



Readathon

November 7 -30, 2016

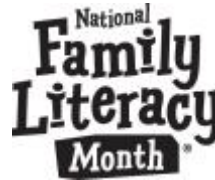


Transforming Learning

November 10, 2016

Dear Nativity Families:

Nativity of Mary kicked off our first fundraiser of the year – the **2nd Annual Read-A-Thon-Wild About Reading!** We thank you for supporting both the reading goals for your child and the fundraising needs of our school. This is a key fundraiser. Our goal is to raise \$40,000 to support the educational needs of our students. Our “Read-A-Thon” coincides with National Family Literacy Month.



[Click here to learn about the great resources available to families!](#) A great way to start out this week is to focus on three things: ([Click here for link to the complete Read-A-Thon Packet](#))

- 1) **Plan to Read!** Morning time, in the car, or just before bed – whatever works!
- 2) **Mail out the letter to families and friends!** In the packet you will see a letter that you can personalize. Mail this via email or US mail to family and friends to ask for their support! Families love supporting student reading and when they pledge your student, this is considered a donation!
- 3) **Turn in this Friday:** Week 1 Pledge Sheet – one per family (pledges only needed) and send your reading log for the week to school – we will return.

If you did the buy-out for the “Read-A-Thon,” your child is eligible for all of the out-of-uniform days and prizes. HOWEVER, to be eligible for the reading rewards, your child must participate and read by logging their reading time/books on the reading log.

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT RAKE-A-THON! Special thanks to all of our families who came out last Saturday to support the Bloomington area with our annual service, rake-a-thon. We had over 100 people volunteer and hit about 20 yards in Bloomington. What a blessing to be a part of a school community that gives!

NATIVITY STUDENT ELECTION: Nativity of Mary hosted a school-wide election this past Tuesday along with the nation. All students experienced voting and learned about this process. Special thanks to our organizer, Mr. Rick Schild, middle school social studies teacher.

AWARDS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ✓ **Nativity Awarded Safety Grant!** Nativity of Mary School received \$5,000 to be used toward safety enhances at our school. We will accept our grant on November 30 at City Hall.
- ✓ **Nativity Bell Choir selected to perform at MOA!** Our Bell Choir will be performing at the Mall of America on January 25th, 2017 at 2 p.m. It is an honor to be chosen and Miss Shukle is working hard with our bell students to be prepared for both our Christmas concert and this January performance.

(Community News on the Back of this Newsletter)



Nov. 7-30: Read-A-Thon

Nov. 11: Read-A-Thon Turn in Date (Come dressed in red/white/blue)

- ✓ Veteran's Day Event – 10 a.m. (Band & Choir performing)

Nov. 17: Parent Teacher Conferences K-8 (Not preschool)

Nov. 18: Read-A-Thon Turn in Date (Come in your PJ's to read!)

Nov. 21: Parent Teacher Conferences K-8 (Not Preschool)

Nov. 22: Come dressed as your favorite animals! Read-A-Thon Turn In Date

Nov. 23-25: HAPPY THANKSGIVING (No School)

Nov. 30: Final Turn in Date for Read-A-Thon

JOIN US ON:

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[FACEBOOK \(Click\)](#)

LOCK DOWN DEFINITIONS: This past week we had a “Shelter in Place” due to an incident in the Bloomington area. Our school practices and responds to safety concerns, but you as a family may not be aware of the different terms used in a public setting. Here is a description for your reference. Please feel free to keep this portion of the newsletter for future reference:

- **Shelter in Place:** There is something happening in our area that we need to be alert about and take extra precautions, but there is no immediate danger. All students and staff are to be inside our building and all exterior doors locked with shades, pulled. We continue about our normal school day, but do not go outside. (Sometimes called a soft lock down)
- **Lock Down - Outside Intruder:** There is someone outside that is a threat. All students are locked into classrooms, exterior doors locked, and shades, pulled. Classrooms may continue about their studies, but students are not allowed to leave the room alone and classes may not go outside.
- **Lock Down – Inside Intruder:** Someone is in our building that is a threat. Classroom lights are shut off, doors locked, and the window to the door covered. Students huddle in silence in a safe corner of the room.

