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 *Blending learning with faith and faith with daily life*

Roanoke Catholic School

April 4, 2014

**ALL SCHOOL**

**From the Administration:** “Lent is to adjust life, to fix life, to change life, to draw closer to the Lord.”

 Pope Francis, 18 March 2014

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops encourages us to take an active approach, to embrace this Lenten call. “During Lent we ‘give up” unnecessary material things, ‘take up’ charitable habits, ‘lift up” those in need.”

Lent and spring are both times of new growth and renewal. Roanoke Catholic continues to bustle with activity as the fourth quarter begins. This coming week the Lower School will administer Terra Nova tests to students in grades 1, 3, 5, and 7. On April 12, we will share our time and talents on Landscape Day. Seniors are mulling college admissions offers to make the May 1 decision deadlines. The baby bottle campaign ends; Bread and Broth day and a Holy Thursday Lenten Retreat are scheduled. After Easter Break, enrollment contracts, move-up day, and scheduling will all take place. Indeed, this is a busy time for all, but let us take time to pause and to reflect. To *give up*, *take up*, and *lift up*, we turn toward Christ and strengthen our relationship with Him. In these fifty days of Easter to Pentecost, let us celebrate with thanksgiving all our blessings: the blessings of God's unconditional love, of faith, of family, of church, and of community and know - “Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior.” Psalm 25:4-5ab.

In anticipation of the joy of Easter, the administration, faculty, and staff wish you and your families a very blessed and happy Easter!

 *Kathleen J. Futrell*

*Upper School Assistant Principal*

**Development:** Please consider participating in our Upper School Renovation Campaign**.**We are replacing all of the windows and front doors of the Upper School. You may choose to go in with another family or group of families and sponsor a window. Your gift may be in honor or memory of someone special. For additional details, please go to <http://www.roanokecatholic.com/window-of-opportunity/> .

**Together We Make A Difference!** Help us continue the Roanoke Catholic School legacy as we celebrate our 124th year. Please consider a gift today. Each year, our school relies on Annual Fund donations to provide critical support for the operating budget by offsetting expenses not covered by tuition. These gifts have an immediate and direct benefit to each student and faculty member. The success of our school is strengthened by your generosity. For details, please visit <http://www.roanokecatholic.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/annual-fund-brochure.pdf>. To make a donation today, please visit <http://www.roanokecatholic.com/support-rcs/make-a-gift-today/> or contact Debbie Stump, Development Coordinator at dstump@roanokecatholic.com 540-982-3532 x2110.

*Debbie Stump*

 *Development Coordinator*

**Enrollment:** Tell your friends and family about our upcoming **Open House** scheduled for Wednesday, April 16 from 10:00-2:00. There will be a Q&A session from 10:00-11:00 in the library (with coffee and muffins).  At this time, Roanoke Catholic students and parents will speak about their experience at RCS.  Families are then invited to tour the school. **All prospective PK-K students are invited into the classroom for an hour of activity!** This is a chance for the students to meet their teachers, make a craft, have a snack, and listen to a story. Reservations are needed since space is limited.  Contact Sharon Harrilla directly to register at sharrilla@roanokecatholic.com or 982.3532 Ext. 2128.

For all current families who have completed the ***Intent to*** ***Enroll Form***, contracts are scheduled to be mailed to your home address before May 2. Upper School students will not be registered for classes until the contract is returned with the deposit.

Contracts mailed out by **Friday, May 2**

Signed contracts and fees due back by **Friday, May 9**

*Sharon Harrilla*

*Director of Enrollment*

**Allergy Alert:**  Allergy season is here! We are happy to administer allergy medication in the clinic. You must provide your own child’s medication in the original container with a note giving permission and the time you want the medication given.

*Ruth Peterges and Susan Algeier*

*School Nurses*

**Baby Bottle Campaign**: A couple of days ago I found two quarters and a penny in the bottom of my gym bag, 51 cents I didn't even know I had.  Then a few minutes later I found some more change in my car and it occurred to me that I almost had a dollar.  A dollar I wouldn't even miss and a dollar that, when combined with all of our spare change, can make a real and substantial difference in the life of someone in my community.

What change do you have laying around in your bags, cars and seat cushions?  Take some time this weekend, send your children on a scavenger hunt to find some change that can change someone's life, and fill up your baby bottles -- they're due next week!  Remember, that the Diocese will match every penny you donate, for a school total match of up to $3000.  I pray you have a blessed weekend and find the priceless joy that comes with sharing what we have with others. Allison Welch.

