



News & Notes

3155 Paulskirk Drive • Ellicott City, MD 21042 • 410-461-9111 • Fax: 410-461-8621
www.resstpaul.org

January 25, 2012

Coming Home Today

- Kindergarten form (Pre-K only)
- St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry (gr.4)



Save the Date!

Fri., Jan. 27

Spelling Bee—2:30pm in church

Sun., Jan. 29

Catholic Schools Week
Mass at Church of the Resurrection—12:00pm, reception to follow

Catholic Schools Week; Jan 29-Feb. 3

See flier (sent home and posted on FORMS page) or the school calendar

A Message from Mrs. Murphy

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Mother Nature is reminding us this week that we are just approaching the middle of the winter season and that spring is NOT right around the corner! With the unpredictable weather comes changes in schedules, cancelations and delays. I thought this might be a good time to let everyone know our policies and procedures so that there is less confusion when the inevitable snow starts to fall.

First, our school will follow the plan for Howard County Public Schools (when in session) . If they make the decision to close early, delay opening or cancel school, we will send out an AlertNow email and, possibly a robo-call, depending on the situation. This information will also be posted on the NEWS page of our website as soon as the information is confirmed.



Our Alert Now email message and phone calls for weather related notices are generated by a list that you filled out for us either at the end of the school year or in September. You listed two primary email addresses and two primary phone numbers. Please note that this distribution list is separate from the weekly newsletter distribution list. We will test this system tonight at 7pm to make sure that everyone is contacted that should be and at the right email addresses and phone numbers. Please expect

the email and phone calls right at 7pm. Please contact Mr. Bob Buchta at bbuchta@resstpaul.org if you do not receive this test so that we can correct any issues.

Second, if we have a two hour delay, we will start our Before-Care at 9am. Please remember that we do have drop in care available, BUT all necessary paperwork needs to be on file with Mr. Sokoloff (separate than school paperwork) before your child can participate. No exceptions can be made to this policy given that we are accredited by the Howard County Office of Childcare.

Lunch from our cafeteria will be available for purchase on 2 hr. delayed openings. Students will not have recess on those days, but will be given a lunch period. We still can use parent volunteers on those days as well.

Third, if there is a predicted snow storm, students will be told to take home their textbooks and to check teacher's websites for any assignments. Consistency with students learning is extremely important, especially if school is closed for more than one day.

Finally, as with everything, effective communication is vital. This mid-winter note encourages EVERY parent with students in grades 3-8 to please get on PowerSchool tonight and check how your child is doing academically. Please contact your child's teacher(s) immediately if you have any questions or concerns.

Peace,

Karen Murphy
Principal

In Our Prayers

For all of those who are sick and are in need of God's healing presence. Especially:

Lewis Goode

Barbara Gregory— great-aunt of Charlie Crabtree

Milton Lepson— great-grandfather of Maggie and Brian Gorman

Raymond Rostkowski— grandfather of Natalie Martinaitis

Julie Rice

Barbara Mansfield

Eileen Ballenger—mother of Karen Murphy

Paula Ehmann

Harold Breaux— grandfather of Timmy McShea

Zachary Lederer—cousin of William, Joseph and Daniel Plessner

For all those who have died, may God grant them eternal rest. Especially:

Sharon Miller White—cousin of Mrs. Suarez

Office Reminder

Items delivered to school such as books, projects or homework will not be delivered to students during the school day. Also, calls home will not be allowed for missing items (except band instruments) or incorrect uniforms. We appreciate your support enforcing this policy.

Catholic School's Week

Catholic Schools Week begins this Sunday. We hope to see you at the 12:00pm Mass at Church of the Resurrection followed by a cookie and punch reception in the link for all of our families. Please check the schedule of events which was sent home last week and is posted on the FORMS page of our website.

Notable Notes

Two Date Changes— Please Take Note!

Please take a second and note the following date change on your calendars and pda's.

• Book Club Meeting Wed., Feb. 8

We had two parents who requested us to change the date of our next book club. We will be meeting to discuss the book, *The Homework Myth*, by Alfie Khan on Wednesday, February 8th from 7-8pm in the library. Hope you can join us!

• State of the School Thurs., Feb. 9

The second date change is our State of the School Address which will be on Thursday, February 9th from 7-8:30pm in the church .

Band Concert

The school band is playing this Sunday, January 29, at Our Lady of Perpetual Hope in honor of Catholic Schools Week. We are combining with band members from St. Agnes, Our Lady of Victory and St. Casimir for this performance. There will also be another school band combination group of Trinity, St. Augustine and OLPH performing as well. The concert starts at 2:00 pm and we will be the second of the two groups performing.

Attendance

As a reminder, students who will be absent or late should be called in to **ext. 250** by 9:00AM. A note should be sent to the office for after school activities, transportation changes or early dismissals.

A Glimpse in the Classroom

Mr. Deegan's 8th grade religion class has begun the Family Life unit by learning about different sources of their happiness, and making sure that they show gratitude for their many gifts. In addition, they have learned that one of the main gifts God has given them -- a conscience -- can also help them find happiness by making the "right" choices. Our consciences help us to not just decipher right from wrong, but also serve as a "road map" that guides us every day of our lives. As a result, Mr. Deegan's 8th grade students have made "moral compasses" that demonstrate how their consciences help them make decisions. They incorporated different

values into their "moral compass" (designed just like an actual compass), and also wrote down two different situations in which they would need to use their moral compasses. These moral compasses will be on display in the upstairs hallway in the next day or so.

