

# Fatima Monthly Newsletter

December 18, 2017

**The Faculty & Staff of Fatima wish you and your family a joyous holiday season!**  
Be safe and enjoy the company of the important people in your lives.

**Finals Are Coming:** Students will take finals in their 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> hour classes on the 19<sup>th</sup>, in their 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> hour classes on the 20, and then on their 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> hour classes on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Nichols students will stay at Fatima on the 21<sup>st</sup> for their finals.

**January begins a whole new year AND a whole new semester.** Parents, please realize that the grades that will be found on the next report cards WILL be on the child's permanent record. Christmas break marks the end of the old semester. That means, when the students come back in January, they have a clean slate. It is just like starting the year over again. No grades from before Christmas will be used.

So if your child was behind in his studies, or if the grades were not where we wanted them to be, let the child know that he has nothing holding him back now. Encourage the child to keep up with homework and ask for help if needed. The teachers at Fatima will be more than happy to help a child who wants to improve.

**Log Those Volunteer Hours and Clubs:** Please encourage your high school student to log the hours they have spent in any volunteer opportunities and to list all the clubs/organizations they have joined. This can be done on Missouri Connections, so the child will always know where to find it! Use the resume section. What a great project to complete over Christmas break!

**Coats for Kids (and adults):** Fatima's STUCO collected 119 coats for the needy during their two week coat drive. Thanks, everyone!

**Class Changes:** From Now until January 5th students can make changes to their second semester schedules without permission from teachers. So if your child is in a class he or she doesn't particularly like, and if that class is not required to graduate, encourage the child to talk to me about possible changes to the schedule.

After Jan 5 any class changes will require the permission of the teachers, the parents, and the principal.

**Winter Break:** Our last day of school will be Thursday, Dec 21 with an 11:22 dismissal. Students will return on Thursday, Jan 4. Nichols resumes on Wednesday, Jan 3.

**Fatima and Nichols so far are scheduled to be off school Jan 15** – Martin Luther King, Jr day. If we have any snow days between now and Friday, Jan 12, we will go on that day. It is considered Snow Make-up Day #1!

**NHS Eligibility Lists** will be posted the end of January with deadlines. Be watching!

**Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors who want to apply for NHS next semester:** make sure you have a list of ways that you have shown leadership! This seems to be the one area that is hardest to prove. Have you started a program, been in charge of an event for a club, been the leader on a project, etc.?

**Dual Credit at Fatima:** If your student is enrolled in a class here at Fatima that is offered for dual credit through Lincoln, we will be collecting enrollment sheets in January. Make sure the classes you are signing up for are needed for your major! Most of the classes are required for almost every major, such as English and one semester of American History. Others depend on the school you will go to and the major you will have. So if you know the college you will attend, check out their transfer credit forms to see if your classes will count!

**Not much else on the calendar this month** except a lot of basketball games and wrestling matches. Come see an event and enjoy the Fatima school spirit. I've always been proud of the sportsmanship that our players and supporters show. We are a school with pride and respect, and that says more than anything.

### **Calendar of Events**

Dec 21 – Jan 3 Winter Break  
Jan 3 – Nichols students return to Nichols  
Jan 4 – Students return and 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Starts  
Jan 12 – ACT Registration Deadline for February 10 test  
Jan 15 - No school unless used as snow day make-up  
Jan 17 – Board of Education Meeting  
Feb 5 – Mid-Quarter reports  
Feb 9 – COPE anti-drug training for 7<sup>th</sup> grade  
Feb 10 – ACT Test  
Feb 12 – Nichols out at 9:50

### **Counselor's Corner**

**ACT Deadline:** The deadline to sign up for the February 10 ACT is January 12. Students can go online to [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) to register.

**Juniors: Start scheduling a college visit!** I have given to the juniors a packet of info about college visits. The packets will help you know how to set up a tour and what to ask when you are on one. Students should organize all the college information in one packet or folder. Lots will be coming now, especially if your child has taken the ACT. Then you will get TONS of stuff. You might want to dedicate a drawer to the information!

**Sophomores:** I have met with all the sophomores to discuss future plans and class selection. It would be wonderful if they would also use their Missouri Connections

account to research possible careers and find the perfect field for them, or at least an area of interest. It makes it much easier to decide on classes if we know what the student wants to do. So encourage your child to do some research over Christmas break. I will meet with my last few in January!

