

NATIVITY NEWS AND NOTES

December 10, 2009

OFFICE: 952-881-8160

WEBSITE: www.nativitybloomington.org

PRINCIPAL NEWS

Barb Castagna

Dear Parents,

We are already into our second week of Advent and Christmas is quickly approaching. It was wonderful to see so many parents and parishioners at our school Mass this past Tuesday. You are always welcome, and the students love having you celebrate Mass with us.

Our 3rd, 5th, and 7th grade students took the Metropolitan Achievement Test (MAT8) this past October. The numbers represent the national percentile rank of our students at each grade level (average score of all of our students). On this achievement test, 50% is average. As you look at the results, you can see that our students are doing very well. The students are ranked against everyone in the nation that took the MAT 8 last fall. If your child took the MAT 8 test, the results are enclosed in an envelope in today's communication folder.

Metropolitan Achievement Test 8th Edition (MAT 8) Results

	Gr. 3	Gr. 5	Gr. 7
Reading	66	76	79
Math	78	77	71
Language Arts	64	71	75
Basic Battery	69	74	73

To help control the cold air entering the building in the mornings this winter, we are going to have students who ride the busses in the morning, enter through Door 9 (south church entrance). For car riders, we will have students in Grades K-5 enter through Door 12 (gym door) and middle school students will continue to enter through Door 14 (office door). There will be teachers helping to patrol and remind students of this starting on Thursday, Dec. 10th. In the Spring, when the weather is warmer, we will revert back to Door 13 and 10. Thank you.

Reminders:

- Ski Club starts on December 11th.
- The Bus Driver Coffee is on December 11th.
- The Middle School Concert is Tuesday, Dec. 15th at 7:00 p.m.
- Reconciliation for grades 4-8 is Dec. 18, at 10:00 a.m. Parents are welcome.
- The K-5 concert is Monday, Dec. 21, 2009. An Ice Cream social put on by the 8th grade will follow this K-5 concert.
- 52 Club tickets are due in the office on Jan. 15th, 2010. Each family has been given 5 tickets to sell. This is a great gift for others – a chance to win \$1000.00.
- When driving in the parking lot, please remember to drive slowly and watch the crossing guards for times to proceed forward.

Volunteer VIPs and Vacancies

VIPs: The middle school students are fortunate to have activities planned for them outside of the school day by dedicated and energetic volunteers. The second activity of the school year took place this past weekend at Skateville in Burnsville. THANK YOU to the activities chairing committee made up of Lisa Bromschwig, Sharon Rauenhorst, Tammy Price, Denise McMullen, Sherri Werner, and Monica Strout. We appreciate all you do to coordinate the middle school activities!!

Vacancies: 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, have them contact Katy McGrane (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!

"52 Club"

The Dec. 6th winner of \$200.00 was Jeff Hunt.

Alumni News

Rachel Berkowitz won the Jefferson Excel Award for the outstanding junior in activities, academics, athletics, and community service.

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Tuesday, December 15 7:00 p.m. Christmas Program 6-8;
Thursday, December 17 9:45 a.m. School Mass
Friday, December 18 10:00 a.m. Reconciliation Grades 4-8

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

Tina Meyer

Monday, December 14 1:00–3:00 Jennifer McCollow, Harriet Johnson/Sara Hoepfner
Tuesday, December 15 10:00-11:35 Linda Raab
12:00-3:40 Roseline Shelstad, Irene Gallus
Wednesday, December 16 12:10-3:00 Dana Jones-Sell
Thursday, December 17 12:00-3:35 Carol Schirber, Nicole Machtig

Thank you for the magazine donation from Matthew Sell.

LUNCHROOM VOLUNTEERS

Jennifer Lovegreen

Monday, December 14 B. Kern, M. Johnson, T. Flowers, Need a Volunteer
Tuesday, December 15 J. Johnson, K. Burns, P. Weichselbaum, Need a Volunteer
Wednesday, December 16 L. Peller, A. Lockwood, J. Skogmo, Need a Volunteer
Thursday, December 17 M. Koch, C. Luedke, T. Cassidy, Need a Volunteer
Friday, December 18 R. Snure, E. Dobesh, A. Monssen, Need a Volunteer

PLAYGROUND VOLUNTEERS

Sherri Werner

Monday, December 14 11:30 – 12:25 C. Flowers, S. Lindberg
Tuesday, December 15 11:30 – 12:25 H. Burton, Need a Volunteer
Wednesday, December 16 11:30 – 12:25 M. Glatzmaier, Need a Volunteer
Thursday, December 17 11:30 – 12:25 S. Hank, S. Koplín
Friday, December 18 11:30 – 12:25 B. Singhel, J. Praska

THANK YOU TO HELPERS

Jane Wagemaker

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents that helped with Operation Christmas Child. We couldn't have done it without you. God Bless!

