begin processing new applications on Monday, January 30, 2012, the day after our Admissions Open House (Sunday, January 29th). Please note, registration fees turned in after the January 27th deadline will GO UP IN COST to \$250. Please get your fee in and hold your seat for next year before January 27th!



Movie Night - TANGLED

The Beta Club is featuring Disney's Tangled (G) during Movie Night on Friday, January 13th from 4:30-6:00 in Croghan Hall. All students, grades 4 - 8, are invited to join us for the movie. Admission to the movie is FREE! If you would like pizza and a drink, please send in your form with payment by Wednesday, January 11th.

End of 2nd Quarter

We have reached the halfway mark in our school year! The end of the second quarter is Wednesday, January 11th. Report Cards will be posted by 9AM on Tuesday, January 17th.



Epiphany Party Saturday Night (1/7/12)

On Saturday, January 7th, following the 5PM Mass, there will be an Epiphany party in Croghan Hall. This is a family potluck feast to celebrate the Epiphany and welcome Fr. Smith to Prince of Peace. We would love for as many of our school families to be in attendance as possible to welcome Fr. Smith! Please wear blue (for the Bethlehem sky) and white or silver (for the star that guided the wise men).

Thank you families for another successful Buy Out Day in support of the St. Vincent dePaul Society at Prince of Peace. Today we collected 265 food items and \$95!

SCISA Music Festival: Call for Participants!



Last year's participants in the SCISA Music Festival

Calling all POPCS student musicians! The SCISA music festival (competition) held each year at the University of South Carolina music school in Columbia will be Thursday, March 8, 2012. We must register our POPCS competitors by January 20th (in two weeks!). If you would like your child to try out for a spot on our "Music Team," please submit your child's name to Mrs. Simpson before next Wednesday, January 11th by day's end. There are only a **limited number of spots** available on the team, so if we have more children than spots, we'll have to have **auditions** after school during the week of January 17th. Here are the categories . . . we are permitted **only 3 students** per category (Elementary and Middle School levels) for a total of 18 students.

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|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <u>Elementary:</u> | K - 5 Instrumental Solo | K - 5 Piano Solo | K - 5 Voice Solo |
| <u>Middle School:</u> | 6 - 8 Instrumental Solo | 6 - 8 Piano Solo | 6 - 8 Voice Solo |

Box Tops for Education

Thank you families for clipping those box tops and sending them in! This week we received a check from Box Tops for \$1000!! We will receive another check in May for box tops collected through February. Don't forget the classroom football challenge currently going on. Mrs. Rauch, our box tops coordinator, will be updating the "scores" next week. Keep clipping!



A look back at December events:



POPCS 2nd Grade class provides the essential characters for our annual nativity during the Christmas Music Program December 13th

POPCS Music teacher Miss K. Herd practicing with 250 children for the Christmas Music Program, December 13th.



POPCS Middle School Beta Club Sponsors Mrs. C. Martinez and Miss J. Galloway travelled with four POPCS 8th graders (Lauren Jones, Lizzie McCallion, Brandon Morris, and Jacob Smith) to Myrtle Beach in December to participate in the SC State Beta Club Convention. For two days, students participated in various academic competitions and activities. This was the first convention for POPCS students. The students were so busy, they didn't even have time to visit the beach ☺!



COMING EVENTS AT PRINCE OF PEACE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Monday, January 9 th	2:00 PM Catholic School Management Committee
Tuesday, January 10 th	Chess Club 7:30AM in the PAC Rosary Making Guild 3:15 PM - 3:45 PM Basketball after school until 5:15 PM State of the School Meeting 7PM in the PAC
Wednesday, January 11 th	8:30AM Mass (7 th grade confessions) End of 2 nd Quarter Choir after school until 4:30PM
Thursday, January 12 th	
Friday, January 13 th	Asst Superintendent of Catholic Schools visits 8-11AM Movie Night 4:30PM 4 th – 8 th grades Basketball Practice until 5:15 PM
Monday, January 16 th	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday – NO SCHOOL