

## NATIVITY NEWS AND NOTES

December 3, 2009

OFFICE: 952-881-8160

WEBSITE: [www.nativitybloomington.org](http://www.nativitybloomington.org)

### PRINCIPAL NEWS

Barb Castagna

Dear Parents,

The new liturgical year of Advent has begun. We started the week with an Advent Prayer Service on Monday at 9:45 a.m. in the church. Thank you to Mrs. Wagemaker and the 8th graders for leading us in prayer.

This time of year can be very difficult for many families. Last year we started an "Adopt A Family" for our own school community families. It was very successful, and people enjoyed both giving and receiving. We would like to do this again. If any families are interested "Adopting" a family of their own, please contact Barb Castagna in the school office. In addition, if families want to donate gift cards, new unwrapped toys or monetary gifts for this cause, please send them to the office – Attn: Barb Castagna. Thank you.

The "52 Club" fundraiser is well under way. All families were given 5 tickets to sell or purchase at \$20.00 per ticket. They are great Christmas gifts, birthday gifts, and very easy to sell. Everyone would like a chance to win \$1000.00. If you need more tickets, please let us know. With the weather getting colder, please make sure students have boots, hats, mittens, and warm winter clothing for recess time. Also, I suggest having students bring their uniform sweatshirts to wear in school. It is always nice to have layers. The thermostat is set at 68 degrees, but with doors opening etc. sometimes it gets chilly in the building. Thanks for your cooperation.

### "52 Club"

- The Nov. 22nd winner of \$100.00 is Steve and Kristi Rollwagen.
- The Nov. 29th winner of \$100.00 is Bernadette Guenther.

### FYI:

- The 1st tri report cards are in today's communication folder.
- Next week our school Mass is on Tuesday, Dec. 8th, at 9:45 a.m. - Immaculate Conception
- 8th grade parents – please look in the communication folder for a survey on the 8th grade Mardi Gras in February and send back as soon as you can. Thank you.

### Volunteers & VIPs:

The BRAVO music appreciation program is up and running as a supplemental music opportunity in K-4th grade classrooms. THANK YOU to Beverly Singhel for her coordinating duties and to the classroom volunteers: Anita Hoaglund and Maria Lewis for kindergarten, Beverly Singhel and Katy McGrane for 2nd grade, Michelle Ward for 3rd grade, and Katy McGrane for 4th grade.

Vacancies: The BRAVO program could still use up to 2 volunteers in 1st grade classrooms and 1 more volunteer in Mrs. Woychick's 3rd grade classroom. Please contact Beverly Singhel to help out. ([bevsing@comcast.net](mailto:bevsing@comcast.net))

Nativity of Mary School is open to finding opportunities to use volunteers. If you know of a fellow parishioner or community member seeking to volunteer, please have them contact Katy McGrane ([katymcgrane@earthlink.net](mailto:katymcgrane@earthlink.net)). We will find a good fit for them to use their gifts and talents while witnessing to the strong sense of community at Nativity!

### NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Tuesday, December 8   | 9:45 a.m. School Mass Immaculate Conception; 3:45 p.m. Choir |
| Wednesday, December 9 | 8:15 a.m. KIDS Council                                       |
| Thursday, December 10 | 7:30 a.m. School Commission                                  |
| Friday, December 11   | 9:30 Bus Driver Coffee                                       |

### LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

Tina Meyer

|                       |             |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| Monday, December 7    | 1:00–3:00   | Nicole Machtig                      |
| Tuesday, December 8   | 10:00-11:35 | Sue Wilson                          |
|                       | 12:00-3:40  | Jill Schreiber-Smith                |
| Wednesday, December 9 | 12:10-3:00  | Mayra Franco, Maria Loya            |
| Thursday, December 10 | 12:00-3:35  | Amy Monssen, Kathleen Hollingsworth |

Thank you to the following families for their magazine donations: Nathan Koplín, Andrew S. & Sam Johnson, Ed & Sue & Lizzy Wilson, Johnny Hank, Mary & Erin Powers, Van & Duyen Bui, Shirrons, and Grace Hoepfner.

Thank you, to Harriet Johnson for the library chair cushion repair work. It is beautiful.

We need a volunteer for Tuesday 10:00-11:35 a.m., for the first Tuesday of the month-May.

### LUNCHROOM VOLUNTEERS

Jennifer Lovegreen

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Monday, December 7    | M. Thomson, M. Hanson, T. Flowers, J. Musoke           |
| Tuesday, December 8   | K. Burns, L. Harris, A.Monssen, Need a Volunteer       |
| Wednesday, December 9 | K. Berkowitz, C. Schirber, L. Peller, Need a Volunteer |
| Thursday, December 10 | N. Machtig, M. Koch, V. Mager Murphy, Need a Volunteer |
| Friday, December 11   | M. Huber, S. Sullivan, E. Dobesh, Need a Volunteer     |

### PLAYGROUND VOLUNTEERS

Sherri Werner

|                       |               |                             |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Monday, December 7    | 11:40 – 12:25 | C. Flowers, M. Schreier     |
| Tuesday, December 8   | 11:40 – 12:25 | T. Peller, Need a Volunteer |
| Wednesday, December 9 | 11:40 – 12:25 | S. Olstad, Need a Volunteer |
| Thursday, December 10 | 11:40 – 12:25 | M. Koplín, C. Robbel        |
| Friday, December 11   | 11:40 – 12:25 | M. Powers, Need a Volunteer |

### MIDDLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Judy Hodgson & Marie Rule

The Middle School students have been working very hard preparing for the school CD and our Christmas concert. The CD recording sessions took place on Tuesday, December 1 and the concert will be Tuesday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the church. (Door 9) All choir, handbell and band members will be participating in this annual event. Attendance for students is mandatory and will count toward their grade for the second trimester. Students should dress up, no jeans please. We are looking forward to some great music.

### BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Jennifer Lovegreen

Congrats to Mrs. Meyer's 3rd grade class for winning the pizza party for our November contest! They brought in over 600 box tops themselves this month! (That's \$60 towards our playground equipment.) Way to go!! Our December contest will be another fun one for the winning classroom..... an ice cream treat party for the classroom with the most box tops. December is a short month for us, so remember to send those box tops in right away. Also, a BIG

REMINDER - make sure if you do any ON-LINE SHOPPING that you go in to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) and click into the "shop marketplace". Every store in their marketplaces gives Nativity a portion of the sales. At this time of the year, with all the holiday shopping going on, lets double our earnings with FREE MONEY just by going in thru their website! Thanks to everyone who is making this program so beneficial for our school!

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITY – SKATEVILLE

Tammy Price

Just a reminder that the Skateville trip is this Sunday, December 6th! The bus will depart from the Nativity South lot at 4:30 p.m. and will return at 7:30 p.m. to the South lot for pickup. Rental of skates is included in admission, but rental of rollerblades will cost an additional \$3. Feel free to bring your own skates or rollerblades if you have them. Also, you may want to bring a small amount of money for food and video games. Please contact Tammy Price at [price014@comcast.net](mailto:price014@comcast.net) if you have any questions. See you there!

#### 7TH GRADERS

Jane Wagemaker

7th graders have been given a name of a resident at the Golden Living Center in Bloomington to give a gift of love to. Gifts should be in Room 113 by Monday, December 7th. Thank you for helping make Christmas a little happier for someone special.

#### 6TH GRADE CHRISTMAS PLAY

Jane Wagemaker

6th graders will be presenting "Charlie Brown's Christmas" on Tuesday, December 22 at 11:00 and 1:30 in the cafeteria. All are welcome.

#### ADVENT PROJECT

Carla Zenk and Glen Hoffman

The fourth grade students are participating in their second "recycled toys" collection. We are asking for any unwanted toys that are gently used or in need of MINOR repair or cleaning. The fourth graders will have a workshop day when we will spend time cleaning, painting, gluing, etc. to prepare the toys to be donated to M.O.R.E., a multicultural school for very low income families. It is located in St. Paul. We gave to the families last year and it was very appreciated. If you are looking to clean out toy chests and closets, please bring toys to either 4th grade classroom, or drop them off at the office. Thank you in advance for your help!

#### 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](mailto:jane.wagemaker@nativitybloomington.org).

#### SKI AND SNOWBOARDING CLUB

Amy Monssen

Remember the snow will be falling soon, so sign your child up now for skiing and snowboarding at Buck Hill in Burnsville. Fourth through eighth grade students can participate in this Club. We have a lot of fun!

Please return your registration forms along with your payment and permission slip by Friday December 4th.

The dates for the Nativity Ski Club have been set and are as follows:

#### Ski and Snowboard Club Schedule

|        |             |              |           |                  |
|--------|-------------|--------------|-----------|------------------|
| Friday | December 11 | After school | Buck Hill | one-way bus trip |
| Friday | January 8   | After school | Buck Hill | one-way bus trip |

|          |             |              |           |                  |
|----------|-------------|--------------|-----------|------------------|
| Friday   | January 22  | After school | Buck Hill | one-way bus trip |
| Thursday | 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](mailto:bmonssen@comcast.net) if you have any questions.

PS - Pray for Snow!!!

### NATIVITY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION NEWS

Tim Thoreson

#### Basketball for students in Grades K-3

Registrations for students in grades K-3 were sent home in Thursday's communication folder a few weeks ago. The deadline to return registration form and payment is now extended to Wednesday, December 9. Extra forms can be found in the school office. Students in grades 2/3 will play in the Blessed Trinity League, this league generally starts in mid January and runs for 5-6 weeks. Students play on Saturday mornings or afternoons and play against other schools. These teams generally have a few practices in December. Students in K-1 will have the opportunity to participate in the Nativity Intramural Basketball program. This will begin in early/mid January and run for 5-6 weeks and take place right here at Nativity in the afternoon. Any questions regarding basketball for students in grades K-3 please contact Athletic Director, Tim Thoreson at 952-881-8160 ext. 125.

#### SSYO Athletics League Website

All students in grades 4-8 who play in a Nativity sport play in the SSYO Athletic Conference (South Side Youth Organization). The SSYO now has a website. This website is a great resource for general league information including game schedules and directions to other schools. The website is [www.ssyomn.com](http://www.ssyomn.com).

### PRAYER THOUGHT

Dear God, help us to remain hopeful and to trust in you no matter the trials and troubles life brings. This first week of Advent, help us remember that we are your people and that you are our God. Help us get our priorities straight and put the most important things first – loving God and loving our neighbor.