**Please remember to return your bottles, even the empty ones by April 11th. (Every lost bottle costs the Blue Ridge Women’s Center a little bit to replace.)**

**Landscape Day:**  is great way to get some school service hours and instantly beautify the school. This year’s Landscape Day is Saturday, April 12th, 9-12am, on the RCS mall. Parents and Upper School students are needed to help spread mulch, tidy up the beds for spring, and assist with planting a few items. With a good turnout we will be finished before noon. Double service hours are offered for US students. Bring gloves and water to drink. Also needed are rakes, pruners, tough scissors, and large shovels. To sign up or for further info, please contact Rory Nagy at rnagy@roanokecatholic.com or call/text 540.915.9359.

**Pancake Breakfast**: The Key Club is selling tickets to the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast to be held at the Roanoke Civic Center **Saturday, May 10**.  Tickets are $5, with children under 5 free.  All proceeds benefit local charities, including the Key Club.  The money raised by ticket sales allows the Key Club to do many of its service projects throughout the year, such as the Christmas fruit baskets for the folks at Manna Ministries.  If you would like to purchase tickets, see any Key Club member or contact Sara Plante.

**Adult Women’s Soccer:** The Roanoke Catholic adult women’s soccer team needs YOU!!! If you are interested in getting some great exercise, having fun, being outdoors and making new friends, consider joining our Roanoke Catholic women’s recreational soccer team. No experience necessary! Our season goes from April 27 – mid June. All games are played on Sunday at River’s Edge from 12:00 – 1:10. If interested, please contact Cathy Glebus at cglebus@roanokecatholic.com or Tina Gibson at tgibson@roanokecatholic.com .

**Shamrock Hill Run Thanks**: We would like to thank everyone who participated in our 24th annual Shamrock Hill Run.   Thank you to all of our wonderful parents who provided baked goods and water. We would also like to thank our participating sponsors, New River Electrical Corporation, Oakey's, Valley Bank, and Outdoor Trails. Make your calendar now for our **25th annual Shamrock Hill Run on March 14, 2015!**

**School Directory**: Have you been wondering where the school directory is this year? It’s ONLINE now! In case you missed it in the daily emails, the school directory is available to all school families through Renweb. Every enrolled family can log into the Parent Portal and access an up-to-the-minute directory which can be searched, sorted and printed as you wish. Check out the website for all the information about accessing this handy tool.

**LOWER SCHOOL**

**Terra Nova Testing:** As was mentioned above, Terra Nova testing starts on Monday, April 7 and continues through Friday, April 11, for students in grades 1, 3, 5, and 7. Our students are encouraged to do their very best. Please have your student here a little early on those days, with a tummy full of good breakfast and well rested. Our children will shine- just as they always do!

**For Current Seventh Grade Students**: Mrs. Futrell will conduct a **Rising** **8th Grade Parents Night,** for parents of current seventh graders, Wednesday**, April 30th at 7:00PM in the library.** Current seventh graders will receive course registration information during a Move-up Day meeting being that same day.  Eighth grade course selections are due May 8.  Please note, no student will be scheduled unless registered for the 2014-2015 school year.

**Spring Picture Day is TODAY**. Class pictures are Wednesday, April 9. Proofs will be sent home in a couple of weeks for you to place orders for individual pictures. Class picture orders can be turned in on or before Wednesday in the envelope that was sent home.

**Jump Rope for Heart**: It is time to kick off our Jump Rope For Heart campaign for grades K-5. I am excited to see the lower school student body come together and raise money for the American Heart Association. In your child's book-bag they will bring home the parent letter which will explain the benefits of donating as well as the money envelope/thank-you gifts form. If your child raises at least $5 they bring it just the coupon on the money envelope and I will give them their first prize. **Money envelopes/online donations are due April 15th.** This is the 35th Anniversary for Jump Rope For Heart so I am counting on the student body here at Roanoke Catholic to make it the best one yet! Actual jumping will take place during regularly scheduled physical education classes. Thank you, Ms Huddleston

