

From Mrs. VanDeven

What a great first month. Thank you all for your support and continued blessings. I couldn't have wished for a better beginning here at SOTL.

I just love greeting everyone at the door in the mornings. It is fun to challenge myself to get to know the students' names. But, the real challenge will be the parents' names.

Remember, I am always here to help. That is my job. Please don't hesitate to contact me with a question or concern, principal@shepherdsvoice.org.

Sincerely,

Mrs. VanDeven

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 6: Cookie Fundraiser sent home

Oct. 7: K-5 Grandparents Day

Oct. 8: Storm Run

Oct. 13: School Pictures

Oct. 18: PTO Meeting @6:30pm

Oct. 21: No school for K-5

Oct.22-23: Playground Installation

Oct. 24: Mom's Night Out

Nov. 5: School Auction

From Pastor Vogel

If I have not yet met you, I would like to introduce myself. I am Pastor Vogel, the associate pastor at Shepherd of the Lakes, and the Spiritual Leader of our school. I want to thank all of you for entrusting your children to us. Every day as I see the children walking through the halls, I am reminded of the great blessing they are, not only to their parents, but to us at Shepherd of the Lakes as well! Children are empty cups just waiting to be filled, and as an extension of the home, we are eager to fill your children up with faith, knowledge and the eagerness to be a disciple!

Throughout the year I will try and keep you up to date as to what your children have learned during chapel time as well as offer a few of my own unique experiences with the kids. In the meantime, I would also like to encourage each of you to introduce yourself to me if we have not yet met. You can find me by looking for the guy with the blue name badge when you drop off or pick up your children. Whether you are a member of our church or not, I want you to know that we value both you and your children and I am excited to serve your family in whatever capacity that I am able!

In Christ,

Pastor Vogel

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran

Church & School

2101 S. Hacker

Brighton, MI 48114

Phone: 810-227-6473

Church office: 810-227-5099

E-mail: school@shepherdsvoice.org

Web: sotlschool.com



Grandparent's/Special Person Day October 7, 2011

Just to confirm what is happening on the 7th. This year we are having 2 grandparents days. For the elementary school, which is K-5, Grandparent's Day is on October 7th. We will have the 3yr, 4yr, multiage, and prekindergarten Grandparent's Day in April. Splitting up the days allows grandparents with multiple children in both areas more time to spend with all. Chapel will occur on Friday this week only.

Extended Care

Before and after care are available for you convenience. We here at SOTL are wondering if there are any families that would be in need of extended care starting at 7:00 am. Please contact Mrs. VanDeven at principal@shepherdsvoice.org if you are.

I will keep you informed on this!

Parents, please do not allow your children to bring any type of electronic toys to school. This includes but is not limited to iPods, Nintendo DS, etc. This is to ensure that nothing happens to these items.

Misc. Items Needed!

Are you cleaning out the toys now that the kids are in school? Our recess wrangler Mrs. Birch would love your matchbox cars, waffle blocks, and tinker toys. She's also always appreciative of scotch tape, masking tape, colored painters tape, construction paper, paper plates (any size or color), markers, stickers, old envelopes, stationary (even if you have 2 or 3), Christmas cards (just the picture top; kids write on the back), pads of paper, and empty plastic tubs. If you think of anything else the students would like, please check with her before bringing them in. You can reach her at birch@shepherdsvoice.org.



School News



Attendance: Please call the school office as soon as possible to let us know that your child is out ill. Also, if your child is late to school they will need to be signed in at the school office. They will be given a tardy slip and walked to class. Just a reminder that K-5th grade starts at 8:45, so any child not in class by 8:45 is considered late.

Box Tops, Campbell's labels, Buffalo Wild Wings receipts and VG's receipts: Please keep collecting. The drop boxes are on the left hand wall of the main entrance.

Carpooling! Please contact Janeen at jl1968@ymail.com if interested in setting up a carpool.

Dress Code: Thank you so much for supporting the dress code. It has been brought to my attention a question about solid color polo dresses. These do fall under the current dress code.

Drop off: This has been going great. Just a reminder that you can pull up in the driveway in front of the door and drop your child off.

Girls On Run: Is off and running. They meet on Mondays and Wednesdays. They will finish with a 5k on Eastern Michigan University's campus on Nov. 20th. Way to go girls!!

Paperwork: Please make sure that all paperwork is turned into Mrs. Sprague by Friday, Oct. 7th. We have several reports that are mandatory by the State of Michigan and without the paperwork from families these reports cannot be finalized. Your cooperation is GREATLY appreciated.

Pennies from Heaven Store: You may have heard that our store is a hit! The kids are earning Pennies from Heaven for many things. They are able to purchase items from the store with their pennies. If you would like to donate items to the store, please contact Mrs. VanDeven.

Pick up: I know pick up can be a little unorganized. We are working on a system. I will keep you updated. Please do not allow your children to climb in the trees or play with the rocks.

