



Educate.
Equip.
Encourage.

The Timber Times
January 7, 2021

School News

Mission Offering

We have until January 22 to contribute to our Meals on Wheels offerings! Our total so far is \$201.82.

Welcome Back

I pray you all had a restful break with lots of wonderful family adventures. Hopefully you also spent time reflecting on the past year and despite all the hardships, recognized how much God has blessed each of us and our entire school! What an amazing God we have! Prayers that our second semester of school is as wonderful as the first!

Mr. Biebert Has Another Call

Over Christmas Break, Mr. Biebert received another call to serve as principal at Immanuel in Medford, WI. Please keep both our congregation here and the one in Medford in your prayers in the upcoming weeks! You can see Mr. Biebert's letter on the next page.

January Calendar

Welcome back to school! I know it can be difficult to get back in the swing of things, so if you need a refresher of upcoming event in January, you can view the calendar [here](#).

Re-Enrollment Time

It's that time of year again—time to start thinking about re-enrollment!

Our consultants with TADS are busy updating our enrollment process for next school year, and we hope to have everything up and running for returning families on Monday, February 1! Enrollment fees will be discounted for returning students for the month of February ONLY! \$0 for preschoolers, and \$50 for elementary students! Please speak with Mr. Biebert if you have any questions about the upcoming enrollment process!

Small Business Appreciation

Wow!!! You guys, our small business baskets that we put together and handed out before Christmas Break were SO well received!!!! I am humbled to have had the opportunity to brighten the days of these extremely resilient and hard working people! Thank you so much to those of you who donated to the project or gave suggestions! A special thank you to eighth graders Lily, Laura, and Kyn-dra for helping me distribute baskets!

Moms and Muffins

Please sign up for Moms and Muffins by TOMORROW if you wish to participate for this virtual event!

The event is taking place on Thursday, January 28, and we go live at 6:30PM! We do not have extra materials for late registry, so unfortunately if you don't register by tomorrow, there will not be space for you to attend.

1/8 Cleaning

Upstairs: Kernie

Downstairs: Rowland

Upcoming Dates

January

11-15 MAP Testing

15 Early Release/No 3PM

18 NO SCHOOL—MLK Jr. Day

22 End of 2nd Quarter

25 Report Card Handout

28 Moms and Muffins

Baby Pictures!

The last baby we had featured before Christmas Break was first grader Prisma Sinchauri! Please check out the new baby on page 5!

Student Interviews

This week we are featuring fifth grader Liam Tumlinson! Please see his interview on page 6!

BookIt! Calendars Due

December BookIt! Calendars should have been turned in by now, but if you have one laying around still, please return by tomorrow in order to get your pizza coupon!

Cleaning Dates

We have no cleaners registered for the weekend of January 29. If you would like an extra \$50 knocked off your tuition, please speak to Mrs. Biebert to sign up for one of these slots!

Handmade Ornaments



IMMANUEL CALL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Please grab a ornament from Miss Paa
Dean Myer at St. Matthew and send it to
the lower graders at St. Matt's!

On Wednesday, December 23rd I received a call to serve as the principal of Immanuel Lutheran Church and School in Medford, Wisconsin. While my honest, initial reaction to this call was some earthly frustration, it has certainly led me back to the promises of our God. God's timing is always perfect. God reminds us in Proverbs 16:9 that it is he alone who establishes our footsteps. It is this knowledge as well as the excitement of self-evaluation of myself, and the evaluation of the different ministries involved that makes this call a blessing. I pray that this call strengthens the faith of all who, no doubt, will be evaluating the ministries at St. Matthew and Immanuel.

There will be many things to consider over the next few weeks. Please feel free to reach out and share your perspective on the ministry here as well as your honest evaluation of my God-given gifts. I pray that I am able to faithfully use the information shared with me as well as the promises of God to come to a decision that simply helps spread the Gospel.

Thank you all for being so supportive of me, my family, and the ministry here at St. Matthew. It can be difficult to live so far from relatives, but you all have made Spokane feel like home since the moment Kayla and I arrived here. Please also take the time to pray for Immanuel and its ministry in Medford.

During my deliberation time I have been studying the book of Romans. This book has so many wonderful truths for all believers to remember. One passage that I have found myself coming back to is right in the introduction to the book. Paul gives a wonderful reminder to the Roman congregation and each of us in chapter 1:5: "Through him and for his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that come from faith." What a beautiful reminder that it is through God and for God that we have the privilege to serve him and receive his grace. May God remind each of us that he is graciously giving us the privilege to serve him and share his Word. He will graciously bless us in the future as he has in the past. May our congregation also take time to refocus its mission and purpose to seek opportunities to share the grace of God.

