



Educate.
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The Timber Times
August 21st, 2024

School News

24-25 Welcome!!!

God's blessings abound!!! What an amazing privilege to be here at St. Matt's with all of you for another year. We pray that you had a wonderful time away this past summer, and that you were able to spend some much needed time relaxing and enjoying your family.

We pray that God continues to bless our St. Matthew family throughout the year, and that in all things we focus on God's great love for us and all people.

New Faces

We welcome all newcomers to our campus! If you see someone you have never met, be sure to reach out and introduce yourself! In addition to new students, we also welcomed Mr. Zabel over the summer to teach grades 7-8, so make sure to stop by and say hello!

Parking Space Raffle

On Orientation Night we introduced a raffle for premier parking spaces! If you would like to enter that raffle, there is still time to do so! We will be choosing 2 winners tomorrow (Friday) and your space will be ready on Monday morning! Tickets are \$5, or you can purchase a bundle — 5/\$20. You can give Kayla Biebert cash or check, or text her if you want the charge added to TADS.

Apparel Store

Get your St. Matty's merch! Items on sale now through August 29th at midnight! You can view the store [online here](#), or with the QR code below.



Textbook Orders

If your child needs a book but we haven't gotten your order form yet, I sent home a sheet with your child yesterday. Please make sure to return that by Friday. If I don't hear back, any books necessary to purchase will be automatically billed to your TADS account next week.

Along the same lines, if you would like to pre-order a yearbook for this year, they are \$10, and that can be paid with cash, check, or through TADS. This is not a required book, and you will have the option to purchase later in the year when they come out.

Prayers Needed!

Please keep the Knutson family in your prayers! Sarah's dad has been in the hospital for quite some time over in Seattle, and Sarah has spent the majority of the last couple of months over there with him. We pray for the doctors caring for Sarah's father, as well as the entire family as they adapt to the many challenges of being away from home while still navigating school, home, kids, etc.

Close Toed Shoes

We have already had a couple of toes scraped up this year, so we want to remind everyone to please wear close toed shoes — they are best for running and playing outside.

Junior Choir

There is still time to sign up! If your child loves singing or wants to learn more about it, Junior choir is a place to be! Junior choir meets on most Mondays from 3:45-4:30 in the 4th grade classroom throughout the school year. Please speak with Mrs. Most if your child is interested in Junior Choir.

Google Calendar

Please use our church and school's [Google Calendar](#) to stay up to date!

Upcoming Dates

August

- 23 Parking Raffle Closes
- 27 3:45PM — 5-8 Soccer Info Meeting
- 29 Apparel Store Closes — Midnight
- 29 3:45PM — K-4 Soccer Info Meeting
- 29 5-8 Soccer Practice — 4:00-5:15PM Linwood Park

September

- 2 No School — Labor Day
- 3 First Day of School — 4's Classes
- 3 5-8 Soccer Practice — 4:00-5:15PM Linwood Park
- 4 K-4 Soccer Practice — 3:45-4:45PM Linwood Park
- 5 5-8 Soccer Practice — 4:00-5:15PM Linwood Park
- 6 First Day of School — 3's Classes
- 6 Pokemon Club — Mrs. Most's room 3:45-5:00

Music Lessons

If you are interested in piano or violin lessons, please reach out to Holly Roberg (509)991-7411 by September 6th. Space is very limited. Lessons take place during the school day and will start the week of September 16th.

K-4 Soccer

Did your child sign up to play? If not, check your child's classroom for a sign-up sheet. Are you interested in helping out? Practices will start Wednesday, September 4th 3:45-4:45 at Linwood Park. There will be an informational meeting held next week Thursday, August 29th at 3:45 in Miss Rosenbaum's room. A fee of \$5 will be



collected at that meeting. Plan to attend if you are able. Thanks!