### **Senior Parents**

**IF YOUR CHILD PLANS TO USE THE A+ GRANT, HE OR SHE MUST COMPLETE THE FAFSA!!!**

IF YOUR CHILD IS A SENIOR AND IS GOING TO TECH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE, you will want to get this done.

To speed the process, have these things ready:

1) your **2016** tax return.

2) Create your FSA ID for the student and at least one parent. Do this at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). You must have a separate email address for the student and parent.

Please make sure you complete this form SOON!

**Scholarships will now be coming in like wildfire (hopefully):** It seems that a lot of scholarships seem to hit right after the Christmas season. Encourage your child to watch the bulletin and to go to Mueller's Office often. Also, make sure you have contacted your local clubs and organizations to see if they offer a scholarship. Don't miss out!

**Schwartz Scholarship:** This year there will be one \$6000 a year scholarship for a student in the top 20% of the class. They will also give eight \$3000 a year scholarships for students in the top 33% of the class. Applications will be handed directly to the students who qualify in February.

**Junior High through Junior Parents:** There are many free seminars and summer camps that are sending information starting now. These types of things really look great on scholarship forms and sometimes separate the average students from the winners! Check out the list and see if there is anything your child might be interested in doing.

I encourage all high school students to seriously consider attending one of these camps. Go to the website of a local college or of a college you might consider attending and see what summer camps they have.

Also **Encourage Volunteer Activities** since many scholarships require a list. Volunteer at nursing homes or the Salvation Army or a hospital or a church or for some people in your community. Tutor a child. Do something!

**Juniors who took the PSAT:** The results are in. Encourage your child to use the website to find colleges, scholarship, and the perfect career!

# The Joke's On You Christmas!!!

## Reindeer's Story at Christmas

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December.

Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to EVERY historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, EVERY single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl.

We should have known... ONLY women would be able to drag a fat man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and not get lost.

## Trust Him?

On the Sunday before Christmas Reverend Billy Graham was walking down Highland street in Mt Holly, North Carolina on his way to see a parishioner. However, he wanted to post a parcel urgently so he asked a young boy where he could find the post office. When the boy had directed him, Reverend Graham thanked him and said, 'If you'll come to the Church this evening, you can hear me telling everyone how to get to heaven.'

The boy replied, 'I think I'll give your sermon a miss. If you don't even know your way to the post office, how will you lead me to heaven?'

## Christmas Turkey

It was Christmas Eve in at the meat counter and a woman was anxiously picking over the last few remaining turkeys in the hope of finding a large one.

In desperation she called over a shop assistant and said, 'Excuse me. Do these turkeys get any bigger?'

'No, madam, 'he replied, 'they're all dead.'



## Mirror Image - Christmas Fable



On Christmas Eve, Nathan thought it would be nice to buy his wife a little gift for the next day. Always short of money, he thought long and hard about what that present might be'

Unable to decide, Nathan entered Debenhams and in the cosmetics section he asked the girl, 'How about some perfume?' She showed him a bottle costing £75. [\$150USD]

'Too expensive,' muttered Nathan.

The young lady returned with a smaller bottle for £50. 'Oh dear,' Nathan grouched, 'still far too much.'

Growing rather annoyed at Nathan's meanness, the sales girl brought out a tiny £10 bottle and offered it to him. Nathan became really agitated, 'What I mean', he whined, 'is I'd like to see something really cheap.'

So the sales girl handed him a mirror.

## Christmas Spirit

It was just before Christmas and the magistrate was in a happy mood. He asked the prisoner who was in the dock, 'What are you charged with?'

The prisoner replied, 'Doing my Christmas shopping too early.'

'That's no crime', said the magistrate. 'Just how early were you doing this shopping?'

'Before the shop opened', answered the prisoner.

## Saying a Prayer for the Christmas Meal

Lee, A seven-year-old boy, was asked to say thanks for the Christmas dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation. Lee began his prayer, thanking God for his Mommy, Daddy, brothers, sister, Grandma, and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank God for the food.

He gave thanks for the turkey, the stuffing, the Christmas pudding, even the cranberry sauce. Then lee paused, and everyone waited ... and waited. After a long silence, the young fellow looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank God for the Brussels sprouts, won't he know that I'm lying?"