Dear Friends of Nativity Academy,

As we enjoy the spring of 2014 and reflect upon the many events of 2013, I find myself coming back to a particular word that we, in our Nativity community, try to keep prominently in focus during each and every day – GRATITUDE.

Gratitude is an emotion expressing appreciation for what one has been given. It is the quality of being thankful; a readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness.

While reading a recent edition of Education Update, I ran across emerging research that points to gratitude as a bridge between students’ academic and social well-being. I was encouraged to find that “studies show that grateful youth have higher GPAs, experience more positive emotions and ultimately, go on to live more meaningful lives. In addition, gratitude among middle school students can foster an increased sense of hope and trust in others and fuel a desire to give back to their community” (ASCD, 2013, 55, 11, p. 1). This is affirmation that we are on the right track with the values we reinforce with our students!

The research seems to imply that practicing gratitude at early ages helps promote self-control and self-regulation at later ages while helping students feel more connected with their families, school and broader community.

Gratitude fosters positive emotions that help students in the learning process, and it reduces the stress response. It affirms the good things in an increasingly negative world, and helps us see that goodness often comes from outside ourselves.

Carol A. Nord
Executive Director
On April 11th, 2014, Nativity Academy held its annual Nativity Academy Nibbler, themed this year as “Taste of the Irish”, at Bellarmine University’s Frazier Hall. From a brownie-wielding, jovial leprechaun to the lively notes blown by bagpiper Jim Kuchenbrod, a spirited time was had by all in attendance! A big thanks to our wonderful sponsors, who make such an event possible:

We appreciate your support of our 2014 Nativity Nibbler: “Taste of the Irish”, and can’t wait to see you at next year’s event!

AmazonSmile offers the same great items you find on Amazon, and if you have an existing Amazon account, you can simply sign in with your existing account information. It really couldn’t be easier!

The hardest part may just be remembering! Once you’ve selected Nativity Academy as your charitable organization, you’re set! There’s no need to add it with every purchase, just log in to smile.amazon.com and shop the same way you’ve always shopped Amazon!

Want to support Nativity Academy by doing something you may already do? Amazon shoppers are now provided the option to shop via smile.amazon.com!

“Fat Tuesday”, March 11th, 2014 was a festive and well-attended night for Nativity Academy’s partner restaurants! From Mellow Mushroom to Porcini’s to Pat’s Steakhouse, Nativity supporters were out in droves to raise money for our students and mission!

A BIG thanks to our restaurant partners, new and familiar, and to the wonderful sponsors that made the night possible! Please support these local businesses and restaurants as a Friend of Nativity!

“Nativity Night Out” 2014 another great Friend- and Fund-raiser!

We are thankful for each of you!

Atlantic City, NJ

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2014 Sponsors:

AirHydro Power  Horton Fruit Company  Faulkner Law Offices

2014 Restaurants:

211 Clover Lane  Come Back Inn
Earth Friends Café & Eatery - NULU  Irish Rover
Mellow Mushroom - St. Matthews  Pat’s Steak House
Porcini Restaurant  Rocky’s Pizza & Panini - Bardstown Road
Texas Roadhouse - Dixie Highway  Tumbleweed Waterfront
Tony BoomBozz - Eastern Parkway
White Castle - 700 W. Broadway, and
7th Street & Berry Blvd

We are thankful for each of you!
Brother Ed Driscoll, Nativity Academy Board Member

As many of you know, the delightful St. Xavier High School former teacher and principal, Xaverian Brother Edward Driscoll, was recently elected General Superior of the Congregation of the Brothers of St. Francis Xavier, a congregation that serves in education ministry on four continents.

After serving a total of 37 years at St. X, his fall 2013 departure was hard on everyone, including the Board at Nativity Academy, where Brother Ed had served for many years. But no one makes a commitment like Brother Ed! Since assuming his new position last October, Brother Ed has been present at both of Nativity Academy's board meetings – quite a feat! We are so grateful to Brother Ed for his strong commitment to Nativity's mission, and so proud of the powerful work he continues to do!
An independent Catholic middle school that transforms the lives of students who have a commitment to achievement and whose families demonstrate financial need.

NATIVITY ACADEMY AT ST. BONIFACE
Executive Director: Carol Nord
Advancement Director: Brooke Burnette
Phone Number: 855-3313
Principal: Meghan Weyland
Phone Number: 855-3300

Extended Day Director: Tami Harbolt, Ph.D.
Phone Number: 855-3300

Graduate Support: Brandy Jones & Tyler Robertson
Phone Number: 855-3300

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Please remember Nativity Academy at St. Boniface in your will.
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