5-8 Soccer

Did your child sign up to play? If not, check your child's classroom for a sign-up sheet. Are you interested in helping out? Practices will start Wednesday, September 4th 3:45-4:45 at Linwood Park. There will be an informational meeting held next week Thursday, August 29th at 3:45 in Miss Rosenbaum's room. A fee of \$5 will be collected at that meeting. Plan to attend if you are able. Thanks!

Pokemon Club

Everyone in grades 2nd—8th are welcome to join! A group that will get together after school twice a month on Fridays to battle with their Pokémon TCG decks, or other activities, and have a great time! Don't know how to play or have any cards? No worries, we have you covered! Our first meeting will be Friday, September 6th from 3:45-5:00 in Mrs. Most's 4th grade classroom. Please speak with her if you have any questions or are interested in participating.

Classroom News

Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

Welcome back to school!

This portion of the newsletter is going to keep you updated about our classroom throughout the year. Please be sure to read it each Thursday so you can stay informed. If you miss a newsletter or misplace it, have no fear because they can all be accessed through our school website!

We will be spending the next few weeks learning classroom routines, procedures and expectations. I know you may be tempted to help your child by carrying their backpack, filling up their water bottle and even reminding them to use the bathroom but please use the morning drop off time to stand back and observe your child complete their morning jobs independently.

Our classroom environment sets the tone for the day. I LOVE when parents want to connect with each other and build relationships; however, please do so in a quiet manner. This allows for students to not be distracted and to stay focused on what they should be doing.

Mrs. Roth is our classroom aide. You will see her every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. Please be sure to introduce yourself to her.

Many of you have not signed up for Remind. That was in the packet of information that was given out at our Back to School night. It is important that you sign up so you can receive important information and reminders.

I'm sure when you picked your child up yesterday from the first day of Kindergarten you were so excited to hear about their day and when you asked "What did you do today?!" You heard "I don't know." "Had recess and ate snack." Or something equally as vague. We do A LOT during our day and I'm sure it can be very hard for a 5 or 6 year old to relay all of the information learned. Try asking your child some of these questions:

- What books did Miss Taasaas read today? Tell me about them.
- Who did you play with at recess?
- What was the Bible story about? Please note: on Thursdays we have chapel so if you ask your child what the Bible story is about they will most likely say "We didn't have a Bible story."
- What made you laugh today?
- Who did you help today?
- What is your job this week?

Nightly homework: For now the only homework your child has each night is to read with you for 20 minutes and to practice Memory Work.

1st Grade News

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Hello, First Grade Families!

Welcome back to school! It's wonderful to have your child in my class!

Our theme for the school year is Serving Others with the Savior's Strength. Jesus did all the work to save us from our sins and separation from God, so as a way to say thank you to him we want to help others.

Please let me know if you are not signed up for Remind or haven't gotten any Reminders from me yet; I can help you get it set up.

Please have your child bring a spill proof water bottle to school; they can leave it at school during the week and take it home on Fridays to wash it.

We have a mini refrigerator in the classroom, so if your child has something small that should be refrigerated they can use it.

Please pack along a spoon or fork if your child needs it for their lunch, but we do have extras just in case you forget.

Please feel free to call or text me if you need anything. (509) 362-4916. During the day I don't often get a chance to check messages, so if it's urgent, please call. Thanks! Have a wonderful weekend! God bless you and your children!

2nd Grade News

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

Woohoo! Two days of school are done! In those two days, we worked on setting procedures and routines in the classroom, getting to know one another, reviewing math concepts, reading books and playing some games. I can't wait to see what the rest of the year brings!

Christlight/ Memory Work

- 8/27 - Genesis 1:1
- 8/29 - Romans 3:23
- Please read the Bible stories from this week (Creation of the World) with your child during the weekend. The Christlight stories can be kept at home every week. Please do not keep them in the orange folder.

Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day.

