

The Storm Report Shepherd of the Lakes

December 2011

LUTHERAN SCHOOL

From Mrs. VanDeven

Thank you to all those who helped and attended the school Advent meal and service on December 14th. It was so much fun talking with parents and seeing the children shine. I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year. See you all in 2012!

Sincerely,
Mrs. VanDeven

Upcoming Events:

- Dec. 27-29: Winter VBS
- Jan. 3: School resumes
- Jan. 8: Preschool & K sing @ 11am
- Jan.9: SCRIP order due
- Jan.12: Mom's Night out at 7:00
- Jan.16: No School. PD day for staff
- Jan17-20: Preschool conferences
- Jan: 18: PTO meeting at 12:00
- Jan. 20: End of second quarter
- Feb. 5: Preschool and K sing at 11:00
- Feb. 5: Chili Cook Off
- Feb.10: Registration opens @ 8:30am
- Feb.10: Open House @ 6:00pm

From Pastor Vogel

Happy New Year!

I pray that the Christmas season was a time of relaxation for both you and your children!

As we enter the last half of the school year, I would like to give you a heads up regarding chapel offerings. First of all, I would like to thank you, as our chapel offerings have increased in the last two months as we gave money toward Bible Sticks for military personnel.

Now, as we start a new year, we will be changing up the focus of our chapel offerings. For January, we will be giving money to the Lutheran Malaria Initiative (www.lutheranmalaria.org). You can check out their web site if you are interested in discovering more.

In the coming months, I would like to encourage each of you to talk to your children about the importance of chapel offerings. In particular, it is important that our children gain a better understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Christ. Jesus loved us so much that he died for us so that we might one day live with Him forever. The least we can do, as His disciples, is share Jesus' love with others less fortunate than us.

This is a wonderful message that children can hear both at school AND at home!

Peace!

Pastor V.

**January & February Chapel offerings:
Lutheran Malaria Initiative**

December's Students of the Month:

- Jackson Morris in K for being a wonderful leader and always cooperative in class.
- Laurel Shurtleff in 3rd. For being a hard worker, kind and helpful.



Way to go!!!!

STAR Update K-5

(Students taking accelerated reader)



We are very proud of all of our STAR readers! 96% of students are participating in the program & working their way toward medals & rewards.



Congratulations November Medalists

Bronze-Konrad Lautenschlager & Alise Stewart

Silver-Andrew Oertel

STAR Tip

Christmas break is a great time to read a more challenging, higher point AR book.

STAR info is now on the school website under “How SOTL works”.



School News



Fast Direct: Please try to activate your account and let the office know if you are still having difficulty. Here are the steps:

1. The website is www.fastdir.com/sotlschool
2. You will click on the icon on the front page that says Parent Activation.
3. Fill out the information and this page will ask for your activation code. This was given to you at conferences. If you need it again, please contact the school office.
4. Submit the information form and Fast Direct will double check the information with SOTL. This is for security purposes.
5. Once information is confirmed to match, you will receive an email that explains the login process. At this time you will receive a temporary screen name and password.

It is important that parents go into the system and activate the account. Please try to do this before we return to school in January.

Lunch: Please remember to send forks, spoons, paper plates and napkins with your children's lunches.



Thank you: Thank you so much to all the volunteers for the Advent meal: Janeen Geisler, Renee Mingus, Robin Schutz, Amy Miles, Terrye Kraft, Nancy Weaver, Lina Shurtleff, Adrienne Stewart, Victor Achamfour, Kathleen Philbin, Gail Milatz, Julie Ebel, Dr. Andrea Lutenschlager, Annette Burnett and so many more who just came in the kitchen and helped. The night was a success because of all of you. I couldn't have done it without you!

Winter clothing: Please label all items.

Winter recess: All children will go outside, regardless of having snow gear. Please help your children to remember their things.

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Spanish News from Mrs. Gaertner



Students in all the Spanish classes celebrated Christmas, Colombian style. They watched a DVD that illustrates some of the Colombian customs such as the Nine Days of Prayers and Innocent's Day. Students learned that kids in Colombia get to stay up late for some of these celebrations!

Students in first grade continue to practice the numbers. In January they will be assessed on counting to 12 in Spanish (uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco, seis, siete, ocho, nueve, diez, once, doce) as we never did get to that in December. Students had lots of fun doing puppet shows in Spanish and describing the puppets as alto, bajo, gordo, or flaco. First graders are already working on masculine and feminine adjectives, and they're getting it!

Students in second grade are working on all sorts of leisure activities such as leer and jugar. They can say what they like and don't like to do. They've played games such as Pictionary and charades and read stories about Martians that come to earth and ask a lot of questions! In January students will identify foods in Spanish. This is a fun unit that makes us all hungry!

Students in third through fifth grades are learning to say that they are hungry, thirsty, and tired. Yes, parents, your kids can now complain in TWO languages! They are also concentrating on the different verb forms to express who is doing an action. They can tell time in Spanish, including the tricky "menos cuarto" (quarter to the hour) structure. In January students will use two Spanish verbs that both mean "to be."

Early Childhood News

The Preschool cookbooks are here! If you missed your chance to pre-order, we do have some left to purchase. The cost is \$12.00 and the profit goes completely back to the preschool to help install a sandbox. They are absolutely adorable. Each child submitted a recipe, gave their version, and had their picture taken as the cook. There are many staff recipes also.



BABY SHOWER FOR JESUS. What a huge success. Thank you to all who donated diapers, wipes, toothbrushes, lotion and so much more. You have made a difference in someone's life. Your generosity is truly appreciated.



