

NEWS AND NOTES for the Weeks of December 18 & 31, 2017

Monday, December 18	Grade 6 Connolly Trip to the Adventure Aquarium NO TITLE I THIS WEEK	
Wednesday, December 20	7:00 pm Christmas Concert and Pageant - Children meet in Lower Church at 6:30. NO CHILDREN'S CHOIR PRACTICE	
Thursday, December 21	1:00 pm DISMISSAL after lunch Christmas vacation begins!	NO PM CARES
Thursday, January 4	Classes resume.	6:00-7:00pm Swap Shop
Friday, January 5	8:30 am Mass (Grades PK4 – 8) for First Friday (Peacemaker Certificates distributed after Mass)	

New Pretzel Procedure

Everyone seems pleased with ordering pretzels by the month. There will be 18 days for pretzels in February (2/5 through 3/2) at a cost of **\$7.20**. **Please send in the exact amount by Thursday, January 18. No change will be returned.** If you have more than one child, each child must return a separate form. You may return the total amount of money with the oldest child but please make a note of the payment on each child's order form. Forms can be downloaded from the FORMS link on the school website.



Home and School News

Just to update you on the result of the fundraisers so far and how the school has benefitted. The Home and School has paid for Discovery Streaming, an online source of educational videos; contributed to an upgrade of our Internet system; and is looking into a new laminator for school. We are so grateful to them for all the hard work they put into making our school a better place for our teachers and students.

Save the dates for these upcoming exciting events planned by the Home and School for the 2017-2018 school year.

- February 1 – February 19 – Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser
- Saturday, February 24 – Comedy Night
- Saturday, March 24 – Father Daughter Dance
- Saturday, April 7 – Mother Son Bingo

Dress Down Day to Benefit Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

On Thursday, December 7, we held a Dress Down Day where the students paid \$1 to dress in holiday finery other than their uniform. As a result, we were able to donate \$485 to CHOP. In addition, the children created placemats which will be sent to CHOP to bring some holiday spirit to the children who are being treated there. The students had a ball working on the placemats! We are so glad that we can share the spirit of Resurrection Regional Catholic School with others.



Tribute to Ms. Galanti

As you may know, Ms. Bernadette Galanti, our beloved music teacher, has been facing some serious health challenges this year. On Saturday, December 9th, there was a celebration dedicated to her called Broadway for Bernadette. There were over 350 tickets sold for the event and despite the snowy weather, over 200 people showed up to honor her. The food was delicious and plentiful and the baskets which were raffled off were phenomenal. A highlight was Ms. Galanti singing Broadway tunes with her friend, Sidney, her high school partner on the stage! Everyone had a wonderful time and Ms. Galanti was truly grateful for the outpouring of support.

Children's Choir

Resurrection of Our Lord Parish held its annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 10. All who attended were treated to some wonderful sounds of the holiday season. Once again, our Children's Choir was one of the highlights! An especially moving moment was when Laura Costa read a dedication to Ms. Galanti. There wasn't a dry eye in the house! Thank you to Mrs. Nase and Ms. Galanti for all the hard work they put into getting the children ready.



Cheerleader News

On Sunday, December 10th, at Kutztown University, the Varsity National Team competed in the UCA Pocono Regional Competition and took First Place in the Large JV Division. This automatically qualifies the team to compete at the National Cheerleading Competition in Orlando, FL from February 8th through the 12th, 2018. Congratulations, girls! Can't wait to see what trophy you'll bring back to Philadelphia!



8th Grade News

Ian McCauley, was offered a \$3000 per year scholarship from Archbishop Ryan High School. Congratulations, Ian! Your hard work has finally paid off.

Connelly Trips

Resurrection Regional Catholic School is fortunate to have the support of the Connelly Foundation for our school's field trips. In November, 4th Grade went to Bartram Gardens and 6th Grade went to the Adventure Aquarium on Monday, December 18th. These are wonderful opportunities for our students and we are grateful to the Connolly Foundation who provides the funding for these trips.



Legislative Update

There are two key pieces of legislation for which we need your support. One is a Commonwealth (PA) Bill, SB2, which creates Educational Savings Accounts for parents of students wishing to attend nonpublic schools. The other is an amendment (US) to the College Savings Plan 529 which would allow parents to save for K-12 in addition to college, with the same tax benefits. A more detailed description is below.

1. Senate Bill 2 (PA, Senator DiSanto)

As it stands, the Senate Education Committee is currently considering a bill known as the Education Savings Account plan, or Senate Bill 2. SB2 would help protect the most vulnerable children among us by focusing the savings accounts on the lowest-performing school districts in the Commonwealth. Specifically, SB2 would create state-funded, flexible, spending accounts for individual students. Parents could use the funds to pay for Department of Education-approved educational expenses such as non-public school tuition, higher education tuition, textbooks and curriculum, testing and industry certifications. Unused funds would roll over from one year to the next, and unspent ESA dollars could even be used to pay for college. This is a plan to empower children with educational opportunity. Please click on the link below to show your support of this important piece of legislation.

<https://www.pacatholic.org/resources/voter-voice/?vvsrsrc=%2fCampaigns%2f54999%2fRespond>

2. Senate Tax Reform Bill, College Savings Plan 529 (US, House-Senate Conference Committee)

The tax reform bills passed separately by the House and Senate will go to conference to reconcile differences between the two before a final law is passed. There are some critical provisions that are of importance to members of Catholic and other private school communities:

- Expansion of Section 529 savings accounts to cover elementary and secondary school expenses, as provided in the House version of the bill. Comprehensive 529 accounts would provide parents some practical assistance in saving for the critical years of their child's education.
- Retention of Section 117(d), as provided in the Senate version of the bill. This section allows religious and independent elementary and secondary schools to offer tax-free tuition to the children of teachers and other staff. It helps schools attract high-quality employees to settings that are favorable to parents and children.
- Retention of Section 127(a), as provided in the Senate version of the bill. This section allows schools to cover up to \$5,250 annually in tax-free educational expenses for employees, another attraction in recruiting qualified staff. It is also vitally important to certain innovative private school communities that have work-study programs in which low-income students receive tax-free compensation.

