



From The Principal's Desk

December 12th, 2025

(Lunch Menu for December → [Link](#)) (Lunch Menu for January → [Link](#))

(CYO Basketball Schedule → [Link](#)) (Apply for FACE 2026/2027 → [Link](#))

Important Dates Coming Up

- PS/PK/K Christmas Concert – Wednesday 12/17 @ Bishop Connolly (**6:00pm**)
- ESS Christmas Play – Thursday, 12/18 @ Bishop Connolly (**6:00pm**)
- ½ Day of School – Friday, 12/19 (Dismissal is 11:20am / 11:30am)
- Christmas Break – No School (12/22/25 – 1/2/26)

New Information This Week

Christmas Concert (PS/PK/K): This coming Wednesday, we will have our PS/PK/K Christmas Concert. This will take place at the Bishop Connolly campus at 6:00pm. There are no tickets for admission, but we will be asking for a good will donation to help support our school and programs. Students performing should be dressed in Christmas colors. All are welcome to attend!

ESS Christmas Play: This coming Thursday, we will have our ESS Christmas Play. This will take place at Bishop Connolly campus at 6:00pm. Our 8th graders will be performing in the play, while students in Grades 1-7 will be providing the singing. All of the students have been working extremely hard, and we look forward to the performance! There are no tickets for admission, but we will be asking for a good will donation to help support our school and programs. Students singing should be dressed in Christmas colors. All are welcome to attend!

½ Day of School – Friday, December 19th: A friendly reminder that there is a ½ day of school on Friday, 12/19. Dismissal is 11:20am for Grades K-3, 11:30am for Grades 4-8, and starting at 11:00am for Pre-School and Pre-K. Lunch will be served early on this day, and there is **no after-care** on this day.

FACE Application for the 2026-2027 School Year: Please note that the applications will open on 12/15/25. **Completed applications are due by March 31, 2026, however, the earlier you get the application in, the better!! ([APPLY HERE!](#))**

Please note that the following documents need to be uploaded to fully complete the application:

- **2024 IRS Federal Income Tax Return**, including all supporting schedules.
- All **2025 W-2** forms for both the applicant and co-applicant.
- If applicants **do not** have W2 income, **2025** Federal Tax Returns are requested.
**Applicants who are asked for 2025 Federal Tax Returns should email FACEapps@catholicfoundationsema.org if they plan to file an extension or will not have their 2025 Federal Tax Return done by the deadline.*



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Re-enrollment Forms for the 2026/2027 School Year: Re-enrollment forms will be available upon return from Christmas break. We will also be accepting applications for new students! Please spread the word. ☺

Office Hours – Christmas Break: The school office will be open on Monday 12/22, and Tuesday 12/23 until 1pm. The office will be closed the rest of the week. The office will reopen on Monday 12/29, and Tuesday 12/30. The office will be closed the rest of the week.

Information from Prior Memos

Announcement from Diocesan Wellness Committee: Please click on this link to access important information and documents regarding the Diocese of Fall River Wellness Initiative, which includes both information on the Student and Parent Wellness Surveys that every school will be implementing in December. This link contains English, Spanish and Portuguese versions. Thank you so much for your involvement!

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Rhkmeg3vJA16dgKp3BnXCeWt1wCXBiAJWMBn6uvqOSY/edit?usp=sharing>

Care Solace: Please see information below regarding Care Solace, a free service accessible to our community for mental health supports. The school also this available to us as needed.

Gift of Love Christmas Service Project: Please see the letter below regarding our Gift of Love Christmas Service Project. A special thank you to Ms. Polselli for organizing it!



From The Principal's Desk

Gift of Love Christmas Service Project

Dear Families,

During this Christmas Season, our school would like to take part in a very special service project as an act of love. We feel that it is important to have the children do something meaningful within their community as stated in the school's Mission Statement. In our city, we have an organization known as **GATES OF HOPE, Inc.** which is run right out of our own parish located in the building right behind Espirito Santo Church.

It offers the following services:

- **Food Pantry- by appointment Tuesday- Friday between 2:00pm and 4:00pm**
- **Pet Pantry**
- **Hygiene Items**

We recently contacted the **Director, Faith Scallion** and asked if we would be able to help them out by providing some needed items. Ms. Scallion informed us that there were some much needed items which we could help provide. We are asking the children to purchase one item each week from the list below. Ms. Scallion wishes to express her gratitude to you for any donations that you can provide.

