

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



NOVEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

News from the Principal

November is a month for Thanksgiving and Remembrance. The Nativity family will gather together and celebrate throughout November. 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. We are thankful to all of our parents, families and friends for their support of Catholic education at Nativity BVM High School. Please know that the Nativity community will remember our deceased loved ones in prayer throughout the month of November. 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.

We especially ask for God’s blessings upon the United States of America as we remember our American Military. Please join us on livestream for a special service on **November 15, 2022 at 10:25 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 23rd, 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.

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 Sabol



Chaplain's Message

The month of November is traditionally a time for praying for the faithful departed. Students are invited to write the names of deceased loved ones on a prayer list which we keep on the altar every time we celebrate Mass in school this month.

November begins with the celebration of All Saints Day. We celebrate Mass together as a school family on this holy day of obligation for Catholics. November 2 is All Souls Day, a day for remembering all the faithful departed.

Of course, November also brings us to Thanksgiving. Before departing for our Thanksgiving break, we again celebrate Mass in gratitude to God for all the blessings He gives to our school and to each of us.

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.

On November 14th, Seniors will be measured for cap and gowns and they will also provide the correct information for their diplomas.

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!

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. Masinick. 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.



From the Dean's Office:

Please exercise caution and slow down when driving around the school in the mornings and afternoons. There are many students walking during arrival and dismissal during these times and safety is of the utmost importance. As a reminder, ALL STUDENT DRIVERS should have a parking pass. They are \$20 for the year and \$10 for a semester.

Students are no longer allowed to enter the locker rooms until after the 8:05 bell. This is due to lack of supervision in the area and too much traffic in the hallways in the morning. As a reminder, students are to go directly to the cafeteria if arriving before 8:05. Thank you for your cooperation!

Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and energy, and donated their candy for our Trunk or Treat! It was a success and we would not have been able to make so many children (and adults) smile without the help of so many people!

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.

Please check your daughter's skirt for appropriate length and make sure that your son is clean shaven!

Students are reminded to come to school in full uniform. Many of the dress code violations we have seen this school year are due to:

- Incorrect shoes- No Hey Dudes. Shoes must be leather top dress shoes.
- Boys' hair must not cover the eyebrows or touch the top of the back collar.
- Girls' skirts must be no shorter than two inches above the knee.
- Socks must be dress socks. No athletic socks.
- When wearing dress slacks or khakis, students must wear a belt.
- No hoodies allowed. Students must wear the uniform sweater.

As a reminder, please make sure shirts are tucked in.

I am free for a conference or phone call if you feel as though your child is struggling with discipline issues or general difficulties in school. My email is nmasinick@nativitybvm.net or you may call the school at 570-622-8110. Thank you!

Student Council

The Student Council would like to offer their congratulations to Mr. Billy Burke and Ms. Lola Rymarkiewicz on their election as King and Queen of the Hill. The following is a list of upcoming events from our organization:

1. Tuesday, November 15th, Student Council will have their annual Veterans Day Program. If any veterans would like to attend, please call Mrs. Yaneck in the main office to give a number of attending veterans and guests. Please be at school by 10:15 AM.
2. Lastly, our annual Christmas Dance will be Saturday, December 10th, at Mountain Valley Golf Course Main Lodge. The price will be \$50.00 per person and the time is 5:30-10:00pm. Please check our social media pages for more upcoming information!

Thank you and have a blessed Thanksgiving!

PARENT CONFERENCES

Parent Conferences will be held on Monday, November 14th. These conferences are **by appointment only**. Please refer to the letter which was mailed the week of October 31st. 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 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 have their previous credits and GPA's included in the 1st marking period grades. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Naffin.

Senior Class News

Greetings and Happy Fall from the Class of 2023. We are holding our annual pumpkin roll fundraiser again this year. Students have received their order forms with an order sheet due date of Tuesday, November 8th. Pumpkin Rolls, handmade by Clare Brady, are \$16 each. Checks can be made out to Nativity. Delivery date is Tuesday, November 22nd- you choose the time: 12:15 or 2:45. Please contact Mrs. Lyric Paskel with any questions at lpaskel@nativitybvm.net.

