

NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL, INC.
ONE LAWTONS HILL
POTTSVILLE, PA 17901
PHONE: (570) 622-8110

NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

News from the Principal

Fall is a beautiful time of the year with brilliant colors highlighting the countryside. The month of November brings great excitement as we anticipate Thanksgiving. We all look forward to this holiday as a special time to share food and fellowship with our families. We need to take time out of our busy lives and spend quality time with our loved ones. I hope that everyone has a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving.

As we enter the month of November, our minds turn to four significant celebrations – All Saints Day, All Souls Day, Veteran’s Day and Thanksgiving. The Nativity family will gather together and celebrate throughout November. We are thankful to all of our parents, families and friends for their support of Catholic education at Nativity BVM High School. Please come and join us for one of these events. The Feasts of **All Saints** will be celebrated on Thursday, November 1st and **All Souls Day** is celebrated on Friday, November 2nd. Please join us for Mass on All Saints Day @ 10:30 AM. Please know that the Nativity community will remember our deceased loved ones in prayer throughout the month of November.

We especially ask for God’s blessings upon the United States of America as we remember our American Military. Please join us for a special service on **November 8, 2018 at 10:30 AM to honor our Veterans**. It is a day for us to thank God for those men and women who so bravely defend our country in times of war and peace.

Our **Thanksgiving Liturgy**, celebrated on Wednesday, November 21st, allows us to praise God and to place life in its proper perspective. It is a day for reflection about who we are and what we have to be grateful for.

It is difficult to believe that we are ready to begin the 2nd quarter. As usual, it has been a

busy but productive school year. The good news about Nativity continues to spread. Our Catholic faith and high academic standards set us apart from the rest. When you add the family atmosphere and all the athletic and social opportunities for students, it is hard to believe that students would attend anywhere else.

May we continue to pray for each other as we journey through the month of November. Have a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving Day!

Mrs Lynn A Sabal



Important Notice to Seniors!

Seniors who are applying to college must have their financial obligations up to date in order for transcripts to be released.



Financial Concerns

As always, we need everyone to keep their tuition and fundraising payments up to date. Students who have outstanding balances will not receive report cards, take exams or possibly not be able to participate in activities. Please make every effort to make payments in a timely fashion. It is crucial to the cash flow of the school. Thank you for your understanding!



FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE

It is very important that your student fill out the proper absence excuse when making a college visit, going on vacation, having dental work done or will be out for an extended period of time. This absence excuse allows their teachers to make note of work they will be missing. Also, when your student is absent, **PLEASE BE SURE TO CALL** the main office or the attendance line to report that your student will not be at school.

Facilities Up-Date

Unfortunately, we have had serious damage to the front field because of the excessive rain and flooding this summer and fall. It is a project that must be completed as soon as possible to avoid further run-off and damage not only to the field and track but also to adjacent areas. If anyone would like to make a donation to help with the repairs, please send it to my attention at school. As always, we are thankful for your help.

We have recently completed the grounds project at the top of the hill. This project was financed solely through the Pottsville Rotary Club and money that had been raised by the Interact Club at Nativity. We are thankful for all members of the Interact and Rotary clubs over the years who helped to raise money.



Communication

Communication between parents, teachers, administration and students is key to the smooth operation of a school. There are many ways to communicate: phone, email and appointments, to name a few. Please keep in touch with your child's teachers by using email and checking grades on the MMS portal.

If you have a concern about academics, contact the teacher first. If this does not resolve the issue, please contact Mr. Naffin, the Studies Coordinator. Discipline matters should be directed to Mrs. Modica. Please contact Mrs. Margaret Young with financial questions and Mr. Joshua Muldowney with athletic issues. These people stay in constant contact with the principal to oversee the programs here at Nativity.

Please know that the administration, faculty and staff make every effort to provide quality Catholic education in a supportive, disciplined and safe environment. Every child is important and every child deserves a chance to succeed. Thank you to all of the parents who have been supportive as we all make Nativity the best place for our children.



Dress Code

Winter dress code is in effect. No shorts may be worn until the spring and all long pants must follow the guidelines in the handbook. If students choose to wear a sweater, it must be a school sweater which can be purchased in the school store. A reminder that students must be properly dressed in school uniform every day. Failure to adhere to the regulations will result in discipline action. Special note: On Fridays during various sport seasons, students may wear team tee shirts, long sleeve shirts or jerseys. However, no jackets, sweatshirts or tops of any kind that cannot be tucked in are permitted.



