

Dear Parents,

Parent Volunteers Needed - Can you Help Us?

Each day our students have time outside to get some exercise and fresh air. We think this is an important part of each day, and research suggests students learn better when they have some active time built into their day. Although we have teachers and staff assigned to supervise the children and intervene when behaviors are inappropriate, we rely on our parents to offer their time helping supervise during the lunch recess time as well. Parents primarily supervise the K-5 students during the volunteer shift from 12:00-1:00 each day. Typically we have designated a grade level to cover playground duty each month, however, we have struggled to adequately fill the volunteer spots each month --- this is where you could help us. We are looking for parents who are willing and able to help us this month through year end. If you are able to give one or two days to mingle among our students while they climb snow hills, play kickball, or have fun on the equipment, please email Patrice Engelmann, our Playground Volunteer Coordinator at pcengelmann@msn.com – home, plengelmann@stkate.edu – work, or call Patrice at (651) 699-9875 and sign up for a day...or two...or three. Please see attached form for more information. Patrice has an open calendar ready to fill up with willing volunteers.

Thank you in advance for your willingness to assist us with this important task.

Kate Wollan

A Look Ahead

● **Jan. 7th - Parent Meeting for the 7th and 8th Grade play**

will be Saturday, January 7th in the Auditorium from 9AM - 10AM. If you have any questions please contact Mary Jo Iverson at miverson@nativity-mn.org or call her at 651-696-5411.

● **Jan. 10th and 11th - First Reconciliation**

for our Second Graders is next Tuesday, Jan. 10th for Mrs. Michel's and Mrs. Peterson's classes and Wednesday, Jan. 11th for Miss Knowles' and Mrs. Kelly's classes. Please keep them in your prayers.

● **Jan. 10th - Parish Youth Choir & Middle School Choir**

Practice will begin again next Tuesday, during flex time for Middle School Choir and after school for Parish Youth Choir. If any student would like to join choir (parish choir for grades 2-5 and Middle School for grades 6-8) for the second half of the year please contact Patrick Henning - Choir Director. Patrick can be reached at 651-696-5430 or by email at phenning@nativity-mn.org.

- **Jan. 11th - Activity Photos**

will be taken next **Wednesday, January 11th** of all students who participate in the Arts, Athletics, and Academic clubs. Please avoid scheduling appointments on this day if possible. **There is no make-up date for these photos.**

- **Jan. 16th - No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

- **Jan. 18th - 7th grade Parent Sacrament Meeting**

is Wednesday, January 18th at 7P.M. in Steiner Hall.

- **Jan. 24th - Kindergarten Round Up**

Invitations will be mailed tomorrow for families with an age-eligible child for kindergarten 2012. Round Up will be held at 6:30P.M. in the Auditorium for parents and their kinder. If you have any questions, please contact Rose Congdon at 651-699-1311 or email me at rcongdon@nativity-mn.org.

- **Jan. 29th - Feb. 3 - Catholic School's Week**

More information to follow next week.

Open House is Feb. 2nd.

Reminders

- **Great Book's Leader needed for 4th grade**

We are in need of someone to lead the 4th grade Great Books group during the 4th grade lunch hour (12:10 - 12:55). You can pick the day of the week that works best for you. Virtus training is required for this volunteer position. Unfortunately, if we don't get a leader, the group will have to be cancelled. Please contact Denise Joyce at 651-699-1311 to volunteer. Thank you!

- **Hot Lunch**

Statements went home today for families who had a negative lunch balance. Please send a check to the office to reload your lunch account. All parents are reminded to login to Cornerstone on a regular basis to check your balance.

- **Gracenotes Band**

Beginning Band is now accepting new members to start band in January. Mrs. Garvey, director of Gracenotes Band Program, is excited to offer your child the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument. No prior experience is necessary. Fourth and fifth grade students have the opportunity to try different instruments to see what they like best.

Instruction is offered on flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, and percussion. This year we especially need more **flutes** and **percussion**. It is

strongly recommended that students have 2 years of lessons before playing percussion.

If your child is interested in joining band, please contact Mrs. Garvey at 651-399-9662 or gracenotesbands@gmail.com . Check out the website for additional information on the program: www.GracenotesBands.com

- **We are running short on paper towels in the nurse's office ...**

Anyone interested in donating a roll to the nurse's office can send them to the school office at their convenience - Thank you!

- **Class Photos**

A class photo went home today with students who ordered pictures.