

# CRY OF THE CARDINAL

October 4, 2019 • St. John Lutheran School Newsletter • Issue 4

## Pastor's Message



The owner / manager / coach / captain of a sports team - even if it's just a fantasy league - will attempt to build a team with skilled athletes. Stamina - the ability to keep on keeping on - is always a good characteristic to have in any sport. Basketball players need to be fast, strong, and accurate. It also helps to be tall. Baseball players need to hit, catch, throw and run. Defensive football players need strength, agility, and speed. Swimmers need breathing control and powerful muscles in both arms and legs. -continued on p. 2

## Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for never leaving or abandoning me. I know that you're FOR ME and that you won the prize of heaven FOR ME. Thank you for being my perfect Savior! Amen.

## Principal's Message

Are you looking to get involved?

A week ago, we welcomed several parents who joined us for our first PTO meeting of the year. If you weren't able to make it, you are welcome to join us the fourth Monday of each month, beginning at 6pm. It isn't too late to join!

\*Contact Kristy Asman, PTO president, to add items to the agenda.



**St. John**  
**LUTHERAN SCHOOL**  
Ignite. Infuse. Inspire.

Our PTO focuses on three areas:

1. Leading, organizing, and promotion of school events,
2. Assisting teachers and staff with classroom activities or other projects,
3. Keeping our school connected with our community. We look forward to seeing everyone and hope that you might consider this wonderful opportunity.

## What's Happening?

### Birthdays

#### October

- 11 Brock G.
- 14 Arlen W.
- 15 Cecelia R.
- 17 Sidney B.
- 23 Hannah K.
- 29 Mrs. Bunn, Jaden H.
- 30 Braxton E.

### Upcoming Events

- 10/7- EIO Class
- 10/8- 1000 Islands Field Trip (Gr. 2-8)
- 10/11- Silent Auction Committee Meeting
- 10/17- Picture Day
- 10/19- Trunk or Treat
- 10/27- K-8 Sing *Mission Festival*

**Bible Passage:** If God is for us, who can be against us?

*Romans 8:31b*

# School News

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## **Pastor's Message- continued from front page**

Those on the debate team need logical thinking skills and a strong commitment to their points of view. Those on the math team obviously need to know all the principles and formulas.

What sort of person would you pick to be on your team if the goal is to win heaven? The Bible says that there are two essential character traits for that, perfection and sinlessness - really just two sides of the same coin. It's not just enough to gather around yourself lots of good people and to avoid the not-so-good people. And if we're honest, we ourselves would all make the most rotten of teammates. We're sinful; we're imperfect; we're weak; we fall short of God's demands; we fall short of heaven. But Jesus is on our side. And, we may be on his "team," but he kept us sitting on the bench as he won the championship all on his own. And then he lets us share in the victory. We get to hoist the trophy of forgiveness, life, and heaven - all in him and to his glory! You and I are more-than-conquerors because GOD IS FOR US! He's FOR YOU! In service to him and to you.

- Pastor Mike Gehl

## **Calendar Events from St. John Lutheran Church**

Oct 6th (9:00a), 9th, 15th, and 16th (6:30p) - New Church & School Open Forum (at church)

Oct 19th - Trunk or Treat (12:00p) at church + Wrightstown Village Fall Festival (10:00a - 6:00p)

Nov 2nd at 7:00p - Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Chorus Concert (at church)

## **News from Fox Valley Lutheran High School**

St. John Lutheran Church and School are partners in a 3K-grade 12 federation. St. John Lutheran Church operates St. John Lutheran School with their 3K-grade 8 campus here in Wrightstown and extends to our partner campus at Fox Valley Lutheran High School in Appleton for grades 9-12. To learn more about our high school go to [www.fvlschools.org](http://www.fvlschools.org) or [www.fvlhs.org](http://www.fvlhs.org).

## **STEAM Club Has Started!**

Students in grades K-8 have not already signed up for or are welcome to still sign up for STEAM club. STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Our younger group explored centrifugal force by building and testing spinning tops from various materials. Students in the Gr. 3 and above group learned about the science of stress and how it affects our minds and bodies. They then made a stress ball craft and used a wide variety of materials to practice their engineering skills by designing their own different types of stress balls. If you're not signed up and you'd like more info about this club talk to Mrs. Wicks about the K-2 program and Mrs. Bunn about the 3-8 program.

