



Educate.
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The Timber Times
August 28th, 2024

School News

Preschool Families

School starts next week for all pre-school classes! If you are an AM family, the day runs 8:15-11:15AM. PM families, your day runs 12:15-3:15PM. Please reach out with any questions you have, and be sure to check the "upcoming dates" section (to the right in the box), and the "Preschool News" section (on page 2) to stay up to date. Please always reach out if you have any questions:) God's Blessings on the beginning of your school year!

Lost and Found

If your child is ever missing anything please stop by our Lost and Found. It is located at the top of the stairs next to the water fountain. The last Friday of each month anything that is not claimed will be donated to the thrift store

Parking Spaces

Please be courteous about leaving the reserved spaces open for the families who won the parking raffle. Thank you!

Apparel Store

Get your St. Matty's merch! The online store closes **TONIGHT AT MIDNIGHT!!!** You can view the store [online here](#), or with the QR code below.



Dads and Donuts

Mark your calendars for Thursday, September 19th. Join us between 7:45 and 8:45 on the basketball court where you will get to enjoy donuts and milk while you create a fun project with your child(ren). A coffee cart with also be available for you to purchase your favorite morning beverage. Moms, grandmas, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc. are more than welcome to come if dad is not available. We will also have members from our

church who are available to chaperone your child if a family member is unable to attend. Please remember this is a school day and students should arrive no later than 8:30 am. Following this event we would love for you to join your child for chapel. Pastor West will have a special service geared toward dads and their role in their child's life.

Please use [this link](#) to sign up by September 13th.



Annual Church Campout

Flyers are being sent home today regarding the camping retreat! We HIGHLY recommend attending this fun weekend — it truly is such a relaxing weekend! Your kids will get to spend time outside of school with friends, you will get to know other, and DRUM-ROLL PLEASE — all the meals are cooked for you!!!! Please consider joining us, whether it's for the full weekend or just a portion. Pastor West can answer any questions you have (509)217-9617.

Panda Express Fundraiser

Start planning — on September 19th, we are working with Panda Express to raise money for St. Matthew! The most exciting part—this event is a virtual fundraiser, meaning that you can use the code ANYWHERE in the US! You can share this with friends and family who may not be close to Spokane! All they need to do is order online (for pick-up or delivery) and enter the promo code on [this page](#)! 28% of all sales on September 19th go back to our school. Please share, share, share this information! If you need any more reason to eat out, grades 5-8 have a soccer game, and the field is a whopping 2 minutes from the nearest Panda—parents can order during half time and pick up after the win vs. Lake

Upcoming Dates

August

- 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
- 8 Youth Group @ the Gaulke's — 5:30-7:00PM — 10005 N Moss Lane
- 10 5-8 Soccer Practice — 4:00-5:15PM Linwood Park
- 11 K-4 Soccer Practice — 3:45-4:45PM Linwood Park
- 12 5-8 Soccer Practice — 4:00-5:15PM Linwood Park
- 12 Fall Walk — Preschool 4's Classes
- 13 Fall Walk — Preschool 3's Classes

City!



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

get your merch before its gone!!!
store closes at midnight!

[Google Calendar](#) to stay up to date!



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

Practices will start next week on Wednesday, September 4th. Practices will run from 3:45-4:45 at Linwood Park. If you were unable to come to the meeting TODAY, make sure you see Miss Rosenbaum for the infor-

mation missed. If you have any questions, please contact Miss Rosenbaum via remind.

5-8 Soccer

The first soccer practice is TODAY 4:00-5:15 at Linwood Park. Next week there is practice on Tuesday and Thursday. Reach out if your child needs a ride to the practices or games. If you have any questions, please contact Miss Rosenbaum via remind.

Pokemon Club

The Pokemon Club is 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! Everyone in grades 2nd—8th are welcome to join! Don't know how to play or have any cards? No worries, we have you covered! Our first meeting will be Fri-

day, 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.

St. Matt's Youth Group

Grades 5th-12th are invited to the first youth group night of the school year! Join us at the Gaulke's home — 10005 N Moss Lane — from 5:30-7:00PM. These evenings are a great way to get together with other young people in Christian fellowship. We hope many of you can make it!

