



IMPORTANT DATES

Faculty Christmas Party
December 19
No afterschool care/
programs

Christmas Program
December 21, 9am
Dismissal immediately
following

Christmas Break
December 22- January 1

Nardin Spelling Bee
January 8
(Date change from Jan 15)

Ski Club/Adventure Club
January 4, 11, 18, 25

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
January 21
No School

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL, MAGGIE ABELS

Dear Parents,

The after-effects of Hurricane Sandy and the very difficult challenges faced by the people affected by it make us consider what is truly important—as well as the generosity of the human spirit. Our students were extremely generous on the jeans day that benefitted the American Red Cross Hurricane Relief.

In addition, you and your children have been generous with your contributions to the Somali refugee students at Lafayette HS and their families. The need for outerwear and warm clothing for people who have never experienced a winter is enormous. By the time you read this, we will have donated personal items for the people at St. Luke's Mission, and begun our Christmas project with the students at Baker Services. The generosity of our students is a tribute to you and the way you have taught them.

This, of course, is what the season of Advent and Christmas is all about. The ultimate gift—the Christ Child, leads us, just as the generosity of your children leads us here at Nardin. We are a community that has been given much; the impulse to “pay it forward” is a good one. Aside from giving, we celebrate the season in a prayerful way through our Advent services, daily mass, and Lessons and Carols, all led by our students. In this spirit, we at Nardin wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Thank you as always, for sharing the precious gift of your children with us.

Best wishes,

Margaret Abels
Elementary Principal



PLEASE NOTE

There will be no afterschool supervision, athletic practices, music lessons, tutoring, or any other afterschool activities on the following dates:

- *Wednesday, December 19: Faculty/staff Christmas party*
- *Friday, December 21: Dismissal immediately follows the Christmas program, which begins at 9:00 am.*

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



NARDIN ACADEMY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2012-JANUARY 2013

Volume 5, Issue 4

NARDIN ACADEMY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

135 Cleveland Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 881-6262

Main Office x1010
Absence Line x3050
Admissions x1030
Clinic x1250
Principal x1120

After School Program
Grades 1-3 x1340
Grades 4-8 x1360

STAFF

Maggie Abels, Principal
Victoria Boreanaz, Admissions
Colleen Enright, Admin. Asst.
Karen Shivinsky, Secretary

FACULTY

Kelly Africano	Nicca Lebeda
Gaile Amigone	Catherine Lochtefeld
JoAnn Balistreri-Anderson	-Sirianni
Theresa Barker	Bridget Lucey
Nicole Beahan	Mark Mazur
Callie Burke	Timothy McGee
Kari Colangelo	Kellie McRae
Mary Crawford	Mary Beth Neary
Katie Daly	Susan Ostroff
Rosanne Davis	Marybeth Parrinello
Amy Doerr	Mark Piwko
MaryAnne Endres	Lisa Quinn
Andrea Faden	David Ricchiazzi
Christa Farah	Denise Seeley
Maureen Feeley	Maria Siepel
Michelle Georger	Marie Stevens
Theresa Haim	Mary Swart
Cindy Hanna	Jaelyn Twichell
Jennifer Kinyon	Joanne Vile
Becky Klauk	Patricia Weissman
Laurie Kullman	Nicole Wright
Linda Lates-Nelson	Colleen Zimmerman

MISSION STATEMENT: AMAZING THINGS FOR THE WORLD...

At Nardin Academy, we believe that every student has the potential to do amazing things. As an independent, Catholic school, with a focus on academic excellence, Nardin helps students to develop their individual talent and to cultivate their intellect, character and courage to make a difference in the world.

Upcoming holiday performances by Nardin Elementary students:

December 4: The senior choir will perform at the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site
 December 7: The senior choir will perform at the Garret Club
 December 9: Breakfast with Santa at Acqua; both the senior and junior choirs will perform
 December 14: Grades 4-5 from the junior choir will perform at the Blocher Homes in Williamsville.
 December 21: The Junior Choir and Orchestra will perform in the annual Nardin Elementary Christmas Program.

Solar Panels at Nardin

As part of our Green Initiative, Nardin Academy has installed 120 solar panels on the roof of our main campus building at 135 Cleveland Avenue. The school is leasing these panels through Solar Liberty, a local company founded in 2003. The solar panels are part of what is known as a grid-tied photovoltaic solar energy system. The system allows us to harness the sun's energy to power our building and send excess electricity back to the power grid.



This clean energy is good for the environment and saves the school money. We plan to reduce our carbon footprint by decreasing our greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 17 tons of carbon dioxide each year. This is equivalent to planting 671 trees each year, or reducing the emissions from a medium-size car by 31,410 miles. The school is estimated to save approximately \$2,500 per year in energy costs.