Department

Members of the Math Club will be attending the Bloomsburg Math Competition on Tuesday, November 13th.

8th Grade students are again participating in Math Enrichment Classes at Nativity. Classes are held every other Wednesday at 1:45 PM.



Interact Club

Nativity's Interact Club has held several meetings over the last month. This club is service oriented and is associated with Rotary. Recently we participated in Red Ribbon Week in the fight against drugs and a Winter Coat and Diaper Drive. Our next event will be a school wide cleanup and continuing the Meals on Wheels program. The club will also be sending cards to all of our partner school students. Additionally, the Interact Club will be assisting with the Knights of Columbus Thanksgiving Project.

NEWS FROM THE STUDIES OFFICE

The first quarter grades closed on Friday, October 26th. Report cards will be distributed on Friday, November 2nd. If there are any questions regarding grades, please contact Mr. Naffin in the Studies Office.



PARENT CONFERENCES

Parent Conferences will be held on Monday, November 12th. These conferences are by appointment only. Please refer to the letter which was mailed the week of October 25th. Appointments must be made by the students or via teacher email. These appointments cannot be made from the Office.



HONOR ROLL CRITERIA

Honors are tabulated on grades at the end of the quarters and are based on quarter grades. Honors will be awarded to the students who meet the following criteria:

Distinguished Honors – a grade of 93 or above in all subjects

1st Honors – an average of 89.5 or above in all subjects, with grades of 85 or above in all subjects

2nd Honors – an average of 84.5 or above in all subjects, with grades of 80 or above in all subjects

GPA

Student GPA's are calculated every marking period. GPA is printed on all report cards. Class rank is not printed on report cards by Allentown Diocese Policy. Please refer to the course selection booklet for the table of point values used in calculating GPA.

All transfer students will have their previous credits and GPA's included in the 1st marking period grades. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Naffin.



FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

CONGRATULATIONS to the winner of our Alumni Tailgate 50/50 drawing which was held at the homecoming game on October 12, 2018. This year's winner is Terri Kellner, Port Carbon. As a result of the generous support of our alumni, Nativity profited \$4,403.50 from this drawing.



CONGRATULATIONS to Nativity Seniors, Sincere Walker and Anna Adams, who were named Nativity King of the Hill and Homecoming Queen at the Green Wave's Homecoming football game on Friday, October 12th.

OPEN HOUSE

On SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18th, Nativity will be hosting an Open House event for 7th and 8th grade parents and students beginning at 6:00 PM at the school. Nativity BVM administration, faculty, staff, students, parents and board members will be on hand to discuss specific information about academics, financial aid, guidance services and opportunities for students. This information will be particularly helpful for incoming freshmen, transfer students, new students and potential host families. We invite you and your family to join us for this event. No pre-registration is required. All are welcome! Please contact the school at 570-622-8110 or jldaubert@nativitybvm.net with any questions.

FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE:



FUNDRAISING

POT OF GOLD WINNERS

DRAWING DATE: 10/18, 2017

- 1st Beth Williams
Seller: Madison Hayes
- 2nd Janell Borusky
Seller: Luke Sajone
- 3rd Vivian Rupert

Seller: Rory Reiley
4th John Tropp
Seller: Nathan Tropp



ATHLETIC NEWS

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS NOVEMBER 2018



On behalf of the Student Council Association, we wish to thank all in the Nativity Family who were involved in making Spirit Week a success! A special thank you to Mrs. Cathy Winter for her help in creating the Homecoming Football Program centerfold. Grateful thanks to all our candidates who ran! Congratulations to Ms. Anna Adams and Mr. Sincere Walker on their win for the 2018 election of the Homecoming Queen and King of the Hill titles.



On Thursday, November 8th we will have our annual Veterans Day Program. It will begin at approximately 10:27 AM. We ask that any veteran wishing to attend **please** call the school and give us a name and number of guests attending so we can order for our luncheon after the program. If you plan on attending, please arrive at the school between 10AM and 10:20AM. Thank you!



Our annual Christmas Prom will be on December 23rd at the Lodge at Sharp Mountain, Pottsville. Tickets will go on sale later in November. Ticket prices, the schedule and the menu will be available on the Nativity Facebook page and on the website soon.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

ABBY BOLICH on placing third in the Girls' Schuylkill League Championship Golf Tournament and JACK PICCIONI for placing 13th overall in the Boys' Schuylkill League Championship Golf Tournament.

