



Educate.
Equip.
Encourage.

The Timber Times
May 8th, 2025

School News

Track & Field

Thank you for all your help throughout another track season. The end of season party will be May 15 from 3:45-4:30 at school. Popsicles will be provided at the end. Please have your child return the jersey before next Friday, May 17. Thank you!

Softball

Next week, there is a game vs. Palisades on May 13 and a game on May 15 vs. Christian Heritage. Both are at Holmberg Park, so please come cheer on the team! Miss Rosenbaum will get you league tournament details as soon as she receives it. The end of the season party will be May 22 at Holmberg Park from 4:00-5:00 with pizza to follow.

Miss Taasaas Meal Train

There are still a couple of available dates next week — please sign up if you can! Use [this](#) link! Thank you!



Spring Yardwork Help!

There's still time to reserve one of four remaining dates and hire a group of 6th/7th graders to help with your spring yardwork! They earn money for their educational trip to Washington DC next year, and YOU get help with that pesky yard project you've been putting off. It's a win-win! Just look at the next page to see what these kids can do.

Available yardwork dates: May 9, May 10, May 16, May 17

Contact Hailey Landrus (509-552-9989) today to reserve your yardwork date before time runs out!

BookIt! Celebration

Our chaos trip is next Wednesday! Please return your child's form as permission to attend this event!

Next Youth Group

Our next youth group meet up will be at the Foxall's on May 18th from 5:30-8PM. Please join us!

Piano Recital

Our Spring piano recital is right around the corner — please save the date for May 13th at 5:30PM

Junior Choir

Our next scheduled rehearsal is on Monday, May 12, from 3:45-4:15 pm. I shortened the time as we only have one song to rehearse. We plan on singing a special song the members requested on Thursday, May 29, during the chapel service that morning.

DC Fundraiser — MOD Pizza Night

Raise some dough by getting MOD pizza on May 31st. Please view the flyer on the next page — it gives you a code to use if ordering online, or you can present the flyer in store on May 31st as well! You can order at any time throughout the day!

DC Parent Meeting

Parents, please plan to attend a DC meeting on Thursday, May 22nd in Mr. Zabel's room. Thank you!

Special Thanks!

I don't do this very often, but we truly have some special teachers here at St. Matthew. They love your kids, they spend countless hours doing their best to provide the best education they can, and most importantly, they love their Savior — and they let it show in their interactions with parents, students, and each other. We are so incredibly blessed to have God's gracious love so intertwined in everything we do here at St. Matt's. Focusing on Christ makes even the most challenging days go by a bit more smoothly.

Thank you, teachers, for your incredible dedication to all the families here; and thank you even more so for showing God's love to our kids each and every day. You are so special!!!

Carnival of Thanks

Please save the date for our end of the year "Carnival of Thanks!" We are so grateful for all of you amazing students and parents, and we want to send of this school year in style! Please see the flyer on the next page for more details, and [RSVP here](#). **DEADLINE TO RSVP IS TOMORROW!** Thank you!

Upcoming Dates

May

- 8 Softball Game vs. Faith Christian 3:30PM — Linwood Park
- 8 PreK-1 Musical 5:30PM
- 8 Junior Choir Sings Anthem @ Avista 6:30PM
- 9 PreK-1 Musical 5:30PM
- 13 Softball Game vs. PCA 3:30PM — Holmberg Park
- 13 Piano Recital 5:30PM
- 14 BookIt! Event @ Chaos Arcade 12:50PM
- 15 Softball Game vs. Christian Heritage 3:30PM — Holmberg Park
- 15 End of the Year Party 3:45-4:30 — Track & Field @ St. Matt's
- 16-17 Grades 7-8 Campout
- 16 Early Release — NOON
- 17 Pokemon Club — End of the Year Tournament 3:00-5:00PM
- 18 Confirmation Sunday
- 18 Youth Group @ Foxall's 5:30-8PM
- 19-20 Softball League Tournament — TBD
- 21 Grade 4 Concert @ The Fox — 10AM -NOON
- 22 DC Parent Meeting — Mr. Z's 3:45PM
- 22 End of the Year Party 4:00-5:00 — Softball @ Holmberg Park
- 22 Preschool Graduation 5:30PM
- 23 Last Day of Preschool!
- 23 DC Hot Lunch
- 26 No School — Memorial Day
- 26 Lochsa Rafting Day
- 29 Carnival of Thanks 3:30-6:00PM
- 30 Last Day — 10:00-NOON (1st Grade receives bibles at 10AM chapel)

