



ND-BG Newsletter February 2014



Dear Parents/Guardians,

I've always felt that the time between the New Year and February break is a time to recover from the holidays, regroup, and renew whatever is within that needs to be renewed.....not to mention sleep! It's been the coldest winter that I remember in a long time and even with furnaces running at full capacity it's a struggle to stay warm.

When you spend most of the day in a school, you quickly realize that that's not what goes on in the month of January at all. Our seniors are in full swing with college applications and acceptances. Prom dates have been procured and even some dresses purchased. The spring play is in full rehearsal mode and the Mock Trial Team is hard at work. Winter sports are winding down with preparations being made for spring sports. There is no cocooning in a school setting.

We have had many new families and their children attend open houses, children taking the entrance exam and shadowing in our Knight for a Day program. Many thanks to our enrollment management team under the guidance of Mrs. Agostara for all of their efforts in "getting the word out" about ND-BG.

There is something about working with children of all ages that is renewing in and of itself. We have the privilege of watching young people grow and mature before our eyes. In that sense, even with the wind whipping around us, the snow on the ground and the biting cold, it is always springtime.

I share with you a blessing that keeps me focused on finding God's "grace" in every moment of every day.

Blessed be this morn for me and mine.....blessed be this day for me and mine.....blessed be this night for me and mine.

"Blessed be this day for you and yours"!

Sincerely,

Ninette Kondratowicz

Principal



- 3 Board of Trustees Meeting 6pm, School Library
- 4 Faculty Meeting 3pm
- 7 School Wide Retreat; Report cards sent home
- 11 EMT Meeting 6pm; Roman Czwakiel represents ND-BG at Spelling Bee, Proctors Theater 5pm
- 13 Middle School Student Gov't Bake Sale; Praying of the Rosary 7pm, School Chapel ; After prom meeting from 6-7pm in room 5
- 17 President's Day—NO SCHOOL
- 17-22 NO SCHOOL
- 27 Department Chairs Meeting 3-4pm
- 28 Middle School attends "Arc Attack" at Proctors Theater

School Wide Retreat Day Friday February 7th

For retreat day (Feb 7), the dress code is to be jeans and shirts that follow the following colors:

- Seniors: Pink
- Juniors: White
- Sophomores: Yellow
- Freshmen: Black
- 8th grade: Green
- 7th grade: Blue
- 6th grade: Red

Also on retreat day, homeroom will be extended and students are encouraged to bring in a breakfast item to eat or to share. A retreat team from Massapequa will be coming in to lead us for the day.

Any questions please contact Mr. Pepe at:

peped@nd-bg.org

Student

Transportation Forms

As a parochial school we have students that come from different districts to attend ND-BG. Certain school districts will provide transportation for our students **but you must fill out your home district's transportation request form.** As we receive the forms we will e-mail them to families. Paper copies will also be available at the main office. Any questions please call the school at 393-3131x100



Praying the Rosary as

a

Community of Faith!

Come and join us in praying the Rosary Thursday February 13th at 7pm in our school chapel for our families, school, country and special intentions.

If you cannot make it and have any intentions you want us to pray for, please email me at tobin@nd-bg.org.

If you have any questions please call Kathy Tobin at x114.

All are welcome! +



Mrs. Kondratowicz Receives Distinguished Principal's Award!!

On Sunday January 26th at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany our principal, Mrs. Kondratowicz, was awarded the prestigious "Bishop Hubbard Distinguished Principal Award." The following was taken from the liturgy's program: "This award is entitled **The Bishop Hubbard Distinguished Principal Award** and recognizes a principal who promotes a school's Catholic education, seeking to foster a Christian commu-

nity of love in which God's truth and life are integrated into the entire curriculum and life of the school. The principal has demonstrated skilled leadership in inviting the church community, the teachers, and the parents to share in this mission. The leadership is spiritual, visionary and is rooted in an ongoing relationship with Jesus Christ."

On behalf of the entire ND-BG community we congratulate you Mrs. K!



ND-BG Students Warm Up America!

Talented and caring Golden Knights donated time and skill as they crocheted squares for blankets earmarked to help the homeless keep warm this winter. A total of 32 squares were sent to Warm

Up America in Gaston, NC to be sewn together. Thanks to Craft Yarn Council and Jo-Ann Fabrics for providing the crochet needles and yarn.



Spring Play—Ten Little Indians



This year, the Spring Play will be a truly spe-

cial event. First, former student, actor and director, Sean Baldwin is returning to ND-BG to offer his talent as the director. Second, he will be directing Agatha Christie's famous mystery, Ten Little Indians. Interestingly, Sean had a leading role in the

same play when it was presented as the very first Spring Play when Sean was in sixth grade. Performances will take place in the school gym at 7PM on April 4-5. Tickets will go on sale during the week of March 31.