BIRTHDAY BAGS FOR GLEANERS. Another huge success. We have so many wonderful items to give. Cake mixes, frosting, plates, banners, silverware and many more items. Thank you so much for all you kind blessings!

Art News from Mrs. Henderson



The art classes have spent December preparing for Jesus' coming by drawing his nativity and by making and decorating three dimensional Christmas trees.

In January we will replicate three Van Gogh masterpieces: Starry Night, the Yellow House, and a street scene. Later in the spring we will do his Irises. We will also learn about the color wheel and how to contrast and mix colors.

Technology news from Mr. Schultz ~



In December the students worked on typing using Word and drafting Christmas acrostic poems using a Word document. We are anxiously awaiting the delivery of our wireless printer for the technology lab. Once installed I will be sending home some of the items that they have been working on in technology. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mr. Schultz

P.E. news from Mr. Schultz ~

For December we played relay games. It was called the Candy Cane Classic. I divided each class into their reindeer teams (Comet, Prancer, Dasher etc.) All games are relays and the scores of the teams are kept across the board. For example in first grade there will be a Dasher team and in third grade there will also be a Dasher team. So, if one team is not as strong as other groups in their class, the other grades with the same team name can pick up the slack. There is a sign up in school to keep score so that students can see what place they are in. The first place team gets big candy canes and everyone else gets little candy canes for participating in the Candy Cane Classic. The kids have had a great time ! It is a real joy working with them.



Music News from Mrs. Boggs:



Preschool- What a great job the kids did at our Advent service! There is just nothing better than hearing them all singing "Go Tell it on the Mountain" and playing air guitar for Jesus! We can all learn something from our little ones, and how freely they sing and praise!

Elementary music- "Hail to the King!" Are you still basking in the glow of the Cantata?! What a wonderful weekend! I thank you all again for sharing your children with us! I pray you were blessed by it as well. We are very excited for this week's music! We have been working on a great Christmas song called "Caroling," and this week, we will do just that! Each class will carol around the building to different offices and classrooms! What a great way to end the year-singing praises to our newborn king!

Choir- "On the First Day of Christmas my SAVIOR gave to me...." There are so many things he has given to us; it is hard to stop at 12! See what you come up with at home. In choir we sing about "3 traveling wise-men," "7 days to praise him!".....ask us about the others!

This week we will make a very silly version. We have all submitted a very silly thing that "my dear friend gave to me." In choir Monday we will write our own song, as we pull those submitted ideas from a hat. Some of the ideas included "cheesy cheese dogs," "iced capachinos,"and "flying donuts." Music is so fun!

You all are such a blessing to me! Thank you for sharing your children with me! I wish you a very Merry Christmas!

See you next year!

Katie Boggs (Proud SOTL music teacher)



Boy Scouts :

The Cub Scouts finished off 2011 with a fun pack meeting. The boys received pinewood derby kits as a gift from the pack. The scouts will shape the body of the car, add wheels, and paint it - their imagination is the limit! Thirteen members of the pack were recognized for their participation in Kids Against Hunger, and Jackson Miles received his Bobcat badge.



Girl Scouts®

Girl Scouts

It's Girl Scout cookie time! We are now taking orders! Only \$3.50 a box! We will be delivering in the middle of February. If you don't know a Daisy or Brownie Scout feel free to contact Janeen Geisler at 810 225 8797, and she will make sure your order gets to you!

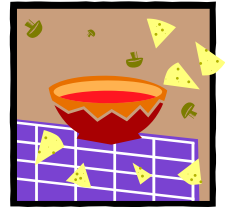
PTO News

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Start Your Crock Pots!

It's almost that time again! The Third Annual Shepherd of the Lakes Chili Cook Off is February 5, 2012. This year part of the proceeds from this event will benefit the fourth and fifth grade trip to Mackinac Island. We highly encourage you to sign up to cook, clean up or just show up and eat! Entrants can sign up in the Commons at the school booth starting January 1st. Last year we had almost 30 different chili recipes to taste. Our winner was the Yeakey Family with their Spartan Chili (just a little incentive for all of you Michigan fans to enter your award-winning recipes and for you Spartan fans to defend your title!) See you there!



Mom's Night Out



Mom's Night Out is back in business. All school moms and prospective school moms are invited to meet at Border Cantina on Thursday, January 12, at 7:00 p.m. You do not have to RSVP, but if you know for sure that you are coming, let Christi Gaertner know by calling/texting 810-355-1600 or emailing christigaertner@gmail.com. This is a great time to meet with other moms to get advice and share ideas.

From the Desk of Mrs. Sprague

Calling all parents: If you have taken pictures of school this year at SOTL, please send them electronically either to:

Mrs. Sprague at school@shepherdsvoice.org

or

Mrs. VanDeven at principal@shepherdsvoice.org.

If you cannot send electronically, a hard copy will work too.

Please label the pictures for us so we know the activity and the class.

We are collecting photo's for the yearbook.



Community Happenings:

NAMI: National Alliance of Mental Illness

Offers a free six session course for parents and other primary caregivers of children and adolescents living with mental illness.

For more information contact

Cheryl @ 517-546-7449 or cherylhayes46@yahoo.com



Lunch Volunteers Needed

We are in need of volunteers to help with lunch and recess on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The time commitment is from 11:45-1:00. Please fill out the form below and return to school if you can help. Even one day a month makes a difference!

----- Please cut and return -----

Yes, I can help on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (circle one)

I can help _____ days a month.

I can help any day of the week.

I'd love to fill in for someone who cannot make it.

Name: _____ Contact: _____