



Merry Christmas

December 15, 2016

Dear Nativity Families:

Merry Christmas! It has been a joy to celebrate Advent with your children. Their excitement spread throughout the school each day that we drew closer to Christmas. From special prayers to service projects and gifts of Christmas songs, our three weeks of Advent have brought all of us closer to Christ. We look forward to seeing many of you at our classroom Christmas parties and events this Friday:

Friday, Dec. 16: Christmas events (OUT-OF-UNIFORM! Wear red or green!)

10:30-11:10 a.m. – 6th Grade Play - Gymnasium

1:15-1:50 - 6th Grade Play - Gymnasium

1:15 - 3:30 p.m. – Classroom parties, times vary, see your teacher

3:15-3:45 p.m. – Christmas Sing Along! Gymnasium

NATIVITY THEATER THE 3rd WEEK OF ADVENT:

- **The Kindergarten class performed the “Los Posadas skit,”** telling the story of “The Posadas” – (Inns). This story symbolizes Mary and Joseph’s long, frustrating search for a place to stay where Jesus could be born. The tradition re-enacts--with a twist, and a happy ending--the story told in Luke 2:1-7. We learn from the “Posadas” that by welcoming the poor and the needy, we are welcoming Jesus in our midst. (See Matthew 25:40).
- **6th Grade Christmas Play, “The Santa Claus Chronicles,”** a fun play about the adventures of St. Nicholas gave 6th Grade students an opportunity to act and create. Santa closes this play by sharing the message: “We wish for everyone to remember the most important birthday of all....the birth of our Savior!”

SUPPORT NATIVITY WITH A GIFT TO THE ANNUAL FUND: Nativity of Mary School is kicking off our 1st Annual Fund, to replace the Schulz Foundation Grant matched last year. This year, our goal is to raise \$50,000 by June 1, 2017. If you can make a donation, or have a family member who wishes to support the school, please pass the letter along (enclosed in the Communication Folder.)

CHIPOTLE 8th GRADE FUNDRAISER: Mon., Jan 9th (5-9pm) France Avenue

Come and have a Chipotle dinner while supporting the 8th grade class. Half of all proceeds goes directly towards the 8th grade Chicago trip. Look for the flyer in this week’s communication folder.

- **Make sure to show the official flyer** or tell the cashier at checkout that you are there for the Nativity fundraiser before you pay! You must tell the cashier or Nativity won’t get credit.
- **YES, you can use scrip toward your purchase!!** If placing an order online, please note you must choose the “pay in-store” option and inform the cashier of your participation before paying. This will ensure your order is counted towards the Nativity fundraiser.



(More news on the back of this Newsletter)

News & Notes



Dec. 16: Last Day of School for the year! See the schedule of the day’s events at the left.

Dec. 19-January 2: NO SCHOOL! School resumes - Jan. 3, 2017.

January 3: 2nd Grade Reconciliation Workshop - 7 p.m.

January 9: CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER 5-9 pm

January 16: NO SCHOOL

January 29: WINTER EVENT & OPEN HOUSE!

January 30: NO SCHOOL

JOIN US ON:

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

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING! Only 9 shopping days until Christmas! Shop with Nativity for great gifts!

- **SCRIP GIFT CARDS!** Stop in the office or after church to see what cards we still have for your last minute gifts!
- **AMAZON:** Order at smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0735359 and Amazon **donates** to Nativity of Mary Catholic School. REMEMBER – You can pre-order your Amazon Scrip Gift cards before you shop!

REMINDERS:

- **LOOKING FOR A CLASSROOM RUG/CARPET!** We are looking for a carpet or rug for some classrooms. If you have a rug or carpet to share, please email tprusha@nativitybloomington.org or lmillenacker@nativitybloomington.org
- **Ski Club:** Will start in January. Watch for information next week.
- **Student Talent Show:** Sign up was sent home last week! Be sure to encourage your child to participate.

KUDOS:

- **Congratulations to alum – Aidan McCory!** He received an “All District Honorable Mention” football award for his 2016 Football season. The award is voted on by all coaches throughout the district. He was the only lineman selected.
- **Thanks to Emma Shukle & Dr. Marie Rule** for a beautiful K-5 Concert.
- **PTO Thanks** to Annette Roudabush and Kate Barkow for coordinating our first Winter PTO Social event.
- **Pat Bohman** for coordinating our Math Team! Nativity hosted another competition this week.
- **Men’s Club** for the wonderful staff treats and gift of service.
- **Nativity Parents** for the many treats and gifts showered upon staff this Christmas.

PRAYERS: For families to be united and loved this Christmas. For the homeless to be cared for and protected. For the message of Christ as our Savior to be heard this Christmas.

BLESSINGS, Mindy Reeder – mreeder@nativitybloomington.org



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BOOK FAIR!

We need your help! The Scholastic Book Fair will be at our school during Catholic School’s Week, January 27th–February 3rd. Many volunteers are needed to make this a successful event. Last year we earned about \$5,000 of Scholastic dollars, which are used to buy books and other materials. **Look for the flier in this week’s “News and Notes” to sign up to help.**

The Book Fair theme for spring 2017 is **“Happy Camper Book Fair: S’more fun with books!”** This season’s Book Fair will be a fun wilderness adventure full of exciting activities and s’more books.



OLD TOWN HALL MUSEUM

Did you know that Nativity School is on land that once was an airport? Speed Holman and other daredevil pilots flew out of five Bloomington air strips in the 1920’s. Looking for something to do with the kids over Christmas Break? Come visit the Old Town Hall

Museum in Bloomington on 104th and Old Shakopee Road. The Christmas decorations and kids craft table are up! Hours during Christmas Break are: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from Noon to 4pm. Closed Christmas and New Year’s weekends. There is no admission fee (but donations appreciated.)



VISITATION SCHOOL, located at 2455 Visitation Drive in Mendota Heights, will host an Open House for prospective Upper School (grades 9-12) families on **Tuesday, January 3 at 7 p.m.** We invite you to spend this time with us to learn more about all that [Visitation School](#) has to offer. For more information, visit our [website](#) or call

651-683-1700.