



**Dear Nativity Families:**

**This week we welcomed Father Gjengdahl!** Father Gjengdahl, pictured above with the Kindergarten class, comes to Nativity from St. Thomas Academy. He taught theology at St. Thomas and served as the school Chaplain. Father Gjengdahl loves hockey and looks forward to getting to know your family. Please join us for weekly Masses.

**GRANDPARENTS & SPECIAL FRIENDS' DAY-Oct.6!** Please see the enclosed flier! Mass will be on Friday and our Spirit Wear out-of-uniform day on Oct. 13. Sign up to help! ([Click for link](#))

**IN OUR CLASSROOMS:** Here's a quick look into some of our classrooms...

**Preschool:**

- **2 & 3 Day:** Our classes continue to grow in their social interaction with a strong focus on literacy. They also enjoyed homemade applesauce!
- **5 Day PreK-5 Day:** They explored letters with apples and "Apple Jacks" cereal!
- **5 Day Early Kindergarten:** The students are focusing on their phonics for word recognition and Kindergarten readiness skills.

**Kindergarten – Grade 2:**

- **Kindergarten:** Apple exploration in multiple subjects! In reading and writing, students are beginning to journal and met Super Kids, Cass!
- **Grade 1:** Linked to a class of students in New Zealand this week to share their experiences! They love their Super Kids books in reading.
- **Grade 2:** In science, students are learning about maps and properties.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Additional Virtus Training added at Nativity – watch for more dates in November, here in the Gathering Space. Go online to register and complete your background check: [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org)

- **RECESS:** [Click for Recess link](#)



**RECESS!**  
Click on the link to sign up!

**IN YOUR FOLDER:** In your family folder this week, you will find:

- **Reading Newsletter:** This newsletter outlines ideas to promote reading!
- **Scrip Outline:** The school advisory council is sending home the presentation pages for Scrip to help you understand how this program benefits both the school as a fundraiser and can benefit your family.
- **October Lunch Menu:** Note pricing change for middle school.
- **Community Education Information:** Various fliers.

- MORE NATIVITY NEWS ON BACK -



**September 28, 2017**

**OCT. 5: Sports Photos**

**OCT. 6: Grandparents**  
9:30-11:30 (10:30 Mass)

**OCT.9-Nov.3: 2017**  
**READ-A-THON!**

**OCT. 10: PTO Meeting**

**OCT. 13: Mid Trimester**  
**and Spirit Wear Day!**

**OCT. 17: Picture Retakes!**  
**Dine Out Night at Culvers**  
**for the Read-A-Thon!**

**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.*

**JOIN US ON: TWITTER**  
**(Click) INSTAGRAM**  
**(Click) Facebook**

**FALL TESTING:** Nativity students are on fire for fall assessments! Thank you for helping to ensure that they have their sleep and water bottles. This week our Kindergarten, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades tested. Teachers helped students celebrate with an extra recess, treat, or fun activity. Next week, we will be doing 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade testing as well as any make up tests. Results will be shared at conferences, or earlier if needed. Parent links are:

- K-2: <http://www.fastbridge.org/assessments/curriculum-based-assessments-cbm/>
- 3-8<sup>th</sup> Grades: <https://www.nwea.org/parent-toolkit/>

**WELCOME NEW NATIVITY STAFF!** We are excited to have four new staff members join our school family. From left to right, Lekshmy Kumari, our preschool teacher assistant for Miss Lowman; Olivia Sage, 2 & 3 Day Teacher returning to Nativity this year; Kayla Walleser, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher and Sarah Thornton, Tutor (former Nativity student!)



**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! (*Flier sent home last week*)

**LUNCH PROGRAM:** Beginning in October, Middle School lunch prices will reflect the changes in the State and Federal lunch programs. All students in all grades will pay the same for their lunches.

- **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](mailto:whagerty@nativitybloomington.org) if you need your password.

**KUDOS:** The Nativity of Mary Men’s Club – for purchasing our new white boards! Special thanks to teachers and staff who helped to hang the first group of them this week – Jim Ellison, Glen Hoffman, David Long, Richard Schild and Pat Bohman.

**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 Gjengdahl as our new leader...and special prayers for our families who have a loved one with ill health.

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

### **SNAPSHOTS OF NEW - NATIVITY SCHOOL STUDENTS – Welcome to our family!**