Our next lock down practice is scheduled for December, however, we are always ready to respond to any local incidents as needed. We encourage you to talk with your children about these safety drills and real events. As a school, we will continue to follow the safety guidelines given to us by the State and local law enforcement agencies. In all real threats, families will be notified through *Instant Alert*. In this Communication Packet is an *Instant Alert* flier if you feel you need to update how you receive your messages, or if you did not receive our alert this past week. Please contact Mindy Reeder if you have any further questions: mreeder@nativitybloomington.org.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: *The 8th grade students are collecting items for Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes.* The students would love any contributions that you would like to donate. Some ideas are as follows: hair brush and/or accessories, cups, toothbrush/paste, small toys (stuffed animals, balls, jump rope, deck of cards, games, puzzles, etc), crafts, school supplies, coloring books, picture books, stickers, and snacks/candy. Please do not send anything liquid or anything that could melt. Also, it must fit inside a shoe box. Each box costs \$7 for shipping. If you would like to contribute towards that cost, you can write a check to Operation Christmas Child or send cash. Any questions? Contact Laura Millenacker (lmillenacker@nativitybloomington.org)



SHOPPING ONLINE?

#StartWithASmile at smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0735359 for your holiday gifts and Amazon **donates** to Nativity of Mary Catholic School. REMEMBER – You can pre-order your Amazon Scrip Gift cards before you shop!

REMINDERS:

📅 **Conferences are November 17 & 21.** If you missed the sign up, K-5 will be assigned a time. For Middle School please call the office to set up your time. You may email your teacher with any questions.

📅 **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Email if you can assist on the playground during recess: jgiles@bloomington.gov

KUDOS:

👏 **All families who helped at our “Rake-A-Thon!”** Special thanks to Virginia Downey who coordinated our efforts. Thanks to the following families for helping: Barkow; DeBo; Pineda-Roldan; Nemanich; Gonnella; Guthmiller; Zamora-Amaro; Miller; Brindley; Tarboi-Brown; Wheeler; Eiden; Hawton; Gilmore; Boulay; Bergquist; Anderson; Flowers; Pajibo/Hirschfeld; Zalana; Dubbledee; DePoint; Fisher; Bergum; Lako; Comeau; Bartz; Terrio; Gray; Downey; and Father Zehren, Knights of Columbus, Jim Ellison and Wanda Hagerty!

👏 **Nativity Girl Scouts – For serving at Mass this past weekend. You are shining stars!**

👏 **Thank you to the parents and staff who helped host our Neon – Middle School Dance last Friday.** We had 65 students attending with help from Mrs. Flynn, Mr. Bohman, Mrs. Zenk, Mrs. Hegard, and several parents.

PRAYERS: Families with health concerns, healing for our parents and students who are sick or suffering with infection and disease, and for the newly elected officials of our State and Nation.

BLESSINGS, Mindy Reeder – mreeder@nativitybloomington.org

NATIVITY OF MARY PARISH: Usher Training: Have you ever considered becoming an usher at Mass? If you are interested, we will be hosting usher training on Saturday, November 19 from 9—10:30 AM in the Gathering Space. The training will include hands-only CPR and AED training. For more information, call Dr. Jacob Benda or Carol Oldowski at (952)881-8671.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE: Saturday, December 3, 9:00am–3:00pm

Start your holidays in style at Pax Christi's Annual Holiday Boutique and Bake Sale! This shopping extravaganza is for the whole family. It will feature a variety of handcrafted items from over 50 quality crafters and artisans, a bake sale, and luncheon. Come and shop for the perfect holiday gift for everyone on your list. This event is free and there is plenty of parking available. Don't miss out on this Annual Holiday Boutique!

