



NEWSLETTER



Quincy Notre Dame High School
School Office 223-2479

◆ www.quincynotredame.org ◆
Athletic Dept. 223-2509 ◆

November/December 2011
Foundation Office 224-2598

PLEASE KEEP THIS CALENDAR
FOR EASY REFERENCE

We wish each and every person a most holy and happy Advent and Christmas. May this sacred season be one of spiritual growth, happiness, and peace of mind.

NOVEMBER

- 23 1:13 Dismissal for Thanksgiving Break
- 28 Classes Resume
- 28 Josten Rep Coming to Give Information on Announcements, Caps and Gowns



DECEMBER

- 02 Josten Rep Coming to Take Orders for Announcements, Caps and Gowns
- 03 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Placement Test at QND for Incoming 9th Graders
- 07 7:30 p.m. QND/PMO Band Christmas Concert at QND
- 08 9:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception All School Mass - Special Schedule
- 08 Grandparents Day
- 10 ACT Test Date
- 11 1:00 p.m. Dress Rehearsal for QND Christmas Choral Concert at St. Peter Church
- 12 7:00 p.m. QND Christmas Choral Concert at St. Peter Church
- 14 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Kindergarten Christmas with Santa at QND
- 16 Semester Exams - Special Schedule - Morning Bus Service Only
- 19 Semester Exams - Special Schedule - Morning Bus Service Only
- 20 Semester Exams - Special Schedule - Morning Bus Service Only
- 20 End of Semester One
- 21 Tentative Semester Exam Make Up Day if Needed
- 21-Jan. 3 Christmas Vacation

FROM MR. HEILMANN:

Semester Exams Friday, December 16, Monday, December 19 and Tuesday, December 20 - Your children have been informed about the importance of semester exams for a few weeks. Information has come from teachers and administrators. Please make sure your sons/daughters are investing a great deal of time in studying for these most important exams (worth one-fifth of the semester grade). We know there are games, activities, work, and other tasks that must be done. That is why it is so important to make sure they utilize weekend and weekday time to prepare for the exams on Friday, December 16, Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 19 and Dec. 20. Wednesday, December 21, will be used as a make up day for exams if needed. If December 19th and 20th are used as snow days, we would have exams after Christmas break. Study, rest, and breakfast are important things for success on the exams.

Between Monday, November 28, and Friday, December 16, there is a total of 18 days. Make a schedule to invest at least 20 hours in the study for semester exams during those days and completion of quarter two work. Take care of business with quarter two work first, then schedule an hour or so for studying for semester exams.

On Wednesday, December 14, and Thursday, December 15, use the classroom time for review with your teachers. Use the evening time for intense review for the scheduled exams.

Many students are busy during exam week. This makes it even more crucial that you prepare and study the two weeks before exam week. If you are swamped during the week, complete your studying over the weekend. This is no different from what you will experience in college—completing first semester assignments and studying for semester exams prior to Christmas break.

Every student wants to experience a restful, family-oriented Christmas break. Put the work in NOW so that you can relax during Christmas break and get totally refreshed for the beginning of a new semester on Wednesday, January 4, 2012.

Friday, December 16

- 7:50 Bell calling students to first exam of day
- 8:00– 9:00 Period 1
- 9:05–10:05 Period 2
- 10:10–11:10 Period 4

Monday, December 19

- 7:50 Bell calling students to first exam of day
- 8:00– 9:00 Period 3
- 9:05–10:05 Period 7
- 10:10–11:10 Period 5

Tuesday, December 20

- 7:50 Bell calling students to first exam of day
- 8:00– 9:00 Period 8
- 9:05–10:05 Period 6

Christmas Vacation - We will dismiss after exams on Tuesday, December 20th to begin the Christmas vacation.. School resumes on Wednesday, January 4th.

Bus Schedule:

- Wednesday, November 23 No afternoon bus service
- Friday, December 16 No afternoon bus service
- Monday, December 19 No afternoon bus service
- Tuesday, December 20 No afternoon bus service
- Wednesday, January 4 Full bus service resumes

Inclement Weather - Large snow or ice storms may necessitate the closing of schools. We will notify

parents via phone by utilizing our RenWeb Parent Alert System. We also encourage parents and guardians to watch the television or listen to the radio if you think Quincy schools may be closed. If the Quincy Public School System closes for inclement weather, the Quincy Catholic grade schools and Quincy Notre Dame High School automatically cancel classes that day.

Speaking of snow and ice-please speak with your son/daughter about a couple of weather-related rules. At no time should snowballs be thrown on school property. Also, no one should be driving on the parking lot more than 5-10 miles an hour when ice or snow is on the pavement. Crowded conditions and people coming in and out of the parking lot make safety a key concern at all times, but especially during winter weather times.

