



February 16, 2017

**Dear Nativity Families:**

Happy St. Valentine's Week! Each day the students learn about a Saint during our morning announcements. This week, not only did we learn about St. Valentine, but we also practiced showing our love and kindness to others with a Valentine card. Thank you to our parents who were able to come in and help with Valentine parties. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade class shared their love at the Summer House Senior Center, across from our school, through song and homemade cards. Nativity students were sharing the love of Christ with all!



**IN OUR CLASSROOMS:**

**African American History Month:** Nativity of Mary Students learned about African American History as part of this month's heritage focus. The 3-4-5<sup>th</sup> grade classes collaborated to share this learning experience to enrich the students understanding of the African American culture and

experiences. All classes were able to learn about the heritage through artwork, song, and history lessons through three various sessions.

One session allowed students to create a slave patchwork quilt. Through the second session they had a history lesson to learn about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and how he inspired us to dream about a united country. During this experience, students made a poster about what they learned.

The third group experienced African American Spirituals and how important they were to the slaves. In the Maker Space area various songs were explained. Students learned that these songs, many with Biblical verses, gave hope to the African American slaves. In addition, the songs also shared secret information about the Underground Railroad. Students were then invited to create their own musical instruments in the Maker Space area. They played these instruments along with one of the Spiritual Songs.

**STEM LESSONS**

**Minnesota Science Museum Grades K-5:** Not only will our 4-5<sup>th</sup> grade classes be spending the night at the Science Museum, but this week, our students participated in a hands-on presentation from the Science Museum. Students became paleontologists in K-2 and engineers in 3-5 classes.

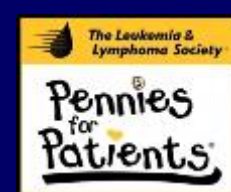
**Middle School:** Explored chemical reactions and dissected earth worms as they experience hands-on science.

**NATIVITY PENNIES FOR PATIENTS**

Nativity's Pennies for Patients campaign is underway with a great first week total of over \$1,573 in donations and Mrs. Duerr's homeroom leading the way with over \$296 in  
*(More news on the back of this Newsletter)*



**News  
& Notes**



- February:** Pennies for Patients Drive
- February 22:** 5:30-7 p.m. Preschool & Kindergarten Information Night
- February 23:** 6:30 p.m. Middle School Information Night

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

**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.

donations. Thank you for supporting the Dilly Bar/freezie fundraiser and this week. We raised over \$570 with just this event. Flyers for two upcoming Pennies for Patients events are in this week's communication folder. Upcoming Pennies for Patients events are in this week's communication folder.

- 1) **Domino's Pizza-Feb. 20:** The upcoming President's Day holiday is a day off school for Nativity. Domino's Pizza will be having a fundraiser on this day, Monday, February 20, with 20% of any order placed from one of the three Bloomington Dominos will be donated to Nativity's Pennies for Patients campaign. Please use the bottom portion of the Dominos flyer enclosed in this week's communication folder to ensure that 20% goes to our campaign.
- 2) **Team Pennies' Day-Feb. 22:** Pennies for Patients culminating event, our TEAM PENNIES DAY will be on Wednesday, February 22. Any student who brings in a donation may be out of uniform by wearing their favorite team jersey. In addition, students have the opportunity to participate in our SAVES FOR CANCER event, where our Nativity goalies (Mrs. Reeder, Mr. Long and Mr. Schild) will put on the hockey gear and save shots from students for a \$5 donation to Pennies for Patients. The excitement takes place in the gym at 3:15PM—don't miss it!

Thanks for your partnership in helping students make a difference. Nativity's donations provide patient aid to families of children with cancer meet the immediate costs of treatment. Last year Pennies for Patients helped over 600 local families in need. EVERY PENNY COUNTS!