SCRIP: A great way to help with tuition. Please pick up a form to see if this works for your family. Speedway has announced that they are reloadable on line. Check out this great program. More information is available at sotlschool.com

Snow Bags: As winter is quickly approaching, every child is in need of a snow bag. This is a mesh bag that will fit all of their snow things: gloves, hats, pants, etc. The mesh materials allow the things to breath and dry. You can find these at Dunhams or Dicks.

Student Directory: This will be distributed as quickly as we can. Thank you for your patience.

Volunteers Needed: We are in need of volunteers to install the new preschool playground. Please contact Mrs. VanDeven at principal@shepherdsvoice.org. The dates will be Oct. 22 and 23rd.

Spanish News from Mrs. Gaertner

Did you know that studying a second language helps students learn their first language? Just think, students in grade 1 through 5 have an extra 80 minutes of language arts each week at SOTL. In Spanish we work on listening, reading, writing, and speaking, just like in English class. Students in Spanish are reminded to start sentences with capital letters and end with punctuation, just like in English. We find connections between Spanish words and English words, helping students' comprehension in English.

Students in Spanish will be tested this month on their answers to two questions: What is your name? (¿Cómo te llamas?) and How are you? (¿Cómo estás?). Students will answer out loud. For the first question their answer is "Me llamo" and then their Spanish name. For the second question, first graders should answer, "muy bien, gracias." Older students may answer "muy bien, bien, mal, muy mal, or así, así."

Students will be making paper flowers on Thursday, October 27 as they learn about the Mexican holiday Day of the Dead. Sra. Gaertner could use 1 or 2 parent helpers in each class. First grade meets from 1:00 until 1:40pm, third grade meets from 1:40 until 2:20, second grade meets from 2:20 until 3:00, and fourth and fifth grades meet from 3:00 until 3:40. If you can help out, please call Christi at 810-355-1600 or email her at gaertner@shepherdsvoice.org.



Early Childhood News

We are off to a fabulous year! Thank you for your support and care for early childhood education. Each program is running well and excitement is in the air. We have new faces, plus fostered friendships and many caring hearts interacting daily! It is so wonderful seeing many families valuing the education of their child (ren) and wanting them to hear and share the love of Jesus.

With our programs growing, we have an opportunity to expand our activities and experiences by raising some funds in a fun way. I am requesting some help from a couple of parents who would like to coordinate a new fund-raiser for the Preschool Program here at SOTL. We would like to have a Preschool Cookbook made and make it available for a small fee to our school families. If cooking is something you love, and you have a desire to help in this fashion, please see me. I already have the kit and am excited about getting it under way.

Our wonderful new principal helped get us a new playground at an auction this summer for the early childhood program, and it should be in place soon for the little ones to climb and explore upon. Thank you Mrs. VanDeven for knowing the importance of large motor movement!

Michelle Annas

Art News from Mrs. Henderson

For the month of October we will be focusing on trees: drawing, painting, and even constructing some. We will also be working on our secret project for the auction.



Music News from Mrs. Boggs

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Christmas Cantata in December!!

Preschool-

Have you ever been to clapping land? How about jumping land? We have! We "traveled far across the sea" and went to many lands in our fun circle dance! In fact, we end music class with a circle dance every week, giving us a great sense of community and belonging! We work together, holding hands and looking at all our friends! What fun, yes, but also what a great stepping stone to being in other musical ensembles as we grow!

Elementary-

With just 5 pieces of yarn and a puff ball, learning the musical staff can be a lot of fun! How fast can we find those notes? Quiz us- we're pretty fast! Have two rhythm sticks? Practice those note rhythms and values like we do. We are putting all of this musical knowledge into our singing in choir, chapel, and for you in church (many of you even hear them in the car or bathtub)! Soon we will put them to use with our hand chimes (K-3) and recorders (4-5)! We let our light shine in music!





SOTL AUCTION!!

It's AUCTION TIME! The school auction is Saturday, November 5 at 5:30 p.m. Our contestants for Are You Smarter Than a Fifth Grader are Mrs. VanDeven, Pastor Vogel, and Pastor Milatz. We hope you are working on decorating your light source. We can't wait to see those stars, lightbulbs, and candles! They are due by October 28. Students will also create art projects in class that will be auctioned off. Buy your tickets (\$18 each) for the adults and sign up for babysitting (\$5 a family) for the kids from your class captain (a designated parent from each class), from Gail Milatz, or Christi Gaertner. We're always looking for donations. If you would like to ask your place of business or a place you frequent, check with Gail Milatz at milatzclan@sbcglobal.net to make sure we don't already have it. The first week of November we will need lots of help during the day. Just show up! We'll put you to work. Talk to Gail Milatz or Christi Gaertner if you have any questions.

Boy Scouts :



The SOTL Cub Scouts kicked off the school year on September 13 with a round-up of new scouts. Our regular meeting schedule will begin in October with a den meeting on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday, and a pack meeting on the 2nd Tuesday. We are also in the middle of our big fundraiser – selling popcorn! There will be tables set up during the services on Sunday, October 16, so please stop by.



