

CRY OF THE CARDINAL

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL

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SCHOOL NEWS

Books and Brain Health

The benefits of reading for kids and teens start in the brain as early as infancy, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics.

In a study they conducted in 2014, it was discovered that “reading exerts a positive effect on the developing brain” of children – even for those little ones who can’t read yet.

Not only do kids who are read to regularly when they’re little develop stronger relationships with their parents, they also begin learning valuable language and literacy skills earlier on in their development. Research also suggests that children who are read to when they’re small do better in school when they get older because they’re equipped with stronger comprehension and vocabulary skills.

Pleasure-reading on their own benefits older kids and teenagers, too.

It helps them develop stronger social skills, vocabulary and writing skills, and helps them to better understand and process more complex ideas. Reading also expands their ability to build knowledge overall – not just in subjects like English and language arts.

<https://www.choa.org/medical-services/wellness-and-preventive-care/parent-resources/all/reading-benefits-kids-teens>

Parent Get Together

Thanks to all the parents who joined us for our first parent get together at The River Coffee and Cream. It was tons of fun and we look forward to our next get together. Join us Saturday, October 27th from 1-4pm at Ledgestone Vineyards for a wonderful wine tasting!



Ledgestone Vineyards
6381 WI-57, Greenleaf, WI 54126



STUDENT ACCOUNTS: If you HAVE NOT received weekly invoices please email me right away. We have a few wrinkles that we are making efforts to iron out. A couple of the current wrinkles: we are unable to process a direct deduction if you HAVE NOT signed an authorization form, and a few families have informed us that emails weren't getting to the right email address. **ONE BIG REMINDER**, if you elect to pay via credit card or direct deduction, please note all credit card payments carry a \$2 processing fee, and direct deduction is \$1 per transaction. ACH transfers made online are completely free.

TRUNK OR TREAT: It is that time of the year again. Our annual *Trunk or Treat* continues to grow, and we WANT you to join us. Trunk or Treat will be held Saturday, October 20th from 1-3PM. We STRONGLY encourage everyone to join us, whether that is participation in a decorated trunk entry, trick or treating, coming to hang out and enjoy some free lunch, or playing a few games, there is something fun for EVERYONE. If you would like to enter your vehicle in this event, please email Mr. Radatz.

SCHOOL: Just a reminder to parents that St. John WILL NOT be in session Thursday and Friday, October 25th & 26th.

Looking for a way to cut down on tuition costs?

St. John Lutheran School offers the SCRIP program. Scrip simply involves purchasing gift cards for places that you shop at on a regular basis. Need gas for your car? Purchase a gift card for Kwik Trip, Shell, or BP. Going grocery shopping? We've got cards for Dicks Family Foods, Festival Foods, Piggly Wiggly, and Roundy's (Pick'n'Save/Copps). Everyday needs? Grab a card for WalMart, Target, Shopko, or Kohls. Taking the family out to eat or looking for something off the beaten path? Let us know what you need, and we will see if we can help you save. Every card you buy helps you save money on tuition and helps the school meet its needs.

How does it work? The scrip program sells St. John the cards and certificates at a slight discount, allowing us to sell them to you at face value and still leave a profit. Each company varies the amount of the discount given. Thirty-five percent of the discount can be applied straight to your child(ren)'s tuition: For instance, one family may buy a \$100 Kwik Trip gift card, a \$250 Wal-Mart card, and a \$100 Festival Foods card. Kwik Trip gives us four percent (\$4), Wal-Mart rebates two and a half percent (\$6.25), and Festival gives four percent (\$4). The total rebate for St. John becomes \$14.25. Thirty-five percent gets applied to the family's tuition, saving them \$4.98 with just three gift cards. The family can restock their cards every few weeks, grab extras for Christmas, and ask grandparents if they would like to purchase cards. Some families who use scrip on a regular basis save hundreds each year on their tuition.

What is available? St. John keeps popular cards in stock and can special order from thousands of companies. If you are interested in buying cards, just stop in to see Mrs. Wicks at the school or after church and ask her what cards are available or visit shopwithscrip.com to see the ever-increasing list of retailers who support Scrip. If you are interested in purchasing Scrip online and printing off your own certificates, let us know so that we can help you set up an account.

Does it apply to me? Scrip can be used by anyone at any time. Current school families have Scrip taken off their tuition on a quarterly basis. Families who are looking at sending their little one to St. John in the future can start saving now. Those who don't have children in St. John or planning to attend can donate the full amount to the school or to a family in need of tuition assistance. Every bit helps!

CLASSROOM NEWS

Preschool (Mrs. Foelske)

E: afoelske@gmail.com

Mrs. Foelske's Preschool Room

This week in preschool we looked closer at sharing and being a good friend at school. We are still getting used to the classroom and all its new things. We are enjoying working with Play-Doh to strengthen our fingers and hands. We are loving lots of music and even started on a special song we will sing in church in November. We are growing and learning something new everyday.

This week, for religion, we talked about Adam and Eve and the first sin. Next week we will be looking at Cain and Able and how sin is causing trouble in the world. We are still singing "My God is So Great", and "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." We have added "The Creation Song" and "Glorify Thy Name."

Math is focusing on the number 2, the color yellow, and circles. We have found some silly songs to go with the color yellow and circles. Just ask us about our googly eyes! Next week we will switch to the color red, squares, and the number 3. We are practicing counting during our calendar time and love to check the weather each day.

Literacy still has us practicing name recognition as well as tracing especially on our morning work purple paper. We love to listen and look at books whenever possible. Our current favorites are *10 Little Rubber Ducks*, *That's Not a Good Idea*, *Down by the Bay* (We love to sing along), and *Can I Play Too?* Next week we will be starting to go through the alphabet from A-Z. We will be learning what each letter looks like, sounds like, and things that start with that letter. A will focus a lot on apples and Autumn.

As the temperatures drop please make sure to send your child in clothing that matches the weather. (I know this can be hard if your preschooler picks out his or her own clothes.) I would recommend a sweatshirt at least be in your child's backpack just to be on the safe side. If you have any questions or concerns do not be shy, call, text or email! May God bless you as you go through your week

Prek (Miss Buss)

E: miss_jbuss@yahoo.com

Greetings! I hope the first month of school was good for all of you and that everyone has made the transition back to a schedule of routine.

The kids this past week worked on writing number 4 and continued to practice writing their names with special emphasis on writing letters the correct way. We also continue to have activities out for literacy that strengthen finger muscles so we can tackle correct writing grip next. Every day the kids are “reading” to themselves... practicing skills of reading pictures, reading a story from front to back, and good reading etiquette such as quietness, and concentration. This week, the kids have started to “read” to their classmates as well telling a story from the pictures inside of a book. They seem to be enjoying the challenge. Math has us practicing our counting and our spatial reasoning skills.

This week during our Word of God time we have been learning about Noah’s Ark and the flood. We have started to learn a new song for the kids called “Glorify Thy Name.” Next week we will start to learn about Abraham and how he prayed for a son. We will discuss praying and how praying is talking to our best friend, God.

I leave you with this section from Scripture. Psalm 59:16 – But I will sing of your strength, in the morning I will sing of your love; for you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble.

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With a month of school under our belts, first grade and kindergarten are trucking along. Math has involved a lot of review and has been going fairly easily, though our numbers sometimes end up written backwards. Kindergarten has learned songs (and first grade remembers them from long ago) to help us remember how to write the numbers. In literacy, first grade is now through the review unit and moving into digraphs and other new concepts, beginning with ch, tch, and sh. They have been working hard to handle the much larger amount of writing, reading, and practice. Kindergarten is also working on reading, though so far they get to stick to 'reading' wordless books and short texts that they can memorize and check the pictures for clues. Soon they will be starting some easy phonics readers. Both classes are getting to be pros during God's Word time, remembering many of our New Testament stories from previous years. Science class has had us exploring wood—testing five different samples to see which is easiest to cut, sand, stain, hammer, screw into, drill and more.

October should find us moving further into the New Testament, learning new letters (k) and digraphs (1st), reading more and more, trying out bigger numbers (k) and more addition (1st), testing paper samples in science, and much more. Be sure to check your child's homework sheets to see how they are doing in Accelerated Reader quizzes and memory work; some have been struggling with these as we begin our year.

Thank you to the many volunteers that we had for our first field trip! The kids were excited to have so many special people with them for the day. We are still looking to fill in one weekly volunteer spot: if anyone is available to listen to our students read on Monday afternoons from 1:10- 1:45, your help would be greatly appreciated!

Mrs. Bunn's most up-to-date classroom information will always be available at www.mrsbunnsclass.weebly.com. Please click on the "Classroom Updates" button to view recent posts.

It is hard to believe that we have wrapped up our fourth week of school already!

October is shaping up to be an exciting month, as I can announce that we will be moving into our permanent portable classroom this week. All the furnishings to make it feel like home(or a classroom) will be added while we occupy the space. I am hoping that excitement will be seen on student faces as a few packages are dropped off by our beloved Fed Ex and UPS deliverers. Our occupancy will take place when the Heating and Cooling unit is installed this week, I know, it is tough to even mention *heating*, but then again we do live in Wisconsin.

In regards to our moving in, there are a few reminders.. All students in grades fifth through eighth should always report to our main school building if arriving before 7:45AM. Due to my other duties in our main building, I will not enter the new classroom until this time. If you need to pick up your child early, please feel free to enter the parking lot via the driveway and park outside the new building, at which point your child will exit. As a matter of safety our new building will always remain locked from the outside. If you are looking to enter please knock on the door on the parking lot side of the building. I kindly ask that no one park immediately in front of the entry way door on the parking lot side of the building, DURING SCHOOL HOURS. Due to safety, we want to allow for easy access to our main building via the entryway and sidewalk.

BLESSINGS ON YOUR WEEK!



St. John
LUTHERAN SCHOOL
Ignite. Infuse. Inspire.

St. John Lutheran School's mission:

Ignite the love of learning,

Infuse the Word of God,

Inspire tomorrow's leaders