

NATIVITY NEWS AND NOTES

February 4, 2010

OFFICE: 952-881-8160

WEBSITE: www.nativitybloomington.org

PRINCIPAL NEWS

Barb Castagna

Dear Parents,

Catholic Schools Week was a great week filled with excitement, service, and talent. The students did a fabulous job of dressing up for the different "Spirit Days". The week ended with the talent show. Wow! We have very talented students. I am always amazed at how the students can get up and perform in front of their peers – what an awesome experience. It is wonderful to see, and they are fantastic.

Bridging was thrilled with all of the items that were collected for them. Fran Heitzman and Diana Dalsin picked up the donations on Tuesday morning and were already putting the items on the shelves for shopping that afternoon. Diana said that she believes all of the items will be gone within 48 hours.

We also raised \$2,907.00 for Haiti and Feed My Starving Children at our Catholic Schools Week Mass last week. Each bag of food they make costs \$1.02. Each bag feeds six people. They will be able to make 2,850 bags of food and feed 17,100 people with this donation. Wow!!

Thank you to Jeffrey Grassl and Nick Price who recently donated \$220.00 to the school for tuition assistance. They recently had a birthday gathering and in lieu of gifts, they asked that money be given to the school to help a child in need. Thank you.

Kindergarten Information Night is on Thursday, Feb. 18th. It starts at 6:30 p.m. If you know of friends and family interested in our school, please tell them to come to Kindergarten Information Night or have them call the school office for a tour. Please let them know about our Preschool too!

The Kids Council Service Team is selling candy bars to help support the playground. If any parents are interested in taking a box to work to sell, you can check one out in the office. They sell themselves. Also, on Thursdays the Kids Council will continue selling them during lunch hour until they are gone. Thank you for your support.

Mass Change

Next week Mass will be on Feb. 10th not Feb. 11th.

Volunteer VIPs and Vacancies

VIPs: A huge thank you to the volunteers running the Ski Club this year! The club is bigger than ever and provides excellent opportunities for the kids to learn and enjoy skiing or snowboarding. THANK YOU to Amy Monssen, Brian Monssen, Joanne Ott and Dan Boie for all their effort and energy for the kids!

Dad's Pancake Breakfast Vacancy: The Dad's Pancake Breakfast has been a great fundraiser for Nativity of Mary School for many years. This event has been coordinated by faithful volunteers numerous years in a row. It is time to pass the chairing duties on to a new set of Dads. With support from past coordinators and a long list of volunteers to help, this chairing opportunity should be a lot of fun! Please consider this opportunity in March 2010 to raise funds for our students! Contact katymcgrane@earthlink.net.

52 Club

The Jan. 31st winner of \$100.00.00 was Karyn and Art Columbo.

SCRIP Update

Don't forget to order scrip for your Valentine! We have AMC cards, Bath and Bodyworks, and many restaurants!!

FYI:

- In-school registration forms are in this week's communication folder. They are due Feb. 26th.
- With Valentine's Day coming up, students may wear red enhancements or a red/pink shirt with uniform pants on Friday, Feb. 12th.
- We have Financial Aid Independent Review (FAIR) packets in the office. If you need to apply for financial aid for the 2010-2011 school year, please pick a packet up in the office or call to have one sent home in your communication folder. FAIR application forms are due April 15, 2010. Applications received after the due date will be subject to a penalty as stated in the parent/student handbook.

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Tuesday, February 9 3:45 p.m. Choir
Wednesday, February 10 8:15 a.m. KIDS Council; 9:45 a.m. School Mass
Thursday, February 11 7:30 a.m. School Commission

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

Tina Meyer

Monday, February 8 1:00–3:00 Jennifer McCollow, Harriet Johnson/Sara Hoepfner
Tuesday, February 9 10:00-11:35 Sue Wilson
12:00-3:40 Jill Schreiber-Smith, Irene Gallus
Wednesday, February 10 12:10-3:00 Mayra Franco, Maria Loya
Thursday, February 11 12:00-3:35 Amy Monssen, Kathleen Hollingsworth

LUNCHROOM VOLUNTEERS

Jennifer Lovegreen

Monday, February 8 M. Hanson, L. Harris, T. Flowers, Need a Volunteer
Tuesday, February 9 K. Burns, R. Bailey, B. Dockendorf, Need a Volunteer
Wednesday, February 10 K. Berkowitz, L. Peller, C. Schirber, Need a Volunteer
Thursday, February 11 M. Koch, C. Luedke, A. Lockwood, Need a Volunteer
Friday, February 12 M. Huber, R. Snure, S. Farley, Need a Volunteer

PLAYGROUND VOLUNTEERS

Sherri Werner

Monday, February 8 11:30 – 12:25 C. Flowers, S. Lindberg
Tuesday, February 9 11:30 – 12:25 L. Harris, Need a Volunteer
Wednesday, February 10 11:30 – 12:25 S. Olstad, Need a Volunteer
Thursday, February 11 11:30 – 12:25 C. Robbel, Need a Volunteer
Friday, February 12 11:30 – 12:25 M. Powers, Need a Volunteer

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Congrats to the 1st graders who won the January box top contest – they will be able to be out of uniform for a day in Feb!! Way to go!! Our February contest will be for a cupcake or cookie party for the classroom that turns in the most box tops. Remember to let all your friends/family know to continue to save for our school. We are working hard to get a new playground and any help is appreciated. Also, if you do any on-line shopping, please go thru www.boxtops4education.com and Nativity will get another percentage back to our school. Thanks to all of you who have supported this FUN fundraiser!!

