Dress Down Days...
Dress Down Day for Catholic Charities Friday, October 4
On Friday, October 4, 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 preempted by another event: check this corner of the Cougar News weekly to find out when the next dress down day is!

Thank you for your generosity!

PICTURE DAY
WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 18, 2019
Students may wear their uniforms or their own “dress-up” clothing—that’s Sunday best, not t-shirts. Picture orders have been sent home—please send in your order forms with payment. Retakes and make-ups will be taken on November 5th. Everyone gets their pictures taken, including teachers and staff, because they appear in the yearbook!

Submissions to Cougar News:
The Cougar News is sent out each MONDAY. E-mail your contributions to: Mrs. Kathy Sutter ksutter@nativityofmaryschool.org
Deadline for Cougar News articles is each Friday at 2 PM!

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

School work is more fun when you do it with friends: students work on a collaborative assignment together!

Ten things about Nativity of Mary to know RIGHT NOW!

1) Plan to attend Parent Nights on September 19 (Grades 5-8) and September 26 (Grades 1-4). PreK and Kindergarten PARENTS (not students, sorry about the error last week) are welcome to attend the initial half-hour welcome on either the 19th or on the 26th. The meeting time has been changed to 6 PM — please correct your calendars. Grades 5—8 will be bringing further information home for their evening either today or tomorrow.

2) OUR CANDY BAR SALE HAS BROUGHT IN $2448, which represents about $1224 of profit: about 17% of goal! This is great for the first full week! Our second shipment has come in, so if you need more bars, please visit the Advancement Office (across from the door in the Main Office). Please do not take candy without signing it out. If we sell an average of two boxes per family, we will make our fundraising goal! See flyer for prize info: page 8.

3) Many of you are hearing about the UNITED WAY annual drive at work. Did you know you can designate all or part of that donation to Nativity of Mary School? We are on the designated donor list with United Way. Our number is 3872—don’t forget us when you’re filling out your pledge card at work.

4) Mrs. O’Brien’s Fourth Grade is collecting items for Blessing Bags for the homeless. Please see the attachment on page 9 which tells you all the items you can send in, and try to support this wonderful and worthwhile service project.

5) THANKS to all the families who contributed to buy MUMS! We collected enough for 32 mums! Coming soon: PLANTING! Want to help?

6) FLU SHOT CLINIC FOR ADULTS on Thursday, September 19 from 9:45—2:30. See flyer on page 10.

7) Picture day is September 18: dress up clothes or uniforms may be worn. Picture make-up/retake day will be November 5. See article at left!

8) The OCTOBER 4 Early Dismissal means that parents of our bused and after-school pick-up students need to plan to see their children 15 minutes earlier. It does not affect Kids Club, which will run until 5:30 as usual.

9) PLEASE TEXT THE WORD YES to 67587 — this will enroll you to receive text messages for the coming year. PLEASE TEXT Mrs. Sutter BACK the words “got it!” if you have not already done so, so that I know you are receiving school communications.

10) LUNCH MONITORS: Please check the LUNCH MENU on our website (click the words LUNCH MENU at the top of the page) to find out your monitor assignments. Names of daily lunch monitors are at the bottom of each day’s menu.

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
Nativity is Gearing Up for PARENT NIGHTS

Nativity of Mary School will be hosting its annual PARENT NIGHTS on September 19 and September 26th at 6 PM. The evenings are planned to be a chance for parents to find out what our school has planned for the upcoming year, and to visit with teachers to learn about their curriculum and classroom expectations.

Both evenings will begin with a brief welcome session sponsored by our HSA in the gym. After opening prayer, parents will find out about new events planned for the year, and be welcomed by our principal, Dr. Robert Cluckey, and other members of the leadership of our school. We also encourage our younger parents (PreK 3—Kindergarten) to attend the welcome session.

Following the welcome, parents will depart for their child’s classroom to meet and greet the teachers.

Our 5th—8th grade parents will find their PARENT NIGHT program considerably changed for this year. In the past, parents would follow a mock schedule for one day of their child’s week. This year, teachers are trying something different: each teacher will be in their room, and parents will be free to visit the teacher of their choice from a list that went home with students today. Parents will be able to visit a given teacher for as long as they like, and HSA will sponsor refreshments in the cafeteria, so that parents can mix and mingle with each other as well.

The evening of the 26th will also begin with a welcoming session, but then parents will go to their child’s classroom to meet with their child’s primary teacher. They will spend a half hour in their child’s room, and then will be free to go to the cafeteria for refreshments, or visit with specials teachers.

