



Educate.  
Equip.  
Encourage.

The Timber Times  
February 1st, 2024

## School News

### Mission Offering

Third quarter has begun, which means we have a new destination for our offerings! This quarter, all our offerings are designated to Teen and Kid Closet here in Spokane. This amazing organization serves kids in need of clothing and other hygiene items right here in our community! In addition to sending our offerings to TKC, we will also be doing a "Hygiene Drive." This will help supply Teen and Kid Closet with essential toiletry items to give to kids in need! Each classroom will have a donation bin, and we are collecting items until Career Day on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you for helping in this way!

### Re-Enrollment Instructions

You should have been sent instructions this morning to re-enroll your children for the upcoming school year! If you didn't, please email [principal@stmatthewspokane.org](mailto:principal@stmatthewspokane.org) so we can get that to you right away. Please do that ASAP so you can get your discount on enrollment and we can continue to plan for the new school year! Thank you so much to each and every one of you for your dedication and commitment to our St. Matthew family!!!

### THANK YOU Grades K-2

Thank you to everyone for attending church this past Sunday as grades K-2 sang "Day by Day." What a wonderful blessing it is to the congregation to hear these beautiful singing voices!

### Basketball

Game times have been changed for February 13. B team will play at 4:00. A team will play at 5:15. Everything is updated on google calendar. Make sure to reach out to Miss Rosenbaum

if your child needs a ride. Thank you!

### Upcoming DC Fundraisers

Tomorrow the DC kids are serving nachos for lunch. Please text/call Tinarose ASAP if you haven't returned your sheet yet (509)953-6416.

Also, the kids will be providing all sorts of crafting items for parents/friends/etc. to complete "love grams." These materials will be available in the church on February 12-14. Create your cards and leave them in the box for the DC kids to deliver to your loved ones! This is always a fun activity—the kids LOVE receiving these cards during the school day!

### Call Updates—New & Old

Many updates for everyone! Miss Taa-saas has returned her call to Alaska—YAY!!! Mr. Biebert returned his call to teach in Minnesota—also YAY!!! And lastly...

Mrs. Most has received a call to teach 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in Taylorsville, UT. Please keep her in your prayers, and if you have any encouragement to offer she would love to hear it. Thank you!

### February Timber Talk

A group of 5th and 6th graders worked on creating the February Timber Talk video in technology class. Check out the video with the link below:  
[February Timber Talk 2024](#)



## Upcoming Dates

### February

- 1 RE-ENROLLMENT BEGINS
- 1 High School Interest Meeting 6PM
- 2 DC Hot Lunch — Nachos
- 2 Appreciation Dinner 5:30PM
- 6 B Team @ PCA 3:45PM
- 6 A Team @ PCA 4:30PM
- 9 Early Release—NOON (No AM3)
- 12,13,14 DC Fundraiser—Love Grams
- 13 B Team @ Kingdom Christian 3:30PM
- 13 A Team @ Kingdom Christian 4:30PM
- 14 Ash Wednesday Service 3:45PM
- 15 B Team @ Summit 4:00PM
- 19 NO SCHOOL — President's Day
- 20 NO SCHOOL — Teacher In-Service
- 21 Lenten Service 3:45PM
- 22 Career Day
- 22 A Team vs. Co-Op 3:45PM
- 22 B Team vs. Co-Op 5:00PM
- 22 Chiefs Game — Jr. Choir Sings
- 25 Grades 3-8 Sing 10AM
- 2/26-3/1 BOOK FAIR
- 27 B Team @ Christian Heritage 3:30PM
- 27 A Team @ Christian Heritage 4:30PM

### Junior Choir

Rehearsal on Monday, February 5 from 3:45-4:30.  
Just a reminder, the Junior choir children's tickets are free for the hockey game on February 23. Any family and friends that would like to attend would need to reserve tickets. I have the QR code for the discounted tickets in the section the choir will be seated in.

### Family Appreciation Dinner

Reminder that the dinner is tomorrow evening at 5:30PM. Childcare is provided



# APPRECIATION DINNER TOMORROW

along with food for the kiddos. If you have last minute questions, please reach out to Mrs. Driesbach (509)638-5361. See you there!

### Parent Conversations

I am going to try to regularly include these articles from Forward in Christ (a WELS magazine). The parent conversations help us navigate difficult topics with our children while maintaining a Christian perspective. This week's article is about friendships. You can view it [here](#) on with the QR code below.



