

CRY OF THE CARDINAL

St. John Lutheran School
Wrightstown, WI

IGNITE. INFUSE. INSPIRE.

December 2, 2016
Full Edition

SCHOOL INFORMATION & EVENTS

St. John in the Community

Tomorrow is the Wrightstown Holiday Parade. St. John Lutheran School will have an entry in this parade. We are still looking for adults and kids to walk with our entry to pass out information and promotional items as well as ride atop our parade entry. We will meet in the church parking lot at 11:00am to make final preparations, and receive instructions before heading to our designated spot for the parade. Following the completion of the parade, we will drop everyone back off in the church parking lot, which is usually 12:45 – 1:00pm

Wrestling Club

St. John's wrestling club is getting ready for the start of the new season. Practices will run on Tuesday and Thursday nights in January, February, and March. Children in pre-K (4 year olds) through eighth grade are eligible to enter. Look for a sign up sheet in your Friday folder to enter. Our coach, Eric Olp, will send out more information as the season approaches. Our first practice will be on January 5th. 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

I am proud to announce that the 5K Color Run/Walk has been approved for this May. A few of you have already passed on your names for helping out. Accordingly, we will need many more volunteers to help make this the great event I know it can be. If you are interested, please contact me, Tim Raddatz via email: trr61210@gmail.com. Please let me know your name, best means for contact, and what day and time during the week works best so I can schedule volunteer gatherings to begin planning for this great event!

Parent – Teacher Conferences

Thank you to all those who were able to make it for conferences. If you were not able to make it during the scheduled days, and would still like to check the progress of your child, please contact their teacher directly.

Christmas Program

Please remember that each year, students from St. John Lutheran present a Children's Christmas Program. This year we have the opportunity to present two. Kindergarten through 8th grade will present theirs Sunday, December 18th at 10:15 at St. John Lutheran Church. Preschool and Prek will present theirs Wednesday, December 21st at 6:30pm at St. John Lutheran Church. There are two practices schedule just for KINDERGARTEN through 8TH GRADE, December 17th from 9-11am, and Sunday December 18th from 9-10am. *These practices are very important for children to be in attendance for as they are the only times our whole group practices together.*

CLASSROOM NEWS

Ms. Buss (Preschool)

Happy Holidays, officially!

As we wrap up the month of November and go full speed into December, some concepts we had been working on will change. The color and shape for our month go very nicely with the Christmas holiday, your tree, and the Nativity Story. We will leave the color brown behind and our new color of the month for December will be the color Green. To go with that the shape of the month will be the star. Our number of the month will not change; number bear will still work on teaching us the number 4 however we WILL be working more on the number zero and the understanding that zero means none. In the month of November, we were working the concepts of patterns pretty hard. You will find in December that we will continue to build on patterns, but we will add a new concept of sorting into our day. We might sort by colors, by genders, by animals, etc.

Our letter of the week this week is the letter D. As we do every week, the letter and the sound is introduced to us, we hunt for it, write it, and try to come up with words that start with the letter D to give the kiddos some practice on listening for the sound and thinking about the sound. The additional letters that we will cover up until Christmas are as follows: D, X, and M. Most of our letter review and learning will be on these three letters for December. However, we will also review our previous letters of A, B, P, T, and G.

For Word of God, we will spend the rest of this week and next talking about Jesus and what he is like. Last week we learned that he is our Good Shepherd. This week we are learning how he teaches Mary and Martha and how Jesus values us listening to him, and next week we will look at how Jesus blesses Children. Then the week before Christmas we will learn how Mary found out she would have Jesus and how Jesus was born, and the week of Christmas break we will discuss how the Wise Men went looking for Jesus and how God kept his Son safe from King Herod.

I want to remind you of an important upcoming date. On December 21st at the 6:30pm Advent service at church, the children will be singing the Christmas songs that we have been practicing. I look forward to them enlightening our service and giving you the opportunity to hear God speaking his message through them. Also on December 21st, I am planning on having a morning Christmas party in my classroom. If you could purchase a \$5 gift for a gift exchange so the kids can do presents, that would be great! Please also let me know if you would be interesting in being in attendance. I will have times when the party starts in the next edition of Cry of the Cardinal as I am working that out. Right now, I'm thinking about starting around 10am.

That's it for this edition. Peace to you on this rapid moving time of the year! I leave you with these words as we prepare for the wonderful thing, and time, of Christmas: Isaiah 25:1 – LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

Mrs. Wicks (Prek & K)

As we enter the month of December, I know that every family has a very busy schedule. Here at school we will be keeping busy as well-- in our regular learning and in preparing for the birth of our Lord. We ask that you set one day aside to celebrate with us this year: Wednesday, December 21.

In the morning of the 21st, the children will be having a Christmas Party with games, snacks, and presents. You may bring a snack if you would like. Cookies for frosting will be provided. I ask that all families pick out a small gift (no more than \$5) for their child to give to someone in the class. Boys should pick out a gift for another boy and girls should pick out a gift for another girl. We will choose presents randomly on the day of the party.

During the evening of the 21st, both our group and Miss Buss' group will be having our Christmas Service. Please note that this is different from past years that had us joining the other grade on Sunday. We would like everyone to be there to sing, especially since we tend to get quiet and shy in front of a large group of people. Your child has been learning songs and hymns at school to help prepare. If you would like a copy of the words to assist them at home, please let me know. Kindergarteners already are bringing the words home for their memory work this month. Thank you for your help to make it a beautiful service.

