



Educate.
Equip.
Encourage.

The Timber Times
September 21st, 2023

School News

Chapel Offering

As of last chapel, our offering total is at \$337.88. Thank you all for continuing to give to our offering this quarter! Remember, all offerings will be given to Diaz and Corr Families :)

DC Meeting—7th-8th Graders RESCHEDULED

All DC students and parents, please plan to attend an informational meeting **next Monday, September 25th** after school in Mr. Biebert's room. Thank you!

Early Release

Reminder that students will be dismissed tomorrow at NOON. They will not be eating lunch at school, so no need to pack a lunch; however, a snack for first recess may still be nice. The teachers will be continuing to work on their curriculum study during the afternoon.

Singing in Church

K-8th grade will be singing on Sunday, September 24th at 10:15. Please make it a point to join us for worship that day and to hear your child sing praises to their Lord and Savior! All the children's voices help to make a joyful noise to the Lord, so it is noticeable when one or two voices are missing as we all practice together to be united in Christ.

DC Fundraiser—Garage Sale

The DC kids will be hosting a garage sale fundraiser over at the preschool garage on Thursday and Friday, September 28th-29th. All proceeds will help offset the cost of their trip to DC next spring! Come check out all the goodies!

Additionally, if you have anything you would like to donate for the kids to sell at the garage sale, we will be collecting items Monday-Wednesday, September 25th-27th. Please contact Jor-

dan Roth at (509)991-3488 if you have any questions!

4-8 Soccer

After a hard fought loss and a tie, the kids have been continuing to work hard each day. If you plan on taking other siblings out of school to go with, please contact your child's teacher in advance! Make sure to be checking the schedule online. The schedule includes the time the kids are dismissed as well as the location of the game. Contact Miss Rosenbaum if your child needs a ride to the practices or games 24 hours in advance.

K-3 Soccer

Make sure to be checking in with Coach Sammie Haxton before leaving practice so that she can ensure that every child has a ride. Stay tuned for more details on the October 11 scrimmages.

Youth Night

Our night St. Matthew Youth Night will be this Sunday, September 24th from 4-7PM at the Foxall's home — 5923 Rutter Parkway. This night is available for anyone 5th grade or up. Please join us!

Call Decision

Pastor West has returned the call to serve at St. John's in Wauwatosa, WI. A special prayer of thanks that Pastor has made the decision to continue to serve as Pastor here, and also a prayer that the church in Wauwatosa is able to find someone who can meet their pastoral needs.

Dads & Donuts

Dads & Donuts is tomorrow, September 21st from 8:00-8:40AM. We look forward to having you there! Come join in the fun, and enjoy a little extra time with your kiddos!

Coffee Truck Tomorrow!!

If there wasn't already enough incentive to come our amazing Dads & Donuts, Lara Ramsay lined up a coffee truck to be present the morning of Dads & Donuts! Stop by for your morning cup of coffee from 7:30-9:00AM! Thank you Redeemed Coffee Co. & Lara! P.S. you don't have to be a dad to drop in for coffee!



DC Fundraiser—Hot Lunch

On Friday, October 6th, the DC kids will be hosting their first hot lunch of the year. A form will be sent home with the students — please fill that out if you intend to have your child eat hot lunch that day. Due date for the form is Wednesday, October 4th. Thank you!

Playground — UPDATE

The playground should be delivered next week! If you are able to help set that up, please reach out to Mr. Biebert (715)402-0094.

St. Matthew Retreat

The deadline to RSVP to the church and school retreat at Riverview Bible Camp is tomorrow. You can register now and pay later if needed. Be sure to fill out those forms and return them to your child's teacher!

School Pictures

Picture days are coming up soon, and envelopes should have been sent home already. Please make sure to return all envelopes to your child's teacher no later than Wednesday, September 27th. Note also that picture days are on two separate days! If your child is in PreK3 & K-3, your picture day will be Monday. If your child is in PreK4 & 4-8, picture day for you will be Tuesday. Please plan accordingly! Also note, we will need your child's envelope

Early Release
NOON TOMORROW

K-8 Sing
CHURCH SUNDAY

back whether or not you are purchasing pictures. Thank you!

