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under the patronage of Blessed Mary Angela

December, 2017

The season of Advent ushers in the Year of Grace 2018 in our church. As we hustle and bustle during this season of preparation may we truly prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming.



Father, all-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to heart the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thank you for your generosity - Through your assistance with names of families and businesses we have been able to raise about \$9,000 to continue to provide a quality education to our students. Enclosed is a list of names of those who contributed. It would be a great idea, especially when you are sending out Christmas cards to enclose a special 'thank you' to those who contributed. If needed, we have a limited amount of 'Thank You' post cards available on a first come, first serve basis at the office.



Thank you to those who participated in the RADA early sales fundraiser. The winner of the basket was Lynn Myslivy.

Thank you to all of you who faithfully sell tickets, work BINGO, buy SCRIP, volunteer for the lunch program or any other way to make NCCS the best that it can be! **Please keep NCCS in mind for those who are hard to buy for on your list with BINGO tickets, SCRIP or Mardi Gras tickets.**

Thank you to all who regularly read the newsletter to keep up with the happenings at school. Often we hear people say, "I don't know what is happening at school." **Are you reading** the many notes that come home regularly? They are meant to keep everyone up-to-date and on schedule. It is impossible to fit everything on the monthly calendar. Congratulations to Jennifer Wilson, the winner of the November Newsletter contest.



As previously announced, December will be a month of collections for those less fortunate. This can be a true learning experience for the children.

- Pop Can tabs will be accepted until December 18. They will be cashed in with the funds going to the local "Angel Tree Program".

- Fridays in December - December 1 and 15 will be "Casual Fridays".

Students and teachers may wear jeans and casual clothing for a monetary donation, new socks, hats, gloves, blankets or slippers. **Please**

note December 8 is not included. It is a Holy Day and the students have Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

- December 11 - 21 will be "Festive Dress Days". Students may wear Christmas shirts, socks, nail polish, earrings (no dangling) and hats with uniform skirt or pants each day for a daily monetary or gift donation.
- December 19 will be "Ugly Sweater Day". Students and teachers may enter the contest for a small donation. Small prizes will be given to the best in each classroom.

All proceeds will go to the Angel Tree Program.

Mass will be celebrated for the NCCS family on Friday, December 8 for the feast of the Immaculate Conception at 9:30 at St. Nicholas Church. The students will also have an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this season of Advent.



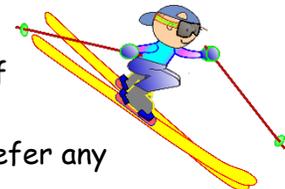
NCCS Annual Christmas Concert - It's a Glo-Glo Glorious Christmas - will take place on Tuesday, December 5 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Nicholas Church.

The students under the direction of Mrs. Gloria Ryan have been working every hard and I'm sure that you will be surprised. Please have your children at the church and in their seats no later than 6:45 p.m.

Remember the dress is: Christmas attire - colors of red, green, gold, silver, white. Boys should wear dark pants. **You don't have to go out to buy anything**, school clothes are always appropriate.

You may purchase a video of the concert from Precious Memories Videotaping - Mr. Gordie Fredo. An envelope is enclosed in this envelope and you may return the envelope to school with your child or give it to Mr. Fredo that evening.

The Bishop Carroll Ski Club is inviting any 6th, 7th or 8th grade student and their family from NCCS to join the Ski Club this year. If you are interested, packets need to be filled out and returned by December 19th. Packets are available at the NCCS office. You may refer any questions to Gresko.diana@bishopcarroll.org





There have been 2 School Messenger messages sent out this year. One about the accidental fire in 4th grade and the other reminding of the special busing on November 13. This is the same system that will be used to alert you of weather and other emergencies. If you did not receive the message where you need to receive it, please notify the school immediately so that we can check your contact information for proper notification in the event of a delay, cancellation or other emergency.

St. Nicholas, Santa and the Bishop Carroll Student Ambassadors will visit NCCS this December. PFS also has a special "Christmas Surprise" planned for our students. Thanks to all of you who consistently make these "extras" happen for our students.



Special Dates

- December 5 - NCCS Christmas Concert
- December 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- December 11 - Last Day for Special Orders for SCRIP to be ordered and arrive before Christmas. SCRIP may be purchased from 9:30 - 2:30 daily. Thank you so much for your constant support for this program.
- December 15 - PFS Christmas Caroling - more details to come
- THE PFS DECEMBER MEETING IS CANCELLED
- DECEMBER 21 will be the last day of school for students before Christmas Break. There will be busing provided with dismissal @ 12:10 p.m. This is a change from the original school calendar.
- There will be NO school on Monday, January 2, 2018 unless we miss a day during the month of December due to severe weather. If we miss a day, there WILL be school on January 2 as a make-up day.



The month of November often has a special focus on thankfulness. Giving thanks is a very important part of prayer. This month spend a little time during each of the 30 days as a family thanking God for the blessings He has given.

Thank God for...

