



Educate.  
Equip.  
Encourage.

The Timber Times  
September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## School News

### Chapel Offering

As of last chapel, our offering total is at \$576.32. Thank you all for continuing to give to our offering this quarter! Remember, all offerings will be given to Diaz and Corr Families :)

### NO SCHOOL TOMORROW

There is no school tomorrow for PreK-8<sup>th</sup> grade due to the church and school retreat! We are looking forward to a little R&R, and can't wait to see many of you there!

### Singing in Church

The children sang "Peace in Christ" in church this past Sunday. Thank you so much for those of you who came—it truly makes the church service so special to hear the kids singing praises to our wonderful, merciful, amazing God!

### Church Services at St. Matt's

Please note that our usual services on Sunday are at 10AM. Bible class and Sunday School is open to all at 9AM, and there is fellowship following the service. We want you to feel just as much at home at the church as you do at the school! Please join us if you are able.

### DC Garage Sale—Today & Tomorrow

Come see what the kids have for sale! The garage sale is taking place in front of the preschool, by the parsonage garage! Join the fun, and support the DC kids in their efforts to raise money for their upcoming trip!

### 4-8 Soccer

If your child is sick on a game/practice day, please contact Miss Rosenbaum so that the coaches can plan accordingly. Communicate with your child's teacher about younger siblings. Make sure to be checking the schedule online. Contact Miss Rosenbaum if

your child needs a ride to the practices or games 24 hours in advance. Thanks!

### K-3 Soccer

Make sure to be checking in with Coach Sammie Haxton before leaving practice so that she can ensure that every child has a ride. More details on the October 11 scrimmages will be sent home at practice next week!

### Picture Day—NEXT WEEK

Don't forget your child has picture day next week. PreK3 & K-3 are on Monday, October 3. PreK 4 & 4-8 are on Tuesday. Get your beauty rest over the weekend!

### Book-It Program!

Once again, we are taking part in the Book it program sponsored by Pizza Hut. This program runs October-March. The gift of reading is something that your child will have for a lifetime and we feel privileged that we can help foster that love of reading. Your child will receive their October calendar from their teacher today with a note explaining more information about the program. Students are expected to participate regardless of whether they want a pizza, we know that might not be a motivation to read for some but we hope parents join us in encouraging your child to read for the benefits of reading...the pizza is just a fun bonus!

### DC Hot Lunch—Tacos

On Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, the DC kids are making tacos!!! Lunch is \$5 and will include fresh fruit and dessert. Please support the kids and enjoy some delish tacos to boot!

### Junior Choir

Junior choir is set to begin next Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. All students in

grades 3-8 are welcome to participate in the Junior Choir. Practices will be Mondays from 3:45-4:30 (unless notified of a change). The children will meet in the 4th grade classroom (Mrs. Most's room). Children will be working on fun songs, and songs to sing for church and chapel. Mrs. Most will be sending home forms and schedules the week of September 18-22. The schedule is mostly in the Google calendar. If you have any questions, please speak with Mrs. Most or email her at michelle.most@stmatthewspokane.org

### Tent or Treat

Tent or Treat will be here before you know it! We look forward to this event every year — it is so fun to see so many families from our school, as well as people from the community — come together for a fun-filled, candy-fueled blast of a night! Please plan to attend with your children on **Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 5-7PM**, and let friends, family, and neighbors know about all the fun, too!

If you feel inclined to help in any way for this event, we could use volunteers as well! Take a look at the sign up [here](#) (or use the QR code) to see if there is a way you can best serve. Thank you! If you have questions, please reach out to Kayla Biebert (715)402-0114.



No School Tomorrow!

Church & School Campout!

## Classroom News

### Preschool News

Mrs. Donna Driesbach (509.638.5361)

Brand New Theme!! Brand New Centers!! Brand New Activities!!

