

SOTL School News

“Inspiring Excellence, Nurturing Faith”

810-227-6473

October 30, 2009

ACCREDITATION



Many thanks go to the accreditation committee and our teachers who have literally toiled hundreds of hours putting together page upon page of documentation in developing a report for the National Lutheran School Accreditation Visiting Team.

This team has been making their onsite visit culminating in their assessment of our school on Monday and Tuesday of this week. Special thanks go to this steering committee, namely Ron Beardsley, the chairman, Stacey Sprague, Dana Bell, Randy Clark, and also, Nancy Weaver for their efforts and endurance. And of course, thanks also go to our own Iris Armitage for her contribution as a member of the visiting team of educators.

As principal, I can only say that we have a wonderful, professional, dedicated, talented and skilled staff that has the best interests of each one of their students at heart. From year to year, although confronted with challenges, large and small, those of us on the front line can see the continuous progress that our school has made in serving the children and supporting the ministry of Shepherd of the Lakes.

This accreditation process provides us an opportunity to receive a review of where we are from professionals outside of our church family, thereby enabling us within the school ministry to do an even better job for God’s children. For this, we again thank all of you that have made a contribution to this effort, big and small.

Dr. Jim

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Our Mission

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran School nurtures children with Jesus' love to grow spiritually, thrive academically, and mature socially.



Exciting Times!

We had the National School Accreditation Team here this week to read our self-study, observe our school and church, and talk with key leaders.

They have decided to recommend us for National Lutheran School Accreditation. This is the end of a process that has taken a few years of hard work. Thank you to Ron Beardsley for chairing the accreditation team, and for all who served in one way or another. This accreditation legitimizes our status as a quality Christian school. We look forward to the opportunity to talk to anyone who would like to learn more about the blessings it can bring to your family.

We also have our exciting school auction next week. This year's theme is Building God's Workers. We really are preparing future leaders in families, businesses, and churches. You can still buy a ticket this weekend so please stop by the school booth in the Commons to learn more.

Our school is one of 6 specific ministries that we have the opportunity to affirm as the "core" of what we do at Shepherd of the Lakes to transform homes. You're invited to our voter's assembly at 12:30 pm on Sunday to come and affirm its place as a vital ministry to students and families.

These are exciting times! Thanks for your support!

Pastor Milatz



Sunday, November 1st is the last day to buy your School Auction tickets, and to sign up for child-care. See the reverse side of this sheet for more information.



**Fundraising Spotlight on:
NOVEMBER 1st IS THE
LAST DAY TO PURCHASE
YOUR SOTL SCHOOL
AUCTION TICKETS!**

Sunday is the last day to purchase your tickets for this great event that benefits not only SOTL School, but you too! With over 200 items available, there will be some great deals on everything from oil changes and car washes to vacation get-aways, sport ticket packages and more! Or how would you like your own designated parking space in the church parking lot? It's only available at the auction! And this year, there is a new category of items called social events, where you can bid on a group event such as game night or Mexican Fiesta night.

Auction tickets are \$16 per person, which includes delicious appetizers, beverages and desserts. Child-care is available for just \$5 per family for the entire evening! Tickets are available at the school booth in the Commons, or contact Gail Milatz at (810) 229-0745 or milatzclan@sbcglobal.net for more information.



WE NEED YOU!

The Shepherd of the Lakes School Leadership Team is forming a Marketing Committee to help spread the word about our great program at Shepherd of the Lakes School.

Parents of students are our best marketing assets, but we'd love to have a variety of members, especially someone with a marketing background.

If you have some time to give to this important ministry to help promote the growth of the school, please contact Gary Butzke at gbutzke186171mi@comcast.net.

Upcoming Events

- November 3 Big Boy Fundraiser
- November 6 End of 1st Quarter
- November 10 Leo's Fundraiser
- November 13 1/2 Day of School - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- November 15 Elementary Students Sing @ 11:00 am
- November 17 Pizza Hut Fundraiser
- November 24 Olga's Fundraiser
- November 26 No School - Thanksgiving Break
- November 27 No School - Thanksgiving Break



Classroom News



Mrs. Hawker's 4 year old and Pre-K students are studying leaves and continuing their work on letters and numbers. Joseph is the focus of Jesus time.

Mrs. Wilkin's 2nd & 3rd grade students are learning about Moses, the Exodus, the Ark & the Tabernacle. They even created their own Tabernacle. In science, life cycles and seeds are being studied, and during a trip to Spicer's, the students learned many interesting facts about apples and making cider. In Reading, they are working on their independent reading skills, putting story events in order, and character traits. For Social Studies, they are reading about Mexico City, past and present.

Mrs. Gaertner's Spanish students are learning ways people have fun during El Día de los Muertos, Day of the Dead. They are also learning ways Mexican families remember loved ones who have passed away. The students compared that to the way Christians can also treat death as a joyful beginning. In class, students did a traditional dance and tasted Mexican hot chocolate.

Mrs. Martin's Kindergarten Art students have been working on their art books. **1st-5th grade** are working on improving their "mind's eye." This means, the students are trying to draw either what they actually see or what they think they see. They have also been learning about Friedrich Hundertwasser, an Austrian artist, and in his style have created "Back to School Self-Portraits."



**It's Not Too Early
to Start your
Christmas
Shopping with
Scrip!**

As we all know, one size does not fit all, so make gift giving easy this year with Scrip gift cards! A personal gift, because it shows that you know their hobbies and where they like to shop and eat, but flexible enough to indeed make it "one size fits all"! And it's a perfect gift for those people on your list that are hard to shop for. You can feel good about your gift giving because you know a portion will benefit SOTL School.

Scrip orders will be placed every Monday throughout November and December, so there is plenty of opportunity to get your order in. See the school desk in the Commons for more information or a Scrip order form.