

NATIVITY OF MARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2011



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!

Where has September gone! We are already looking at the beginning of October. While the days have been busy and pass far too quickly, I cherish the energy and enthusiasm of your children as they go about their school day. Their smiles and laughter always bring sunshine and brighten my day. The faculty/staff are working diligently to keep our school a Christ centered safe learning environment for all.

Our Virtues Project, "*Virtues: The Gifts Of Character,*" for this year began in September. This Project is to inspire the continued practice of virtues in everyday life. Cultivating respect, compassion, kindness, caring and other gifts of character to create a safe, caring and high performing learning community. Cultivating the virtues of our character is a continuing process. Positive thoughts, words and feelings are the best investment in our future.

Our virtues of character for September were honesty and loyalty. Respect and compassion will be our virtues for October.

Important Dates Reminder

Friday, October 7th:

Early Dismissal (11:00AM) for K-8 students
Pre K & K Readiness in session all day

Monday, October 10th:

No School-Columbus Day
All grades

Friday, October 14th:

No School for K-8 students
Pre K & K Readiness in session all day



Month of the Holy Rosary

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on October 7th. It was instituted to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the Praying of the Rosary by the faithful.

The students will be saying one decade of the rosary each morning during the month of October.

In this month of October, let us consider this beautiful prayer of the Rosary as a means that we too can use in order to draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.

Kids Club

Thank you to all our parents who are sending in their calendars and payment early. It certainly is helping to make the process easier. Check out the new Kids Club link on the homepage of our school website-all the calendars for the year are posted.



Wednesdays-School Banking Day

The Clarence Community and Schools Federal Credit Union will continue its student banking program at Nativity every Wednesday school is in session. If you would still like to sign your child up, please send a note to school and we see that the Credit Union it to send you the information you need.

Pre K, K Readiness & Kindergarten

Early Registration

Registration for our **current** Nativity families for next year will be accepted from **October 19th-November 2nd**. These spaces fill up very quickly; please ensure your registration is completed early. At the time of registration, you must have a copy of the child's birth certificate, baptismal certificate and the \$100.00 non refundable registration fee. We cannot guarantee you a place in our programs after November 2nd.

Student of the Month

We will again this year be celebrating character education by incorporating a “Student of the Month Program”. We are looking for students who display Christian attitude, responsibility, honesty, respect for peers and authority, perseverance, the virtue of the month and wears the school uniform properly at all times. A student will be chosen from each class. He/she will have his/her picture taken with Nat the Nativity Cougar. Their picture will be displayed on the “Student of the Month’ bulletin board just inside the main entrance to school.

School Pictures



School pictures will take place on Monday, October 24th for Pre-K4, K-Readiness and K-8. Students may dress in attire Mom and Dad choose for pictures. Pre-K 3 will be done on Retake Day, Thursday, December 8th.

2011-12 Student Council

Congratulations to the new Student Council members!

Jack Semco-President Ryan Scello-Vice President
Joe Bienko-Secretary Charles Kolber-Treasurer

6th Grade Class Reps

Grace Harvey

Ben Mazurowski

7th grade Class Reps

Nick Calabrese

Hannah Falk



8th Grade Rummage Sale

The 8th grade will be having a

Fall Rummage Sale

On Saturday, October 1st

From 9a.m. – 3p.m.

Bake goods will be available for purchase

Thank you for helping support

The 8th Grade class trip!

AHERA

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act

We are notifying you that in accordance with EPA/AHERA regulations we are required to have an asbestos plan in place. If any parent, teacher, or employee wishes to see this plan, a request can be made to the school office where the plan is filed.

Flu Season

We will continue to teach our students how to wash their hands properly and encourage frequent hand washing. Hand sanitizer is available in all classrooms. We will, also, continue to have maintenance wipe down the hand rails, door knobs and door frames with bleach and water solution on a weekly basis for prevention. When needed this will be done more frequently.

Parents play an important part in keeping children healthy. Parents are encouraged to ensure that their child is well rested, has a healthy diet, follows the proper hand washing techniques and covers a cough into the elbow. Children must not be in school until they are fever free for 24 hours.



Mealtime Magic



Mealtime is great time for your family to talk and enjoy each other’s company. Get the most out of mealtime with the M-E-A-L approach:

Make the atmosphere pleasant! Focus on the positive-try not to bring up criticisms or complaints.

Entertain each other. *Examples:* tell a joke or make up a story and have each person at the table add a line.

Always give everyone a turn to talk. Try asking a different question each week. *Examples:* “What if your all-time favorite book?” What is the funniest thing that happened today?”

Loosen up! Think of ways to make mealtime an adventure. *Examples:* Spread a blanket on the floor and have an indoor picnic. Have a backward dinner-start with dessert first!

How Important is Homework?

There is no doubt that almost everyone has an opinion about it. Research on the importance of homework during the last ten years has greatly strengthened the case for homework. The bottom line is that many parents and teachers agree that homework develops students’ habits and work ethic, as well as supports academic learning. Catholic schools, in particular, value homework as part of the recipe for helping students meet high academic and study expectations.

Here are a few ideas for making homework a positive growth experience for your child:

- ✓ Remind your child to use his/her homework agenda.

- ✓ Create a regular time and space for homework. Treat homework as an important aspect of your child being an organized and responsible student.
- ✓ Recognize your child's regular completion of homework assignments as "the way we do things in our home". This expresses both expectation and honest appreciation for your child.
- ✓ Try to strike a balance of appropriate assistance with your child's homework – not too much, not too little. Younger children may need more assistance than older children.
- ✓ Check the teacher page on the school website to verify assignments.

When good study habits and successful completion of homework are a regular expectation, students benefit by attaining better grades, and a more positive attitude toward school and learning. Homework is also a valuable way for parents to gain insight to help support the school curriculum. Examine the "homework habits" in your household to ensure that your child(ren) receive the benefits homework can bring.