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GreatHearts

Irving

Cultivating minds and hearts through the pursuit of Truth, Goodness, and Beauty.

Upcoming Events to Remember

- Thursday, February 28th - **Middle School Open Houses**, 6:30-7:30 pm
(**Parents** of *prospective* GH students)
- Friday, March 1st - Lower School Field Day
- Friday, March 8th - Upper School Field Day
- Saturday, April 27th - Floresco
- Thursday, May 2nd - Lower School Concert



Deficiency Notices

On Friday, families of students struggling in particular classes received notices indicating areas for improvement, and we want to clarify what these notices are and what they are not. Deficiency and Academic Notices are being sent through the Jupiter system this year. Please check your junk/spam folder in case any were put there.

1. **Deficiency notices only define a starting point.** They are not blanket judgments, nor do they mean your child cannot succeed at our school. They do indicate that at a month into the year, we find your child struggling in these specific areas of knowledge, skills, or habits.
2. **Deficiency notices are calls for focus, not calls for alarm.** We notify you of these deficiencies so you can begin working with us in addressing them.
3. **It is our plan to address these deficiencies.** Although some methods of addressing these deficiencies are beyond our control (students actually reading and doing homework; parents encouraging diligence in their children

and being supportive of the school's curriculum and the teacher's assignments), many ways to address student deficiencies are available to us as a school; and it is our intention to address the areas of knowledge, skills, and habits where we believe your children need work.

4. Your proper response is important. First, please, steel yourself against the typical defenses, such as, "the teacher doesn't like me," or "he never teaches us anything," or "she always loses my homework," or "I know all this already, but I just don't test well." Encourage your child to look at the areas defined by the deficiency notice as an area for focused improvement--an area to be revisited again in short order. Ask them to do their work, follow the teacher's directions, and seek help.

With the growth of knowledge, the cultivation of skills in careful reading, as well as the development of good work and study habits, the children can make genuine progress. They will, moreover, be on the road to success not merely in school, but in any field of responsibility to which life might ultimately lead them.

Field Day 2019!

It's that time of year again! Time for our 4th Annual Lower School Field Day! It will be March 1, from 8 am-12:30 pm and we cannot pull it off without the help of our wonderful parent community!

Please go [here to sign up!](#) Please note, you will need to be able to be at school at 7:30 and will need to stay until the end. If you have any questions please contact Annie Muller at annielizabeth@gmail.com.



Field Day T-Shirts

The 2019 Field Day shirt is almost ready for the printers! Children will be allowed to wear the 2019 Field Day shirt OR any previous years' Field Day shirt.

To give everyone the best chance of getting a shirt, Field Day shirts will be **SOLD ON CAMPUS** this year from 7:20-8:15 a.m. on the east side of the playground (marked with flags!) Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday preceding Field Day (February 25th, 26th and 27th). **PARENTS** need to get out of their car to purchase the shirt as we don't want children walking back-and-forth unattended. Shirts will also be available the morning of Field Day from 7:30-8:00 am. Sizes will be first come, first serve and they can be purchased using **CASH or CHECK*** only. *Please make checks out to Great Hearts Irving.

We are looking forward to a wonderful day of camaraderie and sportsmanship!

Building Update

Construction continues to move along well! Progress is being made in the vertical frame of the building.



Uniform Update

With the weather becoming warmer, please recall that students are required to adhere to the following guidelines for shorts and skirts:

Skirts: The skirt hem may be no higher than just above the knee, both in front and in back. Skirts must be worn at the waist.

Shorts: Shorts should go to just above the knee but not below. Shorts should be worn at the waist.

If shorts/skirts do not conform to the above descriptions, students must wear other uniform-compliant attire until the adequate purchases or alterations can be made.

For the full uniform guidelines, see the [Upper School Family Handbook](#) and [Lower School Family Handbook](#).

A Message from Director of Academy Giving, Keo Strull

The Floresco committee is diligently working to be sure April 27th is going to be fun, informative, delicious, inspiring, and a wonderful evening with friends. If you'd like to be part of the committee and have a talent, skill, time to help with the



planning, we would love to have you!!

Great Hearts Irving students' academic performance far exceeds that of our district peers, although we are confronted with a disparity in funding. Education is an investment in our future and bridging the gap with Community Investment is

critical to our teachers and the classrooms. CI ensures the classrooms have books, science equipment, art supplies, musical equipment, better teacher salaries, and so much more. For those that are participating...thank you! For those that have not been part of CI, please take the time to consider investing in your child's education. Please call or email if you need any help getting set up!

