



# News & Notes

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October 28, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians,

How appropriate that we end this month of October focusing on the value of hard work as we begin our celebration of our Blue Ribbon Achievement!

We will start the celebration this weekend as we thank the Parishioners of the Church of the Resurrection 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.

We are still in need of students to help hand out these tokens especially at the 4:30pm and 6:00pm Masses on Saturday and 7:30am and 10:30am Mass on Sunday (2 volunteer hours will be given per person). Please contact Mrs. Bateman if you can help us out. Additionally, following the 12noon 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 the Church of the Resurrection.

On Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> our school will celebrate All Saints and All Souls Day. We will gather in the church in the morning for a short prayer service, including an explanation of what it means to be a saint, the canonization process and a litany of saints, before dividing up for additional activities. Students in grades K-2 will return to their rooms for saint activities. Students in grade 3-5 will have rotating events where they will play Saint Bingo, be visited by teachers portraying their favorite saints, and meet with representatives from the Little Sisters of the Poor. Students in grades 6-8 will enjoy visits from familiar faces of the two parishes portraying their favorite saints.

Mrs. Whatley and I will be attending the Official Blue Ribbon Ceremonies in Washington, DC on Monday and Tuesday.

On Wednesday morning, our students will listen to a "Blue Ribbon Panel of Excellence". Speakers will discuss the importance of education and how it relates to excellence.

On Wednesday evening, 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 will be sent home next week.

The Official School Ceremony and unveiling of the Blue Ribbon award will take place next Thursday at 2:00pm in the Church. Please join us if you can.

On Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, we will have our school's annual Walk for the Homeless. All students, Pre K 4 - 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. The walk will take place following the dismissal of the 10:00am 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!

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) or send back your invitation RSVP c/o Michael, Grade 3A. We really do need an accurate count so that we can plan accordingly.

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

The school would like to offer a very special thank you to Karen Frechette and her army of volunteers who did a fantastic job organizing our Grandparents Day last Friday. We had almost 500 grandparents in attendance with us and it proved to be another memorable day for all. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful group of grandparents who are so supportive of the school. We hope they will join us for future school activities!

The **October 29th clinic** at the Howard County Health Department is a by-appointment-only H1N1 Flu clinic for children with special health care needs and will be held at the Health Department located at 7178 Columbia Gateway Drive. **200 appointments are available and can be made by calling 410-313-6250. Scheduling for this clinic will begin at 1:00pm on October 27, 2009** and will be filled based on a first-call-first-served basis. No vaccinations can be given at this clinic without an appointment. **\*Children with asthma, reactive airway disease and other chronic medical diseases may be eligible for this clinic\***

Our R\$P\$ Panther Savings Bank opened this past Tuesday. Once again, every Tuesday, our branch of Howard Bank will be opened to accept deposits for student's savings accounts. Coming home today are applications for new accounts. This is our fourth year in partnering with Howard Bank. Our 7<sup>th</sup> graders are our tellers under the direction of the Howard Bank branch manager, Mrs. Whatley and Mrs. Carney. Students can only make deposits to their account here at school; withdrawals can only be made at the branch.

Breakfast With Santa-Crafters Wanted. Breakfast with Santa, which will be held on Saturday, December 5th, is now accepting applications for craft vendors. Space is limited. Vendors will be accepted on first come-first serve basis. There is a fee of \$35 per table. Please contact Laura Glaudemans at (443) 812-1034 or [lpglaudema@aol.com](mailto:lpglaudema@aol.com).

We are also in need of some Christmas decorations that can be used in our Santa's Room. If you have any gently used and unwanted Christmas decorations you would like to donate please contact Laura Glaudemans.

Our picture retake day will occur on Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> and we could use some volunteers to help escort children down to the photographer. Please contact Mrs. Bateman at ext. 241 if you are able to assist. Help is needed from approximately 9:15 am to 12:20pm.

Our Innisbrook gift wrap was another huge success. It looks as though the Home and School Association made \$14,000 on this fundraiser. Many thanks to Monica Diehlmann and Kellie Moran for all of their effort on overseeing this successful activity. Gift wrap pick up is next Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> in multipurpose rooms from 9:00-4:00pm. Please remember to pick up your order. Unfortunately, we do not have storage space for unclaimed items.

Parents who informed the school office of incoming preschool and kindergarten siblings have been sent their applications. Parents should send their completed application to the school office to the attention of Mrs. Bateman by this Friday October 30<sup>th</sup> to guarantee a spot. Starting on November 2<sup>nd</sup> we will open application acceptance up to new and non-parishioners on a first come-first serve basis.

School Family Directories were sent home last week. Please change the following phone numbers in your directory. The new phone number for the Cochran family is 410-719-2268 and the Richard and Stephanie William's family's phone number should read 410-465-0736.

We will be welcoming the Petersen family to our school this coming Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Kyleigh will join the 4A homeroom and Jake will join 5B. Please add their information to your Family Directory: Scott and Maureen Peterson, 10145 Deep Skies Drive, Laurel, 20723, home phone – 301-776-8085.

#### Reminders:

- Please return your RSVP slips for next Saturday's Blue Bayou Free Adult Social
- Please return your permission slips and donation for the walk for the homeless next Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>

#### Coming home today:

- Save the date notices for the Home and School Gala in January
- Book It Reading Incentives
- Howard Bank Applications
- Reminder notice about Innisbrook pickup

Congratulations to the Heinemann family on the birth of Mason. Sister Madi is in our Pre-K 4 program.

Finally we look forward to our Halloween Festivities this Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Pre-school will parade through the school and then outside around the circle in front of the school at 11:15am. Students in grades K-5 will parade at 1:15pm in the front circle of the school before their afternoon festivities. **Parents and siblings are welcome to join us for the outdoor parade and outdoor activities. Due to the heightened awareness of the flu and recommendations from the county health department, we are asking you to refrain from bringing younger siblings into the building during the classroom parties.** Please consult the website for SPECIFIC details of what students should wear and costume clarification. We hope you can join us!

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; Janis Ambs, sister of Myrtle Fisher; and for a relative of Sue Manion's. Let us also remember to pray for all the saints that have gone before us. We ask God to help us have the courage to live as faithful lives as the Saints/Souls that have gone before us.

Peace,

Karen Murphy  
Principal