Classroom News

Preschool News

Mrs. Donna Driesbach (509.638.5361)

Oh My Goodness!! Preschool begins next week . . . already!! Just a few highlights to bring to the forefront!!! This next week will be chock full of new procedures and new rules for all of our kiddos, but also we are going to have a ton of fun, too!! This might be a bit overwhelming at first, but we will be able to grasp everything so quickly!! We will be painting hands for our bulletin board, taking a lot of pictures and creating a few crafts this next week. We have some amazing aides in our preschool again this year, too - please get to know them: Miss Sammie, Miss Rebecca, Miss Karen, Miss Kiersten and Miss Alicia. We will work all together and create a beautiful village for these little ones to thrive and Serve Others with Our Savior's Strength (our school theme this year)!! I am SO excited to begin our great preschool journey together!! Thank you for entrusting your amazing children with us this year!! It's going to be a great one!!

- * **Christ Light Bible Story** - "What is God Like?"
- * **Bible Memory Verse** - Psalm 115:3 "God is in heaven".
- * **Theme** - Welcome to Preschool
- * **Snack Person** - 4's am and pm - AJ 3's am - Colette 3's pm - Damian
- * **Upcoming Events** - Sept 12, 13 - Fall Walk
 Sept. 19 - Dads 'n' Donuts
 Sept. 23, 26 - RED Day
 Sept. 27 - No School
 Sept. 30, Oct. 1 Picture Day

Please be sure to sign up for our Preschool and Elementary School Remind. We will make sure you have the code so that can happen. What an easy way for us to stay in touch throughout the school year!! Also, please be sure to fill out the Field Trip Permission Slip, allowing your child to attend our monthly field trips. Thank You!!

Have a fun-filled weekend!! Be safe!! See you all next week!! Can't wait!!

Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

I am so impressed with how well the kids are learning all of our classroom routines and procedures, they are doing great!

Class plant- Last week we read "The World's Best Class Plant" by Liz Garton Scanlon and Audrey Vernick. We also now have our own class plant. Ask your child what type of plant it is and what the name of the plant is.

Growth Mindset- We read "Giraffes Can't Dance" by Giles Andreae and Guy Parker-Rees. In the book the giraffe couldn't dance and the other jungle animals made fun of him but he practiced and he was finally able to dance! We discussed the word "yet" and how we might not be able to do something "yet" but with practice and determination we can! Each week we have a growth mindset affirmation. Ask your child each week about our affirmation. You can also find it on our bulletin board with the calendar.

Bulletin boards- We did two crafts with 2 of our books last week. Stop in and see your child's artwork!

Lunch- I do not have utensils available for students to use at snack and lunch so please remember to pack them each day that your child needs them.

Shoes- Please make sure your child is able to take their shoes off and put them on independently. If your child is not able to tie yet please provide shoes that either slip on or Velcro.

Letters- Thank you for writing me a letter about your child! I loved getting to know them in that way!

Communication- Please know that you can speak to me about any questions or concerns about anything going on in the classroom. I will do my best to make sure I am available to speak with you.

Nightly homework:

- Read with you for 20 minutes
- Practice Memory Work

1st Grade News

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Dear First Grade Families,

We are getting settled into the new routines and procedures at school. We have a lovely little class with only 12 students! We have started to get into our studies a little bit. In ChristLight (Bible history class) we learned about how God created the world and Adam and Eve. In Reading we are reviewing our letter sounds, and in Math we are reviewing writing numbers and number words.

Instead of having all the special classes (Art, P.E. Music, Spanish, and Tech) on Fridays, on the weeks where we have all five days of school, we have one special class at the end of each day. I have the 1st Graders for Music and Spanish. They have Miss Broyles for P.E., Miss Taasaas for Art, and Mr. Metzger for Tech. I hope your child is enjoying school so far this year!

Our Memory Work for Thursday, Sept. 5 is Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." We will practice this during the school day, but if you have time to practice at home too, that would be great. God bless you and your families. Have a wonderful long weekend!

2nd Grade News

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

We have almost made it through a full week of school. I have enjoyed getting to know everyone in this first week! These past few days, we have been reviewing our procedures and diving into new subjects. Our main focus was listening and following directions the first time they are given.

Christlight/ Memory Work

- September 3 - John 3:16
- September 5 - Isaiah 43:11
- Please read the Bible stories from this week (Creation of Man and Woman; The First Sin) 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.
- Next week, we will be working on the phonics skill of short vowels e, o, u. Here are the spelling words for next week: wet, job, hug, rest, spot, mud, left, help, plum, nut, net, hot, get, not, lunch, spend. Test will be on Friday.