Junior Choir

Junior choir is set to begin Monday, October 2nd. All students in grades 3-8 are welcome to participate in the Junior Choir. Practices will be Mondays from 3:45-4:30 (unless notified of a change). The children will meet in the 4th grade classroom (Mrs. Most's room). Children will be working on fun songs, and songs to sing for church

and chapel. Mrs. Most will be sending home forms and schedules the week of September 18-22. The schedule is mostly in the Google calendar. If you have any questions, please speak with Mrs. Most or email her at michelle.most@stmatthewspokane.org

Music Lessons

Music lessons have begun and we pray they have been going well for

your children! Just a reminder to remember all of your music materials for your scheduled lesson day. If you signed up for piano or violin lessons but did not receive an email from Holly Roberg, please reach out to her (509)991-7411 or hollyannadotson@gmail.com

There are still a couple spots available as well, so if you are interested in lessons, please reach out to Mrs. Roberg!

Classroom News

Preschool News

Mrs. Donna Driesbach (509.638.5361)

It has been another amazing week in preschool!! We are still learning about apples and how they grow. The 3-year old classes had fun using their handprints to make apples and most classes were able to easel paint an apple!! Some of the classes even got to glue tissue paper squares onto an apple using white liquid glue. "A little dot does a lot!" Come and check out our beautiful Apple classroom!! All four preschool classes were able to taste three different kinds of apples and then graph their favorite. You would be amazed at the apple that got the most votes!!

Today and tomorrow we will be celebrating RED DAY!! Everyone gets to wear and/or bring something RED to school. We also get to play a fun game of hide 'n' seek for red circles (our color and shape of the month)!! What a fun RED DAY we get to celebrate!!

With this being our second week of Apple Week, some of our centers have changed. In our Listening Center, we now can listen to the book, [Apple Trouble](#). Our Science Center has apples that we can sort by color (red, yellow or green) or by shape (whole, half or slice). Our Art Center has bingo dotters again, but we can bingo dot apples on a tree – red, yellow or green!!

Show 'n' tell has been really fun for the four year old classes!! The children have been showing some absolutely wonderful things. This week is "B" week. We have seen Batman, bunnies, Bumblebee, basketballs, bears, bouncy balls and so much more. Parents, please continue to help your child with their show 'n' tell items!! What an amazing time of public speaking this is for your child.

Next month, we will have our Pumpkin Patch field trip. Parents, please be sure to do the background check and submit your car insurance information to me if you are planning on driving and attending this field trip. I would love to have as many families as possible come with us.

Next week, in our Bible Story, we will learn how Adam and Eve disobey God. Our bible verse to memorize is Romans 3:23, "All have sinned". Please practice this at home with your child.

It is "C" week next week. Four year old classes, please bring an item to school that starts with the letter "C".

Have a fantastic weekend with your family. Can't wait to see you next week for another wonderful time at preschool!!

Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

MAP testing- This week Tuesday and Wednesday the students had their first round of MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) testing. They were tested in the areas of Math and Reading. This is just one way we measure the progress of student growth here at St. Matthew. Some of the students struggled because they needed to use a computer mouse to click and drag. If you would like to help your child work on this skill you can use a free computer program called Dragon Drop. The students have used this program a few times in our Friday Tech class but any extra practice you can give them at home using a mouse would be super helpful. Our next test isn't until January but this is a great skill to have your child work on occasionally.

Google Calendar- Be sure to check the Google calendar every so often to stay up to date on what is going on at school. We have our first half day tomorrow. Students will be dismissed at noon, there is no need to pack a lunch. The students also sing in church THIS Sunday. They have been working so hard! Please plan to attend.

Baby wipes- We are running very low on baby wipes. If you are able to provide Costco baby wipes we would really appreciate it. The only reason I specify Costco brand is because they definitely are a better value and they work better than other brands. If you don't have a Costco membership but would like to donate money so I can buy some that would also be appreciated.

Picture Day- Last Friday I sent home a picture day envelope. Please fill out the information and return it to school as soon as possible. Even if you do not plan to purchase pictures we still need you to return the envelope with your child's name on it. Envelopes are due on Wednesday, September 27.

1st Grade News

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Hello, First Grade Families!