Parents on both evenings will be able to sign up for a conference with a teacher if there is a concern that needs to be dealt with in a more in-depth and private setting.

**IMPORTANT DATES AT NATIVITY OF MARY SCHOOL:**

**SEPTEMBER:**

9/18: School Picture Day (Make-Up/Retakes November 5)
9/19: Parent Night (Grades 5 – 8), 6 PM
9/26: Parent Night (Grades 1 – 4), 6 PM
9/27: Regional Professional Development Day—No School
9/28: Fall Fiesta and Gala Gift Giving Party—Grades K, 1, 2
   See Flyer on page 5.
10/4: Chiavetta’a Chicken Barbecue to benefit 8th Grade: see pg. 6.
   (for a printable Sept.—Oct. Calendar, see page 4)
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 make a difference.

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!
- Visit the TOPS website and link your Bonus Card to Nativity School! (TOPS will also be here at parent meetings to help people link their cards.)
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019

SEPTEMBER:
9/11:  Band Information Program (1:45 PM, Gr. 3-8)
9/18  School Picture Day
9/19:  Parent Night (Grades 5 – 8), 6 PM
9/26:  Parent Night (Grades 1 – 4), 6 PM
9/27:  **No School**: Regional Professional Development Day

OCTOBER:
10/3:  Virtue Awards before Mass (8:45 AM)
10/4:  Emergency Drill Date: 15 minutes early dismissal
       CHIAVETTA’S CHICKEN BARBECUE
       4-7 PM to benefit 8th Grade Trip!
10/11: **No School**: Principal’s Holiday!
10/14: **No School**: Columbus Day
10/16-18: Tentative Fall Book Fair Dates
10/25:  Trunk or Treat, evening event
10/29:  Kids Auction (during school day)
10/31:  Halloween-wear a costume!

SAVE THE DATE: NATIVITY GALA, November 8!
KINDergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade Gift Giving Party & Family Fall Fiesta!

What is a Gift Giving Party?
The Nativity Gala in November is our school’s largest single fund raiser of the year. A big reason is because of the fantastic donations given by our school families & friends. A Gift Giving Party is a way to donate to the Gala, and get to know some of the other families at Nativity!

We ask that each family bring a donation in the form of a prize, gift basket, gift card, etc. to be raffled off at the Gala in November. Suggested minimum value is $50.00 but everything helps!

What else can you bring to the party?
We will provide fixin’s for Tacos, games for families to play and crafts for the kids to do. There will even be a piñata or two!

We ask that you bring the following items based on grade:
Kindergarten: Snacks
1st Grade: Drink boxes or bottled water
2nd Grade: Desserts

Saturday
September 28th
Starting @ 1PM
Westwood Park Pavilion*
175 Pavement Road
Lancaster, NY
TACOS!
GAMES!
Piñatas!

*The pavilion is completely enclosed so this party is rain or shine!

RSVP CALL OR TEXT BY 9/20 TO: SHARON HARTMAN (716) 989-8638 OR SARAH JANKOWSKI (716) 983-9549
Chicken Dinner Fundraiser!

Friday, October 4, 2019
4 PM – 7 PM
at
Nativity of Mary School
8550 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221
(corner of Main St. and Harris Hill Rd.)

Pre-Sale Tickets $10
(available at the school or Sundays after Mass)
At the Door: $12

DRIVE-THRU service available for take-out
in front school parking lot!

To Benefit Nativity of Mary School
8th Grade Trip!
DEADLINE FOR DONATIONS
OCTOBER 10!

September 6, 2019

Dear Parents,

Each year, fourth grade students participate in a service project. This year in religion, we will be discussing the importance of treating others the way Jesus would. In an effort to be more like Jesus, the fourth graders will be collecting items so we can put together blessing bags for the homeless. Examples of items we will be collecting are:

- Toothbrushes/toothpaste
- Hats
- Gloves
- Socks
- Deodorant
- Hand sanitizer
- Chapstick
- Brush/comb
- Baby wipes
- Candy bars
- Cough drops
- Peanut butter
- Plastic utensils
- Small packages of tissues
- Rain poncho
- Granola bars
- Small shampoo & conditioner
- Crackers with peanut butter or cheese

If you wish to participate, items can be dropped off in the fourth-grade room or sent in with your child. We will be collecting from Monday, September 9th until Friday, October 10th. After items have been collected, I will put the bags together for distribution.

Thank you and God Bless!