Development News

New student information night:

On Sunday, November 20th, Nativity will be hosting a New Student Information Night for 7th and 8th grade students beginning at 5:00pm at the school. Nativity BVM High School administration, faculty, staff, 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



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 collected items for the Winter Coat and Diaper Drive. Our next events include a school wide cleanup, sending cards to all of our partner school students and a Red Cross Blood Drive.

If anyone has a service project that they need help with, please contact Mrs. Sabol or Mrs. Holohan.

YEARBOOK NEWS: As a reminder to senior parents, senior studio portraits are due to Miss Reynolds by Wednesday, November 23rd. We ask that no outdoor poses are submitted. If you have any questions, please email Miss Reynolds at jreynolds@nativitybvm.net. Portraits can also be submitted to the same email address. Thank you and happy holidays!

School Buses

Parents --Please remember that school buses have first priority at dismissal. No cars may drive around the busses.

Math Club

Congratulations to the following members of the Math Club who will be competing at the Bloomsburg Math Competition on November 1, 2022: Ian Andrefksi, Cameron Strauss, Zachary Mills, Dario Bracciani, Stanley Gorski, Ryan Sickle, Kyle Kenton, Dalton Monger, Cole Andrefski, Joshua Steffan, Ethan Grabowski, Bella Bartashus, Dylan Higgins, Spencer Mathers, Riley Sinko, Melissa Malarkey, Emily Krammes, Grace Brennan, Nolan Kokitus, Miranda Burkot, Emily Conroy

A Message from the Director of Guidance, Mrs. Brensinger

As we have completed the first quarter, please reach out if students are worried about the remainder of the school year. I will be leading some lunchtime small groups for various topics. This month, and all year long, please don't be afraid to reach out if needed at guidance@nativitybvm.net

Sophomores

This is a reminder that any Sophomore interested in the HOBY leadership conference must submit their application to Mrs. Brensinger by November 1st!

Scholarships -Juniors and Seniors

Attention Junior and Senior Families: now is a great time to search for scholarships. Remember, scholarships are free money! We will have a full packet available on the guidance website by October as many deadlines still aren't posted. Don't be afraid to Google Search and look for scholarships now! Scholarships are often announced during the school day, and hung up by the Guidance Office if applicable.

Seniors College Applications and Recommendation Letters

All Seniors have met with Mrs. Brensinger for their "Graduation Planning Meeting". Students are reminded that we recommend doing all college applications in Common App, unless you are applying to a school not on Common App. This will save the student time and effort and help them keep everything organized

All Recommendation requests should go through Naviance. Seniors were encouraged to ask all Nativity-related Faculty and Staff by now in order for the letters to be submitted by the application deadline. Students are encouraged to submit all of their applications prior to going into Naviance to "invite" their recommender, this will then indicate that they may now upload the recommendation letter to all the schools the student invited them to submit for. **There should be no recommenders invited through Common App, only in Naviance.**

Transcript Requests

All Seniors in need of transcripts being sent to the schools they have applied to may pick up a form outside of my office in the green basket. This form must be turned in with the \$35 transcript request fee and must have your resume attached to it as well when you hand it in.

DON'T DELAY, APPLY BY TURKEY DAY!

I have recommended that Seniors get their college applications in before Thanksgiving. This will prevent stress over the holidays and ensure that your materials are all in to meet your application deadlines. **This does not pertain to Early Action and Early Decision, they are often November 1st or November 15th*

College Board Accommodations

Please contact Mrs. Brensinger in Guidance if you are looking for accommodations for the PSAT or SAT. This is a 7-week process at minimum, so parents are encouraged to reach out immediately. Parents will need to fill out the Consent form located on the College Board website and give it to the office for Mrs. Brensinger :

<https://accommodations.collegeboard.org/request-accommodations/request/through-the-school>

Learning Support

If you have any concerns or questions about student support plans, please contact Al Bobinas, Ed. D. at:

abobinas@nativitybvm.net

Art Department

2022 Graduate Cienna Centano submitted a design for the month of October to the Republican/Herald's 2022 artist of the month contest. The Republican named Cienna artist of the month for the month of November. Her award-winning design, her photo and her biography will appear in the October 30th edition of the Republican on the calendar page.