It is comforting to know that God's will be done always despite the actions of sinful human beings.

God's Blessings to all of you.

Your Principal,
Jacob Biebert

PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTIES



Classroom News

Preschool News

Miss Donna Lindsay(509.638.5361)

AHHH!!!! I am SO excited to be back to the preschool routine again!! I sure need this – hope you guys are enjoying this, too!! WELCOME BACK!!!!

What a fun week we had together!! Monday was our Party Day!! We FINALLY were able to have our 3's classroom Christmas Party!! Check out our party pictures!! We made a Christmas ornament (even though some of you already took down your Christmas trees), had an amazing party and a beautiful gift exchange!! The rest of the week was absolutely fabulous!! We had fun playing with shaving cream on the tables, creating a "Cold Hands, Warm Heart" project and some classes even had fun doing "blob" painting. It was a great week to be back!!

Our centers have changed now that we have a new theme!! We are focusing on Winter for the next two weeks. Our Drama Center now has our dress-up clothes. We have marshmallow stamping in our Art Center. And in our Sensory Center, the children get to search for white things hidden in our "snow bin". It is SO much fun to be back in preschool!!

We have 2 new friends that joined our classes this week, also!! Please welcome Ali (afternoon 3's) and Knox (morning 4's). We're so glad you can be a part of our St. Matthew family!! WELCOME!!

Next week, Monday and Tuesday, we are going to celebrate Gray and White Day. Have your child wear something (or bring something) gray and/or white. Another FUN color day to look forward to!!

Our Letter of the Week next week is going to be "Nn". Four year old classes, please bring something that begins with the letter N for show'n'tell.

Our memory verse next week is Psalm 91:11 "He will command his angels . . . to guard you."

Have an amazing time with your family. Treasure these moments together!!

See you next week!!

K-1st Grade News

Miss Rachel Taasaas(360.271.5201)

Homework

Kindergarten

- Read 20 minutes (or more) each day. Fill in your time on your Book it! calendar.
- Review sight words: what, see, the, my, I, like, are, is, has, not, and
- Have your child read their "Jam and Ham" story to you.
- Some Kindergarteners still cannot zip their own coat. Please work with your child at home.

First grade

- Read 20 minutes (or more) each day. Fill in your time on your Book it! calendar.
- Lightning Words are due tomorrow, January 8.
- Reading books will go home tomorrow. Please have your child read their stories to you once or twice over the weekend. Sign their bookmark and make sure they return it on Monday, January 11.
- Log in to your Xtramath account and let your child work on their math fact skills. We try to do this as much as possible in class, but over the weekend is great for more practice! I sent home a sheet about Xtramath a few weeks ago with your log in information.
- Practice counting dimes and pennies.

Memory Work:

You shall have no other gods. 1st Commandment

Book it Reading Logs

Reading each night is part of your child's daily homework. Please make sure you are filling out the reading log, or let your child fill it out. I expect full participation with these reading logs. Please do not think these are optional. January reading logs are due Monday, February 1.

Hand sanitizer

Check your child's hand sanitizer. Some kiddos are already saying they are out. I have back up hand sanitizer but your child still needs their own.

Plastic utensils

We are out of plastic forks and spoons. Please make sure you pack utensils in your child's lunch box.

2nd-4th Grade News

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

Word of God - This week's lessons about God giving his Law to the people and the golden calf remind us that God in his mercy spares his "holy people" when they sin.

Memory Work - Please remember to follow the memory work calendar that was sent home on Monday. If you would like another copy of the calendar, please let me know.

Math - Congratulations to Avery, Ashlianne, Sage, Ramona and Marie for passing their addition facts before Christmas break or just this week!! Congratulations to Mark and Nathan for passing their subtraction facts this week! I am just so pleased with all of our progress in knowing our math facts!!

Reading/Phonics - The third and fourth graders have begun reading the book, Snow Treasure. The second graders are reading The Hat by Jan Brett. Next week, they'll begin their first chapter-like book.

English/Writing - We are learning about adjectives and just how fun and descriptive they make our writing. We are off to writing boot camp to brush up on our writing skills and learning the writing process.

Spelling - This week is week one with our spelling words. They will be doing the written word sort, speed sort, and buddy sort.

Social Studies - We have begun learning about Geography. During this unit we'll be looking at maps, compass rose, latitude and longitude, hemispheres, and landforms. Oh, the places we'll go!

Science - We have begun learning about Body Systems. This week we are understanding more about our circulatory system.