June

- 1 Graduation Service — 1:00PM —

Rafting Adventure — Memorial Day

If you would be interested in rafting the Lochsa River on Memorial Day with a group of people from St Matthew, please speak to Pastor West. This is a highly regarded river by whitewater enthusiasts. The cost will be about \$200.







BEFORE



AFTER

RAISE SOME DOUGH

Bring in this flyer, or order online through the MOD app or website, to use the fundraiser code provided and MOD will donate 25% of your bill to support your school!

JOIN MOD IN SUPPORTING

ORGANIZATION NAME: ST. MATTHEW 7TH & 8TH GRADE WASHINGTON D.C. TRIP

FUNDRAISER DATE: MAY 31, 2025

ADDRESS: 9405 N. NEWPORT HWY, SUITE 200 SPOKANE, WA 99218

FUNDRAISER CODE: MODGIVES25

Offer valid only on the date(s) and at the MOD location identified on this flyer. Offer valid for dine-in, takeout, or delivery when ordered through the MOD app or website only. For online or in-app orders, please use the code provided by GroupRaise. For delivery, customer must live within delivery boundary. Only nonprofit organizations and nonprofit schools are eligible to participate in the MOD fundraising program. MOD will donate 25% of food and beverage sales to the organization. Tax, gift cards, and retail sales are excluded from the donation. Offer void if the flyer is distributed in or near the restaurant. For more information about fundraising, visit <https://modpizza.com/fundraisers/>

You are invited to...

A CARNIVAL OF THANKS

Thursday, May 29



3:30-4:45 - Games

4:45-5:30 - Food

5:30-6:00 - Outdoor Concert

Activities

- concert
- lawn games
- prize giveaway
- bouncy house

Food

- hot dogs
- chips
- apples
- popcorn

Please RSVP online by May 9

Classroom News

Preschool News

Mrs. Donna Driesbach (509.638.5361)

Oh My Land!! We have had an amazing week in preschool!! We have had some BIG musical practices in church this week!! This Wednesday, we will have two dress rehearsals - one at 10:30 am and another at 2:30 pm. Please feel free to come to either of these - your kiddos will love to perform for you!! The 3's AM and 4's AM musical will be Thursday at 5:30 pm and 3's PM and 4's PM will be Friday night at 5:30 pm. Please come and join us!! If you can bring a special treat to share for families, we would LOVE that!! A dozen of something would be greatly appreciated!!

We still have our Ocean Theme in preschool. Our centers are focused on everything under the sea!! We have had fun listening to Pete the Cat in our Listening Center. Pete is great!! Catchy songs to sing along with!! Okay - Pete has nothing to do with the ocean - just loads of FUN, anyways!! We have watercolors in our Art Center. Painting some ocean animals is great fun!! Seashells are in our Science Center!! We get to sort the big shells and little shells. Our Drama Center has a Sand Table. The children can use the magnets to move the sea creatures around. What FUN!!

Four year old families, we are evaluating your kiddos one final time before the end of the year. I will let you know when I am ready to meet with you!! We get to meet one last time before the end of school so you know where your child is at academically before Kindergarten!! Your child is SO kindergarten-ready!! SO great to see!!

NEXT WEEK IN PRESCHOOL:

Theme: Address/Telephone Numbers

Letter of the Week: "Zz"

Snack Person: 3's AM Colette 3's PM Jett 4's AM Bauer 4's PM Hallie

Upcoming Events: May 7 Dress Rehearsal 10:30 AM & 2:30 PM

May 8 Police Visit 10:45 AM & 12:30 PM

May 8 & 9 PreK-1 Musical 5:30 PM

May 15 & 16 Purple Day

May 19 & 20 Park Day

May 22 4-year old Preschool Graduation 5:30 PM

May 23 3-year old Preschool Graduation - in class - 10:45 AM and 2:45 PM

Have a beautiful weekend - see you next week!!

Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

Word of the Week: visible. I hope you have been talking with your child about the words and trying to use them whenever possible to expose them to these new words.

Sub Report- I have heard nothing but good things about how class has been going. We have THE BEST teachers and I hope you have been showering them with love this week for Teacher Appreciation because they deserve it!!

Musical- Information went home last week about when you should have your child at church for both of the performances. The kids have been working so hard, you are going to be so impressed!!!

Recovery- Thank you to everyone who has reached out and checked in on me while I have been home. Recovery is going well, I tend to do too much one day so the next day is more of a rest day. I'm trying to slow down.

Nightly homework:

- Have your child read with you for 20 minutes.
- Memory work
- XtraMath

1st Grade News

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Hi First Grade Families!

We will see you tonight and tomorrow night for the play! It's going to be great! The kids have worked so hard to put on a wonderful show for you! Please have your child, in costume and having gone to the restroom, in the St. Matthew church basement at 5:15 to-night (Thursday) and Friday. Thank you for getting a costume for your child and for bringing a treat tonight!

In the classroom, our ChristLight stories were about the prophet Elijah being taken to heaven in a chariot of fire, and the prophet Elisha raising a boy from the dead.

In Reading we are learning about the or sound, as in morning and store, as well as the er sound, as in bird, hurt, and fern.

In Math we are working on telling time and using a calendar.

In Science we are learning that living things move, and that living things are all different. Thanks for sending the baby pictures of your child. They are all so adorable! The kids love to guess who that baby is!

Our Memory Work for next week is Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd; I lack nothing.

God bless you and your family! Have a nice weekend! Happy Mother's Day!

2nd Grade News

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

Christlight/ Memory Work

- 5/13 - Acts 4:20
- 5/15 - Romans 10:17
- Please read the Bible story from this week (God Answers Hezekiah's Prayer; God Heals Hezekiah) with your child during the weekend.

Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day.
- Spelling: next week will be our last week of spelling! We will be working on oa, ow, ee, ea. These are the words for next week: seated, keeps, speed, seen, means, clean, groan, roast, bowls, crow, owe, grown, green, snow, peace, and below. The test will be May 16. Let's finish spelling strong!

Extra Notes

- Math - we finished up chapter 11 this week. The last chapter is going to focus on an introduction to multiplication and division and how they relate to addition and subtraction.
- Reading - the kids read the story, "Two of Everything". This story is folktale, which is often told by people of a certain country. This story was about Mr. and Mrs. Haktak, who find a large pot that duplicates anything that is put inside the pot. We also worked through the phonics skill of long i and long a. We reviewed point of view, antonyms, and worked through a graphic organizer to help us understand the characters in the story.
- Writing - we learned about haiku poetry. This poem focuses on syllables in three lines. Then we introduced limerick poetry. Limerick poetry has five lines and focuses on rhyming and syllables. We will continue limerick poetry next week.
- Science - this week, we talked about how technology helps scientists and engineers. The kids got to evaluate a design - scissors. Then we wrapped up the week talking about natural vs. man-made objects.
- Social Studies - we got a day behind last week, so we talked about President's Day this week. We also learned about Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, and Father's Day.
- We have started the countdown to the end of the year! Each day a student will get to pop a balloon in our classroom, so we can enjoy some fun activities for our last few days as a class!

3rd Grade News

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

Christlight/Memory Work

- 5/13 - Psalm 50:15 & 1 Peter 5:7
- 5/15 - Psalm 119:105 & Jeremiah 29:11
- 5/16 - The Second Commandment
- Please read these Bible stories with your child (Naaman is Brought to Faith & Jonah and the People of Ninevah)

Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day
- Work on spelling words
- Xtramath practice

What are we learning?

- In math we are finishing up our long division chapter and will be starting fractions next week.
- In social studies we have started to look at United States government.
- In reading we have started Charlotte's Web. We will be watching the movie during class, once we finish the book.
- In science we are learning about fossils and will be having a test on the material next week.

