

NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL NEWS
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OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

October brings many things to us; changes in temperature, changes in leaf colors, and the end of the 1st marking period of the academic year. As Catholic High School students, the young men and women at Nativity continue to build themselves through their faith and their dedication to excellence. We continue to encourage our students academically, spiritually, athletically and socially to be the best they can be.

Mrs Lynn A Sabol

Chaplain's message

Our school year is off to a strong start with events and activities that keep our focus on our faith. Besides our school Masses, a group of seniors participated in the pilgrimage to the National Center for Padre Pio with the other high schools of our diocese. We attended the Pennsylvania March for Life in Harrisburg. Our visitors from Live Vertical have returned to lead our Theology classes in Eucharistic Adoration once a month. Our Evangelization team is working on new ideas to bring our faith to the forefront in our school community.

October is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary in a special way as the month of the rosary. In addition to our school liturgies and opportunities for prayer, we look forward to the freshman class retreat day on October 17th. Our freshman will receive more information as the retreat approaches.

Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin
Chaplain, Nativity BVM High School
Pastor, St. John the Baptist Church

“Circle of Grace” Program

The Circle of Grace program is a program for children and young people in grades 9 through 12. The program includes teaching about respect for all people and will include Safe Environment training. Each year, children are taught how to identify and thwart the lures that are used to lead youngsters from a safe environment into one where they are vulnerable to exploitation and other crimes. Principles are rooted strongly in the Catholic Faith with spiritual experiences of prayer and reflection included. This program will be presented in the Theology classes.

Important Dates:

School Closed: Monday, October 14^h for a teacher in-service day.

PSAT Tests: Tuesday, October 8th – Juniors
Thursday, October 10th – Freshmen
Wednesday, October 11th – Sophomores

Please note that some students will be using their school laptops for this testing and all devices must be charged prior to the tests. Cost is \$18

Picture Day Re-Take: School pictures will be re-taken by PSP on Monday, November 11th.

School Safety

The administration and faculty strive to ensure that students are safe and secure while at school. Various drills and precautions are in place to make sure that students know what to do and where to go in case of an emergency. These drills are necessary and will take place monthly. In October, in addition to a fire drill the “Shakedown Drill”, will be held to prepare students for the possibility of an earthquake.

Additionally, to ensure the safety of all our students, any adult who volunteers or works at Nativity or any other Diocesan school or parish must complete the “Protecting God’s Children” seminar and complete all applicable clearances. Please know that your son/daughter’s safety and well-being is of our utmost concern.

From the Dean’s Office:

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:

- Boys’ hair must not cover the eyebrows or touch the top of the back collar.
- Boys must be clean shaven.
- Girls’ skirts must be no shorter than two inches above the knee.
- Socks must be dress socks. No athletic socks. Socks must be the same color.
- Shirts should be tucked in and belts must be worn.

Service Hours - MobileServe:

All students must set up an account on Mobile Pass to submit and track community service hours. Information was handed out the first week of school and students were given the opportunity to set up their account. However, many students have yet to sign in.

Students must complete and log 75% of their required service hours to attend Prom in the Spring and 100% of their required service hours to receive end of year grades or diplomas.

If you have any questions regarding MobileServe, please contact Mr. Grabowski.



Important Information for Senior Parents:

In order for transcripts to be sent, students must be up to date with tuition, fundraising, etc. This is a busy time of year for seniors with college applications. Please make sure that your son's/daughter's accounts are paid in a timely fashion.

Attention parents and/or guardians of Juniors:

As a reminder, ring mass is October 29th of this year. If you would like to participate and you're buying a ring or cross, orders should be made to Sophy's in St. Clair (the only place to buy the Nativity cross) or wherever you're placing an order as soon as possible so orders have enough time to come in. Rings, crosses, or jewelry will be due to Ms. Reynolds on October 22nd. Please contact Ms. Reynolds with any concerns at jreynolds@nativitybvm.net.

Finances

It is imperative for the financial stability of the school that everyone makes tuition and fundraising payments on time. If there is a concern, please contact Mrs. Young in the financial office. All students must be up to date with tuition, fees and fundraising in order to participate in activities.

