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The Timber Times  
November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## School News

### Welcome Back

We pray you had a wonderful break, and are ready to make the last push until Christmas! It's a busy time at school, but also a wonderful time as we have so much extra school time devoted to learning and reciting the wonderful Christmas message—Immanuel come to earth as a baby to deliver us from our sins!

### Advent Church Services

Come to St. Matthew Wednesdays after school—we will have a short advent themed church service (advent means coming—referring to both Christ's first coming as a baby in Bethlehem, and also his second coming on Judgment Day) with a potluck to follow. We would love for many school families to join us for these services! They are a great way to keep Christ as the focus during the holiday season. We'll see you there! Potluck is immediately following the service—bring a dish to pass!

### Merch Drop!!!

I hope you saw the email earlier this week—we are having a quick merch sale! You can find it on our school's website [home page](#)! Feel free to send information to family and friends—after all who doesn't look good with a timbers logo sprawled across their chest???



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Offerings

We are well into the second quarter, and I apologize for not relaying this information sooner — our offerings for this quarter are going to LWMS — the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society. This organization specializes in supporting the WELS home and world missions. Please view their overview on their website [here](#).

### Children's Christmas Service

The children have been practicing for over a month on the Christmas Service. This service is truly one of the things that sets us apart from other schools. Please join us, and bring your friends and family, to hear the wonderful Christmas message told by PreK-8<sup>th</sup> grade. We pray that all the work that has gone in to memorizing and rehearsing will help the students and families alike remember the beautiful blessing and absolutely amazing love of our God

### Junior Choir

See you at rehearsal on Monday, December 4, our final rehearsal before we sing for the Christmas Service. We will go caroling and have our party on Friday, December 15 @ 4pm. Please come sign up to bring a treat, if you can. The list is on the board outside the 4th grade classroom each morning and after school.

### Mileage/Running Club

So far we have ran/walked 186 miles during our first two days for the Running club. We are still looking for volunteers to help scan the codes during

this time on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays. All you need is your phone and the app, Easy Scan 2. If you are able to help, please sign up on the blue sheet in your child's classroom. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with Mrs. Gaulke or Mrs. Most.

### Basketball

Practices have begun. Miss Rosenbaum will let you know when the games have been scheduled. Make sure to be looking at google calendar for the practice/game schedule. Let Miss Rosenbaum know if your child needs a ride 24 hours in advance.

### Adult Basketball

After practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays, we will be hosting an adult basketball league at the Nazarene church. Please join us from 5:30-6:30ish if you have any interest! If you have children, they can play on the other half of the court while you play basketball. Bring your friends too!

### BookIt! Calendar

Don't forget to return your November bookit calendar to your child's teacher tomorrow, December 1<sup>st</sup>!

### DC Hot Lunch

TOMORROW, December 1<sup>st</sup>—hot dogs! If you signed up a lunch—thank you for supporting the DC kids!

### DC Babysitting Event

December 16<sup>th</sup> the DC kids have agreed to watch your kiddos (4<sup>th</sup> grade and younger) for the afternoon 1-4PM! \$10/child. A flyer and permission form was sent out this

Christmas Practices Next Week

Monday, December 4—DROP OFF  
Friday, December 8—PICK UP

week, so please look for that in your child's backpack (it went to the oldest child in the family who is under 10). If you need an extra form, please speak with your child's teacher.

games. We need four volunteers to help us please! If you can help out please speak with either Miss Taasaas or Mrs. Most.

### Volunteers Needed

On the morning of Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> we are caroling, making cards and ornaments, and playing some

## Classroom News

### Preschool News

Mrs. Donna Driesbach (509.638.5361)

I am praying that all of you had an amazing Thanksgiving celebration with your family last week. We all have SO much to be thankful for!! God is SO good!! We are all SO blessed!!

A brand new week in preschool!! A brand new theme in preschool!! And, of course, brand new centers in preschool!! SO FUN!!

Christmas is our theme for the next few weeks, and it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in our classroom!! The children made their Countdown to Christmas chains that they took home. Please have them cut/tear off one ring each day. We will do the same in our classroom! When they reach the golden ring, it is Christmas Day!! We also had fun easel painting trees this week!! They aren't Christmas trees until we add ornaments and a star!! That will happen next week! You will see them hanging in the classroom very soon!

We have some great new centers in the classroom! We have a HUGE felt Christmas tree in the Drama Center that the children get to decorate with felt ornaments. We have a Nativity Set in the Science Center that the children can "play" with. But the highlight seems to be the green playdoh in the Art Center. What a fun thing for the children to mold, shape and create whatever their imagination desires.

We have been practicing extremely hard every day on our Christmas program. Thank you for all of the hard work you have put in at home to get your child ready for our Christmas program. I could not have pulled this off without all of your help. You parents are amazing!! Thank You!! You guys are GREAT!!

