

Dear Parent or Guardian,

This spring NASA made data from its recent StarDust Comet Sample Return Mission available on the web. The chemistry department at Gaithersburg High School is organizing a group of interested students to help analyze the data.

This is a volunteer program in which students will take part in a research project with NASA investigating dust grains from the Stardust Interstellar Dust Collector (SIDC). Participating students will go through a web-based training session. After passing a test to qualify students will be able to access a virtual microscope (VM) via the web. Using their web browser students will view images taken by the VM and report any dust grains they find to the NASA project team.

We will meet occasionally during lunch or after school and students will also receive occasional emails about the project. Although this program is not offer for course credit, participation will help enhance their understanding of scientific research and be an excellent addition to their college applications. For more information on the project visit <http://stardustathome.ssl.berkeley.edu/> .

If you have any questions please visit www.breslyn.com/stardust or contact me at 301 840-5378 or wayne_breslyn@mcpsmd.org.

Sincerely,

Mr. B.

Wayne Breslyn
Chemistry Teacher, Gaithersburg High School

-----Please Return to Mr. Breslyn -----

Please sign below to indicate that your child has permission to take part in this project.

Student's Name

Signature of Student

Date

Parent's name

Signature of Parent

Date