### High School Interest

We are forming an interest group for those families that want to look into the possibility of starting a high school at St. Matthew. This is focused toward families with kids currently in 5-7th grade, but anyone interested in finding out more or being involved in the group can attend the informational meeting **tonight at 6PM**.

### Used Book Fair

We will be having a book fair February 26<sup>th</sup>- March 1<sup>st</sup>. Books will be 50 cents each. In order for this to be a success we need your gently used books. Please look through your home libraries and see if there are any books you are willing to part with. We need books for all ages! Books should be

gently used with no rips, tears or writings on the pages. You may drop off books in your child's classroom between February 2<sup>nd</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>.

### Enrollment Flyers

Parents—we need you!!! Do you have any friends, family, or neighbors who are looking for a Christian education? I'm sure you have probably already spoken with them, but if they could use one more tactile piece, we have some flyers that we were hoping you could hand out to your loved ones! Each teacher has several in their classroom, so please take as many as you need. Thank you for being our biggest supporters and our best advertisement!!! Your kind words really are what keeps us going!

## Classroom News

### Preschool News

Mrs. Donna Driesbach (509.638.5361)

How can there be brand NEW centers again this week!!! Because we have a brand NEW theme: Farm and Farm Animals!!

Our Drama Center now has a puppet theater and puppets that the children play with. What fun to see and hear the interaction between the children and their puppets. Priceless!! The Science Center has puzzles that the children can match up the mommy and daddy animals with their babies. Our Listening Center now has the book "Ten Grouchy Groundhogs. Okay, I know groundhogs aren't farm animals, but I couldn't resist!! We have fun celebrating Ground Hog Day on Friday. We are making a headband and creating a fun shadow craft.

On Monday, we had a special visit from Mary with Dr. Bradley's dental office. Your child will be able to tell you the best way to take care of their teeth. We played a fun game with "happy" teeth and "not so happy" teeth. Mary also brought her friend, Sparkles, to our school. Sparkles is a unicorn that needed her teeth brushed. The children had a great time helping and learning how to brush!! When the children were done brushing her teeth, Sparkles spit her toothpaste (water) all over the children!! Everyone had a big laugh, but Sparkles had to go into a timeout!! On Tuesday, we read the story "The Little Red Hen" – a great story and learning lesson about helping! They were able to retell the story during Center Time while doing a special project. But today and tomorrow will be the highlight of the entire week at preschool. We are having our Pajama Day: wearing our Pajamas, bringing our Pillows, eating Pancakes, and maybe even marching in a Parade during class time. After all, it is P Week!! Fantastic week in preschool!!

Our letter of the week next week is "Qq". Four year old classes, please bring a show 'n' tell item from home that begins with "Qq".

Our bible verse that we will memorize in preschool is 1 Peter 5:7 "God cares for you."

No morning preschool on Friday, February 9. I will be working on building our curriculum that morning. Afternoon preschool will still be in session.

Please sign up for our Valentine's Day Parties. Everyone gets to bring something special for our party!! This sign-up sheet is on my red cabinet when entering the classroom.

A list of classmates' names was sent home this week so your child can give his/her friend a Valentine during our party. We will be creating our Valentine boxes next week, so if you haven't brought in your cereal box, please do so ASAP!! We could use extra ones, also, if you have more.

Have a fantastic weekend with your family, get plenty of sleep and stay healthy!!

### Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

**Thank you for attending our church service this past Sunday. The kids did a beautiful job praising God!**

**Short vowel booklets-** A few weeks ago I sent home a short A word booklet. Please make your child is reading that to you. You can even include that in your child's nightly reading. I will be sending home a short E booklet next week.

**Book it calendars-** January calendars were due yesterday. Please make sure they are turned in by tomorrow.

**Cutting fabric-** If you are interested in helping cut fabric for our upcoming life skill please speak with me, I would appreciate the help!

**100<sup>th</sup> Day-** (PLEASE NOTE THE DATE CHANGE)The 100<sup>th</sup> day of school is on **Tuesday, February 6** Please help your child decorate a shirt with 100 items on it. They will wear this shirt to school on the 100<sup>th</sup> day.

**Valentine's Day-** I need 15 heart shaped helium filled balloons. Please let me know if you would like to donate. We will be exchanging Valentine's at our class party on Wednesday, February 14. Please help your child decorate a Valentine box. There are so many fun ideas on Pinterest so start looking and planning. This is always my favorite activity!!! Please bring the decorated box to school on February 14, no earlier. The box needs to have an opening for the Valentines.