- Spelling - words will be sent home in their orange folder for the upcoming week. We will work through phonics skills associated with these words as well as see these words in the story they read in class. Tests will be given on Fridays unless otherwise noted. Our first spelling practice test will be next Friday August 30. We will be working on short vowels a, i. Here are the words for next week: sad, dig, jam, glad, list, win, flat, if, fix, rip, kit, mask, as, his, sandwich, picnic.

Extra Notes

- Please get in the habit of asking your child if they have homework and checking your child's backpack for any important notes throughout the week as well as looking through their orange folder on the weekend!
- Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions throughout the school year!

3rd Grade News

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

Welcome back! I pray that you all have had a great summer. As we get back into a new school year, just a few reminders.

- If your child is coming back from an appointment, late to school, or you are picking up your child early, please check in at the office. The classroom doors will be locked after 8:30 am.
- Spelling will be starting next week. Tests will be on Fridays unless we have a short week. I will be sure to inform you about the changes.
- Please be checking in with your child about their assignment notebook, this will be sent home everyday.
- It is very important your child is practicing their memory work, so they can recite it during school. This is the memory work for next week...
- 8/27 - John 3:16
- 8/29 - Romans 3:23
- 8/30 - A Portion of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed
- I need some volunteers to help with Memory work on Tuesdays and Thursdays before school, please let me know if you are interested.

Have a great weekend!

4th Grade News

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

Hello and Welcome back to school!

We are off to a great start so far! We will be working on a few of our classes, but a lot of procedures to learn to help our classroom flow smoothly and for us to achieve our goals this year.

Remember to hand in the pink expectations sheet and the white Parent Homework about your child as soon as possible.

Please let me know via text or Remind, what is the best way to communicate with you, whether it be via text, Remind, email, or a phone call. Also, be sure to read the newsletter each week to find out any special information about what is happening in class and upcoming events for fourth grade.

What can I do to help my child be successful this year? Be supportive and present in your child's school day by asking them about it and checking to see if they have completed everything for that day by looking in their assignment planner and homework envelope in their binder.

5th-6th Grade News

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

Welcome back to the first week of school! This is my 16th first day of school as a teacher, and I'm really looking forward to getting to know my students and their parents (and grandparents and siblings and all) this school year.

I was able to meet with almost every family before school started to talk about procedures and expectations for my classroom. If I missed connecting with you, please let me know a day that works for you soon so that we can talk and make sure we are on the same page about your child's education this school year.

I printed off and gave to your children a note about how to sign into Jupiter Ed, our online grade book. Please take the time soon to use that note to login and familiarize yourself with Jupiter Ed. If you are signing up for weekly updates to be sent to you from Jupiter Ed, I recommend setting the date as either Saturday afternoon or Sunday, since I catch up on my paperwork on Saturday mornings.

There is one change to the school supply list for this year that I need to make everyone aware of. Students will need a 3-ring binder for Reading class this year. It was listed previously on the supply list as an option, but throughout my planning this summer it has turned into a necessity. I have several available in the classroom for free that I'm happy to give students, but they may want their own more decorative one as well. I apologize for the inconvenience!

In our classes this week, we got started with Religion, Math, and Reading on each day of the week. In Religion, we are starting a study of the Old Testament and learning about the significance of the Bible. In Math, both classes are starting with basic operations and reading numbers in different styles of writing. In Reading, we are starting our study of our first novel, Percy Jackson: The Lightning Thief. In this first unit, we will be looking at allusions and themes from the book and the myths that share those themes.

We are taking some class time from Science, English, and Social Studies to start establishing our routines, procedures, expectations, and classroom culture. Social Studies will begin on Thursday with an activity that helps students understand how to

read and evaluate primary sources. Science will start on Friday with an introduction to matter. Finally, English will start on Monday next week. Special classes will begin next week at the end of the school day as well.

Please be quick to reach out with questions or concerns during these first few weeks! Thanks for letting me teach your children (again, for you returning families!)

