



News & Notes

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October 7, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians,

During the month of October, we will be focusing on the Value of Hard Work. I am happy to report that this Value is being carried out in every classroom! The students and teachers are consistently working hard and it is evident! Take a look at the items displayed on our walls in the school hallways and in the classrooms as well as the teacher's websites!

Respect for Life is also a focus for the month of October for the Catholic Church. Each morning this week, we have been praying a decade of the rosary as we pray for life in all forms, from conception to natural death. Many thanks to our 5th graders who put together baby bottles for the Howard County Pregnancy Center and will be handing them out after masses at the Church of the Resurrection the weekend of October 17th and 18th.

On October 2nd, our RSPS families made over 350 lunches for our "Lunches for Lambs" program to feed the hungry at Our Daily Bread in downtown Baltimore. Many thanks to Tom Campbell, Sherry Chase, Kathy and Sophia Santiago, Stephanie Guindon and her children and Michele Robinson for helping to load and/or drive the lunches to Our Daily Bread. Thank you also to all those families who participated in this service opportunity!

Our 8th graders collected 37 pairs of flip flops to help clothe the homeless at Christopher Place in Baltimore. Thank you for lovingly tending Jesus' sheep by providing for the less fortunate.

Many thanks to Mrs. Grue and her dozens of volunteers who put on another successful book fair. The final tally is not in, but rest assured, the library will receive thousands of dollars in book vouchers to help stock the library. Thank you for your generous participation and volunteering!

This year's Grandparent's Day will be held on Friday, October 23rd. Please save this date for a morning of activities to recognize our special grandparents. Students may also choose to bring a special friend/family member for this event if a grandparent(s) cannot attend. A committee is working on the morning's schedule. A flier was sent home last Wednesday. If you are interested in assisting on this committee, please contact Karen Frechette at kspfrecette@earthlink.net.

Just a reminder that all students who bring in 10 box tops for education will be allowed to come to school out of uniform next Thursday, October 15th.

Wednesday, October 14th is the individual picture re-take day. If you would like to have your child's picture retaken, please send in the picture package you do not want as soon as possible so we can add them to our list. If your child was absent on picture day, then please send in a note to Mrs. Bateman and we will make sure that they get their picture taken. Students who are having their picture retaken must come to school in either the summer or winter uniform (no gym uniforms). If it is your child's gym day please have them wear their tennis shoes to school. All students need to have their picture taken if they want to be included in the Yearbook.

Our Healthy School Initiative October recipe and "Nutrition Nugget" are now available on the web site. Look under the heading, "For Our Families," "Health Room" to access them.

A Breakfast with Santa meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14th at 7:00 PM in the multipurpose rooms. Please join us if you are interested in helping out this year and/or you would like more information about this special event! Any questions, please contact Laura Glaudemans (410) 455-0566 or lpglaudema@aol.com.

Once again we need to remind you that vacations are not an excused absence. The calendar for the upcoming school year is available at the beginning of each May. It is our hope that you will consult the calendar when scheduling family vacations. Please be advised that in accordance with our handbook, students will not be given school work in advance of their departure and will have a defined time period (determined by the teachers) to get caught up on class work and homework that they have missed. We need to remind you that while spending time as a family is extremely important, instruction outside of the classroom cannot be replicated.

A letter with scheduled conference times was sent home this past Monday. The teachers have reserved next Thursday afternoon/evening and Friday morning for these meetings. We are looking forward to seeing you at your scheduled time. If you would like to meet with a special subject teacher, please email them to set up an appointment. They will be available during the same times as the homeroom teachers. Teachers will not be rescheduling conferences due to vacations.

Parents of 8th grade students, please remember to schedule shadow dates for area Catholic High Schools now. Many schools only allow a certain number of shadow students each day and they fill up quickly. Please remember that RSPS students are allowed 2 shadow day absences.

As we get ready to prepare for our Blue Ribbon Celebrations in November, we are looking to say thank you to our parishioners at all the Masses at both parishes. We are looking for students to serve as volunteers to hand out tokens of appreciation to the supportive parishioners after all the Masses. We will be at Church of the Resurrection on the weekend of October 31st and November 1st and St. Paul's Parish the weekend of November 7th and 8th. If your family regularly attends one of those Masses at either church, can you please send us an email and we will be in touch. Thank you in advance for your help with this project.

Please remember our October Outreach projects. Toiletries for Tara Drive will end on Friday, October 16th. Pre-K is collecting toothbrushes, grades K-4 is collecting shaving cream/gel and grades 5-8 is collecting shampoo. The St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry is also in need of non-perishable food items. We will collect for them until the end of October.

Please take a few moments to review the uniform policy on pages 15-17 of the school handbook. We have noticed a great deal of deviations, particularly in non-uniform sweatshirts being worn during the school day and hair accessories.

Finally, I need to remind everyone to please be careful on the parking lot during afternoon dismissal. All cars should be parked in the school pick up line facing the back of the school. Please DO NOT park in the parish office lot and DO NOT leave your car with the engine running. Accidents can happen in a split second. Please do not move your vehicle until the teacher/patrols have instructed you to do so. Keeping our students safe at all time is our primary concern. Thank you for your assistance.

Coming home today:

- Pizza Hut Reading Incentive program for students in PreK-Grade 6
- Blue Bayou Adult Social items needed flier
- Resurrection Youth Ministry Flier about upcoming Basket Bingo
- RSPS Gala and Gala basket donation information
- Order form for RSPS Spirit Wear
- Information/volunteer flyer for Blue Ribbon Staff Appreciation Luncheon
- Liturgy of the Word for Children volunteer flier
- An H1N1 Update for our school

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; and Pete Melynk, uncle of Jen Miller and great uncle of John, Carly and Amanda Miller. Let us also remember all those who have died, especially Joanne Failla, aunt of Natalie, David, and Matthew Gries; and Paul Bowersox, grandfather of Philemon Kendzierski. May God grant their family peace and courage during this difficult time.

Peace,

Karen Murphy
Principal