Class List: Ava, Allie, Ellany, Hannah, Josey, Bennett, Brandon, Grayson, Jamison, Joseph, Nate, Norman, Paul, Thomas, Wesley

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

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Hello, dear First Grade Families!

Thank you for bringing your children to sing our song at church on Sunday. They did a beautiful job!

The 100th day of school is on Tuesday, February 6. If your child wishes to dress up as if they were 100 years old, they may do so. We will do a few counting to 100 activities that day, as well.

Valentine's Day is coming up! We will have a small party and make a craft, play a game, and exchange valentines. Thankfully we don't have any allergies in this class! Your child may want to bring a box or bag to put their valentines cards and candy in, but if they forget, no problem, they can just put them in their backpack.

Here's a list of everyone's names: Lucas, Quinn, Caleb, Adaline, Andy, Rushil, Melody, Corin, Naya, Amelia, Emma, Ethan, Olivia, Harry, Mason, Emmitt, Shreya, Tommy.

The Memory Work we learned for today had a great song to go with it from the singing group, "Slugs and Bugs." The song is called "Be Kind and Compassionate." The kids really enjoyed singing it.

Next week's Memory Work is Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." I think Seeds Family Worship has a song of this verse.

Have a wonderful weekend!

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

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

#### Christlight/ Memory Work

- 2/6 - The Eighth Commandment
- 2/8 - 1 John 4:19
- Please read the Bible stories from this week (Zacchaeus; Mary Shows Her Love to Jesus).

#### Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day. Add the minutes to your child's February book-it calendar.
- Continue to work through the xtra math program.
- Spelling: next week's spelling words are a review of unit 2 words. In this unit we learned about: long vowels and final e; soft c and g; open syllables; vowel teams ay/ai; vowel teams oy/oi; vowel teams ee/ea; vowel teams ow/oa. We will then take a pretest to see what words your child will need for unit 3.

#### Extra Notes

- The 100th day is next week: February 6. Don't forget to have your child decorate a piece of clothing with 100 items either drawn or glued on. We have a fun day planned!
- In the basement of the church, there is a bulletin board that a class gets to decorate every month to show what they have been doing in school. Our class is decorating that bulletin board for the month of February. It will be decorated this weekend! Hope you have some time to check it out!
- In writing class, we are discussing personal narratives and brainstorming ideas to write our own!
- Thank you to everyone that came to church on Sunday to hear the children sing. They sounded wonderful!
- We have been working super hard on identifying and counting coins in Math class. It would be great if you could ask your child to count coins at home as well.
- We are starting to talk about some important historical figures. This week we talked about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.
- January Book-It calendars are due TODAY! February calendars were sent home as well.

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

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

Memory Work a week ahead

- 2/6 - Mark 10:45 & 1 John 4:19
- 2/8 - Psalm 103:1 & The Doxology of the Lord's Prayer
- 2/9 - The Second Article of the Apostles' Creed
- It is really important your child is practicing memory work at home, so they can recite it on the due date.
- Please read the Bible stories from this week with your child (Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead & Zacchaeus)

## Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day, and record it on the January calendar.
- Work on spelling words. They are in your child's Friday folder.
- This week we are working on homophones
- 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

- Please have your child turn in their January calendar this FRIDAY.
- We will be doing a valentines exchange on February 14th. Please decorate a shoebox or a cereal box for your valentines. We have 20 kids in the class, so please make a valentine for everyone.
- Water bottles need to be brought to school and filled up everyday.
- Please make sure your child has all their belongings before they leave school, lately things have been left.
- 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.

Enjoy your weekend!

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

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

**Word of God** - This week through our lessons we learn how Jesus shows concern for others while on his way to the cross to die for the sins of the world. Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead and Zacchaeus the God's Word teaches us that Jesus comforts and helps us in times of trouble, and is concerned about us.

**Reading** - We have begun our next great adventure, Snow Treasure! They almost have all the gold bullion to the *Cleng Pearson*, but why do they keep seeing a German on skis around the snowmen?

**Science** - How are cycles on Earth affected by the Sun and Moon? This is our big question we want to answer as we begin learning about the Solar System and beyond. We made star finders this week. See if you can spot the winter constellations in the night sky!

**Social Studies**- Thank you Mr. Marshall Casey for coming in and speaking with us about how bills become laws, how laws help us, and what our state representatives do and that we can go talk with them about laws we'd like to see.