RYAN SCHREFFLER who rushed for 1,081 yards during this year's football season!

NICK ONEA and ALEJANDRO OLAYO who made the Nativity Boys all county first team for Soccer.

EDUC ZAMUDIO, ADRIAN FLORES, KAYA MEADOWS and CALEB FOX who made the Nativity Boys all county second team for Soccer.



FROM THE GOLF TEAM

Thank you to all sponsors, golfers and families of Nativity who came out and supported the Golf program on Sunday, October 21st at the Gold Tournament Fundraiser. For 2019, the tournament fundraiser is scheduled for SATURDAY, JULY 27th. Hope to see you on the course!



NATIVITY MUSIC NOTES:

October was a busy month for the Nativity Green Wave Marching Band, including home football games and Halloween parades. The band and chorus are now preparing selections to perform at the annual Christmas Concert to be held December 9th at 7 PM in the Nativity gym. The performance will include the Concert Chorus, the Nativity Concert Band and the combined partner school band.

The Nativity Music Department is most grateful for the community support of the arts in our schools.

SENIOR CLASS NEWS

The class of 2019 is now selling Pumpkin Rolls for Thanksgiving. This is a senior fundraiser and all seniors must sell ten (10) pumpkin rolls or pay a buy-out of \$20. The profit and monies will be used toward class expenses for the Prom, Senior Trip and Class Gift. If anyone is interested in buying a pumpkin roll for Thanksgiving, please see any senior or contact Mrs. Cassidy at lcassidy@nativitybvm.net. The cost of the pumpkin roll is \$13 and orders are due by November 9th.



SCHOOL STORE

SAVE THE DATE: CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE AT THE SCHOOL STORE - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28th from 6:30-8:30 PM

Come join the fun! An evening of Drinks, Hors d'oeuvres, Homemade Desserts, Holiday Music and an evening with friends to get the holiday shopping off to a great start. All clothing and all miscellaneous items will be discounted. A free gift with every purchase and free gift wrapping!!! Also, during this time only, the certificate program will run a special. For every \$400 order or more in certificates, you will receive two free \$10 gift cards (great stocking stuffers or thinking of you gifts).

*** Any student interested in getting community service hours please see Mrs. Eckley at the school store. Mrs. Eckley will need greeters for the evening and any student willing to bake **HOMEMADE** cookies/cupcakes for the customers to enjoy. Students who volunteer will receive a free gift.

SPORTS PASSES:

Basketball season is right around the corner so do not forget that Nativity sports passes are available in the School Store. Adult passes are \$50 and student passes are \$25.



HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS!!

November Certificate Special: 11/05-09/18

Purchase \$300 or more in certificates and receive a free \$10 gift card or an additional \$10 off student tuition.

December Certificate Special: 12/10-14/18

Every time you place a \$500 or more order for certificates, you will receive a free \$25 gift card or an additional \$25 off student tuition.

If you have any questions regarding the School Store, please contact Sue Eckley at 570-640-0930.



GREEN & GOLD BOOSTER CLUB

On October 20th, the Green and Gold hosted a Halloween Dance at the St. Clair Fish and Game. I would like to thank those who donated food, made donations and attended the dance. Unfortunately, the attendance was very poor and our income was \$350.00.

We were very disappointed in the lack of support from our Nativity Families. The fundraising we do each year is a very important part of the income for sports and activities. If your child participates in sports, band or cheerleading, we need you to participate and get involved with the Green and Gold Booster Club!

Craft and Vendor Show

November 17th at Nativity. We are still looking for vendors and crafters. Please contact Nancy Newton at 570-628-0576.

We will be having a food sale at this event. Please consider donating a food item or baked good. Contact Diane Yaneck at 570-294-0551. We also will need volunteers for set up and tear down. This is a great opportunity to earn community service hours

Come and do some Christmas shopping and support our vendors and crafters. Keep an eye out for a list of vendors.

Raffle Update: Tickets are now available for the \$20,000 Green and Gold Raffle. Drawing will be held on December 19th. Any family who agrees to sell five (5) raffle tickets will be entered into a drawing to win a \$500.00 scholarship to Nativity and \$100.00 in gift cards of your choice. For more information, please contact Sue Eckley @ 570-640-0930 or stop by the school store.

