



# News & Notes

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www.resstpaul.org



November 4, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We were very blessed on Monday to have so many volunteers help us learn about various saints. Many thanks to the Priests, the Religion Education Directors and Youth Ministers from both the Church of the Resurrection and St. Paul's as well as some of our own teachers who graciously volunteered their precious time. Their portrayals allowed the saints to "come alive" which provided a creative way for our students to learn about the lives and virtues of some of our saints. As the students heard over and over again, we are all called to be saints no matter what path in life we choose and must live that calling in our words and actions.

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, Mrs. Whatley and I had the honor of attending the Department of Education Blue Ribbon Ceremonies held in Washington, DC. Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education, presented us with our official plaque and flag. It was indeed a humbling experience as we realize how blessed we are as school community. Thursday at 2:00pm, we will have our school unveiling of the plaque in the church. It will be witnessed by our students, invited guests and area leaders. Please join us if you can. All students are to be in regular winter uniforms tomorrow. If it is a physical education day for your child, they should bring their tennis shoes to school.

With the presentation of our award the Blue Ribbon celebrating has officially begun! You may have noticed our banners, blue bows and blue lights. Yesterday students received blue shoe laces. The shoe laces may be worn with regular school shoes or tennis shoes for the rest of the school year.

This morning, our students listened to a "Blue Ribbon Panel of Excellence". Distinguished speakers discussed the importance of education and how it relates to excellence. They were reminded that they should strive for excellence in all that they say and do. Today the students received a blue fortune cookie that contained a quote pertaining to excellence to help remind them of the presentation.

Students will be receiving blue surprises/treats each day for the next week. In keeping with our healthy schools initiative, if the treat is an edible one the students will be asked to place it in their book bags for parents to see and monitor when they eat them.

Many thanks to Mr. Barozzini, father of Christopher (PreKB) who donated the blue lights that can be found in our school for our Blue Ribbon celebration.

Tonight, we invite you to join us at for a RSPS fundraiser at the Chick Fil-A off of Rt. 100 in Ellicott City. Twenty percent of that evening's proceeds (5:00-9:00pm) will come back to the school. You must use the coupon when ordering. Coupons are being sent home today. Hope to see you there!

Throughout the month of November, the school community will be focusing on the value of Concern for Others. We will put that value into action this Friday with our annual Walk for the Homeless and by bringing in a brown bag lunch for our monthly Lunches for Lambs program. Please remember to pack a lunch that does not need refrigeration such as a peanut butter and jelly or jelly sandwich with a beverage and snack.

Our Walk for the Homeless will take place immediately following our 10:00am mass. All students, PreK4 - Grade 8, teachers and staff members will attend. We would love to have our parents join us as well. If it is absolutely necessary that your child needs to leave school during this time frame please pick them up prior to the mass. We will walk around the surrounding neighborhood. Since we will be leaving the school property, we need a signed permission slip for each student. We are asking each student to bring in at least a \$1.00 donation. Each January, St. Paul's Parish opens their doors and houses the homeless of Howard County for a week. This money will go directly to them to help defray some of the costs they will incur. If you would like to write a check for your donation, please make it payable to St. Paul's. The students will be treated to a free hot dog and chip lunch that day and we will have extra hot dogs for those who have joined us. The children will have milk provided with their lunch. Please send in an alternative beverage if your child does not drink milk. It is always such a memorable morning. We hope to see you there!

Our 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be our student ministers at this Friday's Mass. For their class service project this month, students collected pairs of gently worn shoes to be distributed to the needy of Baltimore through their Shoes for Souls program.

The FREE Blue Bayou Parent Social is Saturday, November 7th in the RSPS gym at 7:30 pm. Please join us in celebrating the Blue Ribbon Award in a fun and casual setting as the gym is transformed to Cajun low country. Great music will greet you and delicious food by Kelsey's will entice you. All you need to do is BYOB. If you can join us in the fun, please email Linda Lynch at [lynchesmd@aol.com](mailto:lynchesmd@aol.com) immediately so that she can give an accurate account to Kelsey's who is catering this event.

This coming weekend, we will thank the Parishioners of St. Paul's for all of their years of financial and spiritual support of our school. After all the Masses this weekend, we will be handing out bookmarks thanking the parishioners for their support. If you signed up to have your children pass out the bookmarks please report to church at your scheduled mass time and meet with Mrs. Murphy at the main church entrance following the distribution of communion.

We are still in need of students to help hand out these tokens especially at the 5:00pm Mass on Saturday and the 7:30am Mass on Sunday (2 volunteer hours will be given per person). Please contact Mrs. Bateman if you can help us out. Additionally, following the 11:30am Mass, we will have a cake and punch reception in the church hall. Everyone is invited. All students are asked to wear their uniforms to Mass this weekend if you attend St. Paul's Church.

Please see the Blue Ribbon section of the News box on our home page for the schedule of events and details on student attire.