#### EXTRA NOTES:

**Valentine's day** lists, along with a pizza box for your child to decorate as a mailbox for their classroom valentines were sent home last week. Please bring them back on either February 13 or 14. Did someone say party? Please stop by to see if there is anything you can donate to bring for our Valentine's day party. Thank you!

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

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

Happy February! January seemed really long this year, but I think part of that is because of how much we got done. We wrapped the 2nd quarter and started the 3rd, said goodbye to a classmate and welcomed a new one, finished another round of MAP testing, started playing basketball games against other schools, and did a whole lot of learning. February looks to be just as busy as January!

In our classes, we are continuing our study of the Lord's Prayer and examining Jesus' actions leading up to Holy Week. There will be an assessment on Jesus' miracles next week. In math, both classes are jumping into dividing fractions, with the 5th grade math class completing half of the test for the chapter today. In science, we spent the week studying and building models of clouds. In social studies, we are doing a deep dive into the story of Pocahontas with the goal of determining if the events of the Disney movie are accurate. Finally, in English we are continuing our study of verbs and the different verb tenses.

With Valentine's coming up, it's probably good to mention that I'm low key about the classroom celebration. We don't really have a party, just some time at the end of the day to exchange treats if desired. If you are planning to bring something to exchange, please bring enough for the entire class. If your student is planning to express their undying love for a classmate, please encourage them to do that outside of the school day and property :)

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

Mr. Jacob Biebert (715.402.0094)

Well, this week was a learning experience.

Here is the memory work for next week:

Monday 2/5: Ephesians 3:20a, The Second Commandment; Thursday 2/8: Hymn 390: 1,3,5; Friday 2/9: Isaiah 55:11, Matthew 25:40, Romans 3:24

This week in history we just about finished up our study on tribal perspectives in the Pacific Northwest, we will wrap this study up at the beginning of next week, and then we will be transitioning to looking at some of the wars that took place in the Pacific Northwest.

Please take time to have "The Talk" with your children before next week, if you would like. We will be covering the reproductive system in science next week. So, I am hoping that we can handle that situation with a little maturity. (I am mainly worried about myself) We will simply be looking at the basic reproductive parts that God has given to both boys and girls. I don't really have

the desire to answer a whole lot of questions on the topic, so any that you could answer on the topic beforehand would be fantastic.

It is time to collect the debt that is owed to the winning team from our Christmas party. Only one team ate the most nasty food, only one team pulled a teacher in an ice fishing sled across the field the fastest, only one team blindly worked together to quickly make shapes with string.....and those teams weren't mine! So, the students are being treated to a brunch, and it will be made and served by the losing team. The winning team requested French toast, bacon, sausage, and the fixins'. Each of us divided up what needs to be brought, and we will have this meal next Wednesday. Please ask your child what they signed up for and bring it by next Wednesday....Thank you!

I hope to see many of you at the appreciation dinner this Friday. God's Blessings on your weekend!

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## The Final Authority

Seventeenth-century French philosopher Rene Descartes is known for the saying: “I think, therefore I am.” The Twenty-first Century bumper sticker equivalent is: “Honk if you exist.”

If you want to know what issues matter to society or the mindset of current culture, read their bumper stickers. One of the more popular is the command to “QUESTION AUTHORITY.” It is a warning not to follow blindly after anyone just because they are influential. Certainly, not everyone with authority is trustworthy, but that does not mean that everyone is not trustworthy.

Jesus is an authority you can trust. He proved it by what he proclaimed. When Jesus taught in the synagogue, he did not just regurgitate what other teachers of the law thought God’s Word meant. He did not reiterate their manufactured laws. Jesus proclaimed the freedom, healing, and release that God promised. Then he backed up his word with action. With the same authority that the people heard Jesus teach, they witnessed him drive a demon out of a

man.

Despite society’s efforts to convince us otherwise, regardless of whatever bumper sticker gets slapped on the back of a car, Jesus is the final authority. When Jesus died on the cross, he destroyed the devil’s work. And when he rose from the grave, he proved his victory over sin, death, and hell. That victory is yours through faith in your Lord Jesus Christ.

### Prayer:

Lord Jesus, what peace, what joy, what hope is mine that you are the final authority over all things in life and in death. Amen.

*Want more daily devotions?  
[I get them here!](#)*



They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. . . Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.”

**Mark 1:21,23-27**