

CRY OF THE CARDINAL

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL

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February 21, 2018

IMPORTANT DATES

2/22 Wrestling

2/23 Hot Lunch @ School

3/1 STEAM Club

3/6 Wrestling

3/8 Field Trip (Pre-3rd Grade)

3/8 Wrestling

3/11 Early Childhood sings in church

SCHOOL NEWS

Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt – Saturday, March 24th

Mark your calendars! St. John will be hosting their annual easter breakfast and egg hunt at school. Food will be served from 9:00-9:45AM with the easter story and egg hunt to follow from 9:45 – 10:30AM. We are excited to announce that we are adding more eggs to last year's total of more than 2000! This year we will have the privilege of adding a golden egg, an egg containing a \$25 gift card. Come join us for a great breakfast, an opportunity to sit with pastor and hear the easter story, and get out and scramble to find all those eggs.

Health & Recovery

As warmer weather is hopefully on the horizon, I wanted to let everyone know that winter still has hold, as throughout the Fox Valley area, stomach bugs and the flu have become a mainstay. As a preventive measure, and to give everyone the best fighting chance, we regularly try to make use of hand washing and sani-

tizing to combat any germs that may be lingering around. We also look to join forces with you at home. If your son or daughter is experiencing a sustained low grade fever, difficulties with keeping food down or in, or seems to be overly exhausted, a day of rest at home would be in their best interests. We are confident with everyone on the same page, working towards the same goal, good health will come out the victor.

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!

THANK YOU: St. John would like to pass on a HUGE thank you, as we were gifted with 16 gently used, full size IPAD's. This amazing gift will allow us to provide access to every primary grade student, as well as allow for additional devices to be available for students throughout the building. From all of us, we thank you for your kindness and generosity.

I want to start off by thanking you all for the lovely valentines, chocolates and gifts! Thank you so much! I think as a class we had a great time on Valentine's Day. We enjoyed Valentine treats brought in by fellow classmates and we had some fun passing out valentines to all our friends. Our final activity for Valentine's Day was making a Valentine for the parents who practiced our scissor cutting skills as well as coloring and writing. I hope you all were able to see your valentines in your kiddo's folder!

Thank you to those of you that helped out with Friday's Field Trip. I hope that you had fun and I appreciate you coming along to help!

I know this is a few weeks in the future, but the children will be singing in church on March 11th at the 10:15 service. We started working on a new song to sing in church this week. It's a song that reminds us to praise God, and thank him for the awesome things he has done ranging from creating this wonderful world, to taking care of us every single day, but to the greatest thing of all taking away our sins by dying on the cross. Please mark your calendars.

The remainder of the month of February will focus on us having letter review on all the letters that we have learned so far throughout the year. We will also learn the new letters of M and P in the next few weeks. Math wise we will continue on the number 6 but we are also reviewing on recognizing numbers 0-6. PreK kids are working on trying to recognize the numbers between 10 and 20. All kiddos are working on sorting, patterns, and we are practicing some critical thinking/problem solving skills by trying to guess which number I have removed from a set of numbers.

Next week the kids and I will be talking about Jesus raising Jarius' daughter from the dead. We will be discussing with this story how Jesus is powerful, how dead can not come back to life on their own, and how Jesus feels empathy for all people. We will continue to learn more of the song that we will be singing in church as well.

Our center time at the end of the half day has been focusing on some key skills for most of our kiddos. These skills range in developing stronger finger muscles, hand eye coordination, having different sensory experiences, completing jigsaw puzzles, and reading and hearing stories. Recently in morning story time and during center story time I have begun to strongly encourage kids to look at the pictures and "read" the pictures to figure out what is going on in the story. Sometimes there is more information in the pictures than there is in the written text. So we have been practicing these skills. Also, during center reading time I have begun to describe and work with children on how to read a book properly; these steps range from starting at the beginning and not in the middle, reading from left to right, and top to bottom.

Finally, I will leave you with a bible verse that reminds us how much God loves us, how his love is unchanging, and how he always greets us with open and welcoming arms. John 6:37 –

All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.

Have a great few weeks ahead!

Kindergarten (Mrs. Wicks)

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Our favorite class right now is science, where we are exploring the scientific process through experiments with balls and ramps. We have worked on making and recording detailed observations, comparing and contrasting, making a hypothesis, and designing experiments that test a variety of balls' ability to roll long distances, bounce, and more. Along the way, we will be learning a bit about the effects of height, bumpiness, weight, and more. It sounds like a lot to learn, but the chance to build ramps and send balls zooming through the room has made it a great activity that they love to carry over into play time.

The sensory table has been another favorite during play time, where students are mixing the primary colors together to make new colors. We use droppers to control how much of the colored water goes into each container and to help our small motor skills keep developing.

This previous week found us very busy with spirit week, Valentine's Day, the 100th day of school, our field trip to Funset Boulevard... and spring fever. There have been a few days where students have had a hard time focusing. Please help them to be at their best by making sure they get a good night's sleep, plenty of play time (outdoors whenever possible), a healthy breakfast.

We are currently at the halfway point for the third quarter. Please let me know if you would like a printout of your child's Accelerated Reader (AR) progress to see how they are doing. Our goal for this quarter is once again to earn 10 points with 85% or better on the comprehension questions. Those who meet the goal will be able to attend the special event at the end of the quarter (usually a movie afternoon).

Everything is moving along pretty in our classroom. We are more attentive to our personal and classroom goals, putting more focus on our studies and progress across the board.

As we get further into third quarter, I wanted to remind parents that we will be partaking in standardized testing this year. Last year we opted to wait, as there wasn't an agreed upon test that we could make use of to reflect a pool of students to get beneficial results from. This year, and ensuing years, we will be making use of the ASPIRE test, which is in combination with a test taken later in high school the ASPIRE ACT test. We eagerly await the opportunity for our students to make use of this standardized test, allowing for opportunity to see comparable results of our students at St. John and those throughout the area and nationwide.

A reminder as well, that I have asked students in our classroom to bring in an approved device, if able, to have the songs for our upcoming musical placed on it. If you prefer that they make use of a CD, I am more than happy to make a copy of the music for them.

St. John Lutheran School's mission:

Ignite the love of learning,

Infuse the Word of God,

Inspire tomorrow's leaders