



Dear Nativity Families:

We invite you to join us in praying for Nativity of Mary School as we begin our 2018-19 school year! Each week, we will communicate with families through an all-school newsletter. We also put this on our website. This comes via email and a folder comes home for you with important information. Please complete any paperwork and return to the school office before the next Thursday. As we begin our school year, our staff kicks off four new initiatives to help meet our mission to "foster academic excellence and spiritual growth."

- 1) **Partnership with the University of Notre Dame:** *This is a three year implementation of "Blended Learning" - a personalized student learning model that makes a difference in each child's educational journey.*
- 2) **Positivity Project:** *Embracing student strengths and correlating these strengths to our virtues and Saints. This will be paired with our Responsive Classroom and students will be recognized as part of our new, "Nativity Nice" awards.*
- 3) **Growth Mindset:** *Nativity of Mary School is adopting a Growth Mindset – celebrating the academic, spiritual, and emotional growth of each student.*
- 4) **School Wide Recycling:** *Nativity of Mary School kicks off our recycling program. All classrooms will be learning about recycling. Special thanks to Jill Grimme and Marie Maslowski for helping us get this grant!*

In addition, we are offering Art classes and a morning breakfast. We thank you for supporting our "Fund-A-Need" and look forward to still adding to our arts programming and recess opportunities throughout the year. Breakfast is offered daily from 8:45–9:15 a.m. The menu is posted online under the "Parents Tab" and Lunch Page link.

LUNCH UPDATES: Breakfast next week will be the same as this week. Please disregard the breakfast menu online for next week. After that, we will follow the menu.

- **A La Carte items are available daily for K-8.** Items are .75 each and include yogurt, cheese sticks, granola bars, cheddar crackers and Chex mix. Students can purchase tickets in the morning from Mrs. Grimme. (Please note, a la carte items cannot be taking from a student's lunch account.)

TECH NIGHT ADDED, SEPT. 10 at 6 p.m.: 4-8th Grade Families! *Did you miss our tech presentation?* You have one more chance to attend. All 4-8th parents and students must attend and sign paperwork before they will be allowed to get their Chromebook. If you cannot attend this last training, please email me to set up a separate training session.

CELEBRATING GROWTH: We are partnering with the University of Notre Dame to adopt blended learning. In addition, we are kicking off the Positivity Project. We will be celebrating students. **Please complete the "Learner Profile" to help!** ([Click Here](#))

POSITIVITY PROJECT: Starting September 9, we will be recognizing character strengths and honoring students. We will also learn about Saints with these attributes. To follow along, visit the website at: <https://posproject.org/>

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

SEPT. 7: Spirit Wear Day!
(Spirit wear tops, jeans or casual bottoms)

SEPT. 10: TECH NIGHT
6 p.m.- Gathering Space-Door #1

SEPT. 11: Virtus Training
6:30 p.m.

SEPT. 15: Heritage Days at Nativity – Parade! *We are Unit #32 – Line up by 10 a.m. (Parade starts 10:30 a.m.)*

SEPT. 18: PTO MEETING
– 7 p.m.

SEPT. 20: Men's Club Golf Outing

JOIN US ON:
[SCHOOL WEBSITE](#)
[INSTAGRAM \(Click\)](#)
[FACEBOOK \(Click\)](#)

HERITAGE DAYS & THE PARADE – September 15: We hope you can join us for the fun during Heritage Days Event! The Nativity Family Parade is Saturday morning. Line-up is 10 a.m. and our Parade Unit is #32.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Volunteering is a great way to stay connected with your child and meet other parents. Please remember, all volunteers assisting with students or attending field trips must do background checks and attend Virtus training. Our OPCY Coordinator, Jenn Millikin will confirm if you have any updates.



- **We would love help at recess, lunch and in the library.** The Sign Up Genius contest ends this **Friday, September 7th!!** Click this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0444a8a728a4fa7-signup> to enter and register for a Sign Up Genius account if you don't already have one. Winner of the \$100 off their fundraising commitment will be announced in next week's News and Notes. Good Luck!!
- **Come out and Play!!** WE NEED YOU OUTSIDE! Playground volunteers must be Virtus trained. Please sign up online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a4ba5aa2ba5f94-playground>.

PTO MEETING – First Meeting of the Year – Tuesday, Sept. 18-7p.m.: The meeting will be held in the church gathering space. Come join us as we nominate and vote in a new treasurer. If you are interested in this position, please see flier in the communication folder or email the PTO at nompto@nativitybloomington.org. We will be sharing our plans for the upcoming year, our opportunity with CSCOE and our state of the state. PTO is also incenting those parents that attend 5 of our 7 meetings this school year; come hear what this is about! So bring your own beverage; PTO will supply the snacks and **MAKE THE CHOICE TO GET INVOLVED!**

PRESCHOOL FAMILIES – JOIN CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD – Register online for a special program just for your preschool child. The classes are 2:30 – 4 p.m. each Wednesday. **Registration** ([Click Here](#))

FAMILY FUN FEST – OCT. 13 (11-8 p.m.): Save the date and come to socialize with the Bloomington community. At this event you will be able to select a perfect pumpkin from a variety of sizes that students planted & harvested and join in the fun and games. **Contact Nativity PTO for more information at** nompto@nativitybloomington.org

- **GAMES** (11 – 8 p.m.) – Enjoy the variety of fun for all ages! Pumpkin painting, face painting, carnival games, inflatables, food and more!
- **TRUNK OR TREAT** (5:30-7:30) - Kids dress up for Halloween and go trick or treating at the “Trunk or Treat.” Decorate your car & enter it into the Trunk or Treat event. Cars must be pre-registered. Prizes will be awarded to the best decorated car and best Halloween costume. **See Flier in communications folder this week for rules, pricing and registration.**
- **CREATE SCARECROWS** (11am-4pm) - You bring the clothes to decorate. **NEWSPAPER NEEDED:** We are in Need of newspaper for our scarecrow making activity. Please drop in box in school office.
- **CHILI COOK-OFF** (3-7pm-Judging at 5pm) - Chili connoisseurs needed for the event. Calling all bakers who want to participate in a Bake off Saturday afternoon...please contact the PTO.

KUDOS: Nativity of Mary School would like to thank the Men's Club and the Knights of Columbus for helping over the summer with multiple projects. The Men's Club have added new items to our preschool playground, coordinated in the parish and school recycling day, and assisted with various projects. The Knights of Columbus spent time painting our cafeteria this summer. **THANK YOU TO THESE SPECIAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR SUPPORTING NATIVITY!**

Blessings – Mindy Reeder, PRINCIPAL mreeder@nativitybloomington.org 952.881.8160



PARISH RAFFLE TICKETS: In this Thursday folder you will find raffle tickets. Please help our parish sell tickets. The parish supports our school and this is their biggest fundraiser of the year. Return all sold and un-sold tickets to the parish office by September 14.



MEN'S CLUB GOLF OUTING

SEPT. 20: Sign up online at: https://www.planmygolfevent.com/32002-2018_Tournament/