

IMPORTANT DATES—

**Toys for Tots
Toy Drive**
NOW - Mon., Dec. 11

**Project Happy
Collection Drive**
NOW - Dec. 12

Open SHOP
Dec. 1, 8 & 15
9:30am-3pm
@ NCS Elementary

ECC Secret Santa
Mon., Dec. 4, 3pm
@ Social Hall

**Kindergarten Field
Trip to "The Star"**
Mon., Dec. 4

Feast of St. Nicholas
Wed., Dec. 6

**Preschool
Christmas Program**
Thu., Dec. 14
P3: 6:15pm
P4: 7:15pm

Christmas Parties
P3: Dec. 19 & 20
P4: Wed., Dec. 20
K: Tue., Dec. 19

Gr. K PJ Day
Tue., Dec. 19

**NO SCHOOL
Christmas Break**
Thu., Dec. 21 -
Tue., Jan. 2

Future Flyer

WEEK 15

NOVEMBER 30, 2017

Norwalk Catholic School Early Childhood Center

Movie Night, Popcorn & PJs.

The PTO is holding a movie night Fri., Dec. 1 from 6:30-8:30 pm in the St. Paul Social Hall (building across from NCS Elementary). Kids are encouraged to come in their pajamas and to bring a favorite blanket and pillow. Enjoy dinner out or some kid-free Christmas shopping time!

Santa Secret Shop.

NCS PTO Secret Santa Shop is almost here! Santa Secret Shop gives students the opportunity to purchase inexpensive gifts for family, friends and teachers. The average price of a gift is \$2.00. Due to time limitations we will only be able to wrap 6 gifts per child, although students may purchase as many gifts as they want. Elementary students will shop during school hours. But **ECC students cannot shop at school because Santa Secret Shop is NOT set up at the ECC.** Instead, **ECC students may shop with their parents or another adult at Secret Santa Shop in the Social Hall on the St. Paul Campus (on Milan Avenue across from the Elementary building) on Mon., Dec. 4 from 3:00pm-5:00pm.** Volunteers will be available to help ECC students shop and/or wrap. We have no way of filling Secret Santa orders here at the ECC. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Project Happy & Toys for Tots.

Throughout the year, the ECC looks for ways to serve God by feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick, and/or give alms to the poor. You may remember the collection of canned

goods at the ECC Turkey Trot. Thank you for your canned good donations—we were able to donate 5 boxes to the local food bank. For Advent, the ECC is collecting toys for children in need through Toys for Tots and Project Happy. **For Toys for Tots, please bring a new, unwrapped toy to school by Dec. 11.** Your child will add it to the box in the front lobby. Project Happy is new to Huron County. They collect small toys, toiletries, school/art supplies and treats for Christmas boxes that will be wrapped and delivered to Huron County children in need. ECC families can send in individual items or they can fill a box (can use a shoebox or other box of similar size). For those filling a box, Project Happy asks that you pack a box with a few toys, school supplies, hygiene items and treats. Please do not wrap the box so that Project Happy can be sure that each box is complete. *See the Project Happy flyer sent home for suggested items.* Project Happy is also collecting size newborn to size 5 diapers for Huron County families in need. **Please send Project Happy donations to school by Dec. 12.**



Clubhouse News. Just a reminder that **Flyer Clubhouse will close at 3:00pm next Fri., Dec. 8** so Clubhouse staff may join the entire ECC staff for the ECC Christmas Party. Clubhouse will be open earlier that day from 6:30am to 3:00pm. Clubhouse will be closed over Christmas Break (Thu., 12/21/17 - Tue., 1/2/18). We apologize for the inconvenience.

The Life & Legend of St. Nicholas.

It can be hard in our culture to make sure that it is Jesus, and not Santa, that is central to the preparations of Advent and the celebration of Christmas. Understanding a little about the Saint behind the Santa may help you remind your child that Santa works for Jesus! We will be celebrating the Feast of St. Nicholas (Dec. 6) at school next week. Your child may or may not pick up on the tradition of putting a shoe out for a small treat the night of Dec. 5, but in case they do I wanted to give you all a heads up! And now the life of St. Nick...