Extra Notes

- If your child is looking for something extra to do at home, they can be practicing their cursive writing. We have a final write coming up in the next couple of weeks.
- Please continue to check with your child about any homework they have to complete.
- New spelling words will be in your child's Friday folder.
- Thank you for bringing your child to sing last Sunday, they sounded wonderful!
- As a countdown to the end of the school year, the students get to do some fun activities during the day.

Enjoy your weekend!

4th Grade News

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

In the Classroom:

Word of God - Our lessons for this week are 9A - "Naaman's Servant" and 9B - "Jonah." From these lessons, we have learned how important it is to go and tell the good news about Jesus, our Savior from our sins. If we don't, who will? Don't let an opportunity become a "What if I..." story and let it slip away.

Reading - Roscuro is up to no good. He is plotting a devious plan with Mig and doesn't even tell her all of it! How will a small mouse with big ears save a princess?

Math—We have begun learning about two-digit division. Based on their daily work, some students didn't do as well as they could have on their fractions assessments. I will work with them on reteaching necessary information and then reassessing fractions with them next week.

Social Studies & Writing - We are almost done with our national park informational writing project, which will turn into our national park tour presentation. All the information on this event went home yesterday. Please read through it and mark the date on your calendar.

Extras

- Two field trip forms were sent home on Monday. One for our trip to the Spokane House (if you plan to chaperone, you will need a Discover Pass), and another for our trip to the Fox Hall and our concert with the Spokane Symphony. Please review, sign, and return them by tomorrow.
- We could use a few more Kleenex boxes to help us make it to the end of the year. We are out of Kleenex, other than what we have in the classroom right now. Any donations are greatly appreciated! Thank you in advance!
- Please help your child remember to bring their water bottle to school every day, especially as the days are getting warmer, so they are drinking enough water.

5th-6th Grade News

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

In our religion classes this week, we are finishing up our study of the kings of Israel and Judah, and also wrapped up our study of the 10 Commandments. In math classes, the 5th grade class is learning about finding the area of different polygons, while the 6th grade class finished a mini-unit on percentages and is now working with metric measurement. In science, we are about halfway through watching a debate about whether or not creation should be taught alongside evolution in schools. In English, we just completed a test on adjectives and will be moving on to adverbs. In reading, we are continuing to work on analyzing the structure of text while writing summaries. Finally, in social studies, we are starting what will likely be our last unit: Early American Civilizations. This unit will be concluded with a test which the students must complete without the use of notes, study guides, or the textbook during the test.

As part of our science class, students have been monitoring the growth of various plants in the classroom. The plants grew quite a bit over the weekend, and will probably end up being sent home soon. Students are welcome to take their plants home if they have a place to replant them, and may take extras if another student decided not to take theirs home.

7th-8th Grade News

Mr. David Zabel (941.201.7896)

Please refer to My Planbook whenever your child is absent from school. This way they can keep up with their assignments.

<https://app.planbook.com?t=2011934&k=1234&v=W&y=92524834>

This week in Bible class we looked at the question "What do I do when I clash with my parents? They all acknowledge there have been times when they have had a disagreement between themselves and their parents. What they learned is that sin works very hard to destroy the relationship that God has established between parent and child. The key points they have taken from this lesson is God directs parents to love and take care of their children, and he directs children to love, respect and obey their parents. Secondly, because sin destroys God's plan it earns his wrath and punishment. Finally, Jesus' love and forgiveness moves them to forgive their parents if they sin against them and to love, respect and obey them in my words and actions. The memory work they had this week also supports the key points – Eph 6:1,4 and Col 3:13.

The seventh-grade math class will have learned about quadrilaterals, six different four-sided figures that are related to each other. They learned about circles and the different terms that apply to circles – chord, radius, diameter, arc, semicircle, minor and major arcs, central angle, inscribed angle, tangent, secant, concentric circle, inscribed and circumscribed circles. They also learned how to make a circle graph using a compass and protractor. Finally, they have begun to study for a test on chapter nine.