Our new theme that we will be focusing on for the next two weeks is Fall. With all of the beautiful changes we see from the colored leaves to the crisp morning air, these children will learn that God NEVER changes. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

This week, the preschool classes have had fun creating a fall tree with tissue paper leaves, painting and flipping leaves and also gluing colorful leaves to make a fall wreath. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade children had SO much fun helping the littles with these projects!! Thank you, Mr. Metzger, for making this happen!!

Our new centers are always exciting! The Art Center currently has celery stamping. Our letter of the week is "C", and if you'll notice when you cut the end of a celery stalk it looks like a "C". We have fun stamping the celery on a big letter "C". There is also an assortment of leaves in the Science Center that the children can examine with magnifying glasses. The Sensory Center has pipe cleaner "trees" that the children can decorate with colorful buttons.

We now have painted apples hanging everywhere in our classroom – you'll need to check it out! The children did an amazing job with their easel painting!! Each apple is SO unique!

We have our Hidden Acres Field Trip coming up SO soon. We will be traveling to Green Bluff on Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> and Monday the 9<sup>th</sup>. Parents, please provide me with a copy of your car insurance if you are planning on joining us, and also, please complete the background check prior to our field trip.

Our letter next week is "Dd". Four year old classes, please bring a show 'n' tell item that begins with "D".

Our bible verse this next week is "God . . . wants all (people) to be saved."

I Timothy 2:3,4

Have a blessed weekend and a beautiful family time together. See you next week!!

### Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

**Thank you-** The kids sounded beautiful in church! Thank you so much for coming last Sunday!

**Book it-** We will be starting the Book it Program on October 1. Information will go home in your child's yellow folder tomorrow. This is part of your child's nightly homework.

**Independence-** As the weather is starting to change students are coming to school with new coats and shoes. Please work with your child at home and make sure they are able to tie their own shoes as well as zip or button their own coat.

**Picture Day-** Forms for picture day were due yesterday. Even if your child is not getting a picture we still need you to return the envelope with their name on it. All students will be getting a picture whether or not you purchased a picture. Please dress your child appropriately for the day.

**Snacks-** Please remember that cookies, donuts, chips and candy are not acceptable snacks. That is something to save for a lunch time treat.

**Field trip-** A note went home on Monday regarding our trip to the pumpkin patch. Forms are due next week.

**Pick up-** Our doorway is getting very congested. When you pick up your child at the end of the day please enter the classroom all the way so that other parents may also come in and the door is not getting blocked.

**Calendar-** There are a few NO SCHOOL days coming up in October please make sure you download the Google calendar so you are aware of those dates.

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

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Hi First Grade Families!

I sent home a field trip form in your child's Home Folder today. Please fill it out and return it by Friday, October 6. Thank you! Please fill out and return the Picture Day envelopes—even if you are not ordering pictures. Thank you!

The students all sounded so beautiful on Sunday when they sang in church. Thank you for coming!

Our Memory Work for next week Thursday is John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." This is such a wonderful passage. It's often called "the gospel in a nutshell" and it is the central teaching of Christianity. What a loving and gracious God we have, that he sacrificed his own son for our sake!

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

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

### Christlight/ Memory Work

- 10/3 - The Sixth Commandment
- 10/5 - Mark 16:16
- Please read the Bible stories from this week (Jesus' First Miracle; Jesus Heals the Official's Son) with your child during the weekend and sign the orange sheet in the orange folder.

### Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day.
- Continue to work through the extra math program.
- Spelling: next week we are working on the digraphs sh and th. A digraph is two letters combined to make one sound. Your child's spelling words for the upcoming week will be in his/her orange folder. The test will be on Thursday.

### Extra Notes

- Keep graded work from the orange folder at home.
- Thank you to everyone who came to church this past Sunday to sing. The kids sounded wonderful.
- Our first field trip will be happening on October 16. Permission slips were sent home on Monday. Please return these by October 3 with the money along with it. If you are chaperoning, make sure to give me a copy of your car insurance as well as completing a background check.
- Picture day is next week - October 2!
- Book It Calendars were sent home today! Please keep track of all the minutes your child reads daily. An informational sheet was sent home as well. Make sure to read through that so that you know what is expected.