**Talent Show:** Our School Talent Show was held on Friday March 28 in the upper school gym and it was a GREAT success! I am proud of each participant and dancer. You all made the show entertaining! Thank you for sharing your talent with all of us. There was a lot of work that went into putting on the show and it turned out so well because of the tireless efforts of so many.  Special thanks to Patrick Patterson, Julie Frost, Kathleen Futrell, Melissa Boday, Kim Spencer, Lisa Harnack, Matthew Peck, Liz Dennehy, David Saville, Carol Martin, Beth Derringer, Sharon Harrilla, Richie Harmon, Delores Azar, Debbie Stump, Aimee Simmons, Catherine Schlesser, Nikki Lieber, Allison Huddleston, Blake King, Melody Jessee, Mary Hypes, Lisa Ferguson, Susan Algeier, Matthew Wolowski, Bryant Guilfoyle, Paul Kuehler, Emily Hemphill, Christopher Schaible, Isabella Sorrentino, Aviana Wilson, Ray Sweeney, Parker Harnack, Bob McClelland, Neal Nance, the Keeley family, John Purcell, Courtney Keeley, Taylor Hypes, Nicole Hypes, Cathy Glebus, Tina Gibson, dancers, talent show participants, and their families.  I am looking forward to next year's show!

**Dance:** The Dance program held its final performance for this school year at the talent show. I feel so blessed to be the director of the dance program and have support from so many at Roanoke Catholic School. Thank you to each dancer and his/her parents. Dancers, you all worked very hard this year and you should be proud of your accomplishments, I know I am! Parents, thank you for allowing your children to dance and for your support. Special thanks to Nicole Hypes our Dance Captain, Courtney Keeley and John Purcell; Dance Assistants, and Taylor and Mary Hypes Dance Helpers. You guys Rock! I will see you all again in the Fall.

Dancers:

Zachary Young, Justinne Llavore, Abby Lieber, Rayya Bryson, Eleanor Brock, Jacob Nolan, Miranda Pack, Lauren Bradley,

Amelia Hamrick, Andrea Mireles, Chloe Muscaro, Brynn Ferguson, Nika van der Linden, Alex Algeier, Anna-Grace Kibler,

Elise Dearstyne, Ellise Talmadge, Magdalena Pack, Katherine Stewart, Olivia Shroades, Sophia Bradley, Ashanti Spinner,

Maddie Shroades, Anna van der Linden, Gracie Holmgren, Alex Paras, Bea Paras, Ify Osuorah, Jordan Purcell, Athena Wimbish,

Ryan Wimbish, and Aubrey Aaron

Talent show Participants:

Bertha Mireles, Tania Knipp, Burkley Nichols, Harrison Barger, Natalie Saville, Jordan Purcell, Ify Osuorah, Meg & Emily Hemphill, Athena Wimbish, Emma Patterson, Ryan Wimbish, Eva Bender, Sydney Aaron, Natalie Knipp, Brad Shumante-Critticos,

Jacob Foster, Alice Radjou, Catherine Carroll, and Isabella Myers.

*Mitzi Keeley*

*Dance Coordinator*

**UPPER SCHOOL**

Information regarding **AP and Honor Courses** for 2014-2015 has been distributed to interestedrising juniors and seniors. Sign-ups deadline is April 9th; decisions will be announced prior to course selection**.**

**Course selection forms and curriculum information** will be distributed the week of April 28th to all students currently in grades 8 through 11.  Signedcourse selection forms should be returned to Mrs. Futrell by May 8th .  Scheduling begins with re-registration, which is due May 2; only registered students will be scheduled.

The Pacelli Chapter of the **National Honor Society** initiated its newest members: GiGi Vaccaro, Class of 2015, Ashley Deer, Tony Eapen, Alisha Freitas, Jonah Frost, Mairin Glenney Anne Lupsha, Gabrielle McClelland, Nathanael Pilar, Abby Secamiglio, Jessica Via, all Class of 2016, on Monday, March 24. Selected on basis of scholarship, leadership, service, and character, these students are commended for their achievements. Congratulations!

**ATHLETICS**

Each year, all of our student athletes are required to have an annual signed physical between May of the current year through June 30 of the succeeding year. As a courtesy to our students, we have been able to offer a Virginia High School League (VHSL) physical one afternoon in May after school. This allows many of our students to get their physical out of the way and have it on file for the following school year.

This year, we will hold annual physicals on Thursday, May 29 immediately after school (3pm). The cost is $20. Please make a note of this on your schedules.

**Athletic Website: Any cancellations or changes in spring sports can be found on the homepage of the athletic website. This site can be accessed via the Athletics tab on the Roanoke Catholic web site or directly via** [www.rcsceltics.com](http://www.rcsceltics.com)**. These sites are the most expedient way to keep up on rain changes, make up games and bus breakdowns! Please check regularly after noon, each day. Thanks!**

*Matt Peck*

*Roanoke Catholic Athletic Director*