Congratulations Cienna!!

Olivia Rugh graduated in 2022, went to the beach with her classmates, returned home, and made her way back up the "hill" to take care of one more responsibility. Art students had the option of completing the standard sketchbook assignment for the fourth quarter of 2022 or purchasing fleece to make knotted fleece blankets in class that would be donated upon completion. More than 15 students made blankets. Olivia volunteered to deliver them to the Jewel Woman's Center in Schuylkill Haven. Thankful staff expressed their appreciation and assured her they would be distributed to local families.

Job well done Liv!!

ATHLETICS

Congratulations to Ava Shappell, Mackenzie Miller and Emma Jones who earned All Area Second Team and Peyton Butz who earned Honorable Mention for the girls soccer team!

Congratulations to the Volleyball team who is a recipient of the **2022 USMC/AVCA Team Academic Award**. Great job girls!!

Good Luck to the Boys soccer team and the Volleyball team as they continue their quests for district titles. Both teams played in the Schuylkill League Championship game and earned silver medals!

FINANCE OFFICE:

POT OF GOLD WINNERS
DRAWING DATE: 10/19/2022

- 1st Ms. Carol Malarkey
Seller: Melissa Malarkey
- 2nd Scott Omlor
Seller: Elijah W.
- 3rd Megan Randazzo
Seller: Brody Sophy
- 4th Marla Callaghan
Seller: Brian Callaghan

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.

PLEASE BE SURE TO CALL the main office or the attendance line to report that your student will not be at school or will be late due to a doctor's visit.

Green and Gold

The Green and Gold would like to thank everyone who supported the gift card calendar fundraiser. An update will be given in the next newsletter.

Thank you for supporting the Green and Gold.



Raffle Update

The biggest fundraiser for the Green and Gold is the \$20,000.00 raffle, which goes off on Thursday, December 9, 2022. Tickets are \$100 and only 555 tickets are sold. We are reaching out to any parents interested in selling 5 tickets. If you are able to sell all 5, your child's name goes into a drawing to win a \$500 tuition credit. Contact Diane Yaneck in the main office at 570-622-8110.



School Store

As basketball season approaches, let's not forget to get your sport passes! They are available in the school store. Adult \$50 and Student \$25.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE AT THE SCHOOL STORE:

Come enjoy an afternoon from 1:00-4:00 PM on Sunday, December 4, 2022. Start your holiday shopping early with family and friends while having drinks and cookies/cupcakes (made from Mamma Millie's Bakery). Entrance will be on the side down the ramp.

Uniform clothing, Nativity apparel and all miscellaneous items will be offered. Plus, we will be revealing new Nativity clothing at this time. Nike hats, lounge pants, Thermal shirts and Under Armour ¼ zips. Free gift wrapping will be available.

Any students needing service hours will have the opportunity to volunteer at this event. We will need students to be greeters, wrap gifts and bake homemade cookies/cupcakes for all to enjoy. See Mrs. Eckley in the school store to sign up.

During this time only, the certificate program will run a special from Sunday, December 4 till Friday December 9, 2022 as a one-time gift to our families. For every \$600 or more in gift certificates purchased, 100% of the school's profit will go toward your tuition. For example, if you buy \$600 in certificates and your normal earnings for tuition was 3% or \$18, you would now receive twice that amount or \$36 towards tuition.

Casual Dress Days

During November, students and faculty will be supporting Kolby Academy's "Steps for Recovery Walk" and The Knights of Columbus/Pottsville Rotary Thanksgiving Meal Project. Cost of the dress down will be \$2. Families may donate more to these important causes if they are able. Thank you for your continued support!



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

OFFICE OF SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Pamela J. Russo, M.S.W, M.S.
Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services
P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538
610-871-5200 ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.

AHERA

In compliance with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response (AHERA) an inspection for asbestos was performed at each of our schools within the Diocese of Allentown. A copy of the inspection reports is on file in the school's Administrative Office for your review any time during normal school hours. In the event you have any questions or concerns, please contact the School's Principal or the Diocesan Asbestos Coordinator.