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

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

### Memory Work a week ahead

- 10/2 - Luke 11:28 & Romans 3:23
- 10/5 - John 5:39 & New Testament Books of the Bible (Matthew -> Phillipians)
- 10/6 - The Sixth 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 Wedding at Cana & Jesus Heals The Official's Son)

### Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day
- 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 focusing on words with: scr, squ, str.
- 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.
- Please check the school calendar for any important upcoming events.
- Make sure Friday folders are coming back empty and you are looking through your child's assignments. Please let me know if you have questions.
- Please try and send lunch with your child that doesn't need to be heated in the microwave, it slows down our lunch time.
- Please go to Mr. Biebert's room if it's after 9 am, as well as taking your child to an appointment. Classroom doors are to remain locked all day.

Have a great extended weekend!

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

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

**Word of God** - This week we have been learning how Jesus' first miracles show to us his power as true God and he still uses his power today to provide for our bodily and spiritual needs. Our hymn for the week is, "Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness"

**Reading** - What would it be like to immigrate to the US in the early 1900s? We are exploring this and many other concepts through our new novel, "In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson."

**Science** - This week we are taking a look at hurricanes and tornadoes. How do they form? What can we do to stay safe? How do they affect Earth's air, land, water, and living things?

**Social Studies** - We are exploring the culture of the first inhabitants of Washington, the coastal and plateau tribes. We are noticing how many of Washington's counties and cities are named after many of the Native American tribes from here in Wash-

ington (pronouncing their names has been fun too).

#### EXTRA NOTES:

- **Feature Month** - Thank to all the children and families who helped to make our feature month a great success! The children were a great help during coffee hour! They served those donut holes like pros!
- **School Pictures** - Picture envelopes are due back by tomorrow, Friday, September 29. They need to be returned even if you aren't planning on buying any pictures.
- **Book-it Program begins on Sunday!** Book-it calendars and note explaining it all were sent home today. Please make sure it stays in a safe place so your child can record the minutes they read each day.
- **Free National Park Pass** - Fourth grade is a special year, when they can get a free national park pass so that they can see America's national parks and historic sites for free with their families. Here is the link to the website. It is good for a year <https://everykidoutdoors.gov/index.htm> The website should tell you all the information you need.

Have a blessed week in the Lord!

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

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

The featured class of the week is: Social Studies. With our two-year cycle during 5th and 6th grade, I cover ancient history and early American history. Last year we learned about the ancient Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Indian, Chinese, and Incan civilizations. This year we are covering the ancient Greek, Roman, and Arabian civilizations. Then we will take a jump to the colonial era of US history, finishing with the American Revolution. This is in coordination with the subjects Mr. Biebert is covering in 7th and 8th grades.

I have a few skills I really try to emphasize during social studies. The first is note-taking. I want the students to learn which parts of the text are the most important, and how to figure out which ones to take note of. Another skill I emphasize is supporting opinions with evidence. We do a lot of structured paragraphs and an essay or two to work on that skill regularly. Finally, I alternate my curriculum between a general study from the text and a deep dive into a specific topic. This last unit we followed up our study of ancient Greece by looking at excerpts from four sources to come up with our own opinion about how many Persian soldiers participated in the Battle of Thermopylae. My hope is that focusing on these skills will help get the students ready for later middle school classes, and ultimately high school.



In other classes, we continue to study the beginning of Jesus's ministry and the 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed in religion. In math, the 6th grade is taking a test on multiplication today before moving on to division concepts next week. The 5th grade math class will have their test on multiplication next week Tuesday. We are building models of ecosystems in science class before going on to learn more about how they work, and in social studies we are going to be starting our study of the ancient Roman civilizations next week. Finally in English class, we are learning about how sentences can be broken down into different parts (subjects, predicates, clauses, phrases, etc...)