Extra Notes

- It can get pretty cold sometimes at school with the AC on, so it would be good to have your child pack a light sweatshirt for the classroom.
- If your child would like to bring in a treat for their birthday, please let me know when and what treat they will be bringing in advance. Thank you!
- Scholastic book orders were sent home in your child's orange folder. If you would like to order something, please let me know by September 30. When you order, our classroom earns points that we can use to get some new books for our library. You can also order online with this link: <https://orders.scholastic.com/YFD4Z>
- Continue to ask your child if they have homework and check your child's backpack for any important notes throughout the week.
- Show and Tell: your child is able to show and tell once a week if they would like to. Once they have shared his or her one item, then they will have to wait until the next week to share again. Once the child shares his or her item, it must remain in their backpack for the remainder of the day. If the item cannot fit in their backpack, please send me a picture of it and I will display it on the board.
- Life skill #1 - we will be doing 4 life skills throughout the year. Our first one will be cutting fruits and vegetables on September 20. If you would like to help out by either donating some fruits and vegetables or by helping assist in the classroom, please reach out to me or speak to me at pick-up or drop-off. Thanks in advance for your help!

3rd Grade News

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

Christlight/Memory Work

- 9/5 - Isaiah 43:11 & OT Books of the Bible
- 9/6 - A Portion of the First Article of the Apostles' Creed & Doxology of the Lord's Prayer

Please read the two stories with your child (Man's Sin and God's Promise & Cain and Abel)

Homework

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

Extra Notes

- This week's spelling words all have either /ay/ or /ai/ sounding. The first test will be this Friday 8/30.
- Please be working on spelling words with your child, their spelling words are in their assignment notebook.
- As the weather is getting a little colder in the mornings, please send a light jacket with your child.
- Please make sure your child is wearing closed toed shoes to school, we have had a few injuries lately.
- We currently do not have water for our water station, so please make sure your child is filling their water bottles at home before they come to school.

Have a great extended weekend!

4th Grade News

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

Wow! We have a whole week under our belts! There have been some bumps in the road (as to be expected), but overall I am very pleased with how we are progressing with our procedures and classes.

- **Christ Light** - Please review the "@Home" portion with your child at home. I really appreciate how these lessons really get you and your child talking about faith and life in this sinful world. We generally cover the "A lessons" on Monday and Tuesday in class, so they can bring it home to complete either day, whichever works best for you and your family. The same goes for the "B lessons" which are covered on Wednesday and Thursday/Friday depending on the week and where chapel falls.
- **Math** - We have begun chapter 1 working with Place Value. I will do my best to have each day's lesson corrected and handed back to your child before the end of the day, so we can discuss any errors. Some days they will bring it home to fix and hand back in for re correction and gain back some points.
- **Reading** - We will be starting our first novel next week, Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes. We will use the book to discuss character traits, vocabulary, point of view, setting, mood, theme, plot development.
- **Science** - We have begun looking at rocks and minerals and determining how we can classify them.
- **Social Studies** - We are beginning to learn about a few of the 63 National parks in our country. Did you know that every 4th grader gets a free park pass for them and their families to get into the national parks for free? Head here to sign up: <https://everykidoutdoors.gov/rules.htm>

Extras

- Please check your child's assignment planner for any homework that needs to be completed. Only items that are homework are written into the planner. The homework items should then be in the homework envelope in their binder.
- Next week Tuesday and Thursday, I am planning on hosting a question and answer session right after school, beginning at 3:45 and lasting for about 15-30 minutes. During that time please bring any questions or concerns you may have so you can get clarification (I'm sure others have the same question too). I will also go through a few other items that you may have questions about in the future.

5th-6th Grade News

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

Our first full week of school is underway, and we are working toward getting all the subjects integrated into our schedule. All this learning is a little exhausting after a summer of fun and relaxation, so having next Monday as a break will be welcome for all the students I'm sure (and maybe this teacher too.)

In our Religion classes this week, we are learning about Adam and Eve's creation and fall into sin as well as what makes the Bible so important. In Math classes, students are learning how to read and write numbers in a variety of ways, including using expanded form and scientific notation. In Science class, we are exploring the properties of matter and doing some demonstrations of how different objects are made of matter. We had our first Spelling pretest on Monday and are working on practicing those words with some small assignments each day to prepare for the final test on Thursday. In Reading class, we have been working on using evidence to support our claims while making inferences about characters. We will have completed our first assessment on those skills today. Finally, we have been skipping English class this week as we work toward getting our routines down in a timely manner, and we have been skipping Social Studies as part of our regularly scheduled week with Art, Spanish, PE, Music, and Tech at the end of each day.