- *The fact that he never changes
 - *His power over the nations
 - *Those who have served or are serving in the armed forces
 - *Your church and church family
 - *NCCS and the opportunity to attend a Catholic School
 - *The freedom we have to worship Him
 - *The opportunities we have to tell people about Jesus
 - *Your material blessings
 - *Life
 - *Forgiveness
 - *Each and every one of you - especially Thank God that he made you and has a plan for your life!
- *His unfailing love
 - *Jesus
 - *Your family
 - *Your school family
 - *Your teachers
 - *Your home
 - *Your friends
 - *Grace
 - *This day
 - *Humor

Multimedia

Two teams of students will be representing NCCS in the Diocesan Multimedia Competition on Monday, November 6 at Holy Trinity Catholic School in Altoona. The students in 7th and 8th grade worked hard during computer classes to develop Power Point presentations around the theme : Real vs Fake. Students presented these presentations and the teams chosen to go to the competition were:

- Allison Moriconi and Nathan Dumm - Real vs Fake Diamonds
- Shyana Burger and Savannah Smorto - Real vs Fake Smiles



Congratulations to both teams and Good Luck in the Diocesan Competition. Thank you Miss Farabaugh for preparing these students for competition.

Reading Competition



Each Fall and Spring students are busy reading selected books on the IU08 Reading Competition list to compete against many other schools, both Catholic and public in the Interscholastic Reading Competition. The students read books and spend much time practicing answering questions about the books that they read. Good Luck to the following students who will compete this month:

- Junior High Reading Competition - November 13 @ Bellwood-Antis**
- Allison Moriconi, Shyana Burger, Thomas Bernard, Hunter Buterbaugh, David Farabaugh, Hannah Farabaugh, Kaitlyn Ludwig, Zachary Onkst and Jady Strittmatter

Elementary Reading Competition - November 15@ Bellwood - Antis

- Austin Amsdell, Abigail Buterbaugh, Gary Farabaugh, Makayla Stephens, David Weinzierl, Daniel Farabaugh, Lilly Dill, Preston Gillin and Angus Ryan

Thank you Mrs. Tanya Cramer and Mrs. Marian Farabaugh for preparing these students for competition.

Red Ribbon Week

Students at NCCS spent the week learning about ways to keep our bodies healthy and NOT use drugs. The students all signed the drug-free pledge, wore red ribbons to remind them to stay drug free, and participated in various activities throughout their classes to discuss this important topic.



NCCS Christmas Concert



Students under the direction of Mrs. Gloria Ryan have been working extremely hard getting ready for our Christmas Concert. It's A GLO - GLO - Glorius Christmas will be presented on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. @ St. Nicholas Church. Students may wear Christmas attire - colors of red, green, gold, silver, white. Boys should wear dark pants. You don't have to go out to buy anything, school clothes are always appropriate.

Is there anyone who would be willing to make a Mary and Joseph costume for the concert? Mary could be white with a blue veil and Joseph could be brown. If so, please call the office as soon as possible to let me know. Thank you in advance!



Service Project for Advent



Advent will soon be here with the 1st Sunday of Advent on December 3. During this season we will again work toward helping those in our community that are in need. We will be collecting aluminum pop can tabs beginning on Tuesday, November 28 through Friday, December 15. The money raised from these tabs will go to help the needy. It is your luck day if you are the first to call that you read the newsletter. Also, special "Christmas attire" days will be held to help raise money for those in need. Toys, hats, gloves, socks, pajamas, etc. will also be collected. Please keep this project in mind as you begin your holiday preparations.



- November 1 - All Saints' Day - Holy Day of Obligation
- November 2 - Pizza and Hoagie Sale Pick-up - St. Nicholas Community Center - 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- November 7 - NCCS School Council - 7:15 p.m.
- November 8 - Veteran's Day Mass - All area veterans and their families are invited. There will be a small reception held in the Community Center following the Mass.

- November 8 - 9 - Parent Teacher Conferences - Look for your appointment time in the parent envelope. No Classes for NCCS students on November 9 or 10.
- November 8-11 - Bon Ton Days - Purchase your coupon book in the office for some great deals!
- November 13 - **Due to the change in the Northern Cambria School Calendar, this day will be a day where NCCS will follow the Special Bus Schedule and it will be necessary for you to PACK YOUR CHILD'S LUNCH.**
- November 14 - PFS Meeting - 6:30 p.m. Community Center Meeting Room
- November 22 - NCCS students will celebrate their Thanksgiving Liturgy. Please send a canned or non-perishable item to school with your child for the offertory procession. These items will go to the local food pantry. This day will be an early dismissal day at 12:10 with regular busing provided.
- November 29 - 1st Penance for our 2nd grade students - 6:00 - St. Nicholas Parish

Looking Ahead

- December 5 - Christmas Concert - 7:00 p.m. - St. Nicholas Church
 - December 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception
 - December 15 - PFS Christmas Caroling - more details to come - rain date December 22.
 - December 19 - PFS Meeting - 6:30 p.m. -Community Center Meeting Room
- ***** December 21 will be the last day of school for students before Christmas Break. There will be busing provided with dismissal @ 12:10 p.m. **This is a change from the school calendar - please note.**

A PUMPKIN PRAYER

*Father in heaven, like a farmer, you have watched me grow
And picked me out from all the rest to house your light and glow.*

*Open my mind to think of you. Open my mouth to sing.
Open my eyes to see your world and share the joy you bring.*

*Open my heart to be your home - a warm and welcome shell,
Washed clean of sin. A place where in your love and light may dwell.*