Window into Wonder Tour

Mr. Althage and Mrs. Perkins will host a Window Into Wonder Tour. This is a great opportunity to get a glimpse into the sense of wonder our scholars experience each day in our classrooms.



Our next tours will be hosted on **Wednesday, March 20th**
Upper School tour will be hosted from 1:20 - 2 pm sign up [here](#).
Lower School tour will be hosted from 2 - 2:40 pm sign up [here](#).

Parents are welcome to attend both tours. If you would like to be a part of both, we ask that you please RSVP for each event. Thank you.

Student Pick-Up Reminder

All students must be picked up by 3:40 PM unless they are enrolled in an after-school activity. After this time, students are monitored by Athenaeum/Homework Club.



If a student is **not enrolled** in Athenaeum/Homework Club and is picked up **late**, a **charge may be incurred**. Parents arriving at or after 4:00 must park at the Athenaeum/Homework Club parking location and walk inside the **south entrance** to sign out their student.

Counselor's Coffee Cancelled for February 27, 2019

Regretfully, the Counselor's Coffee session for February 27 is cancelled due to a schedule conflict. However, I hope you will join me for the next session

on March 27, at which time I will be discussing Texas' Automatic Admissions Policy and will also have a few words about Great Hearts' reputation among colleges and universities.

Many thanks,
Dr. Smith

Coffee with College Counselor



Middle and upper school parents are invited to join me for coffee to engage in discussions related to college admissions and post-secondary plans. Every meeting will center on a topic or set of topics, but there will be ample time set aside for questions. Some meetings will be restricted to specific grades as indicated below.

The Counselor's Coffee Series will be held in the Commons unless otherwise noted, from 8:00-9:00 am on the following dates:

Date	Parents Invited	Topic(s)
March 27, 2019	7-10th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas' Automatic Admissions Policy
April 10, 2019	7-10th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Hearts Graduates: Results for our TX graduates
May 1, 2019	7-10th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing Options and Standardized Test Prep
May 29, 2019	7-10th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning your college campus visits • Making the most of summer

Prospective Family Open House

We will be hosting **prospective families** in February for two Middle School Open House events. If you know of any families outside of the Great Hearts Irving community who are interested in learning more about the Middle School, please encourage them to RSVP by calling **469-759-3030** or visiting [here](#) and to join us for either event. **This is a parent-only event.**

Feb. 25, 6:30-7:30 PM (Location: Great Hearts Irving)

Feb. 28, 6:30-7:30 PM (Location: Great Hearts Irving)

Great Hearts Athletics

Upper School Athletics

For upcoming athletic events, please see our athletics calendar [here](#).



PSO Information

A HUGE thank you to all the wonderful families who came to our 3rd quarter Spirit Night at Lamberti's! It was a great turnout and we are so grateful to Lamberti's for their support of our school and especially our PSO!



Thank you to all who have signed up for Field Day. We are looking forward to a great day on Friday. There are still plenty of spots open to help with Upper School Field Day on March 8 so be sure to follow the link in the Field Day section of the newsletter if you would like to volunteer.

Stay tuned for sign ups for our next teacher luncheon and upcoming workshops to get ready for Floresco.

Upcoming Dates:

- Teacher Lunches: March 22 and April 5
- 4th Quarter Spirit Night: Spring Creek BBQ April 23

Athenaeum



Exploration Station

It was John Muir that said, "With every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks." This week campers will receive more than their share of nature and all the fascinating wonders that it holds.

Our campers will get to walk among five different habitats of earth – the Arctic Circle, the Amazon Rainforest, the Great Barrier Reef, the Sahara Desert, and the Andes Mountains. Campers will explore brine shrimp, symbiotic relationships, extreme climates, the effect of altitude on our bodies, and more! On Friday there will be a presentation to showcase the vast explorations experienced through the week. Parents and guests are invited to attend!

Dates:

June 10 - June 14

Times:

Drop-off: 7:45am – 8:15am

Camp: 8:15am – 6:00pm

Pick-up 5:30pm – 6:00pm

Pricing:

Registration fee: \$35.00 (includes a camp shirt)

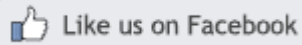
\$250.00 (- \$25.00 Early Bird Discount until May 1)

Dress Code:

Uniforms NOT required! Any Great Hearts shirt or solid color shirt permitted. Sneakers and shorts highly encouraged (solid navy, khaki and black only, not form fitting or above thigh, athletic shorts allowed). NO flip-flops or sandals.

REGISTER: greateartsirving.configio.com/go/summer

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