



News & Notes

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October 1, 2008

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Responsibility is the Value we have chosen to focus on for the month of October, responsibility to ourselves as well as to others. Our Outreach Project for this month is to collect Toiletries for Tara. Tara Howard was a former graduate of RSPS and parishioner of The Church of the Resurrection. Tara died in a tragic car accident 3 years ago this coming January. The Happy Helpers Service Club and Tara's parents are collecting toiletries that will be packaged and distributed to the homeless in Baltimore City. The collection will take place over the course of the next two weeks. Students may drop off their donations in the donation boxes outside of the school's first floor office.

Our fall school Book Fair will continue this week until Friday afternoon. Many thanks to Mrs. Grue, Mrs. Kim Dragisics and the dozens of parent volunteers who have made this fair such a success!

Thank you to Dawn Norris and all the moms who helped hand out reminder notices for yesterday's UNO's fundraiser. The turnout was great and we really appreciate Dawn organizing this activity for us! From the looks of the restaurant last night and those waiting for carry-out, the day was a huge success. As soon as we know, we will let you know the dollar amount the school will receive. Thank you for your continued support.

Congratulations to our 8A homeroom. Their teacher, Mrs. Manion, challenged them to bring in \$100 worth of box tops for Education before October 16th. They have met their goal!! That means they collected over 1,000 box tops! Way to go 8A! The kids still have two weeks to bring in 10 box tops in order for them to get out of uniform on Thursday, October 16th.

Parents and students in grades 6-8 are invited and encouraged to attend the Catholic High School Fair at RSPS tomorrow evening at 6:30pm in the cafeteria. Over 14 area high schools will have representatives and displays. At 7:00pm the high school representatives will move into their designated classrooms where they will present an in depth presentation about what their school has to offer. You will have the opportunity to visit up to 3 schools, each having a 20 minute presentation. The Fair will end by 8:45pm. It is never too early to start looking and doing your homework on high schools!

We invite you to join us for our first Mass of the month, this Friday, at 10:15am in the church. Fr. John and our 8th graders will lead us in prayer. We will be focusing on the Feast Day of St. Francis which occurs this Saturday. We will also introduce the Vocations Cross. Our 8th graders will receive the crosses after Mass and will spend the month of October saying a special prayer for vocations each morning following our morning announcements. The cross will rotate through grades 4-8 over the next several months.

Students in grades K-3 will start bringing the "Mary Backpacks" home with them on a rotating basis. The backpacks contain a statue of Mary, rosaries, the history of St. Catherine Laboure and a journal. Students will pray the rosary, pray for vocations and journal about their experience with the statue of Mary in their house. Upon their return the girls will receive a miraculous medal ring and boys will receive a miraculous medal pin.

Power School will be open to parents of students in Grades 3-8 this afternoon.

We will begin Eucharistic Adoration towards the end of the month. We will participate in Adoration all year. Grades K-8 will take turns spending time in the chapel on their designated Monday. During this time they will be able to have a personal conversation with Jesus.

The GIANT and SAFEWAY and MARTINS CLUB programs start up this Friday! Please visit our website and select the giving back tab to participate in the loyalty programs. All registration information is available with links to each appropriate registration site. This is just a great way to earn "FREE" money for the school without it affecting everyone's pockets. The money earned from these programs goes right into the operating budget to help keep tuition costs down. Please encourage your extended family to register as well.

Last year, as you may recall at the Home and School Association General meeting in March, the decision was made and voted on to take a portion of money from last years proceeds and roll it forward to this year to pay for theme t-shirts for all the students. We had a contest with the students to illustrate our theme, "Called by Name". Congratulations to Margaret McLean who won the contest with her design for this years t-shirt. This t-shirt will be worn for our Walk for the Homeless, several no uniform days and for Field Day which will be held at the end of the school year. An order form is coming home today for each child. Please make sure that you pick out an appropriate size for each of your children so that they can wear the shirt over the next 8 months. The manufacturer has let us know that the sizes run small so please order one size larger than your child would usually wear. Each child received their own order form. Orders should be submitted one per child. Please remember that they are free and to return the t-shirt order form ASAP so that we can place the order. Many thanks to all of you who helped to raise funds last year!

Coming home today is a copy of the Values Code for each family. Please hang this colorful card on your refrigerator and use the words with your children on a consistent basis. Using the same terminology at home as well as at school is helping to create consistency with the students. We are seeing an overall improvement in the students actually integrating the values into their everyday lives.

Our annual Grandparents' Morning is fast approaching! Coming home today is an invitation to the morning that also highlights the morning's schedule. Grandparents will have the opportunity to visit their grandchildren in the classroom for the first period before attending a performance by the whole school later that morning. Our students will stay with their homeroom class for the first period and will not be switching classes. Volunteers will be on hand to assist our grandparents in finding their grandchild's homeroom but if you could let your child's grandparent know their homeroom and which floor they are on it would be helpful. If you will not be seeing your grandparent prior to the day, we are also posting the flier on the website. Please encourage your grandparent to look there for a schedule. If your child's grandparent can not make it to school, please do not worry, we promise that they will not feel left out!

The results of the nutrition survey have been compiled and are quite interesting! Please visit our website to see the results of the Healthy Nutrition Survey. You will find them under the *For Our Families* tab under *Health Room Notes*.

The October calendar on the website has been updated. Please check the website for more detailed information. You are also able to print a copy from this location.

School will be closed next Monday and Tuesday so that the teachers can attend the Archdiocese of Baltimore Catholic Conference for Education in Baltimore.

Coming home today:

- Flier for upcoming benefit for Stanley Whitaker, uncle of Jason Grove, grade 2.
- Field day- t-shirt order form (free for all students this year)
- 5th grade Science Club sign up form
- Graduation information sheets (2) for our 8th grade parents
- Room Parent letters
- Values sheet with coordinating Outreach Programs
- Flier for Toiletries for Tara Collection
- Values Code card for each home
- Flier about St. Vincent Food Pantry for grade 7
- First Eucharist letter for parents of second graders who are parishioners at Resurrection Parish

- Flier for Middle School for upcoming Hayride sponsored by the Youth Ministry at Resurrection Parish
- News from the Nurse
- Flier/Invitation to Grandparents' Morning on Monday, October 13, 2008

In your prayers this week, please remember all those who are seriously ill and in need of God's healing presence, especially Mrs. Mary Destino; Ms. Anita Danneman, mother of Cody; Stanley Whitaker, uncle of Jason Grove; Patrick Masino, brother of Angela Calamari; Bridget Maviglia, mother of Karen O'Connell and grandmother of Matt, Tim and Sean; Anthony Altieri, grandfather of Kylie Handler and Barbara Semiuk, grandmother of Stephanie, Brian and Sean Moran. Let us also offer a special prayer for our government leaders. May we pray that God grants them the wisdom and patience to make policies and decisions that are in all of our best interests.

Peace,

Karen Murphy
Principal