

IMPORTANT DATES—

Christmas Parties

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

End of 2nd Quarter

Wed., Dec. 20

NO SCHOOL Christmas Break

Thu., Dec. 21 -
Tue., Jan. 2

School Resumes

Wed., Jan. 3

Grade Cards

Mon., Jan. 8

PTO Meeting

Wed., Jan. 10

ECC Open House

Sun., Jan. 28 @ ECC
10:30a-1:00p

Catholic Schools Week

Jan. 28-Feb. 3

ECC Ninja Warrior

Jan. 29-30

Kindergarten Mass

Thu. at 9:15am

SHOP Orders Due

Every Mon. by 9am

Future Flyer

WEEK 18

DECEMBER 19, 2017

Norwalk Catholic School Early Childhood Center

Welcoming the Christ Child.

The season of Advent began Sun., Dec. 3. Advent is a time for each of us to prepare for Christ's arrival and to reflect on Christ's life among His people. In Atrium, the children have learned about the ancient prophecies that foretold the coming of Jesus. They have also been reading about, retelling, and discussing the story of Christ's birth. Students have been puzzled by the empty manger in our lobby that is waiting for a Baby Jesus—and we have explained that we are waiting on Christmas when Baby Jesus comes to the earth. Waiting is hard for all of us, but it's especially hard for young children. God's people waited millennia for Christ's arrival. Imagine those prophets who carried God's promise of a Savior never got to witness His arrival. Advent can feel like a season of waiting. But it is not a passive kind of waiting. It is a season of eager preparations. We tend to get hung up on the shopping, wrapping, baking and cleaning preparations, and may fail to "prepare ye the way of the Lord!" which is the preparation that matters. The very word "Advent" means coming...Jesus is coming! How do you get ready for such an event? The shepherds and kings show us. Our only real job during Advent is to prepare our hearts to receive Christ into our world and into the center of our lives. What a gift we celebrate in Jesus. And how wise that the church calendar begins again **each year** with Christ's birth. It forces us to slow down and acknowledge the gift and

miracle of God among us! Think of it as passing "Go" in Monopoly. It grounds us in where we are and provides a welcome safe place, do over, break, boost. We often miss Christ at work in our lives. We miss His gentle call to love, to act or to forgive. We do not recognize His Spirit among us. God prepared the Jewish people over generations to recognize and receive the Messiah. We take four Sundays, 22 days. Don't forget to take time to sit with your child this Christmas and ask them to teach you about the prophets and the Savior who has come. We can learn so much from the beautiful and simple way they process our faith. Have a blessed Christmas!

Project Happy & Toys for Tots.

Thank you to all who have helped provide Christmas gifts to local children in need with your donations to Toys for Tots and Project Happy. **ECC families donated 30 complete boxes and two car loads of diapers and wipes to Project Happy, as well as 1 1/2 large collection boxes for Toys for Tots.** Thank you for helping so many Huron County families and for sharing the spirit of giving with our students!



Preschool Christmas Program.

Congratulations to the Pre3 and Pre4 students and staff for a beautiful Christmas Program! Check out photos on Facebook.

Head Lice Update. Where there are children, there will be “bugs” (usually we are talking germ “bugs, but last week it was actual bugs). Since Dec. 7, ten ECC students have been identified with head lice. School policy requires that we send children home and that they remain home until they are nit free (which will take several checks, comb-throughs and may take a couple days). To get rid of head lice, you will need to treat the hair with a medicated shampoo (at pharmacies or health department) and comb through the hair with a special comb, removing every egg and louse (pull out every white, black and brown speck you find to be safe, but live lice and nits stick/hold onto hair). Live lice usually live within 1/4” of the scalp and prefer the back of the head and around the ears. I and the school nurse have been doing head checks (it has been every day for the last two weeks to try to catch all the cases of head lice). We have identified no new cases this week, so we are hopeful that we are identifying affected children and stopping the spread of head lice at school. We can only prevent the spread of head lice to other students by working together—school staff and parents. For our part, the ECC has checked every student’s hair, many heads have been checked multiple times. We are storing coats, hats, scarves, etc. inside bookbags stored inside lockers or cubbies. For preschool, kindergarten and 1st grade Clubhouse students using hooks, we are placing bookbags inside trash bags since students’ bags on hooks have no physical barrier between them. We have added to the frequency of vacuuming in affected rooms. We are also discouraging hugs until we put this past us. However, in a preschool and kindergarten setting, kids hug and play in close proximity. So we are recommending some home precautions as well. Please continue to put long hair up. Consider applying product or oils designed to deter lice. Keep checking your child’s hair at bedtime and when you are brushing hair to make sure we don’t have a second wave after break.



Education for Mind, Body & Spirit.

Norwalk Catholic School-ECC
Phone: 419/668-8480
norwalkcatholicschools.org/

Spring Fling 2018...Is going to be a Luau! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Spring Fling donation committee. Spring Fling ~ LUAU ~ will be held on Sat., May 5, 2018. As you consider year-end donations and organize for the New Year, please consider donating new and unused items, unopened bottles of wine or liquor, gift cards, or great gifts that aren’t great for you for the 2018 Spring Fling auction baskets. Avoid long return lines and awkward re-gifting situations. They will find new homes and help us raise money to further the mission of Norwalk Catholic School. Watch for more information to come home in early 2018 about the Spring Fling. If you have any question please call Julie Grine [419-668-7223 x275](tel:419-668-7223) or email jgrine@ncsmail.org

Help NCS Win...You could help Norwalk Catholic School win \$2,500, save money on your electric bill, and do your part to help the environment! Last week our kindergartners saw a performance of “The Energized Guys” by National Children’s Theater, sponsored by First Energy. The program taught kids what energy is, where electricity comes from, and how to conserve electricity. We’re now participating in an energy conservation program from First Energy’s Ohio utilities. You can request an Energy Efficiency Kit for your home online; the kit contains a night light and energy efficient lightbulbs. The school that requests the most kits by the end of the school year will win \$2,500! Please help us out and request your kit! You can sign up for your kit at OhioStudentKit.com using promo code **FEOH1718** or call [1-855-343-6600](tel:1-855-343-6600).

Shop News...from Kristen Penner, SHOP Coordinator. The next SHOP order is due Mon., Jan. 8. In the meantime, login to ShopwithScrip. Are you using www.ShopwithScrip.com yet? Our school enrolment 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](tel:440-552-2808) with any questions.**