Watch for our Christmas Party sign-up sheet. Parties will be Dec. 18 and 20. There will also be a book exchange on those days. More information will come home about this exchange!! FUN days ahead!!

Letter of the Week next week: Letter K. Four year old show 'n' tell should be an item that starts with K.

Bible Verse to memorize: Psalm 56:11 "In God I trust."

God's blessings on a beautiful weekend!!

### Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

**Memory Work-** I handed out Christmas Program recitations at Parent/Teacher Conferences please keep working with your child on their recitations.

**Life skill-** In December they will be making a felt reindeer candy cane holder. If you would like to donate full sized candy canes for the project please let me know. We need 32.

**Christmas Stocking Exchange-** Our class will be doing a stocking exchange on Wednesday, December 20 during our class Christmas party.

Boys will exchange with boys and girls will exchange with girls. Purchase items that you think would be appropriate.

Buy (or make) a stocking and fill it with 3 items. Only one of the items can be candy. Keep the cost of the stocking and the 3 items to \$15 or less. Please wrap each item individually.

The stocking needs to be brought to school on Monday, December 18 (no earlier) with a tag that says "From (your child's name)" We will draw names to see who gets what stocking, they do not know who they are exchanging with.

**Christmas Party sign up-** Needed items are posted in the classroom by the Christmas tree. Please sign up if you are able!

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade News

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Hi First Grade Families!

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving!

This week in Christ Light (Bible History class) we learned how Jesus healed some people and praised the faith of those who trusted in him. In Reading we are moving onto a new book in our curriculum with more advanced stories. In Math we are finish

ing up our chapter on subtraction. And, as you may have noticed, we are practicing a lot for the Christmas program! The kids are doing a great job!  
God bless your weekend!

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade News

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

### Christlight/ Memory Work

- 12/5 - Psalm 50:15
- 12/7 - Mark 10:45
- Please read the Bible stories from this week (Jesus Walks on the Water; Jesus Appears in Glory) with your child during the weekend and sign the blue sheet in the orange folder.

### Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day. Add the minutes to your child's book-it calendar.
- Continue to work through the extra math program.
- Spelling: next week we are working on open syllables. Open syllables end with a single vowel that makes a long vowel sound. Spelling lists will be in their orange folder. Test is on Thursday.

### Extra Notes

- We completed our second life skill of setting a table. You should ask your child to set the table for dinner!
- Make sure your child has enough warm clothes for recess. It might be a good idea to start having your child bring a pair of gloves.
- Our Christmas party is coming up quickly. There is a sign-up sheet for items in our classroom. A note about our Christmas party will be in your child's orange folder this week.
- We have been working hard on the Christmas program materials in the classroom. Please plan to attend the Christmas program on December 10 at 4 pm. You won't want to miss it!
- Thank you to everyone who is helping transport children either to the Nazarene church or back to school. We appreciate the help.
- All of the kids got 100% on their partner practice in spelling this week so no one had to take the test today. Thanks for helping them work hard on those words. So proud of them!
- November book it calendars are due by tomorrow! December calendars will be sent home yesterday.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade News

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

### Memory Work a week ahead

- 12/5 - Christmas Recitations & Psalm 145:15-16
- 12/7 - Christmas Recitations & Isaiah 41:10a
- 12/8 - The First Commandment
- It is really important that your child is looking at the memory work packet at home so they know their verse/verses and the day they are due.
- Please read the Bible stories from this week with your child (The Death of John the Baptist & The Sinful Woman in Simon's House)

### Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day, and record it on the November calendar.
- Work on spelling words. They are in your child's Friday folder. Make sure your child is keeping their list in their accordion folder and bringing it back to school so they are able to practice. This week we are working on words with /e/ sound.
- Please be practicing Christmas recitations with your child at home as it is part of your child's memory work.
- If your child is taking home something other than those things, then they didn't use their time wisely in class. Please let me know if you have any questions.

### Extra Notes

- Water bottles need to be brought to school and filled up everyday.
- If anyone wants to volunteer for the running club Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:30, there is a sign up on my door.
- We will be having a sock exchange at our Christmas party (December 20th) please spend no more than \$5 on some holiday socks, the names remain anonymous. Please wrap the socks before bringing them to the classroom. The kids can start bringing their wrapped socks in the week of the party (Mon, Tues, Wed). There is a sign up on my door for anyone who would be willing to help with the party, bring food items, or help clean up. If anyone wants to help plan the activities for the party, please reach out. Thank you.
- As the weather starts getting colder, please send a coat with your child along with gloves and a hat.
- We will plan to go outside everyday for P.E., please have your child dress appropriately.
- Don't forget to have your child record minutes on their Bookit calendar, as it is part of your child's nightly homework.
- Make sure you have the Google calendar downloaded on your phone because that is where you will find upcoming events or information.

- The November calendars are due Friday December 1st. The December calendar will be coming home Friday in your child's folder.
- Thank you to all those who volunteered to help transport students to and from the Nazarene.

Have a great weekend!