<http://action.capenet.org/ctas/urge-congress-to-include-key-provisions-in-tax-reform>

Both issues are time sensitive and our position would be greatly improved by a speedy delivery and advocacy. Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Weeks of December 18 & 31, 2017

Scholarship News

BLOCS

Applications for BLOCS Scholarships for the 2018-2019 school year are available at <http://blocs.org/apply-scholarship/>. If your child is planning on attending Resurrection, an Archdiocesan high school or select private schools, please apply now if you are in need of a scholarship. FACTS is the replacement for SMARTAID as the means of applying for a BLOCS scholarship. In order to apply, you will need to have your most recent tax documents available. 2017 tax documents will need to be uploaded after January to complete your application. For questions about the application process, please contact FACTS at [866-441-4637](tel:866-441-4637). This should make things easier for you since we already use FACTS for tuition.

Children's Scholarship Fund Philadelphia

We have already been notified that some of our families were selected in the early lottery drawing to receive a scholarship for the 2018-2019 school year. Congratulations! There is still time to apply if you haven't already done so. Apply online at (<https://www.csphiladelphia.org/scholarships/schools/>) Scholarships are selected by lottery so if you did not receive one last year you can always reapply and maybe you'll be selected this time.

Children's Choir Card Sale

Once again, the music ministry at Resurrection of Our Lord parish will be selling sets of cards. Available card sets are: Birthday, Sympathy or Christmas. These cards are beautiful and quite inexpensive. Download the order form here ([FORM](#)) or from the FORMS link on the school website.

Christmas Collections

PREP

One yearly tradition at Resurrection Of our Lord Parish is to provide gift bags of toiletries and other items to the parish homebound. Each year, on a Sunday shortly after the New Year, parishioners will be delivering bags to the homebound. You are being asked to donate toiletries preferably trial sizes of the items listed below. Please send the items in with your child to school from December 11 - December 14. Deacon Friel and his volunteers will fill the bags to be delivered. We ask that all items donated are in good condition and are not marked as samples from a casino or a hotel. Your generosity is appreciated.

Toothbrushes & Toothpaste	Soap	Deodorant	Candy
Mouthwash	Hand Sanitizer	Razors	Stationery
Shampoo	Lip Balm	Shaving Cream	Writing Pads
Conditioner	Hand Lotion	Body Lotion	Pens
Combs	Hairbrushes	Facial Tissues	Stamps

Please contact Karen Fitzgerald, Director of Religious Education, with your questions, kfitzgerald@resurrectphila.org.

School Collection for the Poor

PK3 up to and including 4th grade will be collecting hats, mittens, gloves and scarves. Grades 5-8 will collect only socks. These items will be placed on our "Giving Tree." This collection will run from Monday, December 4th through Wednesday, December 20th. All items collected will be distributed to the poor and homeless in our area.

High School News

St Hubert Girls High School

Shadow dates now open for 7th and 8th grade girls. 7th and 8th grade girls can schedule their St Hubert shadow day online at www.huberts.org Spend the day with a St. Hubert's Bambie to see what opportunities await you. 8th grade girls are invited to choose any available shadow dates, 7th grade girls may choose from dates beginning in February 2018, which are now open for selection.

St. Hubert's will host their **Winter Open House** on Thursday, January 25, 2018 from 6:30-8:30 PM & **Spring Open House** on March 18, 2018 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

7th Grade Universal Visitation Day - March 14, 2018

Father Judge Boys High School**Winter Open House** - Thursday, January 25, 2018 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM**7th Grade Universal Visitation Day** - Wednesday, March 14 2018, 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM**Spring Open House** - Thursday, April 12, 2018, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM**7th Grade Scholarship Practice Test:(fee required)** - Saturday April 21, 2018, 8:30 AM , Saturday April 28, 2018, 8:30 AM**5th and 6th Grade Junior Crusader Day** - Thursday, May 17, 2018 3:30PM to 5:45 PM**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Tuesday, January 10	1:00 pm Walnut St. Theater presents <i>Bully Busters</i> to Grades K-5
Friday, January 12	8 th Grade Connelly Trip to the Mutter Museum
Monday, January 15	Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service NO SCHOOL

RESURRECTION REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL CONTACT LIST

<u>PERSON</u>	<u>PROGRAM/POSITION</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL/WEBSITE</u>
Fr. Jim DeGrassa	Pastor	215-745-3211	Jimthepriest@yahoo.com
Mr. Jack Bellantoni	Principal	215-742-1127	jbellantoni@resurrectschool.org
Ms. Annemarie Garvey	My Students Progress; Scholarships	215-742-1127	agarvey@resurrectschool.org
Mrs. Annette Handley	Home and School President		ressomoms@gmail.com
Mrs. Carolann Powers	Boxtops and Labels Coordinator		boxtops2020@gmail.com
Mrs. Rosemarie Kazoroski	SCRIP Coordinator Office Hours: Sun, Mon, Fri, Sat 9AM to 11AM; Wed, Fri, 6PM to 8PM	215-745-5021	RoseKaz@comcast.net
	Amazon Smile		http://smile.amazon.com