This weekend will be a weekend of emails, as I hope to send out schedules and sign-ups for students volunteering in Mrs. D's classroom for the first quarter, as well as sign-ups for parents to visit our own classroom in the first quarter. Please keep an eye out for those.

Please also be sure to be keeping an eye on Jupiter Ed each week. I have been putting in two grades per day for math: one a review from the previous lesson, and the other a homework question from the current lesson. These don't affect the report card grade, but let you stay current each day with how they are understanding each lesson. I'm also using this for daily reading grades. That scale reads like this:

- 4 - Goes above expectations
- 3 - Meets expectations
- 2 - Shows partial understanding of expectations
- 1 - Does not show understanding
- m - Missing: has not been turned in

Thanks for all the communication these first two weeks. Let's keep working together and staying in touch as we work toward establishing our routines.

7th-8th Grade News

Mr. David Zabel (941.201.7896)

Last week went very well in the classroom. I have enjoyed the discussion that the students have generated. This past week we have begun our full schedule and have gotten everything in. I noticed that the students seem to be bringing a lot of homework home. I will try to give more study time within the classroom (Mr. "Z" don't talk so much!!!!!! ☺)

Reminder that next week is a four-day week beginning on Tuesday. Pastor West will have catechism classes on Tuesday and Friday mornings beginning at 8:30 am. They will have Pastor the first day back from the holiday weekend.

I will be teaching Christlight on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Whenever we begin a new lesson, I will assign memory work. The memory work will be due the next time we have class. If the kids want to recite it early that is alright with me.

I have assigned book reports to all of the kids. Each student will do two reports a quarter. They must present the book they want to read to me for approval. The first book report is due September 20th. The form can be found in the black organizer in the classroom.

All the students were told that they must redo all papers that have a D or an F. They only need to correct those answers that are incorrect and hand the assignment back in. I will correct it again and average the two grades together to get an average grade. They have two days from the date written on the assignment to correct the incorrect problems and hand it back to me. (Example: received a D+ / redo 8/27; this means that they have till the 29th to complete the corrections. If they don't correct the assignment, the original grade remains. Weekends don't count towards the two days.

That is it for now. If you have any questions please stop in and ask. Texting also works for me.

Mr. Z

Principal Thought you Probably Didn't Want :)

A note from Jacob (715.402.0094)

Improved Grading Information

Have you ever wondered what all those U's, N's, and F's mean on your child's report card? Well, in-between naps and Twinkie eating in my office, one thing that I have been working on is making sure your school does a better job of explaining its grade scale to you and your children. We have been redefining our character and study skills and their grade letters, and we have been working on explaining what each of the traditional letter grades means at St. Matthew Lutheran School.

What you can expect is to receive a "cheat" sheet of sorts before the first report card comes out. This sheet will have explanations and criteria that your child was graded on throughout the quarter. My prayer is that this helps you better understand your child's report card as well as the grades that are on it. This can hopefully lead to more fruitful discussion with your child's teacher as we seek to work together to help your child grow.

I hope your year is off to a fantastic start. Please let me know if you need anything throughout the year.

Food That Endures

Food spoilage is not a pleasant subject. As we push our carts through the grocery aisles or sit in the booth of our favorite diner, the reality of food spoilage is not something we like to think about. Nevertheless, experts remind us that the moment food is harvested, that food begins to decompose. True, we can slow the process through chemicals, drying, refrigeration, and freezing, but the process continues. In the United States alone, people throw out about 150 tons of food per day. And very likely, each of us has experienced—or knows someone who has experienced—food poisoning from eating food that has broken down too much.

It's a sobering thing when you think about it. The very substance we need to sustain our bodies is, as we eat it, in the process of spoiling, decomposing, and breaking down. It's a vivid reminder of the broken world in which we live; a world broken by sin—your sin and mine.

Jesus knows all about this too. That's why he tells us, "Do not work for food that spoils." The answer to life is not consuming something that will break down and spoil. Rather, the an-

swer must come from outside, beyond this dying world.

Jesus says, "Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you." The food that endures to eternal life is Jesus himself. The food that endures to eternal life is the one who has lived a sinless life on our behalf, died on the cross for our every sin, risen from death, and now reigns in the glories of heaven.

In Jesus alone, we find what lasts, and there is life eternal. In Jesus alone, we possess an inheritance

that will never perish, spoil, or fade.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, in this sinful, fallen world, everything breaks, wears out, and spoils. In you alone, I possess what lasts forever. Move me to fix my eyes on you. Amen.

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



[Jesus said] Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.

John 6:27