There will be a dress rehearsal for the students who are participating in the Talent Show, tomorrow, November 5<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00am. It will be held in the gymnasium. Student should bring in any and all props (clothing, equipment, etc.) If there are any questions concerning the rehearsal please see Mr. Deegan or Mrs. Bodensteiner.

Attention all RSPS Moms! The Mother's Tea is coming soon! It will be held on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at Kelsey's Restaurant located at the Normandy Shopping Center, Ellicott City, off of Route 40. The event will take place from 9:00-11:00am. If you are new to the school, or have been with us for years, please try to attend. Over the years this event has proven to be a relaxing way to connect with old friends as well as to meet make new ones. An invitation will be coming home soon to all of our moms and female guardians.

The Creative Writing Club is back! Their first meeting was held last Friday, and they will be meeting again, every Friday in Room 002 at 8:15am. The club is open to all students in grades 4-8 who are interested in reading, writing, and art. If you enjoy being creative please stop in! Students should see Mr. Deegan for details.

Parents are reminded to check Ms. Buppert's school webpage for upcoming meeting and event dates for the Environmental Club.

The Church of the Resurrection would like to let our families know that on the evening of November 10<sup>th</sup> they will be offering a Memorial Mass for those who have lost children to illness, injury, miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth, suicide, or in service to our country. This Mass will be held in the Chapel at 7:30pm. If you have any questions please contact Marty Bode at 410-461-9111 ext. 204.

Please correct your Family Directory to have the Trageser's home phone number read 410-552-0336.

The Hot Lunch staff would like to remind parents to be sure to fill in their child's name and homeroom for the free pizza that will be offered on December 21<sup>st</sup>. They need an accurate tally for the order placement. They are appreciative of your cooperation and support of the program.

Flu update: H1N1 Clinics-The Howard County Health Department will be offering clinics by appointment over the next several weeks and months. Visit [www.hchealth.org](http://www.hchealth.org) to receive weekly updates regarding clinics and appointment scheduling.

Thank you for continuing to call the front office daily with specific symptoms of student illness or reason for student absence. Illness information or influenza like illness is being reported to the Archdiocese daily and the Howard County Health Department weekly to determine the health of our school. Our flu incidence and overall absenteeism due to illness has continued to be below 10 percent, the parameter of concern set by the Health Department. Please continue to closely monitor your student's symptoms at home. If your student has a cough, sore throat or headache, please check their temperature with a thermometer prior to sending them to school. Students with a temperature of 100 degrees or greater must stay home until fever free without the use of fever reducing medication for 24 hours.

Please remember that when you call your child's absence into the school office, ext. 241, please let us know if you would like to have your absent child's homework sent home with a sibling, a classmate or sent to the school office at the end of the day. It is helpful, if you are leaving the message on voicemail, to leave the absent child's homeroom as well as the homeroom of the student who will bring the work home. In order to assure that homework slip is sent to the absent child's homeroom in time for that day's class work to be recorded, please call the school office prior to 9:00am.

RSPS pendants are being sent home today. If you ordered a pendant please check your child's backpack. They are in a white legal envelope. Charm only orders will be sent home soon. Some charms are on back order. If you have a question about your order please contact Mrs. Veronica Hall 410-203-9437.

Coming home today is a packet of information about our annual Breakfast with Santa and Trees and Greens preorder form. There is an information sheet, order forms for breakfast, raffle and greens and a volunteer sheet. PLEASE take some time to read through this information carefully. Our breakfast is always a sell out and it would be helpful to get your ticket order in as soon as possible. This is a wonderful family event for our school community!

It has been reported to the office that there has been an increase in parents who park their cars and walk their children across the parking lot to the drop-off doors during morning car line. Those new to the school or those seeing others do this may think this procedure is fine. **For safety reasons, this is not allowed, and we are asking everyone to please use the car lines only.** If you have any questions regarding the proper way to drop off or pick-up your car rider please call the school office.

Reminders:

- Chick Filet A night this evening at their restaurant located on Route 100
- Please return your permission slips and donation for the Walk for the Homeless to be held this Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>
- Lunches for Lambs this Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>
- Picture Re-Take Day, next Wednesday, November 11th
- **NO BUS SERVICE THIS FRIDAY- PLEASE USE ALL ENTRANCES AND EXITS WHEN ENTERING AND EXITING THE SCHOOL. PLEASE BE CAUTIOUS OBEY THE STAFF MEMBERS DIRECTING TRAFFIC!**

Coming home today:

- Packet of Information about Breakfast with Santa
- Flier for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders about donations for the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry for the month of November.
- Chick Fil A pink papers that are needed when you place your order this evening!

In your prayers this week, please remember all those who are seriously ill and in need of God's healing presence, especially, Brother James Kelly, President of Mt. St. Joseph High School; Tom Herbert, brother in law of Valerie and uncle of Graham Bateman; Pete Melynk, uncle of Jen Miller and great uncle of John, Carly and Amanda Miller; Annette Garib, grandmother of Sarah and Meghan Hudson.

Peace,

Karen Murphy  
Principal