



NAZARETH ACADEMY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER, 2017



**Founded In 1867
By Sisters of the
Incarnate Word and
Blessed Sacrament**

Mission Statement
To Teach (the Gospel Message),
to Build (a loving Community) and
to Serve (those in need) in the Spirit of Christ.

**Jets for Jesus
150 years of Service**

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sept. 1 Classes cancelled due to weather
- Sept. 4 Labor Day - No School
- Sept. 5 Safe Environment training
5:30-7:30 in Room 238
- Sept. 11 Feast Day of Venerable Jeanne de Matel, the Foundress of the Incarnate Word & Blessed Sacrament Sisters who teach at NA
- Sept. 15 Student Council Speeches and elections
- Sept. 18–22 Standardized Testing - ITBS
- Sept. 20 NA Advisory Council Meeting
- Sept. 27 See You at the Pole 7:45am
Progress Reports Issued
- Sept. 28 Individual Photos, PK-3 through 8

UP COMING EVENTS

- Oct. 6 Mass at 8:15 at OLS
Early dismissal at 2:00 p.m.
- Oct. 6 NA A Volleyball Tournament
- Oct. 13 End of 1st Nine Weeks
- Oct. 18 NA Advisory Council Meeting
- Oct. 27 No School - Parent/Teacher conferences

Dear Teachers, Parents and Guardians,

First day of school back after Hurricane Harvey, and 99.9% of the students were here! It was so heart-warming to see their smiling faces. We are continuing to pray for all of you, your relatives, friends and neighbors. There are several families who are still displaced or still don't have power. At least one of our families has relatives in Puerto Rico.

I just left the upstairs chapel a few minutes ago after praying for all those who needed the prayers. I realized once again that when we give credit to all those who have helped us make a smooth transition to getting back to school, that the Blessed Sacrament is here in school and the Lord took care of us throughout the storm. It is such a blessing to have a chapel in our school, with Jesus looking over all of us every day, especially in trying times.

We've been trying to update our Parent Alert list. If you have not received parent alerts or know someone else who has not, please let the office know. We'll work to correct it.

We've been blessed with all the donations of water made to the school to supplement what you send with your child. Thanks to a friend in Dallas (through HEB), we had additional cases of water, hand sanitizer, and Clorox wipes donated.

May God continue to bless all of us and keep us safe in His loving care!

Continued Blessings for a great school year!

Sister Evelyn Korenek, Principal

NAZARETH ACADEMY VISION STATEMENT

The vision is to continue the legacy of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament by forming students in a Christ-centered environment, inspiring a lasting love of learning, and promoting a life-long commitment to Christian values and service.

FALL STANDARDIZED ACHIEVEMENT TESTING

The Iowa Test of Basic Skills will be given during the week of September 18-22 to students in Grades 1-8. Because it is so early in the year, the results will be used as a diagnostic tool to determine each student's areas of weakness and strengths. The teachers will use the results in the next eight months to plan lessons and activities to meet the needs of each student.

Please see that your child gets plenty of rest the night before testing and eats a healthy breakfast each morning. Although there are no volleyball and football games this week, there will be practice.

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PHOTOS

Individual Pictures for students in Pre K3 through 8th grade will be taken on, September 28th beginning at 8:15 a.m. Eighth graders are to dress in their "Sunday Best". **All other students are to wear the NA uniform and a Jets for Jesus smile.** Faculty and staff will also have their individual pictures taken.

Make-up day for photos will be scheduled at a later date. .

"KIDS NIGHT OUT" (KNO)

Kid's Night Out is an evening of organized, supervised, fun-filled activities for 2nd-8th grade students.

KNO will normally be held on the 1st Friday of every month in the NA playroom from 6:00 pm-9:00 pm. (This could also be used as your Parent Night Out with babysitting at NA!!!)

KNO was created out of a need for our children to be able to socialize, communicate and have fun with one another outside of the academic classroom, in a safe, Christian atmosphere. It will be a great opportunity to enhance social skills, interact with students in other grades, and maybe make new friends!

For only \$15 per child, your child/children can enjoy 3 hours with their friends, play games, work on a craft project, dance, or just "hang-out" and talk. Food and drinks will also be provided at no extra cost. Students can be signed in and dropped off any time beginning at 6:00 pm and can stay until 9:00 pm. To be in compliance with the Safe Environment Policy, we must have a certain ratio of supervising adults to children. Therefore, you must RSVP ahead of time for the event.

Due to Hurricane Harvey and the relief efforts being provided by our volunteers, KNO will **not** be held in September.