Nardin Academy's administration and math and science teachers will be participating in a workshop this month to learn more about the system and how we can track the energy in real time. In addition, the school will be incorporating information about solar energy into the curriculum.



Fortune
2013



SAVE THE DATE
MARCH 9, 2013

Fortune 2013 co-chairs:

Mary Beth & Jim Basil
(High School)

Cheryl & Michael Rossi
(High School)

Christen & Joe Smith
(Elementary)

Cheryl & James Swiezy
(Montessori)

WHAT IS FORTUNE?

Fortune is Nardin's largest annual fundraising event—it is a fun, festive event, held at Nardin's main campus. It includes a cocktail hour, live and silent auctions, and sit-down dinner. The 2013 event is already on our calendar, for Saturday, March 9, beginning at 6 pm.

During the fall and winter, leading up to the event, our generous co-chair parents host several gift-gathering parties to collect donated items for the auctions. Watch our website and your email for updates, and join us to meet and socialize with other Nardin families. Our students help out by selling raffle tickets, and many of them participate in art projects, which also are donated to the auction.

There are many Fortune volunteer opportunities—both prior to the auction and on the night of the event. Getting involved with Fortune is a great way to meet other families and to help your child's school with one of its most exciting fundraising events.

Please contact Joan Wadsworth, Fortune coordinator, to volunteer or with any questions. Call 881-6262, x1861 or write jwadsworth@nardin.org

ELEMENTARY NEWS

November 8 was Beret Day at Nardin.

All 148 French students in our Elementary and Montessori Elementary celebrated National French Week by making and proudly wearing the traditional beret basque. *Vive la France* and all things French! Special thanks to Wendy Ald, Rebecca Hohle, Clare Poth, Denise Seeley, Missy Dunn and Jennifer Parks for all of their assistance.

Congratulations to our math teams,

who participated in the St. Francis High School Math Bowl. Nardin Team 1 was made up of Caroline Bernstein, Josh Dachille, Emma Davis, Zara Kazmierczak, Josh Lane, and Victoria Pizzuto. They won the 1st place trophy.



Team II, made up of John Collins, Michael Fredericks, Liz Galbo, Callan Izatt, Cathleen Krabak, and Jimmy Twist, took the 2nd place trophy. First place individual trophy went to 6th grader Callan Izatt!

All students in grades 5-7 have competed in the first of four national arithmetic competitions

In the spirit of giving this holiday

season, Nardin has again adopted Baker Academy. The members of Student Council will creatively raise funds to purchase gifts for the children from their wish lists. Santa will then deliver the presents to Baker Academy. It is wonderful to see the enthusiasm with which the Nardin community helps out.

The Student Council is also working

hard to help others in our very own community. Immediately following our Halloween festivities, Mr. Rob Johnson from Lafayette High School visited Nardin to kick off the coat drive. He explained to students that the majority of the students at Lafayette are refugees from around the world and are not equipped for Buffalo's harsh winters. Nardin families cleaned out their closets and donated an overwhelming amount of winter clothes and baby items. Once the coat drive was over, Student Council, along with the high school, organized a food and personal item drive to benefit St. Luke's Mission of Mercy. Thank you for all of your support. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Two of Nardin's eighth graders, Conall Krabak and Rebecca Thomas, are on-ice volunteers for the Skating Association for the Bold at Heart (SABAH). The therapeutic skating program meets weekly to provide exercise and enjoyment for children and adults challenged by disability. The season runs through March and culminates with SABAH's annual Celebration on Ice at the First Niagara Center. SABAH skating is an extremely rewarding and fun activity. The organization is in need of more on-ice volunteers on Tuesday afternoons. If any seventh or eighth grade students are interested, please contact Mrs. Katie Daly at kdaly@nardin.org.

On a chilly morning in November, our seventh and first graders joined together to plant 350 bulbs in the Monarch Garden and school grounds. We look forward to watching the flowers bloom in the spring. Thank you to the entire first grade and the seventh grade volunteers for their hard work and commitment to the earth.



Baret Day



Thanksgiving



ELEMENTARY NEWS (cont)

Our girls' "It's Academic" team came in 4th place at the 1st annual Holy Angels Competition. Team members were Katelyn Bajorek, Zara Kazmierczak, Jackie Richardson, and Rebecca Thomas.

Our boys' "It's Academic" team came in 4th place in the St. Francis High School Quiz Bowl. Team members were Sam Capizzi, Bernard Dent, Callan Izatt and Josh Lane.