Girl Scouts



Thanks to all the families that came out for our first Daisy/Brownie meeting last week. It went great! It is not too late to join! We get together on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. We would love to have you in our troop! Contact Gail Milatz or Janeen Geisler for more info. Scholarships are available!



PTO News



cookie sale:

Cookie sale dates:

Packets will be going home on Oct. 6th.

Orders and \$ due back on Oct. 17th.

Delivery will be Nov. 14th just in time for the holidays!

www.sotlschool.com

FIRST GRADE NEWS that just couldn't wait!

The first graders are enjoying their new science curriculum. Their really hungry caterpillars are now in the pupa stage and they are excitedly waiting for the emergence of their monarch butterflies! Feel free to stop in and see!



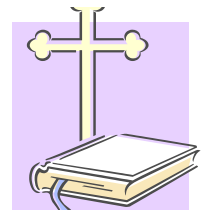
Mrs. Deheim



Calling all moms!

Join us for Mom's Night Out on Monday, October 24, at 7:00 p.m. at Border Cantina in Brighton. Sip a margarita, snack on chips, eat dinner, or just sit and chat. This is a great time to get together with other moms as we guide our kids through these school years. Contact Christi at 810-355-1600 or christigaertner@gmail.com with any questions.

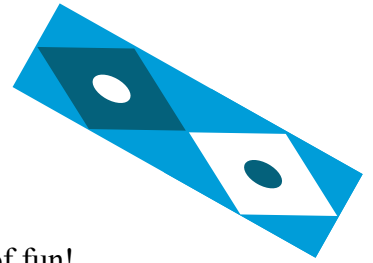
Community Happenings



Greetings Friends of LCS,
Livingston Christian Schools invites you to ***SAVE THE DATE:***
Saturday November 19th for a family friendly night of comedy. Our guest performer, Jeff Allen, is in his fifth decade as a working comedian. You may have seen him on Comedy Central, VH-1, Showtime, TBN, CBN, Family Net and numerous other networks. He has performed for our troops on aircraft carriers and ships in the Indian Ocean; he has been featured at the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, D.C. (twice) and performed for George W. Bush's Inaugural in 2005. Jeff has also produced and starred in his own sitcom pilot for Castlerock Television. He is now headlining the critically acclaimed "Apostles of Comedy" Tour.

Please visit www.livingstonchristianschools.org starting in October for more information and to order tickets.

SOTL Church Events:



Jesus Co.

- Who:** all kids ages 4 years through 6th grade
- What:** a Christian “kids club” with Bible stories, crafts, games, and lots of fun!
- When:** Wednesdays, 5:30 – 7:10, Oct. 5 – Nov. 16 (7 weeks)
- Why:** to make friends, grow in faith and have some fun
- What else:** registration will begin in early September
The fee of \$25 per child includes dinner and supplies for 7 weeks of fun!
Confidential scholarships are available

The King’s Yomen

Friday, Oct. 14th at 7:00 p.m.

Free event for all ages. An amazing show of yo-yo expertise with a gospel message

Trunk-r-Treat

Friday, Oct. 28th at 6:30 p.m. – Free event

Come in costume and gather treats from decorated trunks. Games, snacks and an outdoor movie too!

Kids Against Hunger Announcement

- Every hour of every day 10 children per minute die of starvation or malnutrition related diseases.
- SOTL is partnering with Kids Against Hunger, a non-profit organization whose mission is to feed God's starving children.
- Our Meal Packing Event is scheduled for Saturday, November 19th.
- Our goal is to package 30,000 meals that day!
- Children as young as four years old are able to serve so this is a great opportunity for your family to serve together.
- One meal is only 28 cents so everyone should be able to help in some way.
- A suggested family contribution is \$28.00 which will pay for 100 meals.
- After the service we will be serving a sample of the meals we will be packaging - you can go to the Outreach booth in the Commons to check that out.
- We also have a volunteer sign-up sheet there if you want to come and package meals on November 19th.
- You may make donations for this event using the pew envelopes - please be sure to clearly mark on the outside of the envelope that your contribution is for Kids Against Hunger. Writing it on the memo line won't work.
- We also have special envelopes you can pick-up at the Outreach booth.
- Thrivent is going to match the first \$2000 we raise.
- If you have any questions you can get a hold of Suzanne Biddix through the church office.

We are going to have a fun competition for the week of October 10th thru October 14th for the Michigan vs. Michigan State game.

Kids are encouraged to bring in change and fill the jug of the team that they want to win!

On Friday the 14th of October, students may wear either Michigan or Michigan State shirts/sweatshirts with jeans. If they choose not to, the normal Friday dress code would apply.



VS.



Email or paper?

If you would like to receive this newsletter only via email, please fill out the slip below and return to school. We will try and have all these requests finalized by the December newsletter.

Please cut and return to the school office.

____ I would like to receive the newsletter by email.

Parent's name: _____

Student's name: _____

Mom's email address: _____

Dad's email address: _____