

Notes from Mrs. Greco  
April 19, 2007

Sadly, as a nation we are faced with the tragedy that struck at Virginia Tech this week. I stress with you the importance of keeping the lines of communication open in order to understand how your child is reacting to this event. This means creating a comfortable time and place for your child to talk with you about feelings, worries or concerns. One of the most upsetting aspects of traumatic events for children and adults is that they shake people's feelings of safety and security. Children are often reassured by hearing that their parents, family members, and school personnel love them and will do everything they can to keep them safe. Discussions about improved security in schools, airports, public buildings, and sports stadiums may also reassure your children. Our intent is to keep the children as calm as possible and to provide as normal a school experience as possible. At school, when questions about the event are asked they are answered in a fashion appropriate to the developmental level of the children. Your children may also be asking you difficult questions. Keep in mind that your children will take their clues from you. Your calm and reassuring demeanor will have more influence on their emotional state than any words you say. I am confident that your children are in good hands, as our focus has been, and will continue to be, student safety.

On Sunday, we will be hosting the Archdiocesan Jazz Band in concert in the Church Hall at 2:00pm. The concert is free and boasts the best musicians in the Archdiocese. Many of our students are part of this ensemble.

Included in today's notes is some important health information for you and your child regarding the "screen time" your child spends and its effects on health and development. It's worth a "read."

If you receive a re-registration form, please return it ASAP. We are receiving new registration inquiries and putting together our book orders for next year. The number of students per classroom impacts our purchasing. Your response helps us with our future planning. We need to know if you are returning to Immaculate in the fall!

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU RETURN YOUR FAMILY SURVEY. We are bound by law to tally results and forward them to the public school districts we serve. The results are used to allocate Title I funding for our students and teachers. Act 94 funds are also based on our family surveys and this money is what we use to purchase textbooks and materials. No names are submitted in the results reported - numbers only.

We received our Innovations in Education Award at the NCEA in Baltimore last Thursday. The dinner was most affirming and it was a pleasure to mingle with the other 11 national winners and the various sponsors of the dinner. SMART technologies was also in attendance and each of the 12 winners will receive a SMART board and projector. We will also receive a banner for the front of our school building. Considering the competition, this award is like a Blue Ribbon for Catholic Schools.

Please give serious consideration to the Home & School Executive Committee nominations. Our parent involvement is one of the reasons our school provides a successful educational experience for students. Don't forget that Mother and Son bowling reservations are due.

Pajama Tag Day is on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade will also be holding a Bake Sale after all the Masses this weekend. Your support of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade fundraising efforts is appreciated.

Mother's Day, Special Gifts, Graduations, Weddings, Easter goodies, vacations - all have something in common: *SCRIP!* Don't forget to buy your scrip available in the rectory or you can order through school. This helps the parish and YOU!

Please check your envelope OR the website for these important items of communication:

Track & Field Notes.

Title I Family Letter & Survey.

H & S elections nomination form.

H & S Monogrammed clothing flyer. (Last call for this item)

"Screen Time" information.