

NATIVITY OF MARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2011



From the Principal's Desk:

Welcome back to all our returning students and families. We hope you had an enjoyable summer. To all our new students and families, Welcome! We are thrilled you are here.

There is nothing like the beginning of a new school year!

Each new year brings a fresh start and an opportunity to do great things while learning and growing in the love of Christ.

As we journey on our path to a School of Excellence we have added the following academic programs to our eight grade. Students taking advanced math will also be taking advanced science. We are, also, adding within the Language Arts Program for all eighth graders: Public Speaking, Debate and Career Development. These three classes will be one trimester in length, once a week.

Spanish will be offered in our K-Readiness Program. In the spring we will be introducing French to our Kindergarten and 1st graders. The students will learn things like their numbers, colors, greetings etc. in both French and Spanish.

A new reading book will be introduced in grades K-5 and a new religion book will be used in grades K-8.

We are currently looking to purchase projectors for each of the classrooms so that the teachers will be able to have the use of technology to present lessons to the students.

I look forward to working with each of you for another successful school year.

Nativity's Core Values

Founded in Faith
United in Family
Joined in Service
Enriched in Wisdom
Celebrated in Success

Values for Life

Beginning of School Schedule

School Supply Drop-Off

Tuesday, September 6th

8:00AM-11:00AM

All grades are welcome to bring in their supplies. A table will be set up in the cafeteria that morning where you may drop-off all completed forms.

First Full Day

Wednesday, September 7th

Grades Pre K-8

Students (K-8) are to be in proper school uniform.



STUDENTS MAY ONLY BE PICKED UP IN THE CAR LINE. THIS IS FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL CHILDREN.

Thank you for your cooperation!



Kid's Club

Kid's Club will begin on Wednesday, September 7th, from after school until 5:30PM. Registration forms and the calendar for September are due to the office on September 6th.

Reminder: Each student must bring their own snack and drink with them when they stay in Kid's Club.

Also, students must be signed up in advanced to attend. There are a limited number of spaces open each day. You may miss out if you delay!

New Staff

Mrs. Melanie Bream also joins our family this year as our new Administrative Assistant. Melanie is from Lockport and is completing her associates in Business Administration. She comes to us from the YMCA where she has worked in an administrative capacity for several years. You may reach Melanie at ext. 301 or via email at mbream@nativityofmaryschool.org

Mrs. Courtney Frisch joins us this year as our new Advancement Director. Courtney holds a BA in Social Work from Gannon University and a Masters in Social Work from Barry University. She comes to us from SS. Peter & Paul (Hamburg) where she was the Advancement Director for 2 years. You may reach Courtney at ext.317 or via email at cfrisch@nativityofmaryschool.org

Mrs. Rose O'Brien joins us as the new 4th grade teacher. Many of you already know Mrs. O'Brien; she has subbed in all grade levels for the past two years. She is enthusiastic, well organized and loves teaching. Currently Rose is working on her Master's Degree in Special Education at Medaille College. You may reach Rose at ext.311 or via email at robrien@nativityofmaryschool.org

Mrs. Joanne Streich joins us as our new school nurse this year. You may reach her at ext. 318 or via email at jstreich@clar.wynric.org

A special thank you to Mr. Mark Bandelian for his years of service to our school. He will be missed and we wish him all the best in his future endeavors.



New Lunch Schedule

We are going to try three lunch periods this year. The schedule will be: 11:00AM-11:30AM, 11:30AM-12:00PM and 12:00PM-12:30PM. We hope this will make lunch time easier for the monitors and less wait time for the students.

There will be 55 students in the 1st lunch, 59 students in the second lunch and 65 students in the last lunch. There are 20 tables in the cafeteria, the 1st lunch will occupy 10 tables, leaving 10 free and clean, when the 2nd lunch comes down they will sit at the clean tables. After the 1st group leaves the teacher monitor will clean the tables and get them ready for the last group that will arrive at 12:00PM.

Monitors please arrive to school no later than 10:55AM. Monitors will **not** be responsible for taking students outside. Teachers will take their class out if they choose.

Library



After two years of going through the old books and ordering new, I am happy to announce that the library has been completely automated! This has been a daunting project, but a very rewarding one at that. I could not have done it without

the help of Elizabeth Wulf and her family. I would also like to thank Miss Kiss and Mrs. O'Brien for working diligently entering the books for automation! This project would not be finished without their assistance.

In the fall, I will be implementing the use of iPad 2's in the Library. These will be used for research, reading and other activities to assist in classroom learning. I am very excited to bring this innovative technology into Nativity! I hope everyone enjoys the rest of their summer!

--Mrs. Peters

Teacher Pages

We are so excited about the addition of our Teacher Pages. They have been an excellent form of communication between our teachers and parents. Don't forget to check the pages for homework postings and important information from your child's the teacher.

Parent Portal

The Parent Portal is our way of improving communication with parents in regard to their children's academic performance.

The Parent Portal is a tool that enables parents and guardians to monitor their children's grades, attendance, and homework assignments via the internet. You will be assigned a username and password that will allow you to view the records of all your children who are currently enrolled in grades 3 through 8. This is a tedious process and all family information needs to be updated before user names and passwords can be assigned.

We are aiming for the Parent Portal to open in mid October.

School Banking

The Clarence Community and Schools Federal Credit Union will continue its student banking program at Nativity on Wednesdays beginning in September. If you would like to open an account for your child, you will need a copy of your driver's license, your child's SS# and a minimum of \$5.00 per name. After that students may put in as little as a few pennies. Information and forms are available in the "Weekly Envelope" and will also be available at the September 21st Parent's Night.

Parents' Night

Wednesday, Sept. 14th Grades 6th-8th 7:00PM

You will go through your child's schedule switching classes every 10 minutes.

Wednesday, Sept. 21st Grades K-5th

Session 1 - 7:00-7:25PM

Session 2 - 7:30-7:55PM

You may choose the session you wish to attend. If you have more than 2 children in these grades, Mom and Dad both should attend to cover all the teachers.

OUR FIRST HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HSA) MEETING WILL FOLLOW AT 8:00PM ON THE 21st IN THE CAFETERIA.