The class has been studying China and its relationship with the Western World in the 17 and 1800's. This week they learned that the Manchu Dynasty declined because the people were against the modernization of China from the foreigners that arrived to China. This all came to a head in the early months of 1900 in what is now know as the Boxer Rebellion. Because the Chinese were against the influences of the Western World, the students learned that the Chinese rebels first attached missionaries and their families. Those that were part of the rebellion went on to slaughtered as many Europeans as they could. The Empress at the time did not prevent them from carrying out this mass murder because she wanted to rid the country of all foreigners. The rebellion was crushed when European armies attached Peking. This is the end of chapter thirteen and the student will begin studying for a test. **(Side note – we had a visitor to our class this week - Thursday. His name is Geoff and he is a kung fu instructor. He demonstrated some Chinese martial arts techniques for the kids. We thank Pastor West for setting this up for us.)**

In science class the students have completed their Zoo packets. They will begin to prepare themselves for a test on chapter three.

If you are following the student's assignments on Planbook you will notice that I have substituted Literature lesson under the heading of English and English lesson under the heading of Literature. I have done this so we can have more time with "The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe".

In English class the students have begun a study on the appropriate way to abbreviate words. It is very different from what is done in texting.

We have begun the next book and the students seem to enjoy it. Our goal is to finish it by the end of the year.

Quote for the week – **The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." - Eleanor Roosevelt.**

Mr. Z

Principal Thought you Probably Didn't Want :)

A note from Jacob (715.402.0094)

1st Grade Update

Here is an update to the update to the update to the update. Mr. Tim Pingel returned his call to serve as our 1st grade teacher, and so now we transition into phase 2: Operation Get A Graduate. There are no guarantees with this due to the massive teacher shortage we have in our synod. Our district alone has 8 graduate requests out, and of the graduating class, only 46 of them are willing to go anywhere in the country. So, it would be fantastic if our district got 1 or 2 of those 8 requests filled.....let's pray one of them is ours.

Should we not get a graduate, then the next most logical choice would be to panic and run! But in all seriousness, should we not get a graduate, your school board will go back to the drawing board of what makes the most logical sense with our current resources. Please pray for Mr. Diaz, Mr. Gaulke, Mr. Foxall, and myself as we try to keep what is in the best interest of your families, our school, and most importantly, our mission at the front of our minds. I could be wrong, but I don't see anything that we would do if we didn't get a graduate being a permanent solution. So, we will likely be hitting the ground running with starting to call for a 1st grade teacher again next year when the call window opens up in October.

These next couple weeks will be a good test of trust and prayer as we rely on the will of our perfect God and his timing. God will certainly provide the right person at the right time.....who that person is and when that time is.....only God knows. But, don't forget that prayer is powerful and effective.

God's blessings on your weekends.

Because Jesus Lives, We Can Help Others See

Saul didn't waste any time. Within days of his conversion and baptism, he was preaching about Jesus as the living Son of God—the very one that a week earlier he had dismissed as a dead blasphemer and whose followers he doggedly pursued to silence at any cost. Now he had added his own voice to theirs.

Saul didn't send anyone out to the road between Jerusalem and Damascus to convince them. He didn't expect others to have the same encounter with the risen Jesus that he had had there. Nor did he seek to gather forensic evidence that the one who appeared to him was really Jesus. Rather, Saul took them to the Bible. He pointed them to the many Old Testament prophecies of God's promised Messiah, and he reminded them of all the things that Jesus did or said or suffered that perfectly fulfilled every one of those promises.

Have you come to see Jesus as the Son of God and your Savior? Maybe you

didn't always see things that way. Maybe you even ridiculed the idea in your past. But now you see Jesus for who he is. He loved you when you were unlovable. He died to pay your debt of guilt and shame before God, and now he lives to assure you that you are forgiven. That truth, that powerful truth, burns inside you. Because Jesus lives, you can help others see that they too have a way out of the world of misery and hopelessness that they find themselves trapped in. An old hymn says, "If you cannot speak like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul, you can tell the love of Jesus. You can say he died for all."

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, open my mouth to tell others of the saving truth of your resurrection. Amen.

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



Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. All those who heard him were astonished and asked, "Isn't he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn't he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?" Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

Acts 9:19-22