

Holy Spirit
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL



A National School of Excellence

"Holy Spirit is the kind of school that all children should have where there are caring, dedicated teachers who will go the extra mile for each of their students."

Blue Ribbon School Report

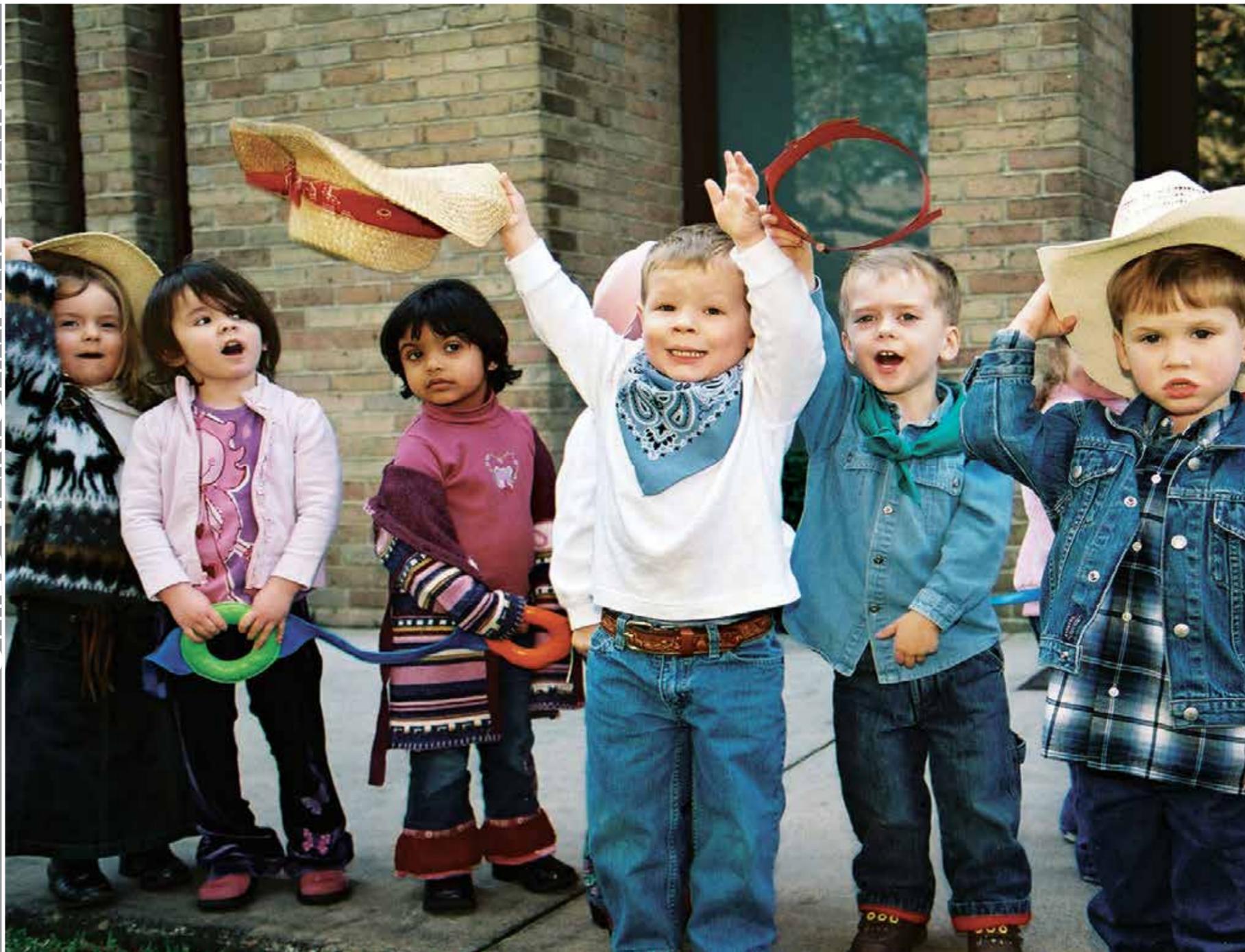
Founded in 1962, Holy Spirit Episcopal School is an independent, co-educational parish day school offering an academically rich program for infants through middle school students. Holy Spirit is proud to be a nationally recognized Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. The Blue Ribbon, the most prestigious educational award in the country, distinguishes Holy Spirit for its excellence in leadership, teaching, curriculum, student achievement, parental involvement and community support.