Mrs. O’Brien and the Fourth Grade Class
CANDY SALE

GOAL TO PROFIT: $7000
(we keep 50% of each box sold)

We are starting by asking each FAMILY to sell ONE box of candy bars. When you sell that box, bring in your money and take a second box. We will allow you to sign out more than one box AFTER you sell your first box and return the payment. Once you take boxes, you must return payment to get MORE boxes. BOXES CANNOT BE RETURNED TO THE CHOCOLATE COMPANY so we will be keeping our order as lean as possible. You can return unopened boxes to the school and we will try to send them out with other families. You cannot return OPENED boxes. We will meet our financial goal if each family sells TWO boxes of chocolate bars.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Jankowski at 716-983-9549.

CANDY SALE ENDS OCTOBER 25th

PRIZES:

The first CLASS to have each person sell two boxes will earn dress-down passes!

Mid-way thru there will be a drawing for a VIP tour of Fowler’s Chocolates.

ALL FAMILIES who sell their first box of chocolate will be entered into a drawing to receive a $100 gift certificate to a local bike store.

The top seller will get a $300 gift certificate to a local bike store. (In the event of a tie, one name will be drawn.)

Highest selling class (average number of boxes per person) will receive dress down passes!
Earn bonus rebates up to 21%

ThankScriping Day feels like a holiday—because it's your 1-day chance to earn up to 21% on tons of top brands, so you can earn even more on your everyday shopping. Now that's something to celebrate.

You must have an online account to take advantage of these special earnings on eGift cards and reloads to your physical cards. If you haven’t already, create an account today at ShopWithScrip.com on desktop or MyScripWallet.com on your phone.

60+ top brands on bonus
Shop these brands and many more

![Brand Logos]

“I love ThankScriping Day. I stock up on gift cards for all the places I shop, so I get even more for my money and it goes toward my son’s schooling.”

Melissa R., earns for school tuition

Get started:
1. Enroll on MyScripWallet.com or ShopWithScrip.com with our organization's enrollment code: ________________
2. Seamlessly checkout and receive eGift cards and reloads faster by securely paying online with a linked bank account or credit card.

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Friends & Family EVENT

40% OFF all full-price styles

SEPTEMBER 19 - SEPTEMBER 25
PROMO: LESUFRIEND | PIN: 1234

Uniforms parents trust & students love
landsend.com/myschool | 800-469-2222
8th Grade Parents, please note: we are in the process of setting up shadow days for St. Mary’s, Sacred Heart, St. Joe’s and Canisius. We expect to have these days set in the next several days—information will be coming to your email.

We encourage you to attend the open house, but you do not need to set up a shadow day. Thank you.
GIRL SCOUTS HAVE S'MORE FUN

Join the Clarence Girl Scouts as we gear up for another year of fun and adventure! All girls in grades K-12 along with their parents are welcome to join us for s'mores-related fun, activities, and snacks!

Do you have questions about Girl Scouts? Get them answered and talk with some of our troop leaders and volunteers about the difference Girl Scouts can make for you! Girls who register at this event will receive their first Girl Scout fun patch!

Date: Monday, September 23rd 2019

Time: 6:30-8:00pm

Location: Clarence Town Park Clubhouse
10405 Main St., Clarence, NY 14031

If you have questions, please contact MeKenzie at: mekenzie.lund@gswny.org or call 888-837-6410

Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.
CUB SCOUT PACK 563

Adventure is waiting!

Hiking • Halloween Bowling • Make Friends • Clarence Jamboree
• Buffalo Bulls Basketball • Build Character • Launch Rockets • Sledding • Roast Marshmallows
• Camping • Fishing • USS Little Rock Overnight • Laugh Loud • STEM Activities • Play Games • Teamwork • Rope Making • Pinewood Derby • Memorial Day Parade • Have Fun!!

Calling all Boys and Girls Kindergarten thru 5th Grade

Visit us at our annual kick-off Pack Meeting and Recruitment night Learn more about Cub Scouts, build your own sailboat out of recycled materials and race it in our RAINGUTTER REGATTA!