Social Media

All Nativity students are aware of the appropriate use of social media. We encourage using social media to positively impact the school and community. *The use of social media to cause harm or negatively affect Nativity BVM High School, its students, teachers, staff or legacy will not be tolerated.*

Math Club

The Math club is offering tutoring services for students who need help in their math classes. Students can find a list of available tutors near the bulletin board on the second floor near the math classrooms. Additionally, the Math Club will be attending the Bloomsburg Math Competition on November 19th.

Interact Club

The Interact Club will host a winter clothing and Diaper Drive again this fall. The club will be collecting coats and winter clothing along with diapers from October 1st through October 25th. All winter clothing must be washed and cleaned before being brought to school. Additionally, all donated items will be sanitized. This club is involved in many service projects. If there is a project that you need help with, please contact the school office.

Communication

It is extremely important to keep open lines of communication between parents and teachers. If you have a concern, please contact your child's teacher either by calling the school office or by emailing the teacher. All email addresses can be found on the school website.

Please look over the October calendar for many important liturgical events and school activities. Dates for fall sports playoffs are not finalized yet and will be updated as needed.

MAIN OFFICE

Please be sure to call your child off if they are not coming to school or if they have a doctor's appointment that they will be late. Please let the office know if there are any changes of address or phone numbers. It is important that we have the correct numbers at all time in case of an emergency.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council members for the 2024-2025 school year.

Central Office: President – Sara Spolski; Vice President – Liam Messina; Secretary – Ella Putalavage; Treasurer – Miranda Burkot

Senior class officers: President – Nolan Daynorowicz; Vice President – Walker Ryon;

Representatives – Carleigh Palmieri, Emily Conroy, and Sam Spolski

Junior class officers: President – Andrew Smith; Vice President – Ryan Grabowski;

Representatives – Jackson Daubert, Chloe Covell, and Naomi Neifert

Sophomore class officers: President – Bo McDonald; Vice President – Emmalee Pinkey;

Representative – Samantha Krusinsky and Finley McNamara

Freshman class officers: President – Eli Rugh; Vice President – Joshua O'Toole; Representatives – Kenna Corby, Olivia Whitaker, and Anders Ryon

Student Council is currently preparing for Spirit Week and Homecoming. The 2024-2025

Student Council will be inducted during Mass on September 24th. Student Council is looking forward to having a great year filled with fun activities!



ACADEMICS



STUDIES OFFICE

Deficiency notices were emailed on Wednesday, September 25th. Hopefully if you have received one, your student is making progress toward improving their grade. Please contact your student's teachers if you have any questions. All faculty email addresses are available on the school's web site, www.nativitybvm.net, on the Administration and Faculty tab.

The end of the first quarter is Friday, October 27th. Report cards will be distributed on Friday, November 1st. There will be a Parent Conference Night on **Monday, November 11th** to discuss your student's progress in all classes. These conferences will be by appointment only. More information will follow. Letters were mailed home the week of October 7th.

PARENT PORTAL

We would like to remind all parents that our school has a Parental Internet Access Service that allows parents/guardians access to information regarding their child. If you decide to use this service, you may access various types of information regarding your child. Information such as Attendance, Discipline, Grades, Scheduling information will be available.

The URL for this access is: <https://nbvm.crportals.studentinformation.systems/>

The information to create an account was part of the first day of school package. If you did not create an account or forgot your information please contact Mr. Naffin at jnaffin@nativitybvm.net

ATHLETICS



Congratulations to our 2023 Green Wave volleyball team who recently received the AVCA Team Academic Award sponsored by INTENT. The benchmark for the award is an average of 3.3 or higher on a 4.0 scale for the entire team in the 2023-2024 academic year!

Additional congratulation goes out to Nick Wagner who earned the distinction of All State for the sport of baseball. He was named First Team All-State as a Utility Player by the Pennsylvania Baseball Coaches Association. Awesome recognition for your efforts last season Nick.