At Holy Spirit, we strive to inspire each student. Holy Spirit's curriculum focuses on experiential education – learning by doing – that includes a Costa Rican exchange program for middle school students, outdoor education for fourth through seventh grade students and a trip to Washington D.C. for eighth grade students. These opportunities complement our rigorous, traditional academic curriculum.

Our exceptional faculty and staff continue to expand their knowledge base through professional development to deliver new, innovative ways to educate the individual child. Holy Spirit is known for its dedicated staff and caring community as well as its small class size.

Spiritual and character education are integral to the Holy Spirit curriculum. Students participate in chapel twice weekly, attend Christian education class, and receive character training throughout the year. With strong ethnic diversity, the school seeks to nurture the individual child in a Christian community of security and creativity.

Holy Spirit is accredited by the Southwestern Association of Episcopal Schools and is affiliated with The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit.



"Holy Spirit is an extremely caring and warm environment for children to grow."
Blue Ribbon School Report



The Child Enrichment Center provides a warm, nurturing environment for children ages infant through three years. Complete with a gross motor room and an age-appropriate playground, the Child Enrichment Center offers children numerous opportunities for active play, social interaction and individual nurturing.

As a student at Holy Spirit Episcopal School, a child will receive the same level of excellence in curriculum and instruction that is offered in all of the school's divisions. In the Child Enrichment Center parents can expect:

- Low student-to-teacher ratio
- Language and vocabulary development
- Developmental toddler playground
- Well-trained faculty knowledgeable in developmental stages
- Music and dramatic play
- Active discovery learning environment
- Chapel with messages designed especially for small children
- Basic life and social skills
- Daily communication between parents and staff



The Early Childhood program offers a nurturing environment for students between three and five years of age. The primary focus of the Early Childhood program is to expedite the development of the whole child by giving him or her the opportunity to acquire, apply, adapt, integrate and evaluate knowledge as they construct new or expanded concepts. Varied learning opportunities accompanied by interactive play, social activities, and small groups assist children to develop socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually. While in the Early Childhood program students will experience:

- Language and vocabulary development
- Lessons designed for multiple learning styles
- Values and manners instruction
- Hands-on math activities
- Chapel setting and message designed especially for small children
- Literature and phonemic-based reading readiness program
- Music and dramatic play with opportunities to perform
- Exploration of themes of the week
- Age-appropriate playground immediately outside the classrooms
- Basic life and socialization skills
- Gross and fine motor development
- Story time in the Learning Resource Center
- Small class sizes



"My favorite thing about Holy Spirit is that the kids are eager to learn and they truly have fun doing it."
 Beverly Ekstrom, 3rd Grade Teacher



The Lower School program for kindergarten through fourth grade students is based on the core subjects of language arts, math, science and social studies. Spanish, health/fitness and Christian education complement the program while fine arts classes provide students with opportunities for creative expression, music and art. Computers are used both in the classroom and the computer lab as a multi-purpose tool for everything from drawing to research. Service outreach programs are offered through chapel and class directed projects. Additionally, field trips and outdoor education create opportunities for hands-on experiential learning.

As a Lower School student, children will explore and experience:

- Exceptional teachers with in-depth understanding of age development
- Literature-rich environment with daily access to the Learning Resource Center
- Phonics-based instruction
- Outstanding reading program with incentives
- Mathematics program taught with hands-on manipulatives
- Bi-weekly chapel services
- Christian education
- Character education and service projects
- A curriculum integrated with technology, fine arts activities, and social studies themes
- Science program with exciting hands-on activities
- Spanish program with sister-school relationship
- Private School Interscholastic Association (PSIA) competition
- Health/fitness program that teaches health and nutrition information
- Highly developed age-appropriate playground
- Art, music, choir opportunities, and special programs
- Excellent field trips
- Opportunities for after-school sports
- Scouting programs
- Small class sizes