APPOINTMENTS

If you must pick up your child during school hours for any reason (doctor, dental, illness, etc.), please come to the school office and one of the staff will get your child. Teachers will not release your child from the classroom without consent from the office. All students must be checked out through the office. In the case of an appointment, please send a note to school with your child letting the office and the teacher know when to expect to have a child leaving.

For a student to receive an excused tardy for an appointment, an official doctor/dental note is required.

REQUEST FOR HOMEWORK WHEN A STUDENT IS ABSENT

E-mail or text the teachers as soon as you can to request homework. Messages are not checked during instruction time. Homework is usually sent to the office at the end of the school day for pick up.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Diocese of Victoria adopted the *Code of Pastoral Conduct* to provide a set of standards for conduct for all church/church-related personnel, including personnel and volunteers in Catholic schools of the Diocese. According to the Code, volunteers must attend a *Keeping Kids Safe Workshop*, and obtain clearance on a criminal records background check for the State of Texas or any other state where the applicant has resided during the past 5 years, **before volunteering**. Any volunteer providing service to the students, *must have met these obligations before being allowed to volunteer*. For more information, including dates for the various trainings, please call the school office or visit the Diocese of Victoria website at www.victoriadiocese.org

First time volunteers, who have submitted an online application and completed a background check to be a volunteer at Nazareth Academy, are required to attend an orientation session regarding the “Code of Pastoral Conduct” and the “Policy Regarding Sexual Abuse of Minors”. This session must be attended within 90 of the completion of the online application/background check. **Check the Victoria Diocese website for the next session.**

AFTER-SCHOOL PICK UP

Thank you for your cooperation in regards to the pick-up of students. We ask parents who pick up their child(ren) immediately after school to wait in their cars.

Pick up corner for students in Grs. 4-8 is the corner of Church & Glass Street; Grades 1 to 4 the corner of Convent & Glass Street; and 4K & Kinder the corner of Convent & Bridge.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

After School Care is a service provided for those who are registered. After School Care for Grs. 4 -8 is in the Art Room. **The number is 573-9803.** You may call this number to say you are waiting for your child. Please park on Bridge Street to wait for your child.

361-894-2730 - PK3 & PK4

361-550-1803 - K – Gr. 3

361-573-9803 - Grs. 4-8

Students in PK 4 to Gr. 3 are walked across the street to the Convent. The numbers are

After School Care fee is \$4 if picked up between 4:00 and 4:45pm. The fee for pick up between 4:45 and 5:30 is \$8. After 5:30 the charge is \$6.00 per 15 minutes.

SAFETY NEWS

Help us eliminate traffic jams before and after school. When dropping off or picking up your child(ren), please do not park along the school curbs and leave your car. If you need to park your car, we ask that you park on the opposite side of the street. This will keep traffic moving and thus eliminate traffic congestion.

Please follow all directions given by those on duty. Here are a few reminders:

1. Pull to the curb side of the school to pick-up or drop-off your child. Never ask the child to walk into the street to enter the car.
2. Your child should enter the vehicle from the curb side of the vehicle only, not walk into the street to enter the opposite side of the vehicle.
3. Observe the adults who are directing traffic or assisting the patrollers.

We appreciate you following our safety rules. Your child’s safety is our concern.



BOX TOPS COLLECTION

Collection of Box Tops is one of NA’s successful projects. Keep sending in those Box Tops, even if you only have a few! Remember, each Box Top is worth 10¢ for our school – and that adds up fast when every family participates.

NA earned over \$1,500.00 Box Tops last year. Our joint efforts were successful and greatly appreciated. Let us try to top the amount this year. Please continue to remember this offer when you do your grocery shopping.

As we did last school year, students are asked to turn in the Box Tops in baggies/envelopes with their name on it and place it in the container in their classroom or drop them off in the office. Students and classes will be recognized for their efforts in collecting Box Tops. Students are invited to ask their friends and neighbors to help with their class collection. Thanks to everyone! Recognition will be done next month.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Nazareth Academy Advisory Council operates in an advisory capacity to the principal and to the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, who own the school. The Advisory Council's role includes long-range planning and setting goals, policy development that supports the long-range plan, fiscal planning and development, and communication with accountability to the various constituents. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month (or as indicated on the monthly calendar) at the St. Agnes Annex. Persons wishing to address the Council should notify the President or Sister Evelyn two weeks in advance.