7th-8th Grade News

Mr. David Zabel (941.201.7896)

Welcome to a new year. It should be exciting with new adventures and new classroom procedures. Since it is a short week, we will just begin our subjects and learn what is required for each assignment.

Next week we will dive deeper in each of our subjects. We will start going through World Religions in Christ light. The first topic of discussion will be "Spirit Religions". You have to ask your child what this topic is about. They will have memory work assigned for each lesson and it is due the next day we have Christ light. This class is scheduled for Monday and Wednesday. The kids will have Catechism class with Pastor West and he will meet with them on Tuesdays and Fridays.

As I get further into the school year you will get more info on each of the subject. For right now in "World Studies" we are looking at the establishment of towns. In Science we will begin a study of viruses. In Literature will begin reading through the "The Westing Game". Finally, we will be going through Write Source for both our Language and writing exercises.

For now, that is all I have. Have a great week in the Lord.

Mr. Z

Principal Thought you Probably Didn't Want :)

A note from Jacob (715.402.0094)

The Wild Banshee Child

Parents, we are only a few days into the school year, but perhaps you have noticed or wondered why your child has perhaps turned into Donnie from Wild Thornberrys. Perhaps they have screamed at you, cried, or even clung to you like you are a total monster for dropping them off at St. Matthew and leaving. Well, take heart, this too shall soon pass. It took till day two for my children to already act this way. Learning new routines and being put in new experiences can be extremely stressful and exhausting, which is enough to make anyone not act like themselves.

While I am no expert, I can say from experience, that even when it may be hard, your children will get into a routine and settle in to the flow of the school year in whatever grade they may find themselves. What you can do as parents is to make sure that your child's physical needs are being met to the best of your abilities. Help your child get a good night sleep, allow them to eat a healthy breakfast, help them develop new routines that may only be in place for the school year.....which may include things like reducing screen time and technology, and always feel free to communicate with your child's teacher.

While you and your children may be going through a rough patch to start the school year, know that your child's teacher cares very much about your child and is excited to partner with you to get through this rough patch. Feel free to communicate with your child's teacher and ask them what they are seeing in the classroom as well as share with them difficulties you are experiencing at home. We are a team! Also, if your child is acting like a wild banshee, there is no need to feel embarrassed. We have all been there and know you are doing your very best.

Whether your school year has started smoothly or rough, don't ever hesitate to reach out and communicate with your child's teacher or myself, because we are here to help. Also, take any and all of your burdens to the Lord in prayer.

Out of Control

Take a look around. Does it feel to you like the world has gone crazy? Does it seem like everything is crashing down around you, and you have no control and aren't sure how much more of it you can take? The economy is a source of stress and hand-wringing. The political scene in our country, which perhaps could best be described as a circus, offers very little comfort or reassurance that everything will be okay. The conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East continue, causing unrest and uncertainty. Injustice, hardship, poverty, and so many other issues abound.

Taken all together, it can feel like things are spiraling out of control. The author of Psalm 46 describes a situation just like this. The Bible verses for today describe a world in upheaval. A place where even the forces of nature are seemingly out of control. The words describe the worst catastrophe imaginable.

Even so, the author states that we will not fear. We will not fear because God is with us each and every day. He is our refuge and strength. He keeps us safe in this turbulent world and

gives us entry into the next world, which will have no chaos, difficulty, or uncertainty. In sending his Son, Jesus, to be our Savior from sin, God has provided us a way out of this chaotic world and into the heavenly home he has prepared for us. Through faith in Jesus, we will live forever in peace and joy.

And until the day comes when we reach our heavenly home, Jesus promises to be with us always. He is our ever-present help in trouble. The Lord is with us whether it feels like it or not. Cling to the Lord and put your trust in him.

Prayer:

Dear Lord, at times, it feels like things in this world are out of control. Lead me to trust in you and know that you are always present. Be near me, Lord Jesus. Amen.

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



God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

Psalm 46:1-3