



Dear Nativity Families:

This week is our final week with Father Zehren. Our student Mass was a celebration of the many ways he has touched our lives over the last five years. From eating lunch with the students, greeting daily with a smile, and guiding our staff and families, Father Zehren has truly made a difference at Nativity. As he begins at his new location, please keep Father Zehren in your prayers.

GRANDPARENTS DAY-Oct.6! Please save the date of Oct. 6, 2017 and let your child's grandparents or special friends know! This is one of our most popular events and we look forward to a great turn out!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: All volunteers assisting with students must complete a background check and Virtus training. Go online to complete this process: www.virtus.org

- **RECESS:** [Click for Recess link](#) WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS!



RECESS!
Click on the link
to sign up!

LAUNCH OF A NEW SCHOOL YEAR: If you missed this event, go to our school website under "About Us" and "School Advisory Council" ([Link](#)) to download or review the presentation.

IN YOUR FOLDER: Remember to take out the items and return the folders on Friday. In your family folder this week, you will find:

- **Reminder – Pictures on Friday:** Please be sure to send the order form with your child on Picture Day, tomorrow, Sept. 22. (Include cash or check if you are ordering.)
- **Math & Science Connection:** Parent newsletter with educational information.
- **Pioneer Foundation Fundraising Program**
- **Community Education Information:** Various fliers.

FALL TESTING: Students in K-8 will continue to participate in fall testing for the next few weeks. K-2 uses the FASTBridge testing. These tests take anywhere from 10-20 minutes. Here is a link for general information: <http://www.fastbridge.org/assessments/curriculum-based-assessments-cbm/> The students in 3-8th grade take the NWEA – MAP assessment. Each test in reading, math and science (new this year) take about 60-90 minutes. Please send water bottles to school. Parent information is here: <https://www.nwea.org/parent-toolkit/> The NWEA testing program has run into problems, nationally. We have



September 21, 2017

SEPT. 22: PICTURE DAY!
 Come dressed in your best for school photos.
 (An out-of-uniform day.)

SEPT. 27-29: Camp St. Croix – 6th Grade Out

OCT. 6: Grandparents Day 9:30-11:30
 -Read-a-Thon Begins!

OCT. 10: PTO Meeting

OCT. 13: Mid Trimester and Spirit Wear Day!

OCT.18-19-20: NO SCHOOL – MEA & Teacher Workshops

MISSION: 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.

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had to delay some of our testing times and will be adding them back into our testing for next week. This is due to the NWEA national assessment issues, not any concerns at Nativity.

TESTING RESULTS – Unless your child needs additional support, which will be determined after testing, we will wait to share your child’s test results at fall conferences. If your child needs support, the testing results will be shared with you earlier and a schedule set up with our tutor, Sarah Thornton.

NEW OPPORTUNITY TO EARN TUITION CREDIT! The Pioneer Foundation for the Performing Arts is a non-profit organization, independent of Nativity of Mary, which allows you to volunteer your time at various events and earn money for the organization. By selling products at area games or events, your time is tracked and then once a month a check sent to the school of choice. Look for the enclosed flier to see if this is a program you might want to participate in to earn tuition credit! (*See enclosed flier*)

LUNCH PROGRAM: We continue to hear feedback, both positive and negative, from families about the lunches, amounts for middle school, and state regulations. At our SAC committee, we will be reviewing all of this information. Please know, we cannot change state guidelines, but can talk with Taher about the program to better understand what we can change and improve. We will also have a survey out to families in early November.

- **New to Educate (Grades & Lunch)?** *We have a full parent packet on the school website under the “Parent/PTO” tab. Click here if you need any guided help. Ask Wanda Hagerty at whagerty@nativitybloomington.org if you need your password.*

KUDOS: PTO for assisting with our Heritage Days parade coordination! Thanks to all of our families who came out in various Spirit Wear to celebrate our community and school. Special thanks to Jim Ellison and Ean Koerner who coordinate and set up the events for Nativity at Heritage Days.

- *Congratulations to the Keehan family who welcomed a baby sister this past week!*

PRAYER: Join us in praying for the following... For families in Mexico after the most recent earthquake... Families in Texas and Florida after our recent hurricanes and flooding... Father Zehren and our new priest, as they transition... and special prayers for our families who have a loved one with ill health, especially the Rollwagen family at this time.

- BLESSINGS, Mindy Reeder – mreeder@nativitybloomington.org



Girl Scouts - Troop Formation Night

If you are interested in joining Girl Scouts and are looking for a troop, join Girl Scouts River Valleys on **Monday, September 25th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Christ the King (8600 Fremont Ave. S, Bloomington 55420)** Both girls and their parents should attend this troop formation rally to learn what Girl Scouts is all about, meet other interested families in your community, and work together to start a new troop. Local volunteers will be on-hand to answer

questions. If you are interested but cannot attend the event, contact the Bloomington Nine Mile service unit at 9mileserviceunit@gmail.com

CATECHESIS of the GOOD SHEPHERD:

Call or email to learn more about this Preschool program now available for Nativity of Mary preschool students once a week during the school day. A beautiful way to play and pray in addition to what our children learn in the classroom. ***Registration for this program is required:***

cbaier@nativitybloomington.org or 952-484-9607



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Catechesis of the
**GOOD
SHEPHERD**

"Let the little children come"
Matthew 19:14