Advisory Council

Laura Rodriguez - President
Shane Morris - Vice President
Allison Arceo - Secretary
Gwen Aragon
Bridget Bomersbach
Julie Fulgham
Apton Taylor
Sarah Griffin
Sarita Villafranca
Joel Sager
Brooke Sumbera

Ex. Officio

Sr. Stephana Marbach
Sr. Evelyn Korenek
Sr. Bernarda Bludau
Sr. Geraldine Pavlik
Sr. Lois Marie Etzler
Sr. Ann Meletio
April Buzzell, HSA President
Debbie Michalski, Mission Advancement

CAFETERIA NEWS . . .

Lunches and snacks can be purchased each morning from 7:30-8:00 a.m. at the front entrance or in the school office. Nazareth Academy participates in the Federal Government lunch program. If you believe that you may qualify for this program, please turn in an application to Sister Ann. It helps you and it helps the school. *It is kept strictly confidential.* Applications were sent out to all families in the August newsletter. If you need an application, additional copies can be obtained from the school office. Please consider participating. You can apply at any time during the school year.

NAZARETH ACADEMY LIBRARY

Choose a book "honoring" a child's or someone else's birthday. Nazareth Academy Library will add the new book to the library collection. The birthday recipient will receive a card, and a notice will go in the book. Please email ljanda@nazarethacademy.org or call Sr. Liliane.

REMINDERS FROM THE NURSE

Our goal is to help keep the children healthy and in school. There are times, however, that exclusion from attending school is necessary. One of the most common reasons a child will not be allowed to attend school is fever. A child with a temperature of 100° or more cannot be in school and may not return until they have been free of fever for 24 hours without using fever reducing medication such as Tylenol, Advil, etc. The complete list of symptoms requiring exclusion from school, as well as other information regarding the health and well-being of your child can be found on the Nazareth Academy website in the Parent-Student Handbook,

beginning on page 23. If everyone follows the guidelines, the spread of germs and infections can be minimized.

Students are not allowed to have medicine (i.e. a substance or preparation used in treating disease or illness) of any kind, prescription or non-prescription, on their person, in their backpack, locker, etc. This includes cough drops, Tylenol, Advil, Chapstick, Hand Sanitizer, Lotion, etc. All classrooms have hand sanitizer that can be used in addition to regular handwashing.

If a student needs to take medication during school hours, the following guidelines must be adhered to:

- All medication must be brought to the school clinic (preferably by a parent/guardian).
- All medication will be dispensed from the clinic by the school nurse or personnel appointed by the principal.
- An "Authorization for Dispensing Medication" form must be filled out and signed by a parent/guardian **AND** a physician/healthcare provider. This form can be downloaded from the NA website. (This is for over the counter products too!!)

If you have questions, do not hesitate to call Mrs. Krejci at school.

The Diocese of Victoria requires all Catholic schools to have a campus Wellness Committee. The purpose of the committee is to assure compliance of the Diocesan "Wellness Policy for Catholic Schools." One of the goals of the policy is to promote the development of lifelong wellness practices in students and their families. The Nazareth Academy Wellness Committee is comprised of the principal, the school nurse, two teachers, a parent, and several junior high students. The committee meets and sets goals/activities as part of our campus wellness plan. If you ever have suggestions or questions regarding the policy, activities of the committee, etc. please contact Mrs. Krejci.

HEALTH SCREENINGS

Vision screening will be performed by Dr. Amy Kirkpatrick-Hartman on Sept. 13 and/or Sept. 15. Students in PK4, Kinder, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and all students new to Nazareth will be screened. You will only be notified of the results if your child does not pass the screening.

Hearing screening for students in PK4, Kinder, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and all new students will be done during the month of September. You will only be notified of the results if your child does not pass the screening.

If you receive a referral letter for either of the screenings, please follow-up with a visit to the health care provider of your choice and send results of that visit to the school. If you do not wish for your child to participate in the school screenings, you must submit a letter stating they will be or have been screened during this school year by a health care provider, and results must be given to the school. If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Krejci.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT **EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

2017-2018 School Year Notice

Nazareth Academy has chosen to include the diocesan approved **Youth Code of Conduct- A Training and Examination Program on Child Abuse & Protection Issues** as part of the religion/guidance curriculum based education for children and youth. Age appropriate diocesan material, taught by the homeroom teachers and/or an instructor from Mid-Coast Family Services will be used to instruct the students. This is a Diocesan requirement.

The eighth graders will have a session on **The Youth Code of Conduct** which includes definitions, warning signs and symptoms of the four major types of abuse: neglect, emotional, physical, and sexual abuse. **The Youth Code of Conduct** also includes a post-test followed by a question and answer session. **The Youth Code of Conduct** will be taught by our Religion Instructors and will always include Catholic viewpoints.