EXTRA NOTES

I hope y'all had a blessed, joyous, and relaxing Christmas break and found some time during Christmas break to finish your Jesse Tree devotions and make the ornaments to go with them.

Please double check that your child has 3 masks with them everyday in their backpack. Some of them are getting a bit lax in this area of safety.

Have a blessed week and New Year in the Lord!

5th-8th Grade News

Mr. Jacob Biebert (715.402.0094)

Welcome back everyone! It has been great to see you all back, healthy, and ready to go....at least somewhat ready to go. The first couple days definitely had some sleepy students come later in the afternoon. It's okay though, because we just learned right through the sleepiness. We also saw a new female student start in our fifth grade class after break, Avalyn Pugh. It has been a blessing to have her and her family a part of our school. If you see her or her family around, then please say "Hi" and welcome them. God Bless your time at our school Avalyn!

Here is next week's memory work:

Monday: 1/11-1 Timothy 2:3,4, 1 Peter 3:15,16; Wednesday: 1/13-3rd Article up to "in the one true faith"; Thursday: 1/14-Hymn 573: 1-4; Friday: 1/15-Matthew 4:10b, Matthew 7:15, Matthew 22:37

We will be taking our next wave of MAP testing next week. This means that next week will be somewhat of a weird week as far as getting in all of our "normal" classes. However, these tests are very important for us as teachers to see areas of strength or weakness in the students. Please make sure the students have their Wheaties in the morning and get a good night sleep.

Both of the history classes will plan on having a test not next week, but the following Tuesday. This means that next week we will be doing some review. I will send home your child's study guide next week as well.

We are slowly coming to the end of our study on matter. This week we have been looking at characteristic and noncharacteristic properties of matter. The students have been exploring density as a characteristic property. I posed the question of which has greater density, "A swimming pool full of water, or a 5 gallon bucket full of water"? The students discovered that water has the same density regardless of how much there is.

I hope you all get a chance to rest up this weekend and watch the Bears beat the Saints. God Bless!

GUESS THAT BABY!



PRISMA SINCHAURI



TAKE A GUESS
AT THE NEXT
BABY BELOW!

Take a guess as to which student this is!

First person to correctly guess will win a prize!

Must tell Mrs. Biebert in the office to be eligible for prize

**Students cannot guess them-



STUDENT INTERVIEW

Name / Grade: Liam Tumlinson / Grade 5

Favorite food?

California Roll

Favorite hobbies?

Playing with friends, sports.

If you could go anywhere, where would you go? Why?

I would go to Oregon because I've been there before, and I had a fun time at the ocean and seeing my cousins.

What job will you have as an adult?

I want to be a software designer.

What do you love most about school?

Science because we get to do cool experiments.

Who do you admire? Why?

I admire my grandpa because he was very successful in life.

What is your favorite bible passage?

Psalm 46:1—"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."



Weekly Message

You are Invited

Some events in life are so important we send out invitations to the special people in our lives. The Lord did that for the Magi in a very nonconventional way. He provided a star that led them to Jesus.

How does the Lord lead us to the Christ Child? How do we know if there's room for us or that he even wants us there? Certainly, he wants ALL of us there. Over and over again, in the Bible, God asks his followers to express love and kindness to ALL people—family members, friends, people marginalized by society, even enemies. He urges us to share the good news about Jesus with ALL people. He emphatically announces that his son, Jesus, was sent for ALL people. But he probably won't fling a special star into the sky to lead us to Jesus, the Savior of the world. Instead, he may use parents. Or maybe he'll use a friend, a co-worker, a total stranger, or even an online devotion to invite us to come and worship Jesus.

And to what are we invited?

We are invited to bring our

past mistakes and failures and lay them at Jesus' feet. We are invited to hear Jesus say, "Go in peace; I forgive you." We are invited to lean on Jesus for strength, to seek comfort in our sadness, and to find rest for our weary souls. We are invited to pray to a Savior who will hear us in our time of need.

So here it is: No matter what you've done in the past, no matter how many times you may have been too busy for previous invitations, God still calls to you. No matter how many doors have been slammed in your face, God's door stands open. Consider yourself cordially invited to

worship and serve the God who never tires of loving and serving you. And while you're at it, spread the word. Pass it on. Share the invitation.

Prayer:

Gracious Lord, thank you for wanting me and making room for me in your family. If today I have an opportunity to share your gracious invitation with someone else in my life, allow me to do so with courage and sincerity. In Jesus' name. Amen.

We saw his star when it rose and
have come to worship him.

Matthew 2:2