For the week of **NOV. 24: Please bring one of the following:**

condiments such as mustard, ketchup and spices. They are also in need of pet food.

For the week of **DEC. 1: Please bring one of the following:** a package of cake mixes, brownie mix, muffin/cookie mix, snack items and boxes of cereal.

For the week of **DEC. 8: Please bring one of the following:** canned meats such as canned chicken, spam, ham, chicken spreads.

For the week of DEC. 15: Please bring one of the following: ready-made meals such as rice-a-roni, hamburger helper, canned beef stews, chunky soups, chef-boy-ar-dee pastas. (They don't need any more mac and cheese, tuna or beans)

In lieu of the above items, they will also accept gift cards for Price Rite, Stop and Shop, Walmart and Market Basket.

Thank you so much for all your cooperation and generosity and for helping the children grow in their faith and love for God through their acts of love for others in need. May you be greatly blessed!

Sincerely, The Faculty of Espirito Santo School



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Apply for a FACE Scholarship Today

Applications including all required documentation must be completed by
March 31, 2026

There is a \$45 per family non-refundable application fee.

For technical issues and questions about the online application process, please contact: FACTS Customer Service at 866-441-4637

Required Documents

- 2024 IRS Federal Income Tax Return, including all supporting schedules.
- All 2025 W-2 Wage and Tax Statements for both the applicant and co-applicant.
- If you do not have W-2 income please submit your 2025 Federal Tax Return.

Email FACEapps@catholicfoundationsema.org if your application requires a 2025 federal tax return and you plan to file an extension.

Note: FACTS will send incomplete application notices if information is missing or if your documents are blurry. You will receive an "application is Complete" email once all required information is uploaded. Please also check your email and spam folders for these reminders.

A new application must be completed for returning students each year.

Log into your FACTS account at: online.factsmgt.com/aid

New applicants must go to the FACTS applications web page to create an account:
online.factsmgt.com/aid

*La solicitud en línea de FACTS está disponible en español haciendo clic en el enlace Español en la parte superior del sitio web de FACTS.

All FACE scholarships are awarded based on financial need. FACE scholarship awards will occur in spring 2026 and your school will be notified of any awards at that time.

Please visit www.face-dfr.org/how-to-apply for FAQs and helpful resources.





From The Principal's Desk

WHEN TO TAKE A BREAK FROM SOCIAL MEDIA

1. Your feed isn't fun anymore
2. You're comparing yourself to others
3. When posting is more important than enjoying the moment
4. You feel anxious when you don't have your phone
5. You're noticing your mood is taking a hit

care solace

Dear families,

Social media has given us a platform to connect with the world. We keep up with friends and relatives, learn about different cultures and ideas, and share our thoughts with a broad audience. While there are several benefits to social media, it can also be harmful to our community.

Social media can distract our students, disrupt their sleep, expose them to unrealistic beauty standards, bullying, and rumor-spreading. The more we educate ourselves on warning signs and how to monitor students, the better we can help prevent them from these adverse effects.

There are healthy ways to find a balance with social media and mitigate the related risks. Here are a few tips on how to protect students:

- **Set boundaries.** Ensure your student has a phone use routine, so their phone does not interfere with their sleep, homework, or other responsibilities.
- **Have open discussions.** Ask your child why they are using social media and ask if they understand its risks. Ask them how social media makes them feel and have a plan if they start to have negative emotions associated with their use.



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- **Teach social media etiquette.** Discuss appropriate behavior on social media. Ensure they carry their core morals on how to treat others as they interact with others virtually.
- **Set social media rules.** For example, making their account private, not allowing them to accept friend requests from strangers, and having restrictions on what type of content they are allowed to post, consume, and share.

Here are some helpful websites for more information on how to protect our students:

- The Family Dinner Project [How to Talk to Teens About Social Media](#)
- Child Mind Institute [Social Media Effects on Teens](#)
- American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry [Social Media and Teens](#)

At Diocese of Fall River, we believe in the power of working together to create a healthy, thriving community and hope you find these tips helpful. If your child is struggling due to the harmful effects of social media, we encourage you to reach out for help. As a reminder, Care Solace is a mental health care coordination service that can find an available mental health care provider for you. To access our complimentary coordination services, call 888-515-0595 or visit www.caresolace.com/dioc-fr to get started.