Cougar News

Dress Down Days…
Dress Down Day for Catholic Charities Friday, December 6th

On Friday, December 6th, students may dress down for a $1.00 donation for Catholic Charities! Bring your dollar in to school that day if you are dressing down.

Dress down days generally take place the first Friday of the month, unless pre-empted by another event: check the Cougar News!

Please bring in your $1 on dress down days. No dollar, no Dress Down.

10 things about Nativity of Mary to know RIGHT NOW!

1) We are down to 23 boxes of candy bars! C’mon, Nativity, you can do it! We want to clear these out by November 27th—pay for yours by then and receive dress down passes for every child in your family!

2) Altar Servers Meeting/Training is tonight in the church at 6:30 PM. Call Ms. Kelly Gill if you are coming at 716-432-4979 so she can order enough pizza for all! See flyer on page 8.

3) Parent Conferences coming up on December 9th—don’t forget to sign up! This is a no-school day for students. Links were send via email several weeks ago; if you can’t find yours, contact Mrs. Sutter.

4) Don’t forget to return your letters of intent or registrations. Letters of intent hold your place in class until January 26th Catholic Schools Week Open House. Registrations secure your place for Fall 2020.

5) Gala raised $85,000 for our school! Congratulations to all the hard-working Gala Committee, and to chairperson Erik Hoertz. And thank you to all of you donors and participants for making it happen!

6) Have your children take a look at what’s available at our School Store! Most items are between 25 cents and $3.00. Outside Reading Room on Friday Mornings.

7) We are still working on our Dimes for Diabetes, but at this count we have over $500 raised for JDRF with our dress down and dimes collected, with more yet to be counted! A complete final total will be available in Thursday’s Communication.

8) We are looking for Alumni, Parents and Students who are comfortable with public speaking to speak at Masses on the kick-off weekend of Catholic Schools Week (January 25-26). Please contact Mrs. Sutter if you can help.

9) Check out the link to our Current Habit of Effective Students: “Begin with the End in Mind!” Go to the link, and you might see your student(s) in a video about this important habit of planning ahead for the successes you want to have: https://youtu.be/Ej6U5FRWFt0

10) Tis the season to buy GIFT CARDS! Finish your Christmas Shopping all in one place and benefit our school at the same time! See page 2 and flyer on page 5 for details.

HSA Board for the 2019-2020 School Year:
Todd Spear, President (spear0891@hotmail.com)
Heather Schieder, Vice President (heatherschieder@gmail.com)
Jen Kilmer, Secretary (jkilmer6481@gmail.com)
Drew Dorn, Fundraising Coordinator (drew.dorn@ensolconsortium.com)

Nativity of Mary School • 8550 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221 • (716) 633-7441 • www.nativityofmaryschool.org

NEXT HSA MEETING: January 16th, 7 PM

Twitter: Follow us at: @NBVMSchool for the latest updates
Facebook: Like & follow our school Facebook Page, listed as Nativity of Mary School
Instagram: find us at the handle nativityofmaryschool

We were very Blue for Juvenile Diabetes Today! The Dress-Down Day raised $205 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund (JDRF).
A Sincere
Thank You

to all of the Nativity Families who supported us with donations, took part in online bidding, shared our web-site with friends and attended Nativity Gala 2019 on November 8th.

You helped make our event a success! Your support is humbling and deeply appreciated. A parish school needs the assistance of its entire community, and we are grateful for yours.

Sincerely, The Nativity Gala Committee
Erik Hoertz, Chairperson

We are already discussing Gala 2020! The ideas presented at the HSA Meeting on November 14th were awesome! If you have an idea or a thought about how we can make our wonderful Gala even better, contact Erik at nativitygala@gmail.com.

Good News about Nativity Grads: We were notified that The following students were listed on area Honor Rolls: Jacob LaDuca (Junior, Canisius); Rory McGovern (Sophomore, Canisius); Regina Ajtai, Loretta Cucinotta, Kelly Del Regno, Megan Del Regno, Maria Salvo, Erin Trapper, Meghan Trapper (all at Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart).

Registration News
Our Pre-K three morning class is nearly full, and our registrations for other classes are doing very well. Please make sure you get your registrations in before open registration for grades 1-8 begins on January 26th. We have open registration for grades PreK 3—Kindergarten NOW. A Letter of Intent will hold your place for you if you want to register in December or January 1-25.

We will always try to give our own students priority placement! Our Pre-K classes tend to fill up fast because they are both popular and a little smaller. There are only 10 students in each of the two Pre-K 3s; and 20 in PreK 4 and the two KReadiness classes.