Mrs. Bunn (Grades 1-3)

Before Thanksgiving break we had a presentation on cryogenics and catapults. My brother works at 3M and also volunteers as a classroom educator through 3M's Visiting Wizards program. This program provides kits and training to get kids interested in careers that involve science, technology, and math. They saw many examples of how liquid nitrogen is used and I found the most interesting item to be rubber nails and screws that are temporarily frozen so they can be driven into different kinds of objects. These nails and screws are useful for structures that need more flexibility, particularly if they are in a places with a great amount of temperature variation. The kids enjoyed seeing common objects frozen and smashed like flowers, rubber balls, and marshmallows. They even got to eat some frozen marshmallows. They also found it funny that a banana could instantly be frozen to be hard enough to be used as a hammer. Everybody decided they would like their own banana hammer. The catapult part of the presentation had the students work in teams exploring how to set up a catapult to change the distance and height of their ping pong ball's flight. They also learned how to collect and record data and analyze their findings to make decisions on the best way to set up a catapult. My brother is hoping to bring two more kits sometime this spring and we look forward to it.

Right now in science class, we are exploring magnets. So far we've discussed how magnets work, the types of magnets, and how they vary in strength. The students have scientist notebooks where they take notes and record data from our hands on exploration activities. We will be doing a number of activities up through Christmas break.

Thank you for the extra work at home with the Christmas service recitations. Your extra efforts at home make our work at school much easier!

Mr. Raddatz (Grades 4 – 8)

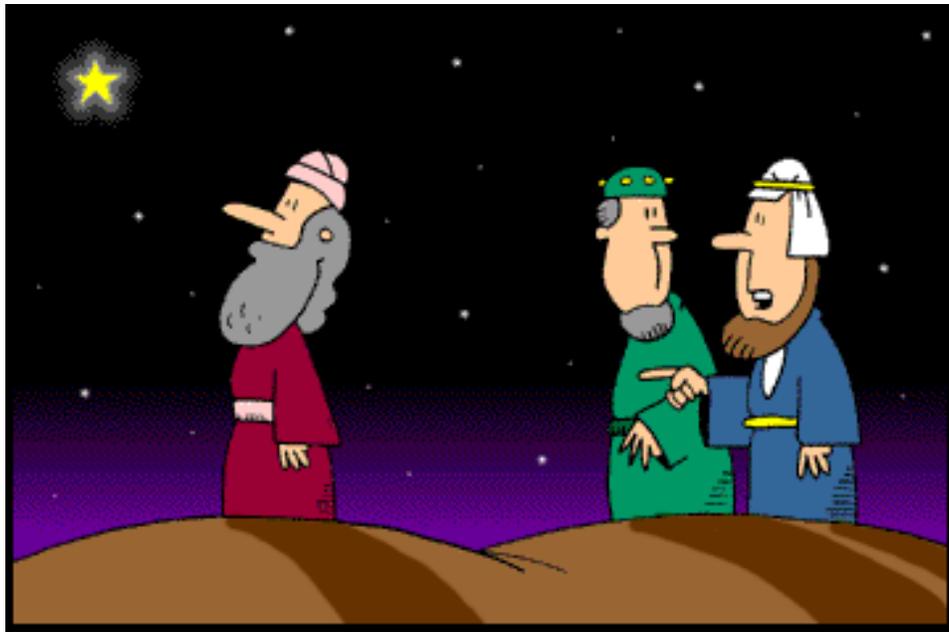
Casting a spotlight on our classroom, one will see the following items being talked about or discussed. In religion, we are looking at the account of Joseph, while Catechism is beginning their look at the articles. In math, topics are proportions, multiplicative properties for equations and expressions, interpreting graphs, decimal work, ratios, and exponential work. In literature, fourth and fifth grade just finished up their first novel, *The Best/Worst School Year*, while sixth grade continues to work their way through *Despereaux*, and seventh grade is nearly finished with *Bridge to Terabithia*. In grammar, topics are verb tenses, such as past participles and perfect tenses, transitive and intransitive verbs, and direct and indirect objects. In science, we are looking at

scientists and their usage of plants for inventions, the solar system, and Coleoptera an order of insects. Spanish continues to go through conversational communication.

Parents please double check to make sure your son or daughter continues to look over their recitation for the Christmas program. Each student has two to four sentences, to be memorized, that provide the narration and background between songs. In order for us to present a high quality presentation, it helps tremendously, for each student to have their lines memorized completely.

Parents, just an f.y.i, our classroom will be doing a gift exchange. This year we will have girls buy a gift for another girl, and boys a gift for another boy. I would kindly ask that gifts not exceed \$7.50. Please know that gifts can even be made, as our intent with this exchange is to share in the joy of giving unto others. Gifts can be brought in anytime beginning Monday, December 19th. We will be having a small Christmas party and gift opening, Wednesday, December 21st at 1:00pm.

HUMOR IS GREAT MEDICINE



Thanks to Mikel Rice (See [Matthew 2:1](#))

12-16-1998

OH I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT GETTING LOST
... WISEMAN #1 TOLD ME THAT HE HAS SOME
SORT OF GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM