

# CRY OF THE CARDINAL

St. John Lutheran School  
Wrightstown, WI

IGNITE. INFUSE. INSPIRE.

March 3, 2017

## SCHOOL INFORMATION & EVENTS

### Wrestling Club

We are approaching the end of the season with only a few tournaments left. After the final tournament in Hilbert on the 18th, there will be no more regular practices. We will be holding an awards night and pizza party on Tuesday, March 21st to celebrate the boys' accomplishments and thank our coaches. Watch for information and an online sign-up form to come out soon.

### Easter Celebration

Along with this newsletter there is a sign up sheet for anyone that is interested in helping out, or contributing items for this annual event which began last year. It is attached as a doc file, so please feel free to respond via email or by filling in the doc and sending it back to me. Please know that there is no obligation to help or contribute, it is a simple invitation for those that may want to help out in some way.

### Summer Session

Thank you to all the families that replied to the set of five questions sent out seeking information about attendance in our summer program. Along with newsletter, I am including the questions again, just in case they were missed the first time. For those that aren't interested, please shoot me a "No," that way I won't bug you with any follow ups for this information.

### Spring Club

St. John is committed to listening to the suggestions of our families. Following our open houses a few weeks ago, several parents made mention of how much they appreciated the clubs that we offered throughout the year, and several inquired about the Spring. Based upon these thoughts, and for the following springs, we are looking to gauge the interest in a baseball club each spring. The club would be age level appropriate, beginning with T-ball, and progressing from there.

### Surveys and Input

Please note that with this and the next few newsletters, several questions will be present where we are seeking your input on. It helps us out tremendously when we are able to get as many responses as possible. Please note, if you already provided information for the summer sessions, you don't need to reply again. I thank you in advance for taking the time to help us out and plan for upcoming days, and months, and next school year.

## CLASSROOM NEWS

### Ms. Buss (Preschool)

Greetings!

I can't believe that we are entering into March, and with March comes the official season of Spring! Please make sure to continue to have snow clothes at school for your child until the snow has went away. Boots will also continue to be useful for a time after the snow is gone to better deal with wet, melting, conditions.

With a new month brings some new concepts that we will be working on in our classroom. We finished working on the colors of Red and White for February. So, the color of the month will change to Black which will give us more time to concentrate on the difference between black and brown. The number of the month will no longer be the number 6, and we will move on to our next number 7. We have been expanding our math concepts as well. While we continue to explore different patterns, shapes, and practice our sorting skills, we have begun to look at simple data that allows me to explain the concepts of more, less, bigger, and smaller. March will find us starting to measure items and the first thing that we will talk about is the weight of items by using a science scale. The shape of the month will no longer be the heart, and the shape of March will be the rectangle.

For literacy this week we are looking at the theme of size order. We are arranging items in small, medium, and large categories. The children are familiar with the words of big and little so we are making it a point to use small instead of little and large instead of big to increase vocabulary. We are talking about different things that happen at different times of the day (morning, afternoon, and night.) We are working on the letter R this week. Last week we started to play a game that searched for letters to make sight words such as I, and at, and we played with sock puppets as we talked about and counted out syllables in words. We continue to learn rhyming at least once a week as well! We are always busy, but always having fun! Next week in literacy we will focus on the letter C, and the theme will be different types of transportation.

Our religion story for this week is about Jesus teaching Peter to trust Him, and how Jesus helped Peter walk on water. We started looking at this concept by discussing how we can't walk across crackers without crushing them (and I had them walk across animal crackers too!), and how when we go swimming we need to move in the water or wear something that makes us float. Then we discussed how neat it was that Jesus walked on water, and that Jesus allowed Peter to be able to do that as well! Next week we will look at the story of The Good Samaritan.

As we start our journey into the Lenten season and our eyes focus more and more on what Christ did for us by taking away our sins, I am reminded of the righteousness that Christ has that he gives to us. That's why recently I found joy in the following two passages from studying in Proverbs. May you be reminded reading this that Christ's righteousness is already yours, and that he delights in you and always loves to hear from you in prayer, any time of the day on any subject big or small in our eyes. Proverbs 15: 8 – 9 – The LORD detests the sacrifice of the wicked, but the prayer of the upright pleases him. The LORD detests the way of the wicked, but he loves those who pursue righteousness.

Blessings on the next few weeks ahead!

### **Mrs. Wicks (Prek & K)**

Pre-K is zipping through their letters with more and more skill, reading small words and memorizing sight words along the way. If you would like to challenge your youngster at home, I have books available to borrow that they may be able to read to you. We have also been learning a lot of new skills in math: counting by tens, completing dot to dots, graphing dice rolls, and more.

Kindergarten is reading longer and longer books, writing sentences on their own (that can be read by others), and completing science experiments on changes. We have been starting tons of new math skills as well: adding two-digit numbers, finding congruent shapes, starting fractions, and telling time to the half hour.

God's Word binders were handed to both groups over the past couple of weeks. Please enjoy them at home, reading through the stories that your child has learned in class. Once change should be made, however: rather than bringing them back every Monday for new papers, you may keep them at home permanently. All of our future stories are already in the binder. The monthly calendars that get sent home make note of which stories we are on for each week; you may follow that schedule may be followed if you want to learn at home along with us.

### **Mrs. Bunn (Grades 1-3)**

The first and second graders are exploring some fun and exciting things in math. They are working with place value with numbers through the hundreds and telling time to the nearest five minutes. They are enthusiastic in learning both of these concepts, but both can be a little challenging. Be sure to give your child opportunities at home to find numbers in the hundreds and identifying the hundreds, tens, and ones place. It would also be helpful to have your child start looking at digital clocks in your home. Guide them to name the hour first and then determine what the minute hand is pointing at. Don't forget to ask them if the time is A.M. or P.M. as well.

Third grade is exploring some more advanced concepts with fractions including adding mixed numbers and converting to and from mixed numbers and improper fractions. We'll do a quick review of timed adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing drills before diving into timed drills involving improper fractions.

We are still working on our "Changes in Matter" unit in science. We've learned that some changes are fast and some are slow. We've definitely noticed that changing a sugar solution into rock candy is a very slow process. We've been waiting for weeks for the big change and have already noticed some crystals forming as the water evaporates. It looks like we may need to wait a few more weeks yet. Thank you for helping your child prepare their science demonstration. We really enjoyed watching everyone share the solids and liquids recipe experiment.

Don't forget that we have a field trip on Monday. We will be going to the Weidner Center to see a stage version of the popular Odd Squad show that can be seen on PBS Kids programming. The students are very familiar with these characters so they are very excited to see this show!

### **Mr. Raddatz (Grades 4 – 8)**

We have reached over the half way point of the quarter. As your child(ren) will tell you, I have bombarded them with thoughts of putting everything they have into their studies, and crossing the quarter finish line with a sprint. We adopted three phrases to help us keep these things in mind. **Be Responsible, No Excuses, Put for**

**the effort.** It is true that some have set the cruise control and seem to be coasting, while many others seem to have eyes looking ahead, with the foot firmly on the gas pedal. As the weather warms up, my thirteen years of experience have led me to know full well that students desire to be outside and studying and practicing lessons becomes more and more difficult. It is at these times that students hopefully have established good habits of completing work promptly, doing work well, being responsible, and seeing the benefits that come when doing so, most notably getting that time to do other things.

As I continue to do, I ask that you continue to encourage your son or daughter to keep working hard, because in the end it always, always, pays off!

## HUMOR IS GREAT MEDICINE

### **What I do when a teacher says "this cannot be done the night before"**

