

NATIVITY OF MARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2012



From the Principal's Desk:

Nativity of Mary School

Founded in Faith
United in Family
Joined in Service
Enriched in Wisdom
Celebrated in Success
Values for Life

As we end 2011 and begin 2012, we look back on our many accomplishments and successes and look forward to a new year full of promise and hope.

This year's theme for Catholic Schools Week is "Catholic Schools: Faith. Academics. Service". In just three words, this theme expresses what Catholic Schools are all about. We teach our students faith, not just the basics of Christianity, but how to have a relationship with God. We hold them to high academic standards and do everything we can to help students reach their full potential. We also teach them how to serve, both as a way to express their faith and to become good citizens. We say thank you to those who help make Nativity of Mary School a success:

- We thank our parents for choosing and supporting Nativity School and always being there to support our endeavors.
- We thank our volunteers day-in and day-out, for their endless service, support, prayers and presence. Your support provides a real-life example of how service can make a difference.
- We thank our dedicated teachers, who are the heart of our school. The virtues and learning they inspire and nurture in our students today reflect the ageless qualities of excellence in education.

Through everyone's dedication and commitment, our students are learning in a culture of faith, academics and service that is preparing them for a full life in their families, communities and the Catholic Church.

New Years Prayer

Dear Lord,

In the new year, we pray that You will guide us each new day in paths that are pleasing to You. Lord, the new year gives us another chance to rededicate our lives to You, to study Your Word so that we know right from wrong and to act in accordance with Your commands.

Thank You for the sense of direction, purpose and peace we get from aligning our lives with Your Holy will. We pray for the strength and the will to obey You each and every day of the new year, and when we fail, we pray for Your mercy, Your compassion, Your grace and Your love.

Help us in the new year to be Your faithful servants.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen



Important Dates Reminder

Tuesday, January 3rd:

- School Resumes
- Catholic Charities Dress Down Day-cost \$1.00

Monday, January 16th: No School-MLK Day

Wednesday, January 18th: HSA Meeting-7:00pm

Friday, January 27th: Snowball Dance at St. Greg's Ministry Center (grades 5-8)

Sunday, January 29th: Catholic School Week Kick-Off

- 10:30am-1:30pm-Open House & Academic Fair
- 11:00am-School Mass

Sunday, January 29th – Friday, February 3rd: Catholic Schools Week



Catholic Schools Week 2012

The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2012 is "Catholic Schools: Faith. Academics. Service." The theme expresses three priorities that make Catholic schools stand out from other educational institutions.

Children learn about faith—not just basic Christianity, but how to have a relationship with God. They concentrate on academics, which in Catholic schools are held to the highest standards, so they can reach their highest potential. They practice service—giving time, talent and effort to help others—as an expression of both faith and good citizenship.

This combined focus on faith, academics and service prepares students for full and meaningful lives.

The Catholic Schools Week 2012 logo is a rectangle with the words "Catholic Schools" in red across the bottom. The "t" in Catholic is a purple cross. From the top of the cross flows a green banner that

proclaims "Faith. Academics. Service." This colorful logo provides a visual expression of the essence of Catholic education to enhance the week's celebration.

Catholic Schools Week List of Activities

Sunday, Jan. 29th

Open House and 10:30am-1:30pm-Invite your family, neighbors and friends to attend our Open House. Let everyone know how great it is to attend Nativity of Mary School!

School Mass at 11:00am-All students are invited to attend Mass and wear their uniform. Students wearing their uniform make collect a dress down pass from their teacher after Mass.

Academic Fair begins after Mass- Come view the students work in the gym and throughout the school. Refreshments served in the cafeteria.

Monday, January 30th

School Spirit Day-Show your Nativity pride and wear blue and gold! (**no jeans and sneakers**). A prize will be awarded in each class for the most creative use of blue and gold.

9:30am-Healthy Choice Magic Show in the Gym for grades KR-4th.

1:00-2:00pm-Fife and Drum Assembly in the Gym for grades 3-8. This presentation consists of a detailed discussion of Civil War field music, musicians and instruments. The presenters are dressed in historically accurate musician's uniforms of the Union Army. They will play various tunes used for marching, camp duty, tactical commands and entertainment.

Tuesday, January 31st

Eat Healthy-Crazy Hat Day & Carnival Day-prize awarded in each class for the most creative "Eat Healthy Day Hat." Students may wear jeans and sneakers and wear a top that is a color representing a fruit or vegetable (ex. green for spinach/peas/lettuce, purple for plums/grapes, blue for blueberries, red for tomatoes/apples, etc.)

9:00-9:35am-Top's Healthy Eating Assembly in the Gym for grades Pre K-4th

9:45 -10:20am-Top's Eating Healthy Assembly in the Gym for grades 5th-8th.

