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!

Ten things about Nativity of Mary to know RIGHT NOW!

1) OUR CANDY BAR SALE HAS STARTED! Candy is coming home with each FAMILY today — one box per family. This sale earns our Home School Association about $7000, which breaks down to about $50 per family. Home School events help keep tuition costs down, so please support this if you can, as it has a direct benefit to every family in the school. We hope to offer families the opportunity to sell candy after some Masses again this year — watch your Cougar News for information on how to sign up. Also see the flyer on page 5 — a copy also came home with your students today. We thank chairperson Sarah Jankowski for her efforts to get this organized!

2) A SHOUT OUT to our Maintenance Team for the beautiful condition our school is in! Our school year has gotten off to a shiny and squeaky clean start, thanks to Robin, Paul, Floyd, Mike, Sharon, Alex and Mark!

3) Mrs. O’Brien’s Fourth Grade is collecting items for Blessing Bags for the homeless. Please see the attachment on page 6 and try to support this wonderful and worthwhile service project.

4) Start planning now to attend the Parent Nights on September 19 (Grades 5-8) and September 26 (Grades 1-4). PreK and Kindergarten students are welcome to attend the initial half-hour welcome. The meeting time has been changed to 6 PM — please correct your calendars.

5) Band Information Assembly for Grades 3-8, on September 11 at 1:45. Parents are cordially invited to attend! See column at left for more information.

6) MUMS — SO FAR ONLY 3 FAMILIES HAVE RESPONDED! Chip in $8 to beautify our school: send $ in an envelope to Mrs. Sutter’s attention by Friday — we have room for 35 mums.

7) ALL IMMUNIZATIONS FOR YOUR CHILD MUST BE CURRENT for them to attend school. Please get a copy of your immunizations/current physical to School Nurse Hana Muller if you have not already done so.

8) Picture day is September 18: dress up clothes or uniforms may be worn. Picture make-up/retake day will be November 5.

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) There will be a flu shot clinic held right at Nativity Church on Thursday, September 19th from 9:45a-12:30p. This is for adults 18 and older only. See flyer on page 10.
NEW THIS YEAR: Seven Habits of Highly Effective Students Program Aims to Instill Leadership and Life Skills

The students at Nativity will be learning The 7 Habits this year. The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People is a widely used and highly successful leadership program based on the series of books written by Stephen Covey. Through the teaching of these 7 Habits, we aim to empower our students with leadership and life skills they need in order to thrive in the 21st century.

The program is being launched by Mrs. Nicole Richard, Nativity’s reading teacher. “I read a book about this over the summer, and I thought it would be a perfect program to introduce to our school. I’m excited about the opportunity to share it with our school and improve our students’ leadership capabilities.”

The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People are:

- Habit 1: Be Proactive (You’re in Charge)
- Habit 2: Begin With the End in Mind (Have a Plan)
- Habit 3: Put First Things First (Work First, Then Play)
- Habit 4: Think Win-Win (Everyone Can Win)
- Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood (Listen Before You Talk)
- Habit 6: Synergize (Together Is Better)
- Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw (Balance Feels Best)

Each month we as a school will focus on a specific Habit. Those students that demonstrate that Habit will be featured on our Leadership Bulletin Board in the front foyer of the school.

AHERA
Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act

We are notifying you that in accordance with EPA/AHERA regulations, we are required to have an asbestos plan in place. If any parent, teacher or employee wishes to view the plan, a request can be made to the school office where the plan is filed.

IMPORTANT DATES AT NATIVITY OF MARY SCHOOL:

SEPTEMBER:

9/11: Band Information Program (1:45 PM, Gr. 3-8)
9/12: Gala Meeting, 8:30 AM (or 8 PM, Murphy Brown’s)
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

See the events of the next two months attached on 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 to your child’s school, education and faith.

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**Gift Card News (See our flyer, page 9)**

Our store hours are 8:30am to Noon every Tuesday and Friday when school is in session. We are located in the Pre-K entrance wing. We have also resumed Sunday morning sales after Mass.

- We are placing our next order **Wednesday, September 11 at 1pm.** Be sure to get your orders in!
- Please send in any paper orders in your child’s take home folder “Attn: Gift Cards”, submit your order online at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com), or send an email to: sales@nativitygiftcards.com.
- Now available - payment by credit card for **online orders**! For your convenience, there’s now 3 ways to pay! When buying at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com), you can pay by cash/check, presto pay (electronic fund transfer) or credit card (2.6% fee applies for credit card)
- School Gym & Dress Uniforms: Reminder: We offer Land’s End gift cards in $25 or $100 denominations (15% profit for Nativity). Land’s End is also available as ScripNow! (electronic gift certificate) if you need it immediately.
- We are in need of volunteers to help sell gift cards on Tuesdays/Fridays and after Sunday morning masses. If interested in volunteering your time or have any questions, please email sales@nativitygiftcards.com or check out our page on the school website.

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**GALA MEETING on 9/12:** A general Gala Meeting will take place on Thursday, September 12 at 8:30AM in the Cafeteria. This meeting is for all those who would like to be involved with helping with our Nativity Gala coming on November 8 at Samuel’s Grande Manor, and for those already involved! **Come, share ideas to make our Gala a “Grande” Success!**

**Can’t make the 8:30 AM meeting? Meet us that night at Murphy Brown’s at 8!**

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**Plan to attend Parent Nites on Sept. 19(grades 5—8), 6 PM and Sept. 26 (grades 1—4), 6 PM**

Meet new teachers, greet the teachers you know, find out the latest news, meet other parents! See and be seen—Hear and be heard!

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“Creativity is intelligence having fun.”

—Albert Einstein

You'll find this quote in our school, outside...where else? ...the Art and Music Room!

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**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: Regional Professional Development Day—No School

OCTOBER:
10/3: Virtue Awards before Mass (8:45 AM)
10/4: Emergency Drill Date: 15 minutes early dismissal
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
10/31: Halloween—wear a costume!

SAVE THE DATE: NATIVITY GALA. November 8!
CANDY SALE

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

Candy Bars are $1.00 each!

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!
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
PICK-UP LINE

Attention Parents

If you are picking up your child at dismissal (2:40)-
ALL parents need to drive through the pick-up line.

Due to the moving cars in the pick-up line, please do not park in the parking lot and expect your child to be crossed.

This is for the safety of all our students.

If you need to pick them up because of an appointment, please park and come into the building to sign your child out at the main office.

Thank you for your cooperation.
Swim Team 2019

Swim Fee of $85 is due by Friday, September 13th

- Please send cash or check payable to NATIVITY OF MARY SCHOOL.

Where: The 1st practice will be Friday, September 6th at 6:45pm. Practice will be held at Williamsville East HS.

When: Friday, September 6th @ 6:45pm @ Williamsville East High School

Time: Practices will take place in the evening from 6:45-8:45pm, more information to follow.
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

“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.
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 sport 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 routine or routine by director's decision.

Payment options: $20.00 monthly (9 months) or $15.00 per semester (2) or $115.00 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's, flag team and indoor parade routines to be determined by directors and coaches.

Payment options: $23.00 monthly (9 months) or $135.00 per semester (2) or $200.00 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 Dettmer, co-director
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dettmeria@verizon.net

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