## **Crochet Club**

Every Tuesday, Dr. Lois Baumgartner, known as Dr. B. by the students, arrives at 3 pm with her enormous bag of yarn, crochet patterns, and crochet tools. This very popular club is open to any St. John student who'd like to try and lasts for an hour. There is no cost for this club since Dr. B. very generously shares her supplies with students and even brings snacks! Talk to your child's teacher or Dr. B. if you'd like more info. Alumni, parents, members of St. John, and just about anyone who likes to crochet have attended and are welcome to join the fun. Even Mr. Bunn has stopped out in the past to "bro-chet" with the group. ☺

## **CAMM Missions**

Thank you to all of the families that are helping us support the Central African Medical Mission (CAMM). So far, our school has been able to raise \$145.04 for CAMM during this school year, a strong total for us! Mr. Raddatz has pledged to provide the school with an ice cream party if we can reach \$400. If we can hit a mission money total of \$600 or better, he will dye his hair! Please continue to keep CAMM in your prayers.

# Classroom News

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## Mr. Raddatz's Classroom

I wanted to pass on a few reminders as we are just over the half way point of first quarter. Our classroom policy allows each student to resubmit work get up to a graded level of a B+ for that assignment. The only exception to this are tests which are not allowed to be resubmitted unless approved by me. With this in mind, every assignment is usually given back to a student immediately following class allowing them the opportunity to fix it as soon as their are able. Please note that resubmission of work doesn't have to be done immediately, but needs to be submitted before the last day of the quarter. I usually follow the practice of reminding each day verbally of "fixes" and have begun giving out paper copies as well for students to review work that may need to be "fixed."

Through the halfway point of the quarter, we unfortunately have begun to show glimpses of a couple bad habits - working not being done to the best of our abilities, and work that is left undone. I will continue to work with them to improve these areas, but ask for your assistance in looking over their assignment notebook each night. Thank you in advance for keeping this matter in mind.

I wanted to let you know that our project building class will be undertaking a 7 week project with the intention of offering the completed project up for bid at our silent auction on November 17th. In order to complete this project we are seeking a few individuals that might be versed in or have skills in welding and machining. If you or anyone you know might be willing to contribute a few hours of time over the next seven weeks please feel free to contact me. We would notify any individual interested as the work is needed, and would drop off the materials where ever they would need to be worked on.

## Mrs. Bunn's Classroom

Second grade has been doing a number of different activities in math class. We practice our calendar, skip-counting, identifying patterns, clocks, graphing, and problem-solving skills daily during our math meeting. After math meeting, we practice our basic facts and learn a new concept. This week we learned how to identify shapes, sort them by their properties, and how to divide those shapes into equal parts. We also learned how to name those parts using fraction terms half, third, and fourth. Third grade also has a math meeting where they practice with thermometers, different ways to express numbers, counting money, more patterns, skip counting, and problem-solving. They too have to practice basic facts and learn a new concept each day. They worked with naming polygons by their number of sides, regrouping money, and making amounts with different coins.

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Fourth grade is on an accelerated track in math. They are taking 5<sup>th</sup> grade math with the 5<sup>th</sup> graders in Mr. Raddatz's classroom. Our favorite math apps on the iPads this week were Xtra Math (basic fact practice), Prodigy (learning and practicing a variety of skills), and Pattern Blocks (manipulating hexagons, rhombi, parallelograms, squares, and triangles into different designs and patterns).

I don't often recommend apps that cost money, but Epic is well worth the monthly cost. Epic is sort of like the "Netflix" of children's books. It has over 35,000 books on a wide variety of topics for ages 2 and up. They have picture book favorites like Pete the Cat, Where the Wild Things Are, and Fly Guy. They also have popular series like Boxcar Children, Magic School Bus, and National Geographic books. The best feature of Epic is the wide array of books on non-fiction topics like the human body, habitats, space shuttles, different countries, and many biographies on anyone from Aaron Rodgers to George W. Bush. They even have the "gross topics" that draw in the reluctant readers with books about manure and bodily functions. All of the books are leveled as well, so your child can select "good fit" books that will help them be challenged but not frustrated as a reader. If needed, many of the books can read to your child and highlight the words as they are read. Right now you get one free month to try the app and they are also running a special where you can get two months for \$5. The app is offered free to educators and classrooms during the school day so we use it a lot. Please consider giving this great resource a try at home.

## Mrs. Wicks's Classroom

Our class has been following Abraham's journey in God's Word as he learns to trust in his promises, no matter what the circumstances are. We will continue to follow his family as they become the Israelite nation.

Math has presented both kindergarten and first grade with opportunities for addition, problem solving, ordinal numbers, and much more. Both groups are learning to follow careful directions in class work and to complete easier tasks independently.

First graders are working hard at digraphs in their Superkids language arts program, learning new sounds like /sh/, /ch/, /tch/, and /wh/. They are also working to write sentences that have both a naming part and a telling part.

Kindergarteners have focused on four different letters so far. Many of them are ready to sound out easy words. Several students have begun bringing home Bob books to read to their parents each night. All kindergarten students will soon be coming home with sheets of practice sound combinations (a bit like trying to read baby talk) and early words that combine our newly practiced letters.