ANNUAL LADY KNIGHTS' DANCE TO BE HELD MARCH 8th THIS YEAR

The Annual Lady Knights' Dance will be held this year on Saturday, March 8th, from 7 until 10 PM in the school gymnasium. This dance is a perennial favorite among our students and their families; the tradition is at least forty-eight years old. All female students grades 6-12 and their dads, stepdads, grandpas, uncles, or even older brothers, are invited to spend the evening "hanging out" with other families, and dancing to music from the 1950's to the popular mu-

sic of today. Senior ladies and their dads have one more chance to spend that special evening together, and the middle school young ladies can begin a tradition that they will remember for the rest of their lives –just ask Miss Baseel or Mrs. Rudinski, who still have memories of those special evenings with their own fathers.

DJ Todd –who has entertained us for many years, will again be here to play the music, lead us in dances, and run those contests,

including a Notre Dame original: the balloon dance.

Tickets are \$10 per person or a maximum of \$25 per family, and will go on sale in the mornings in Room 25 beginning Friday February 28th. Appropriate attire is "dressy": dresses, or dress pants and shirts for the ladies. Please call Mrs. Anchukaitis at 393-3131, extension 210, for further information or if you'd like to assist in the planning or in setting up the dance.



Spelling Bee Winner Roman Czwakiel to Represent ND-BG Feb. 11 at Proctors

Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons will be sending eighth grader Roman Czwakiel to be our representative at the 32nd Annual Capital Region Spelling Bee which will take place at 5 PM , Feb.11 at Proctors Theater on State St. Roman won

his class and then the school Spelling Bee and a handsome trophy. In true Golden Knights' spirit, sophomore Brandon Brijlall will offer some strategies to Roman. In 2011, Brandon, representing ND-BG was first runner up.



Open House Week



**March 17-21, 2014
8:30am-3:00pm**

If you know of a family that might be interested in what Notre Dame – Bishop Gibbons School has to offer, please invite them to come to Open House week.

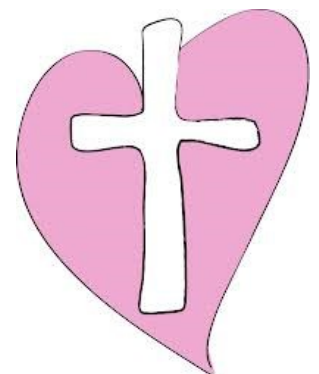
Hosting Foreign Exchange Students Through WEP

These amazing teens are coming through a WEP-USA foundation that has been working on cultural exchanges since 1988. These bright high school students have been dreaming to visit the U.S. for years and would like to spend their stay living the life of an American family, learning about our culture and traditions,

while teaching us about their home countries. They will attend Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons School and cannot wait to experience the school life of an American teenager. Each student comes with a full medical insurance and a personal allowance, so the host family is asked to provide a bedroom and meals taken at

home. Each family will receive a monthly stipend of \$400 to offset the costs of hosting! Please visit www.wep-usa.org for more info.

Annette Metzger
Program Officer
annettem@wep-usa.org
65 High Ridge Rd, Suite 422
Stamford, CT 06905
Phone: 1-800-779-3319, ext. 102



Time to Order a Yearbook!!!



The cost is \$65!

Forms are in the main office, guidance and online at:

[http://
yearbookave-
nue.jostens.com/](http://yearbookave-nue.jostens.com/)

Thank you for your continual support in our school.

~God bless~

Middle School to see ArcAttack Friday February 28th!

Founded in 2005, ArcAttack is a multimedia performance art group specializing in the production of music through homemade instruments. They use this music as a way to stimulate the students' curiosity about science and technol-

ogy using singing tesla coils, and hope to help them understand the relationship between science, art and music.



AFTER PROM COMMITTEE—Volunteers Needed!

Hello High School families! It's nearing that time of year again...we need volunteers for the After Prom. We need volunteers for: chaperoning, baking, collecting prize donations, setting up and cleaning up. The first

committee meeting will be on the following date: Thursday, February 13th from 6-7pm in Room 5 with Ms. Woodbury PLEASE help us make this the best After Prom ever!



RE-Registration Packets

Re-registration packets will be going home the first week of February. **Please note that all forms must be returned by April 1st to be considered for financial aid!** Beacon of Hope applications will also be due April 1st.

Any questions please contact the main office: harrigane@nd-bg.org

or 518-393-3131 x100

Also—NEW for 2014-2015 year. All students who receive their textbooks from BOCES will need to go online this year and order the books once you receive your child's schedule. South Colonie Students will need to fill out the South Col-
onie form and send it back into

school to get their textbooks ordered. Mrs. Agostara will be emailing the textbook information to parents in April. Any questions regarding textbooks please contact Mrs. Agostara at 393-3131 x116 or agostarap@nd-bg.org