Holy Spirit's Middle School offers an exciting, safe, and friendly atmosphere for students in fifth through eighth grades. Fifth grade serves as a transitional year and the specially designed program and small class sizes help make this transition smooth. Research indicates that small class sizes create the optimum learning environment for adolescents. Also, as a Middle School student, a child will have a plethora of extracurricular activities from which to choose:

- Costa Rican exchange
- National Junior Honor Society
- Private School Interscholastic Association (PSIA) competition
- Choir
- Athletics
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)
- Reading incentive programs
- Service outreach
- Duke Talent Search
- Scouting programs
- Musical productions and dramatic presentations
- Leadership opportunities
- Science Fair
- Student Council

In addition to the challenging academic courses and outstanding extracurricular activities that Holy Spirit offers, students can expect:

- Social skills and character education
- Outdoor education trips
- Christian Education
- Bi-weekly chapel services
- Foreign Language
- Professional teachers specializing in middle school instruction
- Electives
- Academic trip to Washington D.C.
- Advisories
- Outstanding integrated technology program



"Holy Spirit has embraced the experiential education experiences whole-heartedly. All the students (100%) in the school were involved in hands-on activities."

Blue Ribbon School Report



Fine Arts

Children will grow through confidence in Holy Spirit's fine arts program. Music and theatre arts offer many opportunities to perform on stage and grow comfortable before an audience. Students develop their appreciation of art through application, history and theory. For lower and middle school students, choir and various art contests are available.

Athletics

Beginning in sixth grade, students have the opportunity to compete in one or more sports throughout the school year. Visit our web page at www.hses.org to view the sports offerings. In addition, Holy Spirit offers a variety of sports for children in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

"The Core Values of Experiential Education, Service Outreach, Creative Arts, and Spiritual Growth determine the standards for what is taught to the children."
Blue Ribbon School Report



Holy Spirit's Spanish program with a cultural exchange to Costa Rica embodies our core values of experiential education, service outreach, creative arts, and spiritual growth. Students begin learning Spanish and exchanging projects with Costa Rican friends in the first grade. In middle school, students have the opportunity to travel to Costa Rica and to host Costa Rican exchange students in their homes.

Project Ecolink, Holy Spirit's outdoor education program for fourth through seventh grades, teaches the principles of teamwork and leadership. The experiences offered will fill children with a sense of wonder and love for the outdoors that encourages environmental awareness. The trips range from three days to a week and visit beautiful, natural areas and camps such as Camp Allen, YO Ranch, Enchanted Rock and Colorado.

Holy Spirit also offers its eighth graders an exciting academic trip to Washington D.C. Students will visit many important memorials, museums and other historical sites. While on the trip, students will deepen their understanding of American history, culture, government, and politics.





"The school is gaining a reputation among Houston's international business community as a place that welcomes diversity and will help families find a home away from home."

Blue Ribbon School Report



Holy Spirit offers an extended care program for additional academic and enrichment opportunities and for children of working parents. Your child can make the most of the afternoons by participating in one or more of the after school programs offered. The study hall option gives your child the opportunity to complete his or her homework which allows for more family time at home in the evenings. The atmosphere is structured, yet relaxed, allowing children to wind down from their demanding school day. The staff takes an active role in the activities and the students are well monitored.

The following are just a few of the after-school programs available:

- Piano
- Tumbling
- Lower school sports
- Ballet
- Computer technology
- Math
- Study hall

*"The Religious Education Program
is an anchor for much of what is taught.
The development of character
is a living part of this school...
God was a part of each school day.
There was a respect for each other
that created an atmosphere
of peace throughout the school."*
Blue Ribbon School Report



Thank you for your interest in Holy Spirit Episcopal School. Our school is based on love and respect for each child with an environment that emphasizes values of honesty, simplicity, self-discipline, and responsibility to the community. We are complimented by your inquiry and look forward to meeting you.

The Faculty and Staff of Holy Spirit Episcopal School



Holy Spirit
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

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