

December 2018

I'm please to share with you the success of our Spirit Week Celebration November 2018. The school community focused on promoting the values of our four school pillars; Wisdom, Faith, Service, and Community by concentrating each day on a specific theme.

### **“Wisdom”**

The faculty recognized 150 students who demonstrate “Wisdom” on a daily basis on our digital bulletin board in the main hallway. The student names were entered into a raffle drawing for a school sweatshirts. The school community was also encouraged to wear their past, present, and/or future college T-shirts and Sweatshirts to inspire academic achievement and future goals. [Need List of students and pictures \[Spirit Week Wisdom List\]](#)



Mr. Howell and myself visited St. John’s University - Division of Computer Science Mathematics and Sciences, College of Professional Studies, and we learned about their five-year combined programs in Computer Science, Cyber Security Systems, Informational Technology, and Networking and Telecommunications. We look forward to our continued partnership with the College Advantage Program at St. John’s, to offer our qualifying students the opportunity to enroll in credit bearing St. John’s courses. We have an invitation for our students to visit the computer science facilities in the new year.

### **“Faith”**

Students wrote individual intentions in Theology class to be incorporated into the design of the school Christmas Tree. These scrolls were placed inside clear ornaments and were used to decorate the school Christmas Tree. Before writing their intention, all listened to a short story by Leo Tolstoy about a cobbler who was expecting a visit from Jesus. He came to the realization that Jesus had come to him through these different people. All of us reflected on what we would do this holiday season to allow Jesus into our life. Faculty and Staff also participated in this activity!



Results of color wars:

- Faculty- 100% participation
- Seniors- 96% participation
- Freshman- 89% participation
- Juniors- 81% participation
- Sophomores- 53 % participation



## “Service”

We collected over 5,450 food items to help stock the food pantry at St. John’s Bread and Life. St. John’s Bread & Life is a crucial provider of basic needs assistance and a key voice in the fight against hunger in New York City.

## “Community”

Stand up to Bullying:

Students signed Orange Ribbons during homeroom and placed them on the fence at the school main entrance to symbolize our commitment to prevent bullying. The school community also wore orange to show our ongoing efforts to prevent bullying. Please read [Flushing High School takes pledge against bullying](#) to see news coverage of the event.

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We also held Student Council Elections for the Freshman Class. The positions of Freshman Class President went to Carmelo Delorme, Freshman Class Vice President went to Sara Keenan, and Freshman Class Secretary went to Destinee Louis-Jacques. This election was historic in that the Holy Cross Student Council now for the first time, has female representation. Homeroom representatives were also nominated to help the Student Council carry out their duties.



I look forward to updating the school community on the success of our next day of service which takes place on December 21st. We are planning to assemble comfort kits for the homeless. Student Council will be sponsoring a Dress Down Day on December 19th to raise the needed money to purchase the items. The cost of the dress-down day is \$5.

May the remaining days of the Advent Season help to focus on the real meaning of the upcoming holy day, and help us better understand its significance in our lives. Christmas is not just a winter holiday- it is the celebration of the birth of Christ.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

In Holy Cross,  
Edward Burns  
Principal