Nicholas lived a long time ago in a place called Asia Minor (in modern day Turkey). He was a man of great faith and prayer. His parents were a wealthy and very religious couple who studied the bible, practiced their religion faithfully, and helped the poor and needy in their city. When Nicholas was about 17 years old, a plague spread throughout the region where he lived. His parents spent many hours caring for the sick, then they also became sick and died. Nicholas inherited significant wealth and property at a young age, a fortune that he would give away. Being all alone, Nicholas spent a lot of time with an uncle who was a priest and the Bishop of Myra. At age 19, Nicholas became a priest. At age 30, Nicholas, who was known to be totally dedicated to God, was appointed Bishop of Myra. Nicholas was a very giving person, and was especially kind to children. The oral tradition surrounding St. Nicholas held that there was a poor family in Patara with three daughters, but no money to pay the dowries for them to marry. The father thought he would have no choice but to sell one daughter into service to raise the money for the other 2 to marry. Hearing this, St. Nicholas prepared three small bags of gold with enough money for each of the marriage dowries. He did not want to embarrass the father, so he crept out late at night and threw the bags of gold in through the window. He was seen by the father and word spread throughout the city of Nicholas' generous gift. This was the first of many midnight visits to secretly help poor parishioners in need. [And from those gifts from St. Nick came the tradition of Santa to bring gifts in the middle of the night in celebration of Jesus' birth.] Nicholas was especially generous with and protective of children. He once saved 3 young students who had been kidnapped to be sold into slavery. St. Nicholas is now celebrated as the patron saint of children.



Education for Mind, Body & Spirit.

Norwalk Catholic School-ECC

Phone: 419/668-8480

norwalkcatholicschools.org/

Keeping the ECC Healthy.

We have had many students out sick the last couple weeks with vomiting, diarrhea, colds, sore throats and fevers. "Bugs" can spread easily in early childhood settings where kids are still working on hygiene. The ECC will continue to monitor students for symptoms and send home students who may be contagious. We have reviewed handwashing with all our students. We are committed to keep the classrooms and materials clean. We need your help! Keep kids home when they have these symptoms: **✗Fever of 100°** or higher the night before or day of school. Students should be fever free without medication for 24 hours before returning to school/Clubhouse.

✗Vomiting/Diarrhea. Keep your student home for at least 24 hours after they were last sick. **✗Sore throat** + fever <or> swollen glands <or> difficulty swallowing or talking, <or> throat is red and swollen. A bad sore throat with headache or upset stomach could be strep throat; call your child's doctor. **✗Pink eye** is very contagious. Contact your child's doctor, and keep him or her home for 24 hours after treatment is started. **✗Earache.** If there is pain, drainage or blood from the ear canal, contact your child's doctor and follow their recommendations. **✗Rash** could be chicken pox, measles, fifth disease, impetigo, strep or staph infection, roseola or scabies that can be contagious, or it could be poison ivy, food allergy or medication allergy. Please don't send your child to school with an unidentified rash. **✗Bad or harsh cough** could be the sign of bronchitis, flu, pneumonia, whooping cough or croup. See your child's doctor and stay home from school until the doctor recommends he/she return. **✗Colds** are most contagious the first day or two of symptoms—mild cough, sneezing, aching muscles and watery eyes.

Shop News...from Kristen Penner, SHOP Coordinator.

Shop for Christmas and save on tuition with SHOP gift certificates. **Open SHOP will run Dec. 1, 8 & 15 at the NCS Elementary from 9:30-3pm in the Convocation Center** (high school gym) outside the concession stand. Are you using www.ShopwithScrip.com yet? Our school code is: **CAC992C735L3**. You can place your regular shop order on the website (ShopWithScrip.com) for extra specials and bonuses! Contact **Kristen Penner, SHOP Coordinator**, at jkpenner@gmail.com or text/call **440-552-2808** with any questions.