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Kindergarteners and first graders are particularly enjoying the afternoon rotations of music, art, and phy ed. You may hear them singing, "Siyahamb," our next song for church. "Siyahamba," is an African song that will go along with our Mission Festival in October. In art, they have been exploring lines and shapes. Phy ed has been a mix of many things and often depends on the weather; our favorite is probably to dance to songs on Go Noodle. Zumba Kids and Koo Koo Kangaroo are fun groups to watch and dance along with.

Students in K, 1st, and 2nd grade have all been working on an environmental care science unit. We have been learning about things that pollute the air, water, and earth, exploring how long garbage takes to decompose (did you know disposable diapers don't decompose for 450 years?), and taking time to clean our school's neighborhood. Please help your child practice good recycling and energy-saving habits at home. They can also be encouraged to be the ones to take out the garbage; the more they remember to recycle, the less they will have to haul out!

## Ms. Buss's Classroom

Happy October! I want to start by giving a very big thank you to those that came on our field trip on Thursday! Thank you so much for joining us for the day, and helping to chaperone. We had a lot of fun, and we hope that you and the kids did as well! Our next play date with Pastor will be on Monday! He will be joining the PreK and the Preschool rooms to build! We plan to have all our building toys out and work with Pastor to see what kind of neat things can be made. The kids love the days that he stops by to visit as they have had fun the last two times. Check out our Facebook page for pictures that are posted from events, and school days. Trunk or Treat is coming up on October 19 from 12-2. If you would like to decorate a car and be entered into the running for a prize for best decorated car, please email Mr. Raddatz and sign up! It should be a fun day and we are looking forward to an afternoon of fun with you! Thank you so much for the donation of coloring books and puzzles this week! The kids have enjoyed them both! If you are ever looking for an item to donate, we can always use coloring books this year, and scrap paper (the kind you would recycle and not shred because it is printed on one side and doesn't have any important info on the other). The class this year LOVES art, and making things! I have already seen them make books, and treasure maps to name a few. This week we have learned the letter O and writing the number 5. We have found O in print (if you notice stickers on their folders they get a sticker for finding the letter and as we progress further in the school year they will get stickers for finding sight words). The kids have also been trying to write their names with less help and correct capitalization. Math has us graphing, counting, working on one-to-one correspondence, shapes, and days of the week. Our religion lesson this week was about Abraham praying to God for a son, and God gave him Isaac. Next week, the kids will be introduced to baby Moses, writing the number 6, and working on the Letter G. Finally, I know this is a few weeks out, but just a reminder that there will be NO SCHOOL on October 24th and 25th. Have a great few weeks.

# Mrs. Foelske's Classroom

October is here! With a new month comes many new things. We have changed our color, number, shape, and letter. We are now working on orange, 3, triangles, and the letter B.

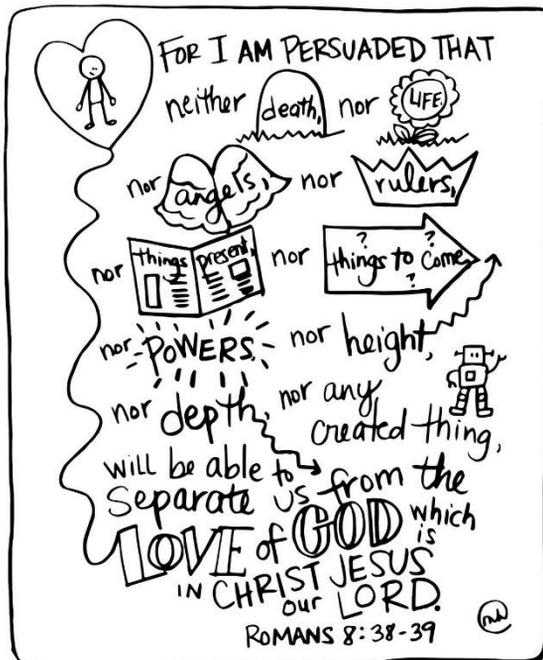
For Bible story we have moved from Creation with Adam and Eve to Noah's Ark. We are amazed at how all those animals had to fit on the ark. We also think about how much we don't like being inside on a rainy day and Noah and his family had to stay in for way more than that!

Our most notable and exciting change in the preschool room is the toys!!! They have been switched to all new ones. We are having a blast with the camping center, complete with a tent, camp fire, and fishing and grilling sets. We love to make our own jack-o'-lantern with our felt pumpkin and build tall towers with the cardboard bricks.

Since the calendar has changed we have also started to see some new events to look forward to. We have two more play days with Pastor, a few birthdays, Trunk or Treat and Halloween all coming up. Not to mention some days off of school! Even with all the fun things coming up we are still working hard and learning along the way.

As always if you have and questions or concerns please contact me.

Mrs. Alexa Foelske



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If you'd like to include Information in our newsletter, please contact Mrs. Bunn for more information.

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