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.

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.

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	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 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.

MAGAZINE SALE

Barb Hoffmann

Thank you to all the people who supported the Magazine Sale by purchasing or renewing magazines. Our school receives 40% profit from all sales/renewals. Your support will benefit the school with additional funds for operations.

SKATEVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITY

Tammy Price

A great time was had by all on Sunday at Skateville. I would really like to thank the parents that helped chaperone the trip, especially the ones willing to sacrifice their bodies and sometimes their pride to skate with the kids. Thank you to Jerry Dargis, Steve Morin, Dee McMullen, Connie Bruner and Karen Delaram. Also, thanks to Wanda Hagerty for all her help with the planning.

H1N1 VACCINE CLINIC THURSDAY DECEMBER 10TH Becky Rodier RN

Bloomington Public Health will be holding an H1N1 flu vaccination clinic on Thursday, December 10th from 4:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. at Oak Grove Middle School. There is a limited amount of vaccine available for this clinic. For this reason, they are offering vaccination to Bloomington residents in the following groups at this time:

- * All people ages 6 months through 24 years
- * People ages 25 years through 64 years with a chronic medical condition
- * Pregnant women
- * Caretakers or household contacts of babies under 6 months of age
- * Health care providers and emergency medical services personnel

For more information about these clinics, call 952-563-8787 extension 2435.

ATTENTION 8TH GRADERS - CHICAGO FUNDRAISING EVENT

Judy Skogmo

On Dec. 21 at 8:00 p.m. we will be hosting the Ice Cream Social after the Kindergarten - 5th Grade Christmas Program. We will be serving ice cream and selling water. If you are able to help that night, please contact Judy Skogmo (952-944-5397) or Lisa Harris (952-829-0903). We will also need a few parents to help out as well. Thank you.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITY – DANCE

Monica Strout & Sherri Werner

Please mark your calendars for a Middle School Dance scheduled for Friday January 15, 2010 in the cafeteria from 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. with DJ Tim Smith. The cost of the dance is \$7 and a VEAP item, snacks will be provided. Permission slips will be sent in the communication folder after the holidays. As always, we are in need of parents to help chaperone. If you are interested, please contact Monica Strout at 952-854-5201 or troutwithans@q.com.

FLU-LIKE ILLNESS AND REPORTING ABSENCES

Becky Rodier RN

When calling the attendance line with an absence, please be sure to be specific as to how high your child's fever is and if he/she has a cough or sore throat along with the fever. The Minnesota Department of Health has asked all school nurses to continue to track their school numbers for influenza-like illness. Please call each day that your child is absent with an update of his/her symptoms. Please keep encouraging your children to use good hand washing and to cover their coughs and sneezes.

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Academy of Holy Angels

Thank you to the Academy of Holy Angels. They donated a LCD projector to our school. We are very excited to be partnering with AHA through academics, extra-curricular, and spiritually.

Jefferson & Kennedy

Registration for Jefferson and Kennedy is on Monday, Jan. 11, 2010.

Benilde-St. Margaret

Benilde-St. Margaret is hosting an Open House on Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. Applications for the upcoming school year are due Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010.

NATIVITY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION NEWS

Tim Thoreson

Basketball for students in Grades K-3

Intramural basketball for grades K-1 will start on Saturday, Jan. 16 and run through Saturday, February 20. It will take place in the early afternoon. A schedule will be sent home to all who have registered before Christmas Break.

Students in grades 2/3 will begin playing games on January 9. A game schedule will be made available as soon as the league sends it out. All students in grades 2/3 will have their first practice from 1:30-3:00 on Saturday, January 19 here at the Nativity Gymnasium. A coach will contact players before the first practice.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Ethan Nelson, Shane Luedke, and Joey Poehling for winning a lap top computer in an international contest through Hewlett Packard.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Pray for us, Holy Mother of God, that we may become worthy of the promises of Christ.