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The Timber Times  
March 24, 2022

## School News

### Read2Ride

Read2Ride forms are due one week from today! Please be sure to return to your child's teacher by March 31! Late forms cannot be accepted.

### Auction Update

We are exactly one month away from our school auction at Northern Quest! Please order your ticket today if you plan on attending! You can order by scanning the QR code below or [ordering here](#).



### Preschool Sings

Our preschoolers are singing in church this coming Sunday, March 27. Please join us at 10AM!

### DC Presentation

After the church service this Sunday, March 27, our 7-8 graders will be giving a presentation on their week in Washington DC. They will give highlights on each place they attended, what they learned, and what they enjoyed about the experience!

### Spring Teacher Conference Highlights

Last week the teachers attended conferences over in the Seattle area. Each day had a different focus.

Thursday, the teachers discussed the topic "How to Focus Your Teaching on What Matters Most." They went through [this book](#) by Dave Stuart, Jr. if you would like to check that out. Friday, a college professor from Martin Luther College spoke on best math practices. The teachers hope to use the knowledge they gained in their classrooms. What a blessing it is to be able to continue learning how best to serve our students!

### Lenten Services

Lenten services will be continuing on Wednesdays throughout the season of Lent. Services are available at 3:45 & 6:30. Please join us if you are able!

### Softball/Track

If you have not signed up for remind yet, please do so. Practices have begun this week for softball. We will work on getting uniforms sometime next week! Make sure to communicate with Miss Rosenbaum or the coaches if your child needs a ride to practice. Track will begin practicing during recess once we know when the track meet is scheduled.

### Academic Fair Judges

Our annual academic fair is coming up soon—April 29! We need judges to help for this fun event. If you would like to volunteer, please speak with your child's teacher. Judging will be for the speeches, and will be done on April 19-20 (preliminary judging during school) and on April 29 (during the evening of the academic fair event). Please help make this event a success!

### 3/25 Cleaning

**Biebert/Taasaas/Boys:** Velikanov  
**Most/Rosenbaum/Girls:** Velikanov

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

Miss Suzanne Hough has returned the call to serve at our school. We will be holding another call meeting on April 3 after church. Please continue to pray that we find someone to serve at our school as the first grade teacher.

### Financial Aid Applications

Eligibility to apply for financial aid begins on April 15 and run through the beginning of August. Financial aid applications will be reviewed as they come in and will be awarded on an as needed basis, but also first come, first served. Financial aid for the 22-23 school year is limited, so please apply as necessary. If you have questions, please reach out to Mr. Biebert (715) 402-0094.

### Support our Police

Our evangelism committee at St. Matthew is starting a campaign for the month to write thank you cards to our local law enforcement! **If you would like to write a card to be sent out, please bring it to our office by tomorrow — Friday, March 25.** Thanks for participating! Thanks also to those in our own St. Matthew family who serve on the police force!

### StageCraft, Props and Costumes... Oh My!

The Jr. Choir musical has been cast and rehearsals have begun! We are currently looking for a few parent volunteers who would be interested in helping acquire and build the set pieces for the scenes, as well

# PRESCHOOL SINGS

# SUNDAY 10AM



as assist with acquiring or making props and costumes. Please contact Mrs. Most if you are interested in helping in any of these 3 areas. Thank you in advance for your assistance! Also, Jr. Choir parents don't forget to sign up for the Remind group to know about any last minute changes or reminders!

### Parenting Article

Please view the latest parenting article [here](#). This quick read is focused on redirecting negative behaviors, specifically in preschoolers. Please take a look!

-1:00PM we will be doing some light outdoor cleaning around the property. If you would like to join us during this time, please bring a rake and some gardening gloves! Thank you in advance for helping!

### Church Cleanup Day

This Saturday, March 26 from 9:00AM

## Classroom News

### Preschool News

Miss Donna Lindsay(509.638.5361)

After a five-day break, we are ready to get back into the swing of preschool, again. We are now covering a new theme – Pets. We first decided, as a class, what makes an animal a pet. A pet does NOT have to live in your house. Horses, goats, rabbits, ducks, turtles, pigs, etc. make great pets. Some questions to ask which categorize an animal to be a pet: Do you give them food and water? Do you play with them and offer them exercise? Do they have a nice place to sleep? Do they have a name? If the answer is YES, then they are a pet!!

Our centers are geared towards our Pet Theme, also. We have paint stamping in our Art Center . . . stamping with real dog bones. Why not?? Our kitchen set has been transformed into a veterinary clinic located in our Drama Center. The children can pretend to be a doctor and give the stuffed animals a checkup. They can even put bandages on their “patients” and listen to their hearts beat. Our Listening Center has the book, Pug Meets Pig. This is a cute story about two very different pets who eventually become friends.

Along with our new centers, we had a great time this week making a cat puppet and also a green turtle with buttons on its shell. You know by now that we celebrate a color every month. This month is no exception!! We are celebrating the color YELLOW this week!! We are able to find yellow shamrocks hidden all around the preschool room – with the lights on AND with the lights off!! Color days are SO much fun!!