On election day, students in all grade levels received the opportunity to vote in the presidential election, during their Social Studies classes. They went to a "voting booth" and chose the candidate they thought could best lead our country through the next four years. Students in Mrs. Beahan's 6th and 8th grade Social Studies classes also participated in the Channel One online vote prior to election day.

Congratulations to our swim team. Nardin Elementary School was named the overall Division 2 champ. The eight-and-under medley relay team of Jane Biddle, Laura Franz, Abby Gioia, and Mimi Richardson was undefeated all season—they were the 1st place winners at the Championships out of 50 teams! Jane Biddle came in 1st place in the 25 yard breaststroke. Go Gators! A special thanks to Coach Kym Seiss, Diane Revelas and all of the parent volunteers for a fantastic season!

One of our 8th graders, Jacqueline Richardson, attended the NFJC Middle School Retreat at St. Bonaventure University, a locally respected leadership program. We are delighted that she was chosen!

Sixth grader Callan Izatt headed to New York City on December 1 to audition for "Kids' Jeopardy." He earned this opportunity

by doing well on an online test of thirty questions administered on October 30. A sample question was: "This is an important river and an online delivery site." (answer: "What is Amazon?"). If he succeeds in New York, his name will go into a pool of candidates who will eventually be called to compete against each other. Ms. Doerr's sixth grade language arts class will be celebrating Callan's opportunity with a Jeopardy party.



Looking for a little holiday cheer, Nardin-style? Nardinware has the answer: our Christmas tree ornaments are here! Other enticing gifts to make holiday shopping more Nardin-full are a Nardin Post-it note-cube, yoga pants (with green or purple waistband), and hot pink flannel polka-dot pants (for youth).

Still to come are adorable Nardin teddy bears and sport headbands—we will keep you posted as new items arrive! The store is open school days, 7-8:30 am and 12-1:30 pm. For your convenience, you may choose to view and purchase your nifty Nardinware via our new on-line store! *Thanks, and happy shopping!*



Geography Awareness



Noel MacNeal visit



The Technology Front

Students in grades 1-4 have been entering the world of BrainPOP these last few weeks.

"What in the world is BrainPOP?" you may ask....BrainPOP.com is an educational website with over 1,000 short animated videos/movies and games for students in grades K-12 covering the subjects of science, social studies, English, math, art & music, engineering & technology and health.

Nardin Academy has purchased a subscription so students may have full access to all that the website has to offer.

So that you may log in at home with your child, here is the access info:

LOGIN: nardin

PASSWORD: library

(Please note that they are case-sensitive)

Also note that although the site **may** be accessed without logging in, the user will not be able to benefit from the full experience of "educational fun" BrainPOP is so well known for!

Trip to Peru—New Options

For several reasons, EF Tours has suggested that we postpone our trip to Spring 2014. With extra time, we should be able to raise funds, and also the weather should be better (it will be fall there, rather than winter). If you sign up before December 15, 2012, you can save \$335 per person over the current price (or \$135 if you sign later). For further information, contact Mrs. Maria Siepel, Nardin Elementary trip leader, at 549-4891, or go to www.EFTours.com, and enter trip no. 1359425.

The Making a Difference Dinner

The Making a Difference Dinner, a Celebration of Catholic Schools, takes place on January 31, at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center. The chair couples are TJ and Diane Revelas and Mark and Mary Hoffman. One of the Bishop Medal Honorees is the Joy Family Foundation. Thank you to the Revelas, Hoffman and Joy families for your support of Nardin and of Catholic education!

A few photos from our amazing production "Cinderella"!





YEARBOOK 2012-13

Dear Friends,

The Nardin Yearbook is a long standing annual project for students and faculty. It is truly a symbol of the excellence and tradition of the Nardin family.

Every student, from Montessori to the eighth grade, is given a yearbook as a remembrance of their year at Nardin Academy. Because of the funding that is required to make this project successful, we must turn to you for your assistance. As in past years, it is through the support of our patrons, that we are able to secure the financial success of our yearbook.

We kindly ask for your consideration in this matter and for your participation in our patron drive. It is through your support and generosity that we can make this year's yearbook a great success.

Thank you in advance for your kindness.

Sincerely,
Colleen M. Zimmerman
Yearbook Coordinator

PLEASE RETURN TO NARDIN ELEMENTARY OFFICE-ATTN: COLLEEN ZIMMERMAN

YEARBOOK PATRON

Yes, I would like to become a yearbook patron for the following amount:

\$50 \$25 \$15 \$10 \$ other

We will acknowledge our patrons in the yearbook. Please fill in below the exact spelling so we may acknowledge your gift and support.

Please make checks payable to: Nardin Elementary Yearbook