As we near the end of September, all of our sports programs are at the halfway point or better in the 2024 season. They have put in a lot of time throughout the summer and season to prepare for their opponents led by our dedicated head coaches and their staff. Most of us only see a small portion of the many hours devoted to enhancing the lives and skills of our student athletes that these mentors devote. Nativity is truly grateful to everyone who contributes to our athletic teams. Thank you.

Golf kicked off the fall competition with their first match on August 8th against Weatherly. They won by the score of 323 to 449 and kept the pedal to the medal amassing 13 wins against 2 losses. This was the best finish for the team in school history which included qualifying as a team for Schuylkill league and District XI team championships. Coach Will Waldick along with varsity seniors Carleigh Palmieri and Liam Messina lead a solid group of linksters. Their next competition is Oct 1, 2024 when they travel to the Steel Club golf course to participate in the DXI tournament.

The Green Wave football team started strong on August 23rd when they hosted Holy Redeemer and shut them out 52-0. They “rang the bell” for the win and a triumphant return to St. Clair

Veterans Stadium. Coach Pat Mason's team owns a 4 win and 1 loss record and carries a ton of momentum into October where they look to make some noise in the Blue Division of the Schuylkill/Colonial football league and qualify for a berth in the DXI Class A playoffs. The class of 2025 seniors are the nucleus of the team and aim to help this year's squad leave a legacy for others to match in the future.

Next team to kick off the season was soccer on Saturday August 24th at Marian. Mook Wait's squad challenged from start to finish but fell short in a 5 to 4 loss. The team is playing hard and working towards their best performance of the season going into the last two weeks of the season.

Our volleyball team also started their season on Saturday August 24th when they competed in the Cardinal Clash tournament. Advancing from pool play they finished the day in the quarter finals and were ready for their match with Marian. Great team work carried the Green Wave to 3 games to 1 victory and solidified that this team has the potential to achieve great things this year. They will wrap up the regular season on October 9th at home against Williams Valley. Coach Jennifer Daubert will have them prepared for the Schuylkill league and DXI playoffs and ready to play their best when it is all on the line.

The last team to get into action was Vince Zimerofsky's cross country team when they hosted a quad meet on September 4th. Our boys' team garnered a win as they defeated Tri Valley. Wins will be tough this year due to low numbers but effort will never be a concern. The team is composed of one junior with the rest of the runners underclassmen. The experience gained this year will build the foundation for seasons to come.

News from the Guidance Department

A Message from the Director of Guidance, Mrs. Brensinger

This month, and all year long, please don't be afraid to reach out if needed
guidance@nativitybvm.net

Guardians, please stay connected with me via your students Google Classroom. If you wish to be added, please email me.

PSAT and SAT Accommodations

[The PSAT All freshmen, sophomores and juniors are required to take the PSAT test the week of October 7th. There is a \\$18 fee for the PSAT. Please send the money in an envelope with your child and they can hand it into their homeroom moderator. Thank you for your cooperation. The \\$18 fee is due by October 1st. The testing schedule is as follows, Tuesday, October 8th – Juniors, Thursday, October 10th- Freshman, and Friday, October 11th- Sophomores](#)

[The ASVAB- all Seniors will complete the ASVAB on Wednesday October 9th](#)

Scholarship Packet

Attention Junior and Senior Families now is a great time to search for scholarships. Remember, scholarships are free money! We have a full packet available, please know that many deadlines have not yet been released and I update them as they come in. [Nativity Scholarship Packet Link](#)

College Funding Coach Event

October 24th- **Virtual** College Funding Coach Workshop at 6pm

Register Here: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_TZYiTCvLQGOzjkR3oJcQ4A#/

Absences for Career Visits

A Reminder that Senior will only receive **three (3) excused absences for college visits/ interviews**, please make sure to let the main office know prior to your absence.



TRUNK or TREAT

Once again, we will have **Trunk or Treat at Nativity** on Sunday October 20, 2024 from 1:00 - 3:00 PM (Rain or Shine). If you are interested in decorating a car/trunk, please call Diane in the school office at 570-622-8110.

