

CRY OF THE CARDINAL

St. John Lutheran School
Wrightstown, WI

IGNITE. INFUSE. INSPIRE.

January 20, 2017

SCHOOL INFORMATION & EVENTS

Gambler Hockey Game

Ticket order forms have been sent in. Tickets will be available at the Resch Center at Will Call. When you arrive at the Resch Center, approach Will Call, let them know you are from St. John – Wrightstown, and let them know your last name. All tickets will be available there.

Tundra Lodge

In preparation for this field trip, you should EXPECT information to come via email, or paper copy by next week

Wrestling Club

Practices run on Tuesday and Thursday nights in February, and March. Children in pre-K (4 year olds) through eighth grade are eligible to enter. Our coach, Eric Olp, can send out more information as the season approaches. There is no cost to join the club practices, though there are costs for any tournaments you may choose to enter. For questions, see Mrs. Wicks or Mrs. Bunn or call Coach Olp at [920-660-1948](tel:920-660-1948).

5K Color Run/Walk

We are currently selecting a course which will be run through the city of Wrightstown. Lots more information will be coming out in the month of February. Please feel free to tell everybody far and near about this amazing event coming May 20th.

Spiritware

I have heard from a few families, but am looking to hear from many more. What clothing items would you like to see don our school logo, and motto. If you have any ideas let me know!

CLASSROOM NEWS

Ms. Buss (Preschool)

Greetings!

I hope this reading of the Cry of the Cardinal finds you all safe, and healthy. The weather we have been having has been putting a change into the plans that the class and I have had, but, we continue on! Speaking of the weather, I want to remind you that we have a **WHOLE SCHOOL** field trip coming up on February 10th to the Tundra Lodge. If your child does not go to school on Fridays and would still like to participate please let me know because they most certainly can still come with the school. Also, if you are able to volunteer for this field trip we most certainly would love for you to come along! The kids will have a lot of fun swimming, and I am sure that the adults that are going will have fun with their children as well. Our “beat cabin fever” field trip is usually pretty fun! Please let me know if you can help out!

Our learning as a class is proceeding forward! This week in literacy we are learning the letter S. We have been periodically reviewing this letter from the earlier parts in the school year, and some of the kids when they see it remember that it “looks like a snake” and will make the sound of the S when they see it. Letter recognition is improving. In the last few weeks we have also been playing some letter review games (ex: letter hokey pokey), we have a monster (Kleenex box) that challenges the children to get the correct letter in the box before the monster comes alive, and we review the previous letter of the week and compare it with the current letter of the week.

The kids and I brought out our artistic sides this week! They found the water color paints, and we spent a portion of the morning learning how to use them. They had the option to paint a picture from a coloring book and/or make a picture of their own on a plain sheet of paper. Some kids did both. We also have done a few crafty things that go with our letter S this week as well.

Math continues to have us focus on the number 5 this month. We are exploring shapes as well. We make a shape with yarn with the whole class and then the kids are challenged to find that day’s shape in one of the toys in our room. We also are collecting and counting buttons which is giving the children a basic starting knowledge of the concept of the base of 10. Some children are even starting to pick up basic addition (although they don’t know it yet) because we are acting out math problems as stories too. Playing and learning at the same time is awesome!

Our religion story for the week is about Jesus turning water into wine. We talked about going to a party and having people there. The kids had to find a toy and bring it to the carpet area and I asked them to change their toy into something else. They acknowledged that they could not change a block to a pig (etc) and that I couldn’t do it for them either. However, we did talk about Jesus having power and how he displayed that type of power in his first miracle.

On that note, I will leave you with this Bible passage this time. I have been meditating on Psalm 119 in my personal Bible studies lately so I will leave you with Psalm 119:52. “I remember your ancient laws, O LORD, and I find comfort in them.” Whether you need comfort, encouragement, or reminders of God’s love, we can be completely fulfilled in Him alone and the comfort that he gives us in His Word. Blessings on your next few weeks!