12:30pm The Healthy Eating Carnival sponsored by the 8th grade for the entire school it promises to be a fun afternoon with games and prizes!
Tickets: 20 for \$2.00.

Wednesday, February 1st

Sports Day students may dress in attire from their favorite sport or team. Jeans and sneakers are appropriate. Mrs. Cornwell will be preparing age appropriate games for the students to play together.

Thursday, February 2nd

Kindness Day Mrs. Hoag and the 8th grade will be doing Kindness activities with the students. We will have an all school bag lunch in the Gym (*bring your own bag lunch or buy one in the cafeteria*).

Following lunch, we will show a Vegi-Tales Kindness movie and learn songs. Kindness Day is based on the Fruits of the Spirit which are good Christian principals and qualities we strive towards.

Each grade will be given one of the Fruits of the Spirit to create a tee shirt to wear with their jeans and sneakers. More information will be coming home the week of the 9th.

Friday, February 3rd

Celebrating Catholic Schools Day: Faith. Academics. Service.

9:00 Mass students are to be in uniform.

Home School Meeting

All parents are invited to attend our Home School Meeting on Wednesday, January 18th starting at 7:00pm in the Cafeteria.



Drama Club

Drama club has gotten off to a great start! Our regular meetings will be starting Monday, January 9th right after school until 3:30pm. We have decided to open up drama Club to students in grades 5th through 8th. If you missed our first meeting it is still not too late to join in. We have quite a few fun games and activities planned that you do not want to miss. If you have any question just ask Mrs. Bream or Miss. Adams.

Congratulations to the January



Students of the Month



Kindergarten-Molly Trapper

1st Grade-Alexander Maouad

2nd Grade-Anna-Valece Bauer

3rd Grade-Emma Ogilvie

4th Grade-Nicholas Sturniolo

5th Grade-Grace Cejka

6th Grade-Ryan Walter

7th Grade-Julia Janson

8th Grade-Joseph Bergman



Congratulations to our Keep Christ in Christmas Coloring Contest Winners

Kindergarten-Luke Ferrentino

1st Grade-Meghan Trapper

2nd Grade-Riley Morris

3rd Grade-Erin Trapper

4th Grade-Lauren Bergman

5th Grade-Rachel Koniarczyk

6th Grade-Sarah Jiva

7th Grade-Simon Wulf

8th Grade-Ben Hartman

Classroom Happenings

Peaceprints Reflection

By: Iliana Lukasik

Last month's presentation about Sister Karen Klimczak was an amazing learning experience that not only taught me important life lessons, but also brought me closer to knowing more about Sister Karen before her death.

Peaceprints are valuable lessons that we learned, they teach about forgiveness and all the little good deeds that one can do to resemble Sister Karen.

Forgiveness is something that everyone needs to learn how to do and though the presentations, we found out that sometimes it is not as hard as you would think.

The presenters were extremely knowledgeable about Sister Karen and I think that this experience has strengthened my relationship with God and made me a better person.



Music

Bravo! Bravo! Bravo! An enthusiastic round of applause goes out to all of the students for their exceptional performance in our annual Christmas concert.



Spanish

The 6th grade Spanish classes completed a research project on a Spanish speaking country of their choice. The project included maps, flags and drawings. Each student then presented about their country to their classmates.



Physical Education

The students in Kindergarten and 1st grade had a lot of fun doing Christmas Activity stations in gym class.

- Ice Skating
- Santa's Work Shop
- Snowball Fight
- Bouncing Gum Drops in Candy Land
- Reindeer Shoes



Computers

The 3rd grade has just finished typing and illustrating their original short stories. They have promised me that I can have an autographed copy of their first book if they become authors.

The 5th grade has been sharpening their keyboarding skills. You can see the “Top Typers” list on my Mrs. Fox’s Teacher Page.

In the 6th grade, the students have been learning a basic program language that is used in animation. They have been excited to program their own computer animations. Maybe some of them will be working for Disney in the future.

You can always read what is happening in each grade by visiting Mrs. Fox’s Teacher Page that is updated each week.



Pre K (4 year old)

The Pre K 4 year students are having so much fun with their “Rice Table” in their classroom. They are learning concepts within math & science (by measuring and filtering) and they are learning about texture and most importantly, about sharing!



Kindergarten

The Kindergarten class learns 2-3 new site words each week. The students play bingo with Mrs. Brzyski to practice recognizing these words-three in a row wins!



8th Grade

In Social Studies, the eighth graders completed two major projects while studying the U.S. in the late 1800’s and early 1900’s.

Each student researched and wrote about two famous American Immigrants’ accomplishments. The information was then used to make a collage of the info and pictures which the students framed.



The second project was “Progressives in a Bag”. Pairs of students researched famous Progressivists, then designed and made symbols to reflect the person and their achievement. Theodore Roosevelt, Carrie Nation, and Upton Sinclair are just a few represented.