The preschool children sing this Sunday in our 10:00 a.m. church service. The children have been working extremely hard on their song, “Jesus Loves the Little Children”, and I would love for all of you to hear them. A note went home this week explaining our singing procedure. If you should have any questions, please contact me.

Next week, we will focus on the letter “Vv”. Four year old classes, please bring a show ‘n’ tell item from home that begins with “Vv”.

Our bible verse we will learn in class is Matthew 6:10 “Your will be done.”

Have an amazing weekend. I hope to see all of you on Sunday to hear our preschool children sing their beautiful praises to our Lord.

### Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

- Read 20 minutes each night with your child. They need to hear what a fluent reader sounds like as well as be reading to you. Add minutes to the Book it calendar.
- Don't forget about your Silverwood reading log as well! You need a total of 10 hours. Sheets MUST be turned in by March 31.
- Growth Mindset Affirmation of the Week: I can exercise my brain!
- Math- Numbering a clock, telling time to the hour on an analog clock as well as a digital clock.
- We have been discussing characters and setting in the stories that we read. As you read with your child at night ask them to identify these story elements.

### Memory Work

**March 31-** I myself will see him with my own eyes- I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me! Job 19:27

### Literature Bags

I will be sending home Literature Bags this afternoon. Please review the inventory sheet and make sure all books and materials are in the bag. You will be responsible for any missing items. Literature bags are just another way to introduce new books to your child. The bag needs to be returned on Tuesday, March 29. A new bag will be sent home after Spring Break.

### Spring Musical

A large portion of our class time will be used for practicing songs and choreography for the Spring Musical. Please make sure you are working with your child at home on their lines. They need to say their lines LOUDLY and CLEARLY.

### March Madness

It's “Miss Nelson is Missing” vs. “Cesar Takes a Break” stay tuned to find out who the winner is!

**Weather**

As it is starting to get warmer kids just need a light jacket. Sometimes as they run around their warmer winter coats are a little too much.

**Baby Wipes**

We are out of baby wipes again. Next time someone goes to Costco if you could pick up a box of wipes we would really appreciate it. Thank you!!

**THANK YOU!!**

Thank you for all of the love you showered me with on my birthday! I am so blessed to have your children in my class, they are all such a joy and I love them tremendously!!

**1st-2nd Grade News**

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

**Memory Work/ Christlight**

- 3/28 - 1 John 1:7b
- 3/31 - 2nd Article of Apostle's Creed
- Please read the Bible stories (Peter's Sin and Jesus' Trial Before Pilate) from this week with your child this weekend and sign and return the YELLOW sheet. A new colored sheet will be in the PINK folder next week.

**1st Grade Homework**

- Purple bookmark (Theme 7-3) will be due March 28.
- Lightning Words (Theme 8-2) will be due April 1. Please return or a free pass will be used.
- Spelling test will be on April 1. We are working on adding -s to naming words. These are the words for next week: cup, cups, frog, frogs, tree, trees, gloves, birds, about, because
- Read 20 minutes a day. Make sure to be adding your minutes to the Book It calendar and the Silverwood challenge log.

**2nd Grade Homework**

- Spelling test will be on March 11. We are working on knowing when to add -es or s to make a noun plural along with a few review words. These are the words for next week: plants, benches, buses, dresses, dishes, boxes, buzzes, heroes, best, upon, these, sing.
- Read 20 minutes a day. Make sure to be adding your minutes to the Book It calendar and the Silverwood challenge log.

**Extra Notes**

- We are in need of some tissue boxes and some more paper plates as our supply is almost out. If you are able to donate a few boxes of tissues or some paper plates that would be greatly appreciated! Thanks in advance.
- Continue to read and take the Accelerated Reader tests at home when your child finishes a book!
- The March Book It Calendars will be due on April 1.
- The Silverwood Reading challenge needs to be returned by March 31 (NO LATER)!
- Thank you to everyone who donated something for our auction baskets!
- As a new quarter begins, free passes start over again. Each child is given 4 free passes for the final quarter. Let's continue to work hard every day and finish the year strong!
- Please continue to have your child bring a water bottle to school.
- Report cards will be sent home on Monday, March 28. Please let me know if you have any questions about the report cards. Then sign the envelope and return it to me empty by April 1. Thank you!

**3rd-4th Grade News**

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

It's that time of year again when the academic fair is upon us. The children will be choosing which style of "speech" they will be working on for the fair tomorrow, along with a slip of paper explaining things. We will then be getting any items together next week, but the majority of the work for it will be getting done at home. Preliminary judging will be on April 19 & 20. They will need it near perfect by these dates.

**\*\*\*Read for 20 minutes at home** - We will be doing D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) time in class this week and next. If we can't get to it that day, then it will be a homework assignment just without the log.

