



# News & Notes

Dear Nativity Families:

**WELCOME BACK FROM MEA WEEKEND!** During the break our staff gathered for workshops in technology, growth mindset, and assessments. As part of this process, your children will be encouraged to set learning goals with our teachers. We invite you as parents to be a part of this at home. Set goals at home as well and challenge your child in all subjects!

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** We have a busy fall ahead, don't miss these opportunities to connect and support the larger Nativity School family!

- **Oct. 28 - Nativity of Mary School Mass this weekend at 10:30 a.m. and the Cub Scout Pancake Breakfast:** Join us for Mass, breakfast and a viewing of our All Saints Projects!
- **"Rake-A-Thon" - November 3:** Nativity of Mary School students, staff and families volunteer their time to rake in the community! If you would like your yard raked, please call the school office at 952.881.8160 and let us know your address, a phone number and how large your yard is so we can send the right size group to your home.
- **"Rally for Robertson" - November 9:** Nativity of Mary School students and staff are invited to be a part of the Fun Run to support Lynn Robertson. **LAST CHANCE – will be Friday**, if you missed this, get your order in for t-shirts and wristbands. Lynn Robertson has been a Nativity of Mary Kindergarten teacher for 29 years. She has been hospitalized for the last five months and needs our support to help with medical bills, insurance expenses. Please help support Mrs. Robertson!
  - **Want to see Mrs. Reeder run in a bunny suit? Drop off your cash donations ...if we reach \$1,000 she's "running" on Nov. 9!**
  - **Father Gjengdahl will work on the roof if the "Rally for Robertson" raises \$5,000!** You can participate by buying items or just drop off a donation!
  - **Please make donations to Lynn Robertson. Thank you for your support!**



**PTO - FAMILY FUN FEST WRAP UP!** Special thanks to everyone who came out for our first "Family Fun Fest!" Nativity of Mary PTO raised close to \$4,000 and brought families from the greater Bloomington area together to celebrate fall. The winners of the events were:

- **Top Class:** Mr. Long's classroom was the top class and received the honor to "throw pies" at Father Gjengdahl during the festival.
- **Top Grade:** The 5th grade won the pizza party for top collections prior to the event.
- **Children's costume winners:** 1st Place-Cadence & Cora Keehan (Pictured above)
- **Best Decorated "Trunk or Treat" Vehicle:** Pero Family (Pictured above)
- **Chili Winners:** 1st-Laurie Nemanich; 2nd-Monica Fischer; 3rd-Debbie Heilmer
- **Bake Off Winners:** 1st-Jeff Barkow; 2nd-Monica Fischer and 3rd-Autumn Johanson

**PREK-Gr. 8 CONFERENCE SIGN UP FOR NOV. 15 & 19:** New! We are signing up online! It's simple, go to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0444a8a728a4fa7-nativity1>



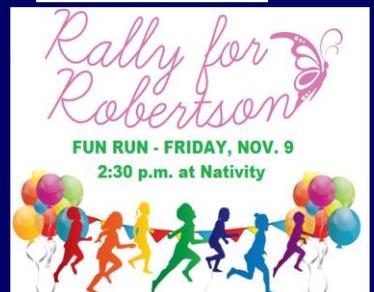
**MISSION:** Nativity of Mary Catholic School provides a Catholic education that fosters academic excellence and spiritual growth while preparing students to become responsible citizens in a global society.

### OCT. 25: NEWSLETTER

**OCT. 28:** Nativity of Mary School Mass at Nativity Church – 10:30 a.m. & Cub Scout Breakfast

**NOV. 3: Rake-A-Thon!** Families needed to support our community. Call to volunteer!

**NOV. 9: Rally for Robertson-2:30 p.m.**



**NOV. 15 & 19: Parent Teacher Conferences**

**JOIN US ON:**  
[SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)  
[INSTAGRAM \(Click\)](#)  
[FACEBOOK \(Click\)](#)



**HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE:** The Holiday Boutique committee is looking for vendors for our upcoming boutique on December 8<sup>th</sup>. If you'd like to showcase your business or know of someone else who may be interested in setting up shop for the day, please have them email the committee at: [nompto@nativitybloomington.org](mailto:nompto@nativitybloomington.org) and we will send you an information sheet and application.