Appointment Scheduling - There has been an increase in the number of appointments during the school day. Please call the attendance office or send a note with your child on the morning of the appointment. If at all possible, please make sure your student is aware of his/her appointment before coming to school. We realize that is not always possible, however, if you will be making an appointment for your student during the school day, please ask them to check the message board in between classes throughout the day. This will help to eliminate interruptions during class time. We appreciate your help with this.

Fines Must Be Paid - Meeting one's financial obligation is a commitment each member of the QND family has made for his/her student's education. To receive a report card all book fees/cafeteria fees/disciplinary fines must be paid in FULL! Statements are mailed on the 15th and the 30th of each month. All students with past due accounts will be removed from RenWeb. Call Mrs. Kristi Smith, Business Manager, at 223-2479 ext. 303 if you have any questions.

FROM MRS. SHEPARD:

We started the school year strong with the majority of the students following the dress code. At this point, however, there are some young ladies that have slipped back into old habits and are wearing low cut shirts without a crew neck t-shirt underneath. Also, we are noticing an increase of tight pants (which resemble jeans or the look of "skinny jeans") on the young ladies. Some pants we feel are far too tight and not appropriate for the classroom setting. Please be vigilant and speak to your daughters about proper dress and following the school dress code, as noted on page 32 of our student handbook.

As the weather turns cooler, students are reminded that they are not allowed to wear coats, jackets, sweatshirts,

heavy vests, or fleece in the classroom. QND lightweight jackets are allowed in the classroom this year, and may be purchased on the QND website. If you have any questions, you may refer to the student handbook.

On a separate note, QND will host the annual Kindergarten Christmas with Santa on Wednesday, December 14th from 6:30-7:30 pm. Activities, milk and cookies will be provided while the children wait to share their Christmas Wish List with Santa. Dwain Preston will also be here to read Christmas stories to the children. We look forward to seeing you then!

DEPARTMENT NEWS:

ART:

The Art classes have been working hard, developing their skills and showing off their talents in a variety of media. Their work is showcased in the display case and the cafeteria, so please take some time to admire their hard work and offer them your compliments. The Graphic Design helped out with *Homecoming* this year by designing the T-shirts and the bids. The Art Club also did their annual pumpkin sale again this year which was a success. The members sold and decorated pumpkins to fellow students and the recipients got a pumpkin and a future jean day. They also were busy helping out with decorations for this year's *QND Extravaganza*, And three art students, Lacey Rokita, Natalie Standley, and Michaela Huber, offered to do a piece of art for the auction. With the holidays approaching, the Art Club will be decorating our school for the Christmas season. They are also excited to be included in the production of *The Three Muskateers* that QND will be putting on this spring.

GUIDANCE:

Placement Test - QND will hold a placement test on Saturday, December 3, 2011 for all eighth grade students planning to attend QUINCY NOTRE DAME. The test is designed to help place students in classes best suited to their abilities. The test begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends about 11:30 a.m. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. There is a \$13.00 fee. Preregistration is not required. For more information, contact Bob Sheffield, counselor at 223-2479.

If you have an 8th grader, please make sure he/she is here between 8:00 and 8:15 and brings the following:

- * \$13.00 for the testing fee payable on testing date (cash or check made out to QND)
- * Social Security number
- * At least one #2 pencil
- * A calculator (no graphing calculators)

We want to emphasize that any eighth grader may apply to QND for admission. The Placement Test is another

piece of academic information used for scheduling of classes. If you know of any eighth grader who wishes to attend QND this fall, please have the parent contact

ACT - Juniors are reminded to register for the ACT on the test date of their choice. It is extremely important to plan to take the test during the junior year of high school.

College Applications – Over eighty percent of QND seniors have applied for admission to a post-secondary institution. Those who have NOT are encouraged to do so soon if they plan to continue their education.

College Financial Aid - Students are reminded to watch the QND Scholarship Update published regularly and posted in senior classrooms, the library, and the guidance department. This update provides local scholarship opportunities as well as other scholarships. Interested students will need to monitor this regularly as due dates are of utmost importance. The update is also available on the QND website and is emailed to every senior.

Families interested in additional financial aid are encouraged to access the Illinois Student Assistance website, collegeillinois.org for state/federal grant information as well as to access a national scholarship database. Other sites of interest are: fastweb.com for scholarships, act.org/fane for financial estimators, and collegeview.com for college searches.

FAFSA: All seniors and parents may wish to apply for need-based state and federal grants and loans through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This application may be completed before family 2011 taxes are calculated by estimating. Students & parents are strongly encouraged to complete this form on line at www.FAFSA.gov

Please plan to do so on January 1st or shortly after. State funds are expected to be depleted early again this year.

Financial Aid Seminar will be hosted by the Q.N.D. Guidance Department on Wednesday, January 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the QND Cafeteria. The guest presenters will be Melanie Lechtenberg, Director of Financial Aid at JWCC. She will provide an overview of college financial aid programs in place in most colleges and will answer any questions on grants, scholarships, and loan programs. Parents of Juniors and Seniors are encouraged to attend. For more information please call the QND Guidance Department at 223-2479.

