

# October Newsletter

Nazareth  
Elementary  
2023-2024

## Our First Fundraiser is Off to a Great Start!



*Have you registered  
your family  
for our fundraiser?*

- ✓ **Register** TODAY at [www.ShopFund.com](http://www.ShopFund.com)
- ✓ **Share** your personalized link with family/friends on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Email & Text

**Please remember!** We don't want parents to feel obligated to make a purchase. Register online and share your link with others. It's that easy!



## School Picture Day

School pictures will be taken on **Wednesday, October 18**, at Nazareth. You are receiving the flyer with information today. Check backpacks! Children do not have to wear their uniforms for their school picture.

## Home Support for Learning and Growing

- \* Have a set bedtime appropriate for the age of your child. Take away electronics before bedtime.
- \* A good night's sleep and breakfast (home or at school) are critical to learning.
- \* Do a uniform check each morning before heading out.
- \* Check backpacks and planners daily for homework and communications from school.
- \* Set aside homework time and space. A quiet learning space with no distractions helps a child focus on lessons.



October 9	No School — Columbus / Indigenous Peoples' Day
October 13	First Fundraiser Ends
October 18	School Picture Day
October 20	Fall Festival — 6-7:30pm
October 25	Grade 6 visits Aquinas

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Everyone had a wonderful start to the new year and September just flew by! The children were happy to be back among their friends, and readily welcomed new classmates and staff. The entire faculty and staff have inspired me by their dedication, creative planning, and joy-filled spirits.



If you have been following our Facebook page, you have seen the amazing pictures with captions posted almost daily by our new Development & Marketing Coordinator, Amy Rist. She has captured so well the variety of lessons and student engagement taking place. Check them out if you have not seen them.

We are building leadership opportunities into school activities. The sixth graders led the daily prayer and pledge over the PA in September and the fifth graders will take over this month. Some of our sixth graders are doing a marvelous job as safeties, helping the littlest ones in the cafeteria and guiding them back to their classrooms.



Along with the morning prayer, pledge, birthday recognitions and announcements, we read “Bright Spots” on Fridays. This is an opportunity for staff or students to recognize others doing the right thing, doing a good deed, and making a difference. Mrs. Parker, our social worker, added affirmations to start the day too. How blessed we are to begin each day with prayer and positive thoughts!

Our new teachers have made themselves at home and warmly embraced our mission. It feels like they have been with us much longer than a few weeks. We welcome the gifts they bring to all of us this year.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at Curriculum Night! Contact your child’s teacher/s whenever you have questions about curriculum and classroom expectations. Home and faculty working together is such a gift for each child.

Along with integrating Gospel values into every aspect of the school day, we always have a particular school-wide focus. *Kindness* and respect remain our focus – kindness and respect toward one another, in our families and communities, and toward God’s creation. There are so many ways to spread kindness and care for the earth. Maybe your family can make this a theme for home too.

As autumn unfolds, its many colors remind us that each person is unique and beautiful. Together with you, the primary educators, we will strive to bring out the inner beauty and goodness of each child!

Peace and blessings, *Sr. Margaret*

## Volunteering



We need a number of volunteers to make each event a successful one. Thank you to those who signed up Curriculum Night. Everyone has gifts and talents to share. Any member of SAC - our School Advisory Committee - would be happy to talk with you about an event.

**NOTE:** In order to volunteer for an event, field trip, or classroom function, you must take the Creating a Safe Environment online training. Sr. Dolores Ann Stein would be happy to assist or answer any questions. She will get you set up for the training. Just call our office any Tuesday/Thursday between 8:00 and 2:30.

# Welcome to Nazareth!

We have been blessed with several new staff members this year. We wish them much happiness at Nazareth and are so grateful for their service.



Holly Brennan - PK3

Terry Valvo - Kdg

Sr. Christina Luczynski - Grade 2

Mary Pioli—Grade 5 (long term sub)

Elizabeth Mayo - Music

Amy Rist - Development and Marketing

**Teacher Update** - We have been actively seeking and interviewing for a PK aide and Grade 5 teacher. Finding the right fit for these roles is priority. We want the best for our children!

As you know, Nazareth is a very special place! We're looking for educators that will help us encourage a love of learning, good moral character and confidence in our students that propel them to thrive. We welcome your prayers and any opportunity that you may have to network about these open positions.

"Children are great imitators. So give them something great to imitate."



## Curriculum Corner

**Transitions** – It takes a little time for students to adjust each fall to a new grade, new teacher and new expectations. The odd numbered grades are the biggest transition years. First graders are no longer in the early childhood levels. Third graders have moved out of the primary grades, and fifth graders are now switching classes, adjusting to two teachers, and moving closer to that middle school level.

**Internet Safety** – Do you know what your child is exploring on the web? There are wonderful, age-appropriate sites that reinforce learning, but there are also very serious, inappropriate, and dangerous sites that young people try. Children often want to seem cool on social media. They do not have the maturity to understand the ramifications until it is too late. We all have the responsibility to teach them safe use of technology. We are planning a workshop for parents on cyber safety.



