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under the patronage of Blessed Mary Angela

January, 2016



Happy New Year! January is often a month of new beginnings and new resolutions. In this Jubilee Year, we are asked to make acts of mercy a priority in our lives and to live out the compassionate love of God. Pope Francis describes mercy as a gift which is a light that helps all of us reflect on the past and radiate hope at the start of the new year. As we make our annual resolutions, don't forget to include one about acting as God acts, with love, and compassion to everyone we encounter.

With that in mind, students at NCCS will be learning about the Corporal Works of Mercy – give food to the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, comfort the sick, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, visit the imprisoned and bury the dead - during this Jubilee Year of Mercy. Many of these we at NCCS already do and do well! I wish you a wonderful 2016 as we journey through this Year of Mercy together.



A HUGE THANK YOU to all of our families who participated in our month long collections of toys and money to help those underprivileged children and families. We collected 6 big boxes of toys and \$100 to help those in Fulton County through our Diocese and \$460 was given to Mrs. Renee Bernard to help our local Angel Tree needs. You are wonderful!

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU also goes out to a few of our family businesses who helped us throughout the year. Through donations, we were able to get a much needed new server for our computer system, a much needed new copy machine, 2 new projectors, salt for our water system, billboard advertisements, books for our library, and book covers and folders for our students to use and funds to support student activities. Also we have some dedicated businesses who participate in the EITC which helps to offset tuition costs for NCCS families. If you own a business or you think that your employer may take part in the EITC program please contact the school for more information. THANK YOU; we are so grateful for your generosity.





Congratulations goes out to our SCRIP Christmas Contest winners:

- \$100 Gift Certificate Agnes Kline
- \$50 Gift Certificate Nancy Dumm
- \$25 Gift Certificate Jody Dumm

Thank you to all who support SCRIP! Stay tuned for more contests.

Reminder: Our dress code at NCCS states that Girls' skirts are to be no shorter than 3" above the middle of the knee. Please check the length of your daughters' skirts.

Socks are to cover the ankle – NO "no show" socks are to be worn. Shoes are to be solid black or brown with soles that are black, gray or brown. I am starting to see some other colors come in – please adhere to the dress code. In grades 2-8 colored sneakers are permitted as long as they are brought to school and changed with gym clothes. As you are going through your children's closets and drawers, please remember our NCCS Charger Exchange Closet. We have a number of uniform clothes and shoes that are like new and some even with tags. These are available for a small donation.



We have one unclaimed Christmas Concert CD. Someone had no name on the order. If you believe that this is your CD, please contact the school office.

As you know, we have been praying for Mrs. Barb Kotelnicki, our IU 08 guidance counselor at NCCS. She was diagnosed with cancer at the beginning of the school year. There will be a Basket Party for her on January 31, 2016 at the Blacklick Valley High School – 555 Birch St. Nanty Glo, PA 15943. Doors open at 1:00 p.m. and Drawings begin at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are available at NCCS for \$5.00. There will also be deserts and drinks available. The snow date is February 14, 2016.

NCCS will be in session on January 18th. Because Northern Cambria School District will be off that day we will follow the special bus schedule from the first week of school. Students will be required to pack lunches that day.



Catholic Schools Week will be from January 31 – February 6. Stay tuned for a detailed schedule.

7th Grade Student Authors – "What Does Christmas Mean to Me?"

What does Christmas mean to me? Christmas is very special to me. It is a time of year that is different from any other. Christmas is my favorite holiday. Everyone is in a good mood and cheer spreads everywhere. It is a celebration that everyone loves. To me I could not live without Christmas. One of my favorite parts about Christmas is the music. The music really gets me in the holiday spirit. My

absolute way of looking at Christmas is a time of year where everyone is kind and peace fills the air. To me Christmas is like a cookie – everyone loves it, but when it's gone, it's gone. But next year, there will be another freshly baked cookie.

By: Kody Krug

Christmas means a lot to me. Christmas is a time when we celebrate Jesus' birth by spreading love and joy. We decorate and put up a big beautiful tree. Everyone gets together and bakes cookies for all of us to enjoy. On Christmas day, my whole family gathers around the tree and we give each other gifts as an act of love. Christmas is also a time to give to those who are less fortunate. My family donates canned goods to the food drive. Christmas to me means to spread love by sharing and giving. Everyone has something different that Christmas means to them, but that's what Christmas means to me.

By: Olivia Mason

To me Christmas is a special time of the year where everyone is happy and kind to each other. This time of the year is not about gifts or candy or Santa. To me it is about giving things to other people and spending time with family while remembering Jesus' birth. Christmas is also a time to have fun with friends and family. That is what Christmas means to me.

By: Tim Ludwig

Christmas is a time around the world when families come together to celebrate the Birth of Christ. My family and I go to each others houses and go caroling, play in the snow and go snowmobiling. All together Christmas is a time all around to be together and spend time with family. It is also a time for me to be relaxed and comfortable while having fun with my family.

By: Colton Dumm