Mrs. Wicks (Prek & K)

We have now finished up the second quarter of our school year. Even after working with young children for years, it always amazes me to look back and see how far we have come since the beginning of our year. Several pre-K students are sounding out words with short vowels consistently. Kindergarteners are growing more confident in math and can be challenged beyond our reading curriculum each week. Please check for Kindergarten report cards in next week Friday's folders. Pre-K students do not receive an assessment again until spring—the wide variety of skills picked up at this age level would have us constantly assessing if we did a report each quarter. No conferences are planned for this quarter but you may request a meeting if you have concerns or questions.

We are looking ahead to a couple of fun events next month. Our 100th day of school will be coming on February 10th (so long as the weather does not interrupt our calendar again). I am asking each student in PreK and Kindergarten to bring in a baggie with 100 small items that can be used in a project. Do not send anything that you are not willing to give up. Suggestions include rice, beans, dry noodles, stickers, rubber bands, paper clips, tiny erasers, cereal pieces, M&Ms, fake gemstones, buttons, or puzzle pieces. Please work with your child to count to the correct amount at home. We will share items in groups of ten with our friends.

Our 100th day of school looks as if it will align with our field trip to Tundralodge and Pizza Ranch. We are looking to get more chaperones. Please let me know if you can come. More information will be coming out soon.

Another fun event in February is Valentine's Day. Look for a sheet of name labels to come home soon to assist you if you choose to have your child send out Valentines. Parents may bring treats if they like. We will have a small celebration including love-themed games and activities.

Mrs. Bunn (Grades 1-3)

We just completed another great quarter and again I was super impressed with how much your children read. At this point, all students have either started reading chapter books or will start this quarter. Some students in our class enjoy reading all chapter books, but most enjoy reading a mix of picture books and chapter books. It's time for many in our class to increase their reading stamina which means they need to increase how long they can read and maintain focus on their book. If your child is new to chapter books, please remember that some students can be intimidated by the idea of reading longer books even though those books are well within their reading capabilities. We have the diagnostic tools to determine your child's independent reading level and have thousands of books marked with those levels. This makes it easy to choose appropriate books that are going to help them maintain reading growth. Another area to watch is pacing. Sometimes students think that reading a chapter a night is always a good way to maintain their goals. This is not often the case with early chapter books. Many of these books have chapters that are 3-5 pages long with large type and would literally be about 3 minutes of silent reading. They still need to maintain at least 20 minutes of reading each night. Most chapter books in our classroom should not take longer than a week to read if read for 20 minutes a night. Not reading enough each night when doing a chapter book will make it hard to remember and comprehend a story.

If you want to know about our classroom's independent reading expectations, feel free to stop in to see how Accelerated Reader works and how our classroom library is organized. I'd be happy to discuss with you ways to help your child succeed in reading.

Mr. Raddatz (Grades 4 – 8)

Due to some last minute assignments getting turned in, and some work not getting graded yesterday, report cards for our classroom will be available online by 10pm this evening. As second quarter concludes, we have taken a few days to look back on our previous effort and work, and made some resolutions for third quarter and the rest of the year. Some have made resolutions of taking work home to get a second look, some have committed more time to note taking in class, others to making sure questions get answer as soon as possible, and still others taking opportunity to give help to others.

As your child may or may not have mentioned, our class is looking to get out on a snow hill in the not to distant future. The weather is a huge determining factor for this activity, and has kept us from setting a date. Please note, that this activity is during school and won't require any special pick up after school.

I kindly remind all parents that grades are always accessible online as we get started with third quarter. Grades are generally entered every day for the coursework I teach, and by the end of the week for classes instructed by other teachers. If you come across any thing that looks questionable please feel free to contact me.

HUMOR IS GREAT MEDICINE

You: Teacher!

Teacher: Yes?

You: Would You Punish
Me For

Something
I Didn't Do?

Teacher: Of
Course Not.

You: I Didn't Do
My Homework.