**FAMILY DANCE:** We would love to hold a Family Dance in March. WE NEED PARENTS to plan this fun event. If you are interested in planning this with other parents on a "Family Dance Committee," please email me by February 17 at [mreeder@nativitybloomington.org](mailto:mreeder@nativitybloomington.org)

#### SCHOOL FUNDRAISERS:

- **SUPPORT NATIVITY-1<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL FUND:** To date we have raised \$25,665 toward our goal of \$50,000. We hope to reach this goal by June 1, 2017. Share this letter with to help our school reach our goal. ([Letter](#))
- **SPIRIT OF SPRING - April 29 (Save the date!):** Classes are making projects and individual donations or gifts of support are welcome. You can donate a service, a party, an item, or something that you create. Send an email letting us know how you wish to support this important fundraiser! Coming soon – raffle and registration tickets. Contact: [mreeder@nativitybloomington.org](mailto:mreeder@nativitybloomington.org) Watch for the form to donate next week!

#### REMINDERS:

- **YEARBOOK ORDER FORMS:** Order forms are online now in the attachments from several weeks ago, on the school website – go through the attachment to find the "Yearbook Order Form": [Forms](#)
- **REGISTRATION FOR 2017-18:** All registration materials were sent home and are on our school website. Return your registration at your earliest convenience. Some classes are limited. Apply for assistance online at: [www.tads.com](http://www.tads.com)

#### KUDOS:

- **THANKS FOR YOUR DENIM!** We collected 212 pairs that the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes will give to *Sharing & Caring Hands*.
- **THANKS FOR SUPPORTING 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE Chocolate Fundraisers** with Droolin' Moose. We raised over \$800!

**PRAYERS:** Special prayers for those who have been ill and families who have experienced the death of a loved one. Prayers for families with special needs.

**BLESSINGS,** Mindy Reeder – [mreeder@nativitybloomington.org](mailto:mreeder@nativitybloomington.org)

#### **INFORMATION & REGISTRATION EVENTS**

- **Preschool  
& Kindergarten  
Feb. 22: 5:30-7 p.m.**
- **Middle School  
Feb. 23: 6:30 p.m.**



**NATIVITY MARY SCHOOLS**  
**Creative Clubhouse**  
Summer Program  
Ages 4 1/2 - 12

**Swimming! Field Trips!  
Theme Days!**

Registration is now open  
for Summer 2017!  
[Click here to learn more](#)



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**Opportunity for Young Women & Families: February 18 (8 to 4 p.m.)**

Nativity of Mary Church is hosting a Vocations for young women and families on Feb. 18 at the church. There will be an 8 a.m. Mass hosted by Bishop Cozzens, followed by time with Sisters to have a conversation and refreshments about what they do. Young women 16 years of age, or older, and their families are invited to this event. For more information and to register, go online at: [www.10000vocations.org](http://www.10000vocations.org).

**Benilde-St. Margaret:** As a Catholic School partner, Benilde-St. Margaret's Parent Association is pleased to invite you to take advantage of our Spring Plant Sale. Shop online now through April 4, 2017 at [www.bsmschool.org/plants](http://www.bsmschool.org/plants).

**Extreme Faith Camp:** Extreme Faith Camp is available for registration! This is a stupendous middle school summer youth camp for current 5th-8th graders. Camp this year will be on June 24-26 and will be hosted at Camp Victory in Zumbro Falls, MN. The cost for Extreme Faith Camp is just \$275 per camper if you register before March 15 with a \$100 deposit. Sign up early as spots are limited! Please check your email for more details and to download a registration form. For questions about Extreme Faith Camp, please contact John Stute at [JStute@NativityBloomington.org](mailto:JStute@NativityBloomington.org) or call at 952-881-8671 Ext. 316.



**Friday, March 31. Save the Date: 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Lenten Fish Fry Festival**

Catch some fabulous food and fun at the Nativity of Mary Lenten Fish Fry Festival! Friday, March 31 from 4-9 p.m. Same great food and even more entertainment with the new Karaoke Party Lounge! There will be music, a meat raffle and free family movie in the gym. More details to come, but mark it on your calendars today and tell your friends and family about this

community event! Also, volunteers needed! Please lend a hand and sign up for a shift to help by contacting Clark Flowers at [flowc@hotmail.com](mailto:flowc@hotmail.com). Presented by the Nativity Men's Club.