“A Tasting on The Hill”

The Nativity BVM Drama Club will be hosting a Wine Festival on Saturday October 19th from 2-6pm on the school campus. Guests will be provided with a tasting glass to sample vendors. Food and merchandise from vendors will also be available to purchase. Tickets are \$25 a person. For tickets please contact Amy Eades: 570-292-9895





From Dr. Bobinas:

Student Learning Supports

Classroom Plans

Student support plans are reviewed and renewed on a yearly basis. For students in need of learning supports Nativity has two (2) plans to meet their needs.

- 1.) Equitable Participation Service Plan (EPSP) is similar to an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). It is available to students that have been evaluated by a psychologist and have met the necessary criteria.
- 2.) Student Support Plan (SSP) is similar to a 504 plan. It is available to students that have been evaluated by a psychologist and have not met all the necessary criteria but still need supports to be successful.

Attention New Students: If your student has a learning plan, please make sure that Nativity has a copy of the plan and a copy of the Evaluation/Reevaluation. Thank you.

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

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Attention Families: All Tuition assistance has been posted onto accounts unless your application has not been verified. Please contact Jenn Daubert at 570-622-8110 with any questions.

Please note: A policy has become effective for families who receive the Eastern Pennsylvania Scholarship Foundation Scholarship (EPSF). Please read the following:

The Eastern PA Scholarship advisory Board has endorsed the following: If a family has not paid their past tuition bill (2023-2024), they will not be eligible to receive an EITC/OSTC scholarship from the Eastern Pennsylvania Scholarship Foundation.

It is the responsibility of each family to make sure that their tuition is paid in full each year. Failure to do so will make the family ineligible to receive an EPSF Scholarship.

Homecoming Alumni 50/50 Winner:

Congratulations to the winner of the 2024 Homecoming Alumni 50/50 Drawing, Paul Koutch '64 from Ashland, PA. This year's take home prize was \$4468.00. A special thank you to the entire Nativity community for their support!

YEARBOOK

“Attention parents and/or guardians of seniors:

Senior baby ads are due to Ms. Reynolds no later than Friday, November 1st. The cost of ads are: ¼ page for \$50.00, ½ page for \$100.00, and a full page for \$200.00. Please email Ms. Reynolds at jreynolds@nativitybvm.net with any digital ads or questions you may have. Thank you for supporting the Lawtonian Yearbook!

POT OF GOLD WINNERS 9/18/2024

1st Winner: Jeanna Gradwell

Seller: Ryan Examitas

2nd Winner: Jake Bittle

Seller: Addison Messner

3rd Winner: Lillie & Ken Frehafer

Seller: Levi Frehafer

4th Winner: Monica Schwartz

Seller: Brandon Schwartz

GREEN AND GOLD

The month of November we will be selling the Gift Card Calendars. Anyone who would like to donate a \$25 gift card it would be greatly appreciated. We will be mailing out 5 calendars to each family to sell, but, if you could sell more, please ask Mrs. Yaneck in the main office and she will get more for you. The cost will be \$10.00 each.

We are also getting ready for our big fundraiser- the \$20,000 raffle. Tickets are \$100 and only 550 tickets will be sold. If you are interested in selling them please let Mrs. Yaneck in the office know. For every 5 tickets you sell you will receive a chance to win a \$500 tuition award.

SCHOOL STORE

Uniform clothing including shirts, skirts, 1/4 Zips and sweaters are now in stock. Please check with the if interested in purchasing.

New Nativity apparel was also added. Baseball hats, hoodies, t-shirts, lanyards and blankets. We also offer Nativity water bottles which are approved to be used during school hours.

The annual Dig Pink Volleyball game is scheduled for Thursday, October 3 and the school store will be setting up tables in the main lobby area with Nativity Apparel and Dig Pink T-Shirts for sale.

Time to get moving on Certificate program and start saving money. We all need to eat and have gas for our cars. Its so easy... send in order with check or cash and receive your gift cards later that day. Copies of certificate list are found in the school store. Any additional questions, contact Sue Eckley @ 570-640-0930

Looking ahead our Open House will be in November at the school Store. Great time to purchase your Nativity Gifts and order your gift card for all the special people in your lives.

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 are 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.