Thanks to all those who have already registered or turned in letters of intent!

IMPORTANT DATES AT NATIVITY OF MARY SCHOOL:
11/27-29: Thanksgiving Recess
12/1: Advent begins
12/2: Trimester 1 Ends
12/5: Virtue Awards for Month of November before Mass (8:45 AM): Virtue of Responsibility
12/8: Feast of the Immaculate Conception
12/9: No School: Parent/Teacher Conferences
12/11 Christmas Concert, 6 PM
12/18: North Pole Shop during the school day
12/20: 11:30 Dismissal, Christmas Recess
12/25: Merry Christmas!
1/2: School Resumes: Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

For printable two-month calendar see page 4.
Cougar News
Home School Association

DID YOU KNOW: YOUR TUITION pays about 60% of what it costs to educate your child at Nativity. An additional 25% comes from the parish. An additional 15% comes from the fundraisers that the HSA hosts. HSA provides essentials, not extras. Your involvement with HSA makes a difference to your child’s school, education and faith.

GIFT CARD NEWS (See our flyer, page 5)

- **Christmas Shopping:** Think SCRIP for Christmas!
  Having trouble getting the right Christmas gift? Why not order Scrip gift cards as a present or even use Scrip to purchase the gifts!! Scrip is the easiest fundraiser! Scrip is gift certificates or cards to restaurants and stores. You buy the gift card at face value and Nativity makes a profit by buying the gift cards at a discounted rate. There are over 750 local and national vendors. To view a complete list, go to [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com)

- **Coming Soon: Thank-Scrip-ing Day!** Get ready for all your Black Friday and Holiday shopping with Thank-scrip-ing Day, on Thursday, November 21. Don't miss 24 hours of incredible ScripNow, Reload and ReloadNow bonuses from dozens of your favorite retailers. Order from your phone at [www.myscripwallet.com](http://www.myscripwallet.com). This is a great way to support Nativity with even higher rebates. Watch for it!

- **Special Low Denominations Cards are here!** We will have a limited number of low denominations gift cards available, perfect for stocking stuffers and holiday gift-giving! These low denomination gift cards make great gifts for the special people in your life. These cards will only be available while supplies last, so don’t wait to place your orders. The following cards will be available: [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) $10, Applebee's $10, Barnes & Noble $5, Home Depot $10, IHOP $10, Olive Garden/Red Lobster $10, Outback/Carrabba's/Bonefish Grill $10, Panera Bread $5, Regal $10, Starbucks $5, Taco Bell $10, Tim Horton's $5 (not limited), and Walmart $10.

- **School Family Dress Down Promotion:** The first quarter ends in a few weeks! If your family purchases and pays for at least $200 of gift cards during the 1st fiscal quarter (Sept 1 - Nov 30), you will receive a DD pass for each child in grades KR-8. Additional details on this promotion can be found in the Cougar News. A big thank-you to the school families and faculty members who have already reached the 1st quarter goal! Limit 1 pass/child/quarter. Passes will be distributed on the first week of December.

- **Store hours are Tuesdays & Fridays, 8:30am-Noon (PreK Wing) and Sundays 8:30am-Noon.** We are submitting out next order tomorrow at noon. Orders can be submitted online at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com), return a completed order form in your child's take home folder or send us an email at: sales@nativitygiftcards.com. Order forms can be found on the school website. Place your order today, and have your cards on Friday!!

Thanks for your Support!
Judy Bergman and the Gift Card Team

“All knowledge is sterile which does not lead to action and end in charity.”

– Cardinal Desire Joseph Mercier

Check out these easy ways to support your school with what you already do:
- Our UNITED WAY Donor’s Choice # is 3872—put your UW Dollars to work for Nativity!
- Turn in your Dash’s Receipts We get $25 for each $1000 of receipts turned in!) and your pre-cut BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION! Or enroll online and do this electronically with your receipt!
- Visit the TOPS website and link your Bonus Card to Nativity School!
### November – December Calendar

**NOVEMBER**

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**NOVEMBER: VIRTUE—Responsibility**