**RETIREMENT ANNOUNCED:** Connie Dowzak, our Creative Club Director, has announced her retirement. As of January 2019, Connie will be taking time to be with her family and grandchildren. She has served Nativity in this capacity for over 27 years. We will be planning a celebration event for her, so watch for details! We've also posted her position. If you love children and have experience in daycare or education, please submit your resume and reference letters by Nov. 2, 2018.

**STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Jim Ellison has resigned as our Maintenance Manager. Applications are being accepted and please apply through the parish. Taylor Graydon, Middle School Language Arts, has accepted another position. Her last day will be Nov. 7, 2018, and we have posted her position online. In addition, we will be looking for a Preschool Director for our second "Faithful Beginnings" Preschool at the Church of St. Edward. All postings can be found on the Archdiocese website under careers: <http://careers.archspm.org/>

**KUDOS:**

- **PTO & Parent Volunteers:** For a wonderful, first ever, "Family Fun Fest!"
- **52 Club Winners:** Etta Benolken (Oct. 21) & Michael Maki (Oct. 28) - \$100 each

**Blessings – Mindy Reeder, PRINCIPAL**

[mreeder@nativitybloomington.org](mailto:mreeder@nativitybloomington.org) 952.881.8160

# Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Heaven Help Us Players need YOU!**

This is your opportunity to try your hand at Community Theater! Everyone is welcome. Our Christmas service "Reflections at the Manger" will be presented Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and we are currently assembling our cast. We need Adults and Teens for speaking roles, for the chorus/choir and as musicians; Children age 4 and up for singing and filling our Manger with adorable animals. A great family Christmas activity that will bring the true meaning of the Season to your hearts! **Call or Text Michelle Theis at 651-592-0100 by October 31<sup>st</sup> to join our cast and for more details.**

**Academy of Holy Angels is hosting our Fall Open House on Thursday, October 25.** This is our biggest event of the school year and a great opportunity for your families to experience AHA's welcoming community and growing campus. The evening begins at 6:00 PM with our Activities and Sports Fair and is followed by tours and academic presentations. Families can RSVP and find more information about the evening at the link: [goo.gl/JhK27N](http://goo.gl/JhK27N)

**DeLaSalle: Open House for prospective students on Oct. 29 from 7 – 9 p.m.**

**LUNCH UPDATES:** Are you receiving free or reduced lunches?

**PLEASE NOTE:** The first meal is free or reduced for families that qualify. After that, families must pay for second helpings or a la carte items.

**Do you know how to put money into your child's lunch account?** Go to Educate.com and log in. Forgot your login? Call the school office or email Wanda Hagerty and she will resend an email for you to create a new password.

**Is my lunch balance low?** If you reach \$100 in debt your family will be asked to bring bag lunches until money is deposited into your account. Please check often online.



## HIGHER POWERED LEARNING PROGRAM at NATIVITY

Nativity of Mary School is partnering with the University of Notre Dame in a three year grant through their Higher Powered Learning Program. Their staff is working directly with our teachers, four this year, but all of our teachers over the next three years, to implement a personalized learning program for each child – referred to as Blended Learning.

**What are our BLAST teachers doing now?** Our four teachers, Ms. Hartmann, Mrs. Shultz, Miss Thorpe and Mrs. Tronnes, held a conference call with Notre Dame this week and continue to set goals and personalize student learning.

**All Nativity Teachers?** All Nativity teachers met in their Professional Learning Communities (PLC) during our MEA Workshop to review the October "Growth Mindset" Chapter from their Book Study. They each taught a lesson in their classrooms helping students to develop a growth mindset and set goals.