

CRY OF THE CARDINAL

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL

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January 19, 2018

IMPORTANT DATES

1/20 Gamblers Hockey 7:05pm

2/4 Students sing in church
10:15am (Preschool – 8th)

2/10 Chili Cook Off
(Noon – 3pm)

2/12 PJ Day

2/13 Costume Day

2/14 Formal Dress Day

2/15 Team Day

2/16 FUNSET FIELD TRIP

SCHOOL NEWS

DASH FOR THE CASH – Gambler's Hockey Game

When you enter the Resch Center through the main entry doors, head to your right where you will find several tables set up for will call. When you approach these tables, let them know you are from St. John – Wrightstown, and then give them your last name. Everyone's tickets will be found there. Please note that this is a special promotional night in combination with *DASH FOR CASH*. It will be a busy, somewhat chaotic place for ticket pick up, so I would suggest getting there earlier than later to pick up your tickets. Remember Mrs. Wicks will be *dashing* during one of the intermissions, so make sure to yell and scream for her.

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!

SPIRIT WEEK:

Spirit week is a week set aside to build comradery, celebrate our school, and overall have some fun, As part of spirit week, we have special themed days for clothing attire if students choose to join us. Listed below are those designated days.

Monday – PJ's

Tuesday – Favorite Costume

Wednesday – Formal (Dress to impress your Valentine Sweetie!)

Thursday – Support your favorite team (Sports, superhero, maybe your parents work team, any team will do)

Friday - Comfy Clothes (WHOLE SCHOOL FIELD TRIP TO FUNSET BOULVEVARD)
10:30am-2:30pm

Preschool & Prek (Miss Buss)

E: miss_jbuss@yahoo.com

I want to start off by thanking you all for the lovely Christmas gifts that you gave me. Thank you very much! I appreciate everything and enjoyed eating the snacks over Christmas break. Everything was great! I hope that those of you that came to our Christmas party had some fun with your kids, and I personally thank you for coming to help out and join the fun.

As many of you are aware we have a hanger system set up in our room for hat, coat, and mittens. When dropping off your child, please hang up your child's things on their hanger that is labeled with their names. I have pretty much everything labeled with a sharpie, however please glance over all your children's stuff and make sure that anything that I haven't labeled (coats if I missed them, mittens etc) is labeled with their name. There are a few kids that have duplicate coats etc. and having names on the items helps when hanging up all their stuff after recess. Thank you for helping me out in this. If your child has items missing, please take a look on the top rack where there are lots of hats and mittens left and/or in the school's items that we borrow out. I have had a few new kiddos join our bunch in January so if your child hangs their stuff up in the white cubbies their winter stuff will not be on a separate hanger.

Wednesday of this week marked the end of quarter two of the school year. As we progress into quarter three, we will continue to review concepts that the kids are starting to concretely grasp and we will introduce new concepts that are harder. I always tell the kids that "I am trying to trick their brain" and they seem to really enjoy the fact that they are making me work harder to trick them. January finds us working on the color blue, and the number 5. The shape that we are focusing on this month is the diamond. Literacy found us already working on letter U, H; we worked on letter B this week. Next week we will work on letter R to finish out our last full week of January. While we are working on the letters, we are also working on the sounds that they make. We also had one day last week where we introduced the concept of rhyming to the Pre-school students and reviewed it with the PreK students. So, in all areas of our day we continue to review but also strive forward in our endeavors.

Kindergarten (Mrs. Wicks)

E: mrs.rebeccawicks@yahoo.com

We made it halfway through the school year! We are on to more adventures. Spelling starts up this coming week, so be sure to check your child's folder on Monday for a note about what you can do to help them practice their words.

On February 4th, our class will join the older classes to sing in church. We have been learning 'What a Friend We Have in Jesus' in English and Spanish. We will meet in the church basement at 10:00 and sing during the 10:15 service.

On April 13th, FVL is holding Kinderfest, an annual activity day for Kindergarten classes throughout the Fox Valley. I am interested in having our class participate this year, but would need a couple of parents to help drive and chaperone. If you are able to help us, please let me know.

Spirit Week:

The second week in February brings us to our annual Spirit Week. On Monday, we get to be lazy in our pajamas. On Tuesday, wear your favorite costume- any style. Wednesday, wear your nicest outfit to impress your Valentine and head to church in style for Ash Wednesday. Thursday, wear something to support your favorite team-- St. John Cardinals, Green Bay Gamblers, Minnesota Vikings, ect. Friday, wear anything comfortable enough to run around in at Funset Boulevard. Look for a note about our field trip to come out in the next week or so. Spirit days are listed on our google calendar-- just hop on www.stjlswrightstown.com/calendar.

Valentine's Day:

Children are welcome to bring a snack to share and/or Valentines for everyone in their class if they would like. If you need a list of names, please let me know. Challenge your child to see if they can come up with all 11 names and try out the spelling!

Some amazing things happened in reading this past semester. All students achieved Star Reader status both quarters and we made tremendous gains in our reading skills. Our assessments showed that all students have achieved growth over the year and that we have read and tested on 2,400 books with an average of 89% accuracy. Those are very exciting numbers and I look forward to what we achieve the second half of the year. The students in grade 1 average a 2.0 reading level now and the 2-3rd graders average a 4.0 reading level. That means that our first graders on average read like a beginning 2nd grader and that our 2-3rd graders read like a beginning 4th grader. You can see all that reading practice really pays off. The best way to continue with that success is with lots of reading and I'm sure that our book lovers will do exactly that!

Expect to see a lot more writing the second half of the year. The first graders are wrapping up a unit on sentence writing and are learning more about the writing process. The 2-3rd graders are currently working on a problem-solution fiction story. They've played story games, generated ideas about characters, settings, problems/solutions, and are now ready to put these elements together in story form. I've already heard about some very interesting characters with very interesting traits. I'm eager to hear how they solve their problems.

Your son or daughter should have brought home log in information for accessing grades online. If by chance that didn't find its way home please let me know.

I wanted to pass along a few reminders as we enter third quarter. Accelerated Reader quarterly scores are included as part of each student's literature grade. Accordingly, if a student's Accelerated Reader score does not reach the required amount, a student is not capable of attaining an "A+" in literature for the quarter. We had several students who got close to the score but did not reach the 100% number that they are expected to reach.

Part of the way through second quarter an adjustment was made to our classroom homework policy. Prior to the change, students who had incomplete or missing work, received a homework detention. The policy was modified where a missing homework assignment was entered into the gradebook as an "F" and then could be corrected or submitted to attain up to a "B+" This adjustment also kept in mind if I, the classroom teacher, wasn't notified by 9am a homework detention would be administered. The policy adjustment is intended to reinforce student responsibility, as well as reaffirm natural consequence for tardiness and failure to complete work.

I would also like to remind anyone that if any matters arise about grades, assignments, or anything pertaining to our classroom, I welcome you approach me, or the teacher who teaches that course first. I am trying to work with all my students to understand the proper way to work through challenges or conflicts as they arise, hopefully establishing a life long pattern to be followed into adulthood.

Finally, I kindly ask that all students and their families look forward to information on our upcoming indoor field trip which will be at FUNSET BOULEVARD IN APPLETON. The field trip will be February 16th, departing school at 10:15am and returning by 2:30pm. If you are interested in attending, please let your child's classroom teacher know.

St. John Lutheran School's mission:

Ignite the love of learning,

Infuse the Word of God,

Inspire tomorrow's leaders