TO PARENTS OF CURRENT 6TH GRADERS

Becky Rodier RN

In last week's communication folder I sent home a packet of information with the health requirements for your child to start 7th grade in the fall. It contains the sports physical and immunization paperwork. Please contact me with any questions. Thanks!

PENNIES FOR PATIENTS

Lynn Robertson

On February 8, Nativity will begin our annual Pennies for Patients campaign, sponsored by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's School and Youth Program. The campaign is both a cancer education and fundraising program. Students may bring contributions of change, dollar amounts or checks to their classroom anytime through February 28. The class that brings in the highest dollar amount will receive a pizza party from the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and Dominos Pizza. To keep the competition going, classroom totals will be posted each week. Last year, Nativity raised an amazing \$5,389—let's see if we can beat that this year! To help us reach this goal, Dominos Pizza restaurants in Bloomington will be sponsoring a Dough Raising Day all day long on Friday, February 19, giving our campaign 20% of the orders Nativity family and friends place on that day or night. Watch for flyers to come home soon!

Each classroom could use a parent volunteer or two to take the weekly contributions to the bank (or local Coinstar machines). Please contact your child's homeroom teacher if you can help.

Thanks for your partnership in helping students save lives with the power of the penny! In these difficult economic times, when many of us are choosing to postpone spending, families of children with cancer don't have such a choice. Your donation helps these families to meet the immediate costs of fighting cancer such as travel costs of treatment at clinics far from home or the many uninsured costs of treatment. Estimates indicate that \$10.5 billion in loose change is sitting idle in American households—let's put it to a good cause! Every Penny Counts!

AUTOMATIC TUITION PAYMENTS

Reminder: If you need to place a hold or stop to one of your automatic tuition payments, you need to contact Tony Mailhot in the parish office at 952-881-8671 ext 312, at least three business days prior to the scheduled transaction date. Thank you.

SPRING SOCIAL/SILENT AUCTION -EVENT INFO Joan McCrory

Do you need an idea for what you can donate? The Treasure Tree is an easy way to donate to the auction. Just buy Scrip at the school office in the amount of \$20 or more and donate to the Treasure Tree. The Scrip can go towards your annual Scrip tuition agreement. The Treasure Tree is a popular attraction at the silent auction. To play, you pay \$20 to pick a gift card off of the tree. The gift card is in the amount of \$20 or more, so you are guaranteed at least your money back!! It is VERY popular and the gift cards go fast. The more gift cards people donate to the Treasure Tree, the more people are able to play!

Committee members, and those who want to help out, the next meeting will be this Monday, February 8th from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in room 250. Please let me know if you are unable to attend. If you have questions about the Spirit of Spring Silent Auction, please contact Joan McCrory at 952-884-3383 or themccroryclan@hotmail.com. Thanks!

UPPER LEVEL TUBING REMINDER Sandy Sullivan

Just a reminder that the upper level tubing at Buck Hill is this Friday, Feb. 5th. The buses will be in the south lot at 5:15. We will be snow tubing from 6:00-8:00. We will return to Nativity at 8:15-8:30. Please have your children dress accordingly for the outdoors. Beverages and snacks will be provided but NO meal will be served. We do have the hillside room reserved to warm up in and have our snacks.

We had an excellent response to this event. Unfortunately I only budgeted for one bus- I used last year's numbers to estimate for this year and we have many more going this year. We will have to reserve another bus, which means more cost. We are asking, if possible, if each student could bring in \$1.00-2.00 more to cover the bus cost. The money can be brought into the office by Friday OR the student may bring it Friday night and give it to us then. I apologize for the inconvenience but I am very happy we had such a great response to this. Thank you all very much.

SKI AND SNOWBOARDING CLUB Amy Monssen

Fourth through eighth grade students participating in Ski and Snowboarding Club, the dates for the Nativity Ski Club have been set and are as follows:

Ski and Snowboard Club Schedule

Friday	February 12	After school	Buck Hill	one-way bus trip
Friday	February 26	After school	Buck Hill	one-way bus trip

Buck Hill Trip

Parents must sign out their bus-riding students before leaving Buck Hill by 7:30 p.m. OR bus-riding students that will be staying at Buck Hill after 7:30 p.m. will give the chaperone a note from their parents giving permission to stay later unchaperoned. Bus-riding students that are to be picked up by someone other than their parents will give the chaperone a note from their parents. Look for us at a table in one of the Chalets. If it is crowded in the Main Chalet we'll have to use another building.

Please contact Amy Monssen at (952) 888-9242 or bmonssen@comcast.net if you have any questions.
PS - Pray for Snow!!!

7TH GRADE RETREAT Jane Wagemaker

7th Grade Retreat will take place on Thursday, May 13 through Friday, May 14. Chaperones are needed to stay overnight with us. Please contact me if you can help out at jane.wagemaker@nativitybloomington.org .

NATIVITY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION NEWS

Tim Thoreson

Baseball/Softball Registration for grades 5-8

It is still cold out, but baseball and softball is approaching fast and Nativity needs to register its teams for the league. Baseball and softball registrations will be sent home in this week's communication folder. These registration forms are due to the school office by Thursday, February 11. Failure to turn in registration form by deadline could result in player not being able to participate. Games run from mid April to the end of May. Players in grades 7 and 8 typically play during the weekdays and players in grades 5 and 6 typically play a doubleheader on Saturdays. For more information regarding Nativity baseball and/or softball please contact Athletic Director Tim Thoreson at tim.thoreson@nativitybloomington.org.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Please pray for Meredith Harvey and her family. Meredith's grandfather, Terry Harvey, passed away on January 31st.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do your best and leave the results to God.