**Habit 2: Begin with the End in Mind (Have a Plan)**
- **11/1:** All Saints Day (Holy Day of Obligation): School Mass
- **11/5:** Picture Retake Day
- **11/7:** Virtue Awards before Mass (8:45 AM): Generosity
- **11/8:** Nativity GALA!
- **11/11:** Veteran’s Day: No School
- **11/12:** Pre-K-Kindergarten Open House, 5:30 – 7:30 PM
- **11/13:** Pre-K-Kindergarten Open House, 9 – 11 AM
- **11/14:** HSA PARENT MEETING 6 PM Cafeteria
- **11/27-29:** Thanksgiving Recess

**DECEMBER: VIRTUE—Perseverance**

**Habit 3: Put First Things First (Work First, Then Play)**
- **12/1:** Advent begins
- **12/2:** Trimester 1 Ends
- **12/5:** Virtue Awards before Mass (8:45 AM): Virtue of Responsibility

- **12/7:** The Christmas Marketplace has been cancelled.
- **12/8:** Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- **12/9:** No School: Parent/Teacher Conferences
- **12/11:** Christmas Concert, 6 PM
- **12/20:** Staff Christmas Luncheon, 11:30 Dismissal:
- **12/21-1/1:** Christmas Recess
- **12/25:** Merry Christmas

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RAISE MONEY ON THE GO

Earn anytime, anywhere on your phone

Discover how easy earning is with MyScripWallet.com. Shop from your phone wherever you are, so ordering gift cards always fits right into your busy schedule—and raising money is even more convenient.

Everything you need to earn. Always within arm’s reach.

1. SHOP ALL CARD TYPES
   Easily order eGift cards, reloads, and physical gift cards from 750+ top brands.

2. PAY ONLINE
   Link your bank account or pay with a credit card to get immediate access to eGift cards and reloads anytime, anywhere.

3. SAVE FAVORITES
   Use filters to search brands and add them to your Favorites for quick access.

4. BROWSE BONUSES
   Easily scroll through bonus rebates, which are updated every week, on the % Bonuses tab.

5. MANAGE PURCHASES
   View your gift cards, check card balances, and more right from My Wallet.

Save the site to your phone, just like an app on your home screen, to earn even faster:

iPhone: Select on the bottom of the screen, then “Add to Home Screen” and then “Add”

Android/Google: Open the options menu , then select “Add to Home Screen”

ShopWithScrip®
Dear Nativity Families:

Here is some information about USA Football First Down in Schools Program:

What is USA Football First Down In Schools Program?
It’s a chance for NFL team, staff and athletes to get involved with local schools promoting physical fitness. They are working, at our school, with School Nurse Hana Muller

What day will it happen at OUR school?
December 3rd.

What will happen that day?
Mike Trott and another representative from USA football will be running stations in the gym. Mr. Cullinan and Mrs. Richard will help with Mrs. Cornwell and other teachers. Kids will be given a t-shirt at the start of their time to wear. Everyone should wear their PE uniform to school that day. All kids also need to submit a permission slip prior to participating.

Someone from the Buffalo Bills is expected to come—we don’t have any idea yet. It could be Billy Buffalo, it could be Josh Allen.

As Mrs. Muller gets more information, we will pass it on to you. Please let Mrs. Muller know if you have any questions or concerns and she’ll do her best to figure it all out!
2019 FIRST DOWN IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM
PARTICIPANT PERMISSION SLIP

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Participant Name (please print): __________________________ Date of Birth: ____________

Mailing Address: ______________________________________

City: __________________ State: __________ Zip: __________

Parent Name: __________________________ Parent Date of Birth: __________

Parent Phone: ________________ Parent Email: ________________

FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS (OPTIONAL)

By checking the box below, I give permission to USA Football to email me at the email address provided above consistent with the USAFootball.com Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Each of the referenced policies are available at http://legal.usafootball.com/legal.html#usafootball-com-terms-of-service and http://legal.usafootball.com/legal.html#usafootball-com-privacy-policy.

☐ Yes – I am interested in receiving emails from USA Football

GRANT OF PERMISSION

I give permission for my youth (named above) to participate in the USA Football First Down In Schools Program hosted at their school. I also understand that my youth’s participation in the program is at his/her own risk. I further recognize that USA Football may uses photographs and video images of my youth at the event in promotion of the event, the First Down In Schools Program, its other programs, and USA Football generally and grant permission for such photo/video images of my youth to be taken and used for such purposes.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian ____________ Printed Name of Signer ____________ Date ____________
Reminder:
Altar Server Training
Altar Server Training for new and current servers in the Church on Monday, November 18th at 6:30PM.
If you are interested, please RSVP to Kelly Gill at 716.432.4979.
Pizza will be served!
ATTENTION:

*All Parish Volunteers who currently interact with*

*Children or Youth in our Parish...*

*(School Parent Volunteers, Coaches, Teachers, Catechists, etc)*

If you **have not** attended the diocesan mandated (one-time required) VIRTUS seminar, Protecting God’s Children, now is your chance!!!