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade News

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

**Word of God** - In our lessons this week we learn Jesus' enemies reject his word and salvation he won for us, whereas believers show love and thanks. We should eagerly listen to God's messengers and we are sinners whom Jesus has forgiven. We show our thankfulness in all we think, say, and do.

**Math** - Chapter 5 is all about division! Did you know that multiplication and division are inverse operations?

**Reading** - What was it like being a pioneer and living in Indian Territory in the late 1800s/early 1900s? What is characterization? These are just some of what we are learning as we read, Little House on the Prairie.

**Science** - What is the difference between weathering and erosion? We are learning about this and how to prevent erosion.

**Social Studies** - We are taking a look at being a pioneer on the Oregon Trail and all the hardships they faced. It was amazing that so many, around 400,000, endured the trip west on the trail! We even took some time to play the old school game of the Oregon trail. (If you are feeling nostalgic, you can give it a go on the [visitoregon.com](http://visitoregon.com) website.)

#### EXTRA NOTES:

**Christmas Gift Exchange** - I know it is early, but Christmas and our party will be here before you know it. A note went home on Monday with the information for our classroom stocking gift exchange.

**Christmas Party** - Our classroom Christmas party will be on Wednesday, December 20. Pizza will be provided for each child. I put a signup sheet in the classroom, please come check it out.

### 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade News

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

I hope everyone had a restful Thanksgiving break. It's just a few short weeks until our next break at Christmas, and we have a lot of learning to do before then. In religion classes, we are finishing up our study of the 3rd Article of the Apostles' Creed and continuing our look at Jesus' ministry. With our memory work focus on the Christmas recitations and songs coming to an end, we will be returning to our normal procedure of letting the students choose a few verses and also memorizing a part of the catechism. Our next section of the catechism will be the Apostles' Creed. In math, the 5th grade class is building the foundational skills to start performing equations with fractions, and the 6th grade class is about to do the same having just finished a test this week. In science, we are studying the biosphere. In social studies, we are finishing our chapter on Ancient Arabia. Finally in English, we are continuing our grammar study of pronouns.

With December comes the planning for our Christmas party. I like letting the students do most of the planning work as part of their "life skill" lesson. As a gift exchange this year, we will be doing a "snack exchange". I'll send more info about that soon.

Thank you to all the parents that have been helping with the Christmas Service, whether that be helping with memorization or transportation or anything else. I hope you are able to join our class for that service!

### 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade News

Mr. Jacob Biebert (715.402.0094)

I hope you all enjoyed your Thanksgiving celebrations, and now we may the wonderful push to Christmas. Although school can be a bit chaotic this time of year, I can't think of anything better than the students putting into proclamation their faith as they prepare for the Christmas service.

Here is the memory work for next week:

We will review Christmas parts

It has been quite difficult to establish a solid routine with our history and science classes lately due to all the work the students have been putting into the Christmas program. However, in history we did wrap up our study of the Oregon trail, and we moved to looking at why the early settlers came to the West and what their settlement patterns looked like.

We are wrapping up our study of the nervous system by reviewing the lobes of our brain and their different purposes. We will then plan on taking our test by next Thursday.

Thank you for all your help in transporting children for the Christmas practices this week. Please take note of the times for the last two practices this week before our final service.

God's blessings on your weekends and your Advent worship as we prepare for the birth of our Savior King!



## The Coming King

“They’re going to miss it.” That’s maybe what you thought as you sat by the grave of a loved one. “They’re going to miss their daughter’s wedding. They’re going to miss their first grandchild. They’re going to miss traveling in retirement.” They’re going to miss ‘it,’ whatever ‘it’ is.

And there’s a sadness that comes with this, at least for the survivor. Many of you know what it’s like to experience a wedding, a birth, or some other occasion without sharing the joy of that event with certain loved ones. But there is one event our loved ones who have died in the Lord will not miss. Not only will they not miss Jesus’ return, “the dead in Christ will rise first.” There’s a certain amount of joy that comes with this, isn’t there? As a spectator, I love watching my child get a blue ribbon at the track meet or the spelling bee. I rejoice in seeing my spouse receive an award at her place of employment. We love seeing our favorite players win a championship or our preferred candidates win an election. We find joy when our loved ones win.

While you may miss your loved ones at an upcoming

wedding, be assured, they’ll be the first ones to the wedding banquet of heaven. You may miss a Christian friend at an upcoming reunion but be assured they’ll be the first ones in the air, waiting to be reunited with you. Be encouraged by these words. Be encouraged that your King is coming, and he’s bringing those who have fallen asleep with him.

### Prayer:

Dear Jesus, may the joy of my loved one’s victory overshadow the sadness of me missing them here. Amen.

*Want more daily devotions?*

*[I get them here!](#)*



God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. . . The Lord himself will come . . . and the dead in Christ will rise first . . . Therefore, encourage one another with these words.

**1 Thessalonians 4:14,16,18**