

CRY OF THE CARDINAL

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL

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January 7, 2018

IMPORTANT DATES

1/9 CROCHET CLUB (3pm)

**1/9 & 1/11 WRESTLING PRAC.
(5:30pm) @ WHS**

**1/12 GREEN BAY GAMBLERS
Ticket money due**

1/16 CROCHET CLUB (3pm)

1/18 STEAM CLUB (3pm)

1/19 EARLY RELEASE (11:30)

**1/20 GREEN BAY GAMBLERS
GAME "DASH FOR CASH"
(7:05pm)**

SCHOOL NEWS

DASH FOR THE CASH

We again have the opportunity to join several others schools and the Green Bay Gamblers hockey team in a family night of fun. The game is Saturday, January 20th, beginning at 7:05. Tickets forms were sent home with each child. Children's tickets(ages 4+) are \$9, and adult tickets are \$14. Children age three and under are free. The past two years we have averaged atleast 50 people in attendance. Three dollars from each ticket sold, as well as Mrs. Wicks returning to the dash mat to grab cash, comes back to St. John. All funds raised or collected are earmarked for a special, unbudgeted projects at school. Ticket order forms, along with cash or check, are due to classroom teachers by Friday, January 12th.

Payment Option A new payment option or service is now available. Direct withdrawal is not available for families. Payments can be set up to be one time withdrawals or recurring based upon a predetermined schedule. If you would be interested in this option please contact Mr. Raddatz. The process is painless as it only requires a simple form to be filled out with the necessary information to get you enrolled.

Chili Cook Off / Game Night We are hosting our first ever Chili Cook Off February 10th, from noon to 3pm. It will be held in the lower level of St. John Lutheran Church. Whether you would like to place your secret family chili recipe up against some friendly completion, sample the variety of choices, or sit down with your children, friends, family, or others to play a game or two, this event will be fun for the whole family. The best part about it, it is entirely free. The only thing we need from you is some simple contact information if you would decide to place your chili recipe in the ring of completion. Please look for the online sign up on our website. The registration form should be available in the next few days.

Employment Opportunity We have an immediate opening for a Teacher's Aide position. It is an hourly paid position, Monday through Friday, 4 hours per day. We are seeking someone who may have had or currently has experience working with children ages 3 – 6. If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact Mr. Raddatz via phone: 920.636.5007 or by email: stjlsw@gmail.com, please include any past or current qualifications and experiences. Thank you for your help in spreading the word of this opening!

Many thanks for all of the Christmas gifts! I was feeling quite spoiled over break thanks to your generosity. I hope your families were able to enjoy a time of relaxation and fun!

Coming back from break, the Kindergarteners showed they were happy to be back together. They spent the first morning just talking with each other rather than playing! This is truly an amazing group for showing strong friendships.

Looking at upcoming academics, we are close to moving into our second half of the school year. Our language arts classes change a bit as we go into 3rd quarter. We will add a weekly spelling list and test. The class has already been practicing how to spell simple, phonics-based words as a group. Adding spelling class will give us more opportunity to show our individual spelling skills. Look for information to come out over the next couple of weeks showing what we will be working on and how you can help at home.

Our Superkids work will be changing slightly also. The second half of our curriculum gives us 3 different fluency readers to bring home, depending on reading abilities. There are easy, on-level, and challenging books that go with each letter unit. Your child will likely be sent home with two of the Superkids fluency readers over the course of about a week. Please give extra attention to letting me know (using the smilies on the homework paper) how reading time goes for you at home. If books start getting too easy, we can move your child up to a more challenging level. If they are struggling to finish the books, we can move them down. They should continue to have the opportunity to practice the book at school first with either a volunteer or myself.

There is one opportunity that did not make our calendar this month: On Saturday, January 20th, you can come and watch the Green Bay Gamblers play hockey and Mrs. Wicks scramble in the middle of the rink to collect cash for our school! We are on our third year of participating in the Dash for Cash, and the first two years were lots of fun. Forms for tickets were sent home earlier. If you would like to order tickets, please do so by Friday, January 12th. A portion of all ticket sales also goes to our school.

Please ask your child about their Accelerated Reader goals. They know if they are on track or if they need to do some extra work before the end of the quarter. Right now we have a wide mix of students who have already met their goals, some who are on track, and some who need to do some catching up. Students who need to catch up are welcome to schedule time with me after school to get back on track.

Second and third graders are starting a novel this week. They're excited to take a break from their reading textbooks and do a chapter book together. I've taught this unit at least 10 times over the years and the students have always loved it. Stone Fox is a short, but action-packed story full of emotional ups and downs. Be sure to ask your child about their favorite parts.

First grade is becoming more independent in their reading. This is an exciting time as they rapidly reach the point where they too can take on more challenging books like chapter books. They will also be taking a break from their reading textbooks and work on some longer more challenging picture books together.

In science class, we have started a Magic School Bus inspired unit. We are using the video, book, and MSB kit to read, watch, and do experiments with light energy and color. Our first activity will explore how light travels in relation to translucent, transparent, and opaque materials.

In social studies, we are wrapping up a brief look at Native Americans and Explorers. In our last lessons we discussed people who explored the world and our country. Children at this age benefit from talking about geography in relation to location. Occasionally, there is confusion about what city they live in and that that city is in your state which is in your country, etc. Take a moment to discuss/reinforce with your child what city, state, country, and continent they live in/on. Extend this conversation by discussing neighboring states, countries, and continents. Ask them about the oceans bordering our country and major bodies of water that lie within our country.

Thank you all for the Christmas gifts! Your thoughtfulness and generosity is appreciated. I hope you enjoyed your Christmas break and wish you God's continued blessings into the New Year!

First and foremost I would like to thank everyone for their kind words, cards, and gifts during the holiday season. It is truly amazing to be apart of such an amazing school family!

As we near the end of second quarter, we make note of all the new and continued areas of study we have undertaken. Several grades have made regular use of google slides for formal oral presentations in front of their classmates, classic novels have been undertaken such as Robin Hood, Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Homer Price, Lassie, and Bronze Bow. Besides grades sixth through eighth attending Catechism class, we continue our focus on major Bible stories of the New Testament. Grammar classes have us looking at parts of speech, specific case nouns, types of composition, and letter writing. Math courses covered topics ranging from symbols of inclusion to trinomial equations, order of operations to multiple step word problems. Intro to Greek is continuing their study of the Greek alphabet, while Phy Ed has had us covering six man football, ultimate frisbee, and now finishing the quarter with dance.

A couple of reminders as we finish out second quarter and look onward to third quarter. Students are beginning to understand the true importance of reading grade level novels, books, and material. Our textbooks and classroom materials are delivered with grade level content and text. Accordingly, some have identified the challenges that are or may be present if continued progress is not undertaken in their selections of reading on their own. Contentment has been sprinkled over our classroom. Some of our students seem to be "settling." Our schedule allows for a substantial amount of opportunities for students to seek help, ask questions, and get additional notes, but many times none of these things happen, because students refuse to be proactive in their pursuits. I strongly urge all students to get as much help as possible before leaving for the day.

We look forward to wrapping up this quarter, and getting started with the next!

St. John Lutheran School's mission:

Ignite the love of learning,

Infuse the Word of God,

Inspire tomorrow's leaders