Next Meeting: November 14th at 6:00

Upcoming Events: **Gift Card Bingo** December 2nd, **Paint and Sip** in the Gym on December 7th

GUIDANCE NEWS

Guidance Items for the November Newsletter:

Seniors – Continue to persevere with College Applications and Scholarships. Many colleges have Open Houses in the month of November. Be sure to visit each college you are interested in attending. It is a big decision to make! Apply to at least two colleges before Thanksgiving Break. It is a good rule of thumb. Be mindful of school application deadlines.

Senior Meeting – I am still very happy to meet with parents and their student if there are any questions or concerns about the college process. Just call the office or email guidance@nativitybvm.net to schedule an appointment.

STUDENT TRANSCRIPT PROCESS/REGULATIONS:

1. Current student transcript requests must be made in person in the Guidance Office by filling out a transcript request form.
2. Students are responsible for knowing the deadline for transcripts to be sent to a college and should allow for proper time for the transcript process to be completed.
3. The entire transcript process can take two-three weeks from the time the request is made; it is processed in the

- Guidance Office, mailed through US Mail service, received by the college and processed into the college's system.
4. When a transcript request is made, student resumes must be submitted at the time of the request, as resumes must be sent to the college in addition to the transcript **SENDING MATERIALS PIECE BY PIECE TO COLLEGES CAUSES INFO TO BE MISFILED AT THE COLLEGE.**
 5. It is the responsibility of the student to check with the college's Admissions Office to make sure that a transcript has been received by contacting the Admissions Office. Call the Admissions Office directly; do not solely use the college's online system.
 6. Please be aware that from the time a student applies to a college a file has been started for that student in the college Admissions Office. After a week or two passes, many Admissions Offices will send out computer generated letters/emails to all students who have applied and from whom they have not received a transcript. Due to this procedure many students will receive letters/emails stating that their transcript has not been received after their request has been made and processed by the Guidance Office. **PLEASE ALLOW FOR CROSSOVER TIME IN THE MAIL ESPECIALLY IF THE DATE OF THE LETTER/EMAIL FROM ADMISSIONS OFFICE AND THE DATE OF THE STUDENT'S REQUEST ARE ONLY DAYS APART.**
 7. If after allowing the proper amount of time for the transcript process to be completed the college's Admissions Office still does not have the transcript an additional transcript will be sent **FREE OF CHARGE.**

8. There is a fee of \$10.00 per transcript due at the time of the request. Cash or checks are acceptable forms of payment for transcripts. Checks should be made payable to: **Nativity BVM High School.**

Scholarship Information – A list of Scholarship Information has been posted on the Nativity Website under Guidance. Be sure to search the Financial Aid Offices website at your college of choice for their specific scholarships. Private and public colleges and universities do have a gambit of scholarships available. It will be well worth your time to check. Often solid SAT scores and a high GPA will put a student in the running for substantial scholarship acquisitions. **Scholarships are announced on a weekly basis as they are received at the school.**

FAFSA Assistance –Stephanie Sosnoksi from the Educational Opportunity Centers, Inc. is offering one on one free meetings. She can be reached at (570)454-6161. If this is your first child attending college, she can help you complete the FAFSA.

ASVAB Test Results – A Career Search Expert from the Military from the ASVAB Career Exploration Program will be at Nativity in November to head our explanatory workshop for seniors. Many Nativity students will have outstanding scores.

PSAT Results – PSAT results will come in early November. Students will receive the results along with the actual test they took and an explanatory workbook. Parents may contact Mrs. Arnold with any questions. It is an excellent tool for SAT preparation. It highlights strengths and weaknesses.

Juniors – Now is the time to explore your career choice and start thinking about your college major. Juniors, it is crucial that you start

thinking about your future. All juniors will meet with Mrs. Arnold in early 2019.

Sophomores- The coveted HOBY nomination of two sophomores will take place in the month of November. All interested sophomores submit their application and essay. The essays are anonymously judged by faculty. Two winners will be announced at the end of the month and will attend the prestigious leadership workshop in May 2019.

SAT & ACT – SAT and ACT information and advice is available in Guidance. The Deadline for the December 3rd SAT is approaching. Be sure to register by November 2nd, so you don't pay late fees. The Deadline for the December 8th ACT is November 2nd. If you have any questions about either test, please give the Guidance Office a call.

Selective Service - Turning 18? Male? Be sure to register for the Selective Service. www.sss.gov. If you are going on to post-secondary education, be sure to register. If you do not register, you will not be eligible for any financial aid the government has to offer. Please register before filing for financial aid.



**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!**