**Accelerated Reader or A.R.** can now be accessed from the comforts of your home! Just follow to find the link google [school.stmatthewspokane.org](http://school.stmatthewspokane.org) > elementary school > classroom pages > [Most]

**Writing** - The children have been working hard on writing and sharing poetry. It has been so much fun! We have many budding poets in our class!

**Science** - We wrap up studying Space today with a cumulative test on all that they learned only there weren't any questions to answer! Next week we move onto life science.

**Social Studies** - Next week we will be taking a look at Entrepreneurs in Washington.

**Extra Notes-**

- **3rd Quarter Ends tomorrow** - Please be checking out how your child is doing in class on Jupiter Ed. Some are struggling to stay on top of getting their assignments finished in a timely manner and handed in. Report cards will be sent home on Monday.
- **Midweek Lenten Services** - Please join us after school for our midweek Lenten services and we learn about our Savior's journey to the cross. The services will be at 3:45 and 6:30 each Wednesday. I will be playing the piano for the 3:45 service, so any child not picked up by 3:40 will be sent over to Miss Taasaas' room to be picked up.
- **Read-to-Ride and Book-it** - are due by March 31.
- **Classroom Donations** - We are in need of some forks, spoons, and wet wipes (baby wipes from Costco). If you'd be willing to pick up a box or two from Walmart, etc. Please let me know, so we don't end up with 20 boxes of them as we come to the end of the year. Thank you in advance.

Have a blessed week in the Lord!

### 5th-8th Grade News

Mr. Jacob Biebert (715.402.0094)

The sun was shining and the learning was rocking all week downstairs at St. Matthew. It is crazy to think that we are on the precipice of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter already. Where has all the time gone? There are so many things yet to do/learn. But, we take advantage of the time we have, while we have it.

Here is next week's memory work:

Monday 3/28: 1 Timothy 6:7,8, Hebrews 13:5; Tuesday 3/29: 3<sup>rd</sup> Article up to "or come to him"; Thursday 3/31: Hymn 473: 1,3,4; Friday 4/1: Matthew 7:7, Matthew 11:28

The 5-6<sup>th</sup> grade history class is just about ready for the "big time" when it comes to our country's history. We are almost ready to dig into the American Revolution and its lead up. The foundation has been set as we are finishing up our discussion on how France and Spain also aided in the development of our country. This brought us into the discussion of the French and Indian War. We should be ready for a test by next week Thursday. Study guides will be passed out on Monday.

The 7-8<sup>th</sup> graders have been viewing a video in history on what effects the Lewis and Clark expedition had on the Native Americans that were encountered along the way. It has been quite interesting to see the fear the Natives have for their culture dying out, which at one time, and could still be, a real possibility. This possibility could be the fate of our culture as well someday.

Selectively Permeable Membranes is a mouthful to say, but a ton of fun to learn about. Students in 5-8<sup>th</sup> grade science have been learning more about the cell's transport system this week. This discussion has also allowed us to grow in appreciation for the process of diffusion and how God has created our cells to be extremely efficient in the way they transport materials. We also identified scientifically why plants shrivel up, and why freshwater life cannot survive in saltwater.

I pray that God blesses each of your weekends. Enjoy the wonderful weather we have been blessed with. Also, don't forget that the 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade D.C. kids are giving their final presentation of their trip this Sunday around 11.

God Bless!

## Standing on Unshakeable Ground

The Passu Suspension Bridge is a walking bridge that traverses the Hunza River in Pakistan. It's composed of hundreds of rickety boards spaced several feet apart, all hung together by a few meager ropes. Some have called it one of the most dangerous bridges in the world. Looking at images of it online, it's easy to believe them.

But at least when folks are walking on the Passu Suspension Bridge, they know the danger. They know they're on shaky ground (or more appropriately, shaky bridge), and they can at least take appropriate precautions. It's far more dangerous to be on shaky ground and have no idea of the peril you're in. That's especially true of spiritual matters. That's why the Bible warns, "If you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!"

The Old Testament Israelites had received blessing upon blessing from the benevolent hand of God. And they were pretty comfortable with being God's special nation. So comfortable that they grew unappreciative, whiny, and disobedient.

What does it have to do with us? Having received so many gifts from God regularly, it can be easy for us to take them for granted—to think we've earned and deserved them. Taking credit for what God has done? That's spiritually shaky ground. "Be careful that you don't fall!" Paul tells us.

Does this mean we shouldn't be confident about our faith, forgiveness, resurrection, or eternity? No, that's not Paul's point. We can remain fully confident with our eyes fixed on Jesus, trusting that God will keep the promises he's made in his Word. Full forgiveness through faith in the Lamb of God. That is God's un-

shakeable promise. And "God is faithful," the Bible says in the very next verse. It's things like smugness, complacency, and ingratitude that focus our attention inward and away from God. Those are the things we pray that the Holy Spirit would help us watch out for, the things that he would help us to sweep mercilessly from our hearts today and every day.

### Prayer:

Holy Spirit, lead me to focus my hope on the unshakeable promises of God. Help me to rely on you that I may remain standing firm till the end. Amen.

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

**1 Corinthians 10:12**