

### **Safety Alert**

Over the past three weeks I have heard a growing number of concerns regarding our drop off procedures each morning. The greatest concern involves the safety of our students and the traffic congestion surrounding our school property.

1. The drive through lane is just that - a drive through lane. Many parents are taking too much time unloading their children which is backing up traffic all the way to Fairview and beyond. The only people who should use the drop off lane are those whose children can open their own car doors and disembark quickly. The main parking lot should be used by families who like or need extra time unloading their vehicles. We would appreciate all drivers using the lane to be cognizant of your fellow drivers and the limited space for unloading. Thank you!

2. Please make sure your children come to school dressed properly for the winter weather. The children have a much more enjoyable experience at recess when they are adequately protected from the cold.

### **Science Fair**

**Congratulations to all of our 6th and 8th graders on an exceptional Science Fair last night!** Special thanks to Mrs. Lodge and Mrs. Silberhorn, our middle school science teachers who put in so much effort to make this experience such a good one for our students. Based on the caliber of the projects it was clear that our students learned a lot through their participation in this important program.

Special honors and recognition go to the following students:

### **Grand Prize was earned by:**

#### **6th Graders \***

Charlie Dombrow  
Ethan Hennessey  
David Jaksha  
Katie Mattocks  
Joe McConville  
Devin McGill  
Sophia Michalski  
Ian Obert  
Oliva Pope  
Megan Reis  
Teddy Schmidt  
Abby Sticha

## **8th Graders \***

Jack Cordero  
Maria Cullen  
CeCe Johnson  
Dan Johnson  
Hunter Johnson  
Liam Kelly  
Daniel Martinez  
Mary McConville  
Daniel Rockcastle  
Colleen Scallen  
Katherine Wohletz

\* All of these students have earned the right to advance to the regional science fair held in January. We know these students will represent Nativity well at this year's regional competition.

## **Other Special Awards:**

### **6th Grade:**

**Best Overall Project:** Charlie Dombrow & Kevin McGill  
**WOW Board:** Elliot Weier  
**Catchiest Title:** Maggie Mir  
**Most Creative Topic:** Lucia Anderson & Kate O'Donnell

### **8th Grade:**

**WOW Board:** Lucy Stariha  
**Catchiest Title:** Claire Hennessey  
**Most Creative Project:** Shaymus O'Brien  
**Best Overall Project:** CeCe Johnson

## **Reminders:**

### **Holy Rosary Christmas Program Gifts**

**Wrapped gifts are due Thursday, December 15th. Please include the family name and number on the tag. The Gifts go to your child's classroom. I am still in need of several drivers for the delivery of the gifts on Monday, December 19th. If you are able to help please send me an email at [rcongdon@nativity-mn.org](mailto:rcongdon@nativity-mn.org). This is a drive and drop so those with small children can volunteer.**

### **Swimming Registration**

Please login to [www.nativityathletics.com](http://www.nativityathletics.com) and click on the link for Swimming Registration to get your child signed up for swimming. Once you have registered your child(ren) please send a check in to the office. Swimming begins on Jan 8th.

### **Spirit Wear**

for the winter sports of Swimming and Ski Club are now available. Basketball and Hockey apparel is again available through this store. Please go to [www.identitystores.com](http://www.identitystores.com)

### **Playground Volunteers**

Playground volunteers are still needed for the month of December. Please contact: Patrice Engelmann 2011-2012 Playground Coordinator at (651) 699-9875 [pcengelmann@msn.com](mailto:pcengelmann@msn.com) - home [plengelmann@stkate.edu](mailto:plengelmann@stkate.edu) - work

**Parents of Fifth grade students are asked to volunteer for the month of January.** Please see attached letter for more information.

### **Pizza Party**

Most of the classrooms in grades 3 - 8 earned a pizza party for helping the Men's Club sell Christmas Wreaths.

We have designated Monday, December 19th for the pizza lunch for those classrooms. Pizza and a beverage will be served.

### **Out of Uniform Day**

Students may come out of uniform on Monday, December 19th. We encourage all students to wear **red** or **green**. No face paint or hair color is allowed - we want this to be a respectful way to celebrate the holiday.

### **Great Books**

**Jr. Great Books will be offered to students in grades 3, 4, and 5 in February. Please see attached for registration information**

### **Tuition Reminder**

A reminder to all families on the 7 and 10 month payment plans, your December tuition is now due. Since December marks the half-way point for all our tuition payment plans, we encourage all families to bring their account up to date. Thank you!

### **Stewardship Requirement**

A reminder to all families that your stewardship contribution of at least \$360 must be received by December 31<sup>st</sup> in order to remain eligible for the subsidized "in parish" tuition rate. If you have any questions regarding your stewardship contributions, please contact Joyce Kotta at 651-696-5436 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

## **Winter Sports sponsored by the Men's Club**

Please see attached for registration information

### **Ski Club**

Registration is **not** on a first come, first served basis. Registration forms should be turned in to the office by Thursday, December 15th. \*\*\*All skiers and snowboarders are strongly encouraged to wear proper safety equipment, including a helmet, to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience!

### **Jefferson Avenue Bikeway Meetings**

Each of these meetings listed below will help shape the staff proposal to the City's Transportation Committee, Planning Commission, and City Council! Staff will be sharing a preview of that proposal at a public meeting later this winter.

For project information and ways to provide input online in December visit [www.stpaul.gov/jefferson](http://www.stpaul.gov/jefferson)

- Monday, December 12th  
7:00 - 8:30pm

Nativity School Auditorium

learn about traffic calming techniques and tell us how you feel about them on Jefferson Avenue, between Finn Street and Fairview Avenue.

- Tuesday, December 13th  
7:00 - 8:30pm

Nativity School Auditorium

learn about traffic calming techniques and tell us how you feel about them on Jefferson Avenue, between Fairview Avenue and Snelling Avenue.

### **Children's Program of Northern Ireland**

**Host families are needed - please check out their website at [www.cpni.org](http://www.cpni.org) for more information if you are interested.**

### **A Look Ahead In December**

**Thursday, Dec. 8th**

**Midquarter for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders**

**Monday, Dec. 12th**

**- Parish Youth Choir and Middle School Choir Concerts - 7:00P.M. in the Upper Church**

**- Jefferson Avenue Meeting - School Auditorium 7:00 - 8:30P.M.**

**Tuesday, Dec. 13th**

**- Reconciliation for grades 5, 6, and 7**

**Thursday, Dec. 15th**

**- Grades 2 & 4 Music Concert - 7:00P.M. - School Auditorium**

**Friday, Dec. 16th**

**- 1st Grade Paraliturgy - 1:45P.M. - Upper Church**

**Monday, Dec. 19th**

**- Holy Rosary Prayer Service and Gift Delivery (9:00 AM)**

**- Band Concert - 7:00P.M. - School Auditorium**

**Tuesday, Dec. 20th**

**- Geography Bee - Parents of participants will be invited to join us.**

**- Christmas Liturgy**

**- Dismissal 11:30A.M.**

**Wednesday, Dec. 21 - Jan 3**

**Christmas Vacation**

**Wednesday, January 4, 2012**

**School Resumes**