



# News & Notes

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September 16, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What an incredible week we have had! We started on Monday with a beautiful Mass celebrating the Feast of the Exultation of the Cross followed by the Student Council Installation. On Tuesday, we celebrated the wonderful announcement that we are one of 314 schools across the nation and one of 50 private schools that will be recognized as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. In order to inform the students of this recognition we had a surprise announcement in the church followed by a prayer service of Thanksgiving to God for this wonderful award. Afterwards, the students followed Dr. Valenti (Superintendent of Catholic Schools), Monsignor John, Fr. Matt, Fr. Mike and Mr. Paul Evelius (our School Board Chair) outside to toot our horns (blue kazoos). We paraded around the front circle and all the way to the back of the school where all the students were assembled to form the words, RSPS 09-10. Rooftop photographers captured this moment. Channel 13 and Channel 11 both featured us in their broadcast last night. The Catholic Review and the Baltimore Sun also joined us. For more information about this award, please click on the front page of our school website. Mrs. Whatley and I will travel to Washington, DC on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> to receive our plaque and the Blue Ribbon Flag. We will bring it back and present it to the school in a special presentation on November 5<sup>th</sup>. More details will follow about the exciting events planned to celebrate this honor. Please mark Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> on your calendar for a free blue ribbon parent appreciation evening hosted by our Home and School Association!

In his remarks to the students, Dr. Valenti asked them to remember two things. 1. That they remember that it was through the hard work and dedication of the principal, faculty and staff that brought the school to the point of receiving the blue ribbon. 2. That this award is possible due to the grace of God and we should always remember it. Msgr. John also recognized that it was through the hard work of our students that we have received this award and encouraged them to continue with their best efforts. Father Matt also continued to motivate the students with his cheer of "R – S – P – S" to which they responded "is the best".

We would like to also congratulate Mrs. Karen Smith and the St. John's Regional Catholic School community in Frederick who also received this prestigious honor yesterday!

This National Blue Ribbon award for the Schools of Excellence should not be confused with the Archbishop's Blue Ribbon Committee. This committee will be coming to our school to hear from our parents and parish community on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. This is the meeting which the Representatives from the Home and School Association are encouraging all parents to attend. Double volunteer hours will be given for each parent in attendance.

Girl Scout Junior Troop 261 will provide free babysitting service on a first reserved basis for the October 1st Archdiocesan Blue Ribbon Committee meeting at RSPS. They can accommodate 25 children that evening in Multi-purpose Room #4. If you need babysitting service, please contact Megan Lynch, Gr. 7B at [lynchesmd@aol.com](mailto:lynchesmd@aol.com) to reserve a spot for your child/ren. The Girl Scouts will be unable to accommodate your children if you have not reserved a spot prior to the evening."

Our fall Book Fair begins Friday September 25<sup>th</sup> and ends Monday, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>. For your shopping convenience the Fair will be open from 8:30am to 9:00am and 3:30pm to 4:00pm before and after school for the run of the fair. The fair will also be open on Oct 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00PM prior to the Archdiocesan Blue Ribbon meeting. Students in Grades 1-5 will attend the fair during their regular library period. Middle school may visit the fair during recess. PreK and K will have regular library class in their classroom and may visit the fair with their parents before or after school. Look for a more detailed invitation to come home next week.

Once again, we are asking you to support the school by participating in the simple and no cost programs that we offer. Coming home today is a packet of information concerning the various **free** opportunities that either pay cash or provide supplies to the school. Last year, these programs totaled over \$8,000 which went directly into our school budget. Please take a few minutes to read the packet and feel free to share this information with family or friends that are able to support us as well. Just a reminder that ALL Giant and Safeway Cards need to be re-entered.

This Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, the Home and School Association will be having a Tailgate Party from 7:00pm-12:00am in the school parking lot. Beer, wine, soda, and munchies will be provided. Feel free to bring your own "tailgate" to continue the fun! There will be games, contests, raffles and plenty of great prizes! A special prize will be given for the "Best Tailgate". In the event that the weather does not cooperate, it will be held in the cafeteria. Put on your favorite team jersey or t-shirt and join the fun! It's a great way to meet new people!

Tomorrow is an out of uniform day for all of our students who bring in \$1.00. The money collected will support our school's Environmental Club. Please refer to the school handbook for appropriate dress. Our Environmental Club members will meet tomorrow following school dismissal and again this Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> to participate in the United Nations Day of Peace at the Baltimore Farmers Market.

Thank you for the initial response to the Family Income Survey (put out by the Archdiocese) sent home last week. When filling this form out, please remember to indicate which local public elementary or middle school your child would attend if they were not at Resurrection-St. Paul. All surveys are due back by Friday.

Keep saving those BOX TOPS! Students who bring in 10 Box Tops for Education tops between now and October 15<sup>th</sup> will receive a free out of uniform pass for October 15<sup>th</sup>! This is a great and easy way to earn free money for our school. You can find box tops on MANY everyday food products! Start clipping!

We are in our second week of our Innisbrook Fundraiser. Keep sending in your orders. We have only a week left to go.

We hope to have Power School up and running within the next week. New Passcodes will be coming home to each family with students in grades 3-8 shortly.

Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 still have the opportunity to join the RSPS cross country team. Please email Mrs. Zmijewski at [czmijewski@resstpaul.org](mailto:czmijewski@resstpaul.org) for additional information or if you are interested. The first meet takes place this Saturday at Trinity.

Coming home today:

- Innisbrook Fundraiser reminder- orders due back next week!
- October Lunch Menus/Order forms
- Tailgate Party Flier – open to all families, reminder flier coming home with Pre-K and K students

In your prayers this week, please remember all those who are seriously ill and in need of God's healing presence, especially Barbara Bodensteiner, mother in law of Maureen Bodensteiner, Brother James Kelly, President of Mt. St. Joseph High School, Tom Herbert, brother in law of Valerie and uncle of Graham Bateman and Joanne Failla, aunt of Natalie, David and Matthew Gries. Please also pray for all those who have died, especially Jamie Brennan, friend of the Bambach family and Jackie Tatswajerna, my cousin, that God will grant their families the healing that they need at this time.

This Sunday is also Catechetical Sunday, a day set aside across the nation to thank individuals who teach the Catholic Faith. Please remember our staff as well as each other as we are all responsible for passing on our faith.

Peace,

Karen Murphy  
Principal