A big thank you goes out to our chaperones for our field trip last week: Mr. Van Horne, Mr. Diaz, Mrs. Yancey, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Lee, and Mrs. Benson. Thank you for your contributions toward a successful field trip!

Finally, thank you to all the parents who brought their children to sing in church last Sunday. We had about a third of the class there, and it was wonderful to worship with you!

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

Mr. Jacob Biebert (715.402.0094)

We had a shortened week due to the church campout, but it ended up being a very productive week at school. We have been going over some very fundamental concepts in math as we have been learning about equation solving, area formulas, and volume formulas. We had a history test this week on some of the overview information about Washington state, and we also learned how to write big boy and girl answers in the way that answer questions. I saw the most beautiful answers in history this week that I shed 2 tears plus 1.

Here is the memory work for next week:

10/2: Ezekiel 18:4, Galatians 3:10; 10/5: Hymn 385: 1,4,5; 10/6: Hebrews 9:27, The First Article of the Apostles' Creed

Not unlike a Rocky IV remake, we will be transitioning into studying the collision of two worlds. No, not Drago vs. Rocky, but we will be studying an East versus West clash as we study how European cultures clashed with the Native cultures of Washington State.

We have had some interesting explorations of bones this last week as we realized how amazing our skeletal structures are, all thanks to our merciful God. God could have given us just hard structures we call bones, but we learned how fragile this would really be as we smashed bones with a hammer this week. We smashed the bones twice....once we smashed fresh bones, and the second time we smashed bones that had no organic material left in them.....they crumbled into dust. We also saw how amazing the collagen that God gave us for our bones is. We melted the inorganic material away in some good old fashioned hydrochloric acid, which left behind only the collagen.....a rubbery goo that gives our bones some flexibility/cushion. Yes, rubbery goo is the scientific way to describe collagen if you were wondering.

Thank you for helping your kids attend church this last Sunday for singing. They sounded absolutely amazing in their praising of God. I heard so many wonderful comments about their singing.

Please don't forget that picture week is already next week. Our class will be having its pictures taken next Tuesday. I am sure it will be a mad dash to scoop up all the Dapper Dan in Spokane, so get it before it's too late.

Also a reminder that we will be leaving early and arriving late next Wednesday for our field trip to Grand Coulee Dam. We plan to leave at 8 am and get back around 4:30 pm.

I hope to see some of you this weekend at the school campout. I am very much looking forward to doing some relaxing and reconnecting with some of you around a campfire this weekend.

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## God's Mercy

We're all pretty good at excusing our own behavior and judging the behavior of others. For example, we may think it's reasonable to take a few extra breaks at work; after all, we deserve it. However, we look at the coworker just a few spaces down and think they take too long at lunch and are lazy. Or we might speed a little and break a few traffic laws and think that's no big deal. However, we are certain the guy who just passed us needs to get pulled over by the police. Or, we are rude or cruel to some of the people around us but are deeply offended when someone is rude or cruel to us.

Simply put, we want our mistakes and sins to be unjustly overlooked, but something should really be done about our neighbors' mistakes and sins. When it comes to the sins of others, we want justice.

The truth is that all people deserve God's just punishment for their sin—you and I included. But, thankfully, our God is merciful. His compassion led him to become one of us in the person of Jesus Christ so that he could live the perfect life we didn't live and die the death we deserved. For his sake and his alone, God

has had mercy on us. As the apostle Paul wrote in our Bible reading today, "It does not, therefore, depend on human desire or effort, but on God's mercy" (Romans 9:16).

Rather than depending on something I have done or not done, God is merciful to me because that is his way. It is simply who he is and what he does, and therefore, I am included in those whom God loves because it is his merciful and compassionate way.

### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, make me to better know that it is not my will or actions, but your mercy and compassion by which I am saved. Amen.

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What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." It does not, therefore, depend on human desire or effort, but on God's mercy.

**Romans 9:14-16**