Practice ACT - All juniors were given the opportunity to take a practice ACT test on November 8. Results should be received shortly and distributed to the students. Parents, please ask your junior to share this

information with you.

PSAT Results - Juniors who took the PSAT test in October should be receiving their scores shortly. Please take advantage of the My Road website available exclusively to PSAT testers to chart your college search. Parents may also find this website helpful.

MUSIC:

Band – The QND Concert Band will present their annual QND/PMO Christmas Band Concert on Wednesday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the QND gymnasium. The public is invited to attend this holiday concert, admission is free.

Choral - The Quincy Notre Dame Choirs will present a tapestry of Advent and Christmas selections at their annual Christmas Concert on Monday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Peter Church. The Mixed Chorus, Concert Chorale, and Madrigal Choir, Men's Glee and Women's Glee will be joined by the Parochial Music Organization Choir. Special guests will include instrumentalists from QND and the St. Peter School Handbell Choir. The concert is free and open to the public.

Dress rehearsal for students involved in the Christmas Concert is on Sunday, Dec. 11 at Noon at St. Peter Church.

SENIOR INFORMATION:

Graduation Announcement Information - The Josten's rep will be here on Monday, November 28, to hand out information concerning graduation announcements and caps and gowns. On Friday, December 2, he will return to QND to take announcement orders. Each year we receive calls from parents of seniors regarding graduation announcements. Please, check with your senior son or daughter to make sure he/she has placed an order. If you have any questions, please call the QND office at 223-2479 and ask for Mrs. Behrens.

Senior Yearbook Portraits - If you would like your professional senior portrait in this year's yearbook, please bring a 3x5 or 5x7 to Mrs. Kasparie to be scanned (it will be returned to you if you wish), or ask your photographer to email a digital copy of your senior portrait to dkasparie@quincynotredame.org. The final deadline for submission is **FEBRUARY 27, 2012**.

TUTORING AT QUINCY NOTRE DAME:

Sr. Jeanette Feldott, QND tutor, is available periods 4-8 at no cost. She is a School Sister of Notre Dame whose number one priority is education and helping students in the academic areas of math, physical science, chemistry, or physics. Contact her at QND at 223-2479, ext. 314

or at home at 224-3327 to get her schedule. Outside of school hours, tutoring is by appointment only and the cost is \$20.00 per hour. After school hours, tutoring is at QND and is one-on-one.

FOUNDATION OFFICE:

Grandparents' Day - QND is hosting Grandparents' Day on Thursday, December 8. We will celebrate Mass with QND students' grandparents or special seniors 9:00 a.m. in the QND gymnasium with a reception immediately following. If you have any questions, please contact the QND Foundation Office at 217-224-2598.

QND Foundation Music Trivia Night: The QND Foundation will hold a music trivia night Saturday, **January 28, 2012**, at St. Peter's Gym. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the event will start at 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$100.00 per table of 8. Bring your own refreshments and snacks (must be 21 to participate). Soda and popcorn will be provided. Proceeds will support financial assistance for QND students. For more information or to make a reservation, contact the QND Foundation Office at 224-2598 or email Erin Stegeman at estegeman@quincynotredame.org

QND Foundation Annual Fund Drive: The 2012 Annual Fund Campaign will begin with the Kick-off Breakfast on Friday, **January 20, 2012**, at **7:00 a.m.** in the QND cafeteria. The Annual Fund Drive bridges the gap between the actual cost-to-educate and the amount charged for tuition.

GENE GRAWE EDUCATION FUND:

Let us help you with your shopping! The Gene Grawe Education Fund sells gift cards to over 300 merchants. There are gift cards to restaurants, grocery stores, department stores, specialty stores, gas, etc. A complete list is available by calling Mrs. Tonya Hurst at QND at 223-2479, ext. 315. We have these available year round so you may use them for your daily shopping or for gifts. This fund is set up through the Western Catholic Union. It was started to help families pay for Catholic education.

QUIZ BOWL NEWS:

Don't forget that the QND quiz bowl team is recycling old cell phones, digital cameras, and printer cartridges. Please give to any team member or send to QND.

PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST:

The Catholic Heart WorkCamp Pancake and Sausage Breakfast will be held at QND on January 8, 2012, from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. To order bulk sausage please call Rick Gengenbacher at 217-257-5670.

STATE OF ILLINOIS REQUIREMENT: As mandated by the State of Illinois, we must have on file a copy of each student's birth certificate. If you haven't turn one in, please provide a copy of your child's birth certificate before December 15, 2011.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Congratulations to the Boys' Soccer Team and the Girls' Volleyball Team for winning State Championships!