Monday Sept. 16th in the Sheridan Hill Cafeteria at 6pm

Questions contact: Kevin Eppig 716-512-4431 kevin_eppig@yahoo.com or Matt Wallace 716-523-1344 shipack563@gmail.com www.facebook.com/SHPack563
Unified March & Respect Life Mass

Headed by
The Knights of Columbus / The Pro-Life Office

Mass celebrated by
The Most Reverend Richard J. Malone, Th. D.
Bishop of Buffalo

on

Saturday, October 5, 2019
Mass begins at 9:00 am
at
St. Mark’s Church
401 Woodward Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214

Following Mass:
We will proceed to the clinic at 2500 Main Street, Buffalo
where we will pray the Rosary together for a peaceful opportunity to pray for the unborn

40 Days For Life 2019 Campaign’s “Help save Lives in Buffalo”
September 25 - November 3

Join us in PRAYER AND PEACEFUL VIGIL in front of Buffalo Women Services, 2500 Main St. Buffalo, N.Y. 14214. Vigil hours are 7:00 am to 7:00 pm every day and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday. We join 855 cities in 61 countries in a peaceful, prayerful witness to send a powerful message to the community about the tragic reality of abortion. We pray for "the beginning of the end of abortion."

For information: 40daysforlife.com/buffalo or call Dolly Verdi at (716) 868-2049.

Sponsored by:
The Knights of Columbus / Diocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities & 40 Days for Life
For more information contact the Diocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities at (716) 847-2205
"An Evening of Tolkien"

Presented by Friends of Buffalo Chesterton Academy

St. Gabriel Church
5271 Clinton Street,
Elma, NY 14059

September 26, 2019 • 7:00 PM.

Speakes:
Joseph Pearce: "The Catholicism of The Lord of the Rings"
Pearce is the author of "Tolkien: Man and Myth" and "Frodo's Journey."

Kevin O'Brien: "Tolkien: Man and Myth"
O'Brien is the president of Theater of the Word, Inc. and portrayed J.R.R. Tolkien in EWTN's "Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings"

Freewill Offering
As directors of the CC Diamonds Twirling Corps, we are very proud of what these young ladies have accomplished this past season. Looking forward to another great year this coming season.

Our group participated in numerous local competitions with every member participating! Pictured here is their half time performed to the music “Surf n USA”. They won each performance.

Our older girls performed their dance twirl to “Rock around the clock” and also took a first in competition.

All together again, they performed a 4 minute indoor parade corps routine and did an outstanding job. They performed to “This Land is Your Land”. This uniform and music are also used when they performed at 4 local parades and Fantasy Island.

Good fun, good exercise and good friends are all a benefit of the sport of baton twirling!! Come join in the fun! NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

Sometime we have a twirler that works very hard and goes into competitive baton twirling as Adriana did. She won the Beginner New York Pageant here in Lancaster. Then placed in the top 6 in the Beginner Pageant held at Notre Dame University this past July.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DIAMONDS AND ADRIANA!!!

Isabel Dettmer & Amy Castellani, Co-Directors
The CC Diamonds is a not-for-profit youth organization promoting the performance art of baton twirling through its 34 weeks of class instruction for all levels of baton twirling. Our organization keeps its registration fee as low as possible to make membership affordable for all. Our program not only prepares its twirlers for local competition, it prides itself in the community service during the month of June when we entertain at local nursing homes. We begin our summer season by performing at Fantasy Island. Our parade season is limited to only local parades not more than 4 per season. Our classes are held on Tuesdays at Harris Hill Elem. and Ledgeview Elem. gyms in the Clarence School District. You do not have to attend a Clarence School to participate.

**ONE HOUR CLASSES FROM 6-7:00PM**

Classes for new or relatively new members. Children must be 5 years old by January 1, 2020. New students may change after learning the basic techniques into a class meeting for 1 ½ hours. Class first half hour will be baton twirling skills, and then working towards dance-twirl, half time show, parade routines or routine by director’s decision.

*Payment options: $20.00 monthly (9 months) or $75.00 per semester (2) or $145.00 one payment*

First payment due in October, 2019

**ONE AND HALF HOUR CLASSES FROM 6-7:30PM**

Classes during this time will be divided by age and or ability levels. Member’s grade 2nd through high school. Class first half hour will be improving and adding baton twirling skills, half hour dance-twirl, half time show, pom, flag team and indoor parade routines to be determined by directors and coaches.

*Payment options: $22.00 monthly (9 months) or $115.00 per semester (2) or $220.00 one payment*

First payment due in October, 2019

Members may be placed in one class for twirling skills and another for routines.

**SOMETHING NEW.............**

**Introducing a certificate program designed for individual twirlers as a learning incentive for better twirling technique and quicker advancement. Program will be for ALL members!**

**Questions??? Call or email...**

Registration...Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019

Harris Hill Elem. School gym

FIRST CLASS...Tuesday, Sept 24th

Isabel Detmer, co-director
716-889-8902
16 Applewood Lane
Getzville, NY 14068
detmeria@verizon.net

Amy Castellan, co-director
Clarence, NY

ccdiamondstwirling@gmail.com