We are blessed with so many new volunteers again this year, we will again offer a Protecting God’s Children Seminar here at Nativity for your convenience.

**Tuesday, November 26, 2019**

6:00pm – 9:00pm, in the School Cafeteria

To register please go to the VIRTUS website, [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org)

If you have any questions or concerns, please call

Kim Prisinzano, Parish Safe Environment Coordinator, at 716-634-3130 Ext 332,

or email me at: [kimp@nativityharrishill.org](mailto:kimp@nativityharrishill.org).

*Thank you!*
Dear Parent(s) of 7th and 8th Graders,

The high school you and your student choose will have a tremendous influence in shaping who they become beyond high school. What are you looking for in a high school? Is it college readiness? Academic rigor? Lifelong friendships? Athletics? Or is it something more?

Chesterton Academy of Buffalo is a unique co-ed Catholic high school that provides an affordable integrated classical curriculum. Our education emphasizes four pillars: strong intellectual habits, high moral character, spirituality and physical wellness.

I would like to invite you and your student to attend the Experience Chesterton Open House Night on Thursday, November 7th at 6:30PM. You’ll meet our faculty and find out how math, science and the humanities are intimately connected and how faith and reason are intertwined into every class. And finally, see for yourself, how our school has helped shape our students into articulate, critical-thinking, and, most importantly, joyful individuals.

Our mission does not end with merely getting students into college. We dare them to recognize evil in our society and challenge them to embrace the truth of why they exist. I hope you will take the time to come see why Chesterton is unlike most high schools. Call our Main Office at 716/674-8101 or visit www.buffalochestertonacademy.org to register for our Open House.

Sincerely,

Barbara Courtney
Director of Admissions & Advancement

Chesterton Academy of Buffalo, shining a light on our faith and future…
Experience Chesterton Night
A Joyfully Catholic, Classical High School

Ask about the benefits of a Classical Socratic Curriculum.

Where Happiness, Holiness and Lifelong Friendships are a part of Everyday.

Call 716/674-8101 to RSVP for the Experience Chesterton Night or to schedule a shadow

Thursday, Oct. 17th: 6:30PM
Thursday, Nov. 7th: 6:30PM
Thursday, Dec. 5th: 6:30PM

Ready for College... Prepared for Life!

A Member of the Chesterton Schools Network
www.buffalochestertonacademy.org
25 Mansion Ave. / Cheektowaga/ NY / 14206
Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish

A Special Invitation for Nativity of the BVM Church

If you are not having Thanksgiving Dinner with your relatives this year, come and join your neighbors for a.....

Thanksgiving Day: Home-Cooked Buffet Supper

Bring a friend, bring a relative or come alone, and enjoy a buffet supper with us.

Turkey, ham, stuffing, mashed potatoes, vegetables, salad, pies and coffee will be served.

Take home containers will be available for meals-to-go.

Thursday, Nov 28, 2019 ~ 12:00pm - 3:00pm ~ Free of charge

Reservations required by November 23rd
Leave message with Barb at 683-2375, or email at: SHoJsupporttable@gmail.com: your first name, number of attendees and if 'eat in or take out'.

Supper will be served in The Parish Center, 5337 Genesee St, Bowmansville N.Y.

~sponsored by the Parish Holiday Supper Committee~
November 6, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians and Student:

On Thursday, December 5, 2019, Clarence High School is holding its annual Open House/Planning Night for current eighth graders who live in the Clarence School district. The students and parents of the Class of 2024 are invited to this informative night that will be held from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

The program has two components. All families will begin the evening in the high school auditorium promptly at 6:00 p.m. The presentation will touch upon transitioning to high school, how to best become "college and career ready" while in high school, and will feature our current students sharing about our elective programs.

Following the auditorium presentation, families will have the opportunity to walk through the high school to see the building and see what we have to offer. Parents and students will have the opportunity to see areas of study. This segment of the program will allow our guests to see the varied and multiple opportunities that CHS offers. Student members of clubs and organizations will be available throughout the building for informational purposes.

We take great pride in our school and our students and look forward to meeting you on December 5th.

Sincerely,

Kenneth J. Smith
Principal

Robert Coniglio
Assistant Principal

Kevin Barrett
Assistant Principal