Our children will also be learning about cyber safety in their technology classes. Each year we send home a Code of Conduct / Acceptable Use of Technology form. Thank you to those who already returned the form to Mrs. Hummel, our tech teacher. Signing the agreement would be a good time to engage in conversation with your child/ren about the use of electronics and social media. It is important to check phones and tablets regularly.

## Daily Health and Wellness Check for Home

We ask that all parents/guardians be responsible for screening your child/ren daily before they leave home. Please do not send your child to school if they are ill. Call our main office or our nurse's office before 9:00 if your child will be staying home. The COVID virus, RSV and the flu are present and active.

### Answer the following for your child/ren daily – Yes or No:

- ☐ Temperature over 100.0° F, chill, or a sense of having a fever
- ☐ Cough not caused by anything else (ex. allergies)
- ☐ Shortness of breath not caused by anything else (ex. allergies)
- ☐ Sore throat not caused by anything else (ex. allergies)
- ☐ Muscle aches not caused by anything else (such as sports injury)
- ☐ Loss of taste or smell
- ☐ Nasal congestion or runny nose not caused by anything else (ex. allergies)
- ☐ Headache different from a usual headache
- ☐ Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- ☐ New fatigue



*\*If you answer YES to any question, please keep your child home, call our school office/school nurse, and*

## NOTE to Parents

**Absences** - If your child is going to be absent, please **call the school office by 9:00**. If we do not hear from you, the school nurse will call you to verify the absence.

**Tardiness** - We understand there are early a.m. appointments or unusual circumstances; however, most days children should be at school on time. **School officially starts at 8:15, but it is best for the child to arrive by 8:00** so s/he can settle in. When students arrive late, they miss the first lesson of the day. Thank you for your efforts.

**Arrival and Dismissal by Car** - Thank you so much for your cooperation and patience in the car lines. Your support on a daily basis helps us ensure the safety of every child.



**Uniforms** - Walking shorts and PE shorts are normally part of the uniform in September and late May/June. Now that summer is over, students will no longer wear shorts after this warm first week of October. All should be in school pants and PE pants starting **October 10**.

Thank you for making sure your child wears the proper dress uniform, including navy tie, socks and safe shoes.  
*How sharp they all look!*

*Save the date!*



### Nazareth's Annual FALL FESTIVAL

**October 20, 2023**  
6pm - 7:30pm

Please join us for some friendly family fun! We will have many activities and pizza is included.





**\*Friendly reminder: Parents are responsible for supervising their children throughout the event.\***

Please return the bottom portion of the flyer by **October 18, 2023**

Swag Basket  
Raffle Tickets \$1 each



Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adults \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Children \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tickets are \$4 per person

**Fall Fest 2023**



# Nazareth's Annual FALL FESTIVAL



**We are thrilled to hold our Fall Festival again for it is always an exciting family event!**

Our annual Fall Festival will take place on **Friday, October 20th from 6:00-7:30pm** right at school. Students and their families are invited to come together for an evening of togetherness, food and fun fall activities. Information is coming home from the School Advisory Committee and will be posted on our web site and Facebook page. Please be sure to sign up early so we have a count for the pizza. RSVP deadline is October 18th.

We hope you and your children will be able to join in the activities and spend time with other families. It is a great opportunity to meet some of our new families as well!

## First Lego League

We're excited to share that Mrs. Taylor and Sr. Connie will be leading our First Lego League Team! The group will be meeting on Mondays and Thursdays from now through December. There are 11 students on the team with a wait list!



We are encouraged by the knowledge and skill sets the students will develop.

Yet, it is also important to note that it is a privilege to be on the team. Each student is expected to live the values of Nazareth everywhere, work hard on their studies, and show kindness and respect to all. The team will be modeling **"Gracious Professionalism"** through this journey.



McQuaid Jesuit has been incredibly supportive partners to us in this venture. Not only have they donated materials so we're prepared for December's competition, but members of their *IgKNIGHTers* Robotics Team will be coming to Nazareth one time per week to mentor our students. Stay tuned for our Lego League updates on our website and Facebook page.



## Heading Off to School – Daily Checklist

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ✓ Temperature and Health Check                 | ✓ Filled Water Bottle (with child's name)        |
| ✓ Proper Uniform                               | ✓ Homework                                       |
| ✓ Backpack                                     | ✓ School Books, Supplies, Mask to keep in school |
| ✓ Healthy Lunch<br>(if not ordering at school) | ✓ Name on All Personal Belongings                |

## Website Updates and Communication Opportunities

Our website is in the midst of being updated and is an ongoing work in progress. Please continue to utilize the site for information while knowing that you'll see enhancements over the next several months. Facebook offers a quick opportunity for reminders, classroom happenings and photos of our days. Consider following us on Facebook @NazarethElementary and sharing so that your loved ones can see too!