We had a wonderful time at Dads and Donuts this morning! Thank you to everyone who helped put it together and also every one who came to enjoy it!

All of the school children will sing in church at St. Matthew this Sunday, Sept. 24, at 10:15 a.m. They are singing a song called "Peace in Christ" and it sounds lovely!

We have our field trip scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, at Walters' Fruit Ranch on Green Bluff! We will have a few classes here in the morning, then we will head there for a bring-your-own picnic lunch, orchard tour, and corn maze! We will also get free pumpkin donuts, thanks to JT Emerson, Adaline's dad! The field trip cost is \$10 per person. I will send out field trip forms later this week or next week. If you'd like to chaperone, please remember to get a background check by emailing Mr. Biebert, and if you'd like to drive, please get me a copy of your car insurance. Thanks!

Our memory work for Thursday, Sept. 28, is 1 Peter 5:7 "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." What a wonderful God we have, that even though he is Almighty and powerful, he cares for each one of us and wants to take our burdens.

2nd Grade News

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

Christlight/ Memory Work

- 9/26 - 1 Peter 5:7
- 9/28 - The Fifth Commandment
- Please read the Bible stories from this week (The Baptism of Jesus; Jesus is Tempted) with your child during the weekend and sign the orange sheet in the orange folder.

Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day.
- Continue to work through the extra math program.
- Spelling: next week we are working on consonant blends. A consonant blend is a group of consonants that blend together. Each consonant still makes a sound. Your child's spelling words for the upcoming week will be in his/her orange folder every Friday. Tests will be on Thursday of every week.

Extra Notes

- Please leave toys at home as they become a distraction at school.
- Keep graded work from the orange folder at home.
- We have started practicing the song "Peace in Christ" at school. The kids will be singing this song at church on September 24 at 10:15. Please plan to attend.
- Continue working through memory work at home so that when your child comes into school on Tuesdays and Thursdays they are ready to go.
- Our first field trip will be happening in October - stay tuned for more details either on Friday or Monday. We are working on getting the permission slips ready. Thanks for your patience.
- Scholastic book order forms will be in your child's orange folder tomorrow. There is no need to order anything unless you would like to.
- Please return these picture form envelopes by September 27 whether you plan to order pictures or not. Pictures are going to be taken on October 2.
- We finished our first round of MAP testing this week. I will be showing each of you the results of your child's testing at the parent teacher conferences. If you would like to see them before then, feel free to speak to me.

3rd Grade News

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

Memory Work a week ahead

- 9/26 - 1 Peter 5:7 & Ephesians 3:20
- 9/28 - Colossians 2:9 & The 5th Commandment
- 9/29 - No school (Church/School campout)
- It is really important that your child is looking at the memory work packet at home so they know their verse/verses and the day they are due.
- Please read the Bible stories from this week with your child (The Baptism of Jesus & The Temptation of Jesus)

Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day
- Work on spelling words. They are in your child's Friday folder. Make sure your child is keeping their list in their accordion folder and bringing it back to school so they are able to practice. This week we are focusing on long vowels i, o, u. Spelling tests will be on Thursday. If your child misses 2 or more words, they will take it again Friday. Their highest score will go in the gradebook.

- If your child is taking home something other than those things, then they didn't use their time wisely in class. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Extra Notes

- Water bottles need to be brought to school everyday.
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- Please make sure you are returning the picture forms, even if you aren't buying pictures. The deadline is September 27th.
- There will be scholastic book orders in your child's Friday folder. Please look through the packet. If you are purchasing any books, the order is due by September 28th.
- We are having our first math test on Monday September 25th. The students will get a study guide Friday to bring home in their accordion folder. Everything that is on their study guide will be on the test.
- Please check the school calendar for any important upcoming events.
- Make sure Friday folders are coming back empty and you are looking through your child's assignments. Please let me know if you have questions.
- Please try and send lunch with your child that doesn't need to be heated in the microwave, it slows down our lunch time.
- K-8 is singing in church September 24th at 10:15am, please plan to attend.
- Please go to Mr. Biebert's room if it's after 9 am, as well as taking your child to an appointment. Classroom doors are to remain locked all day.

Have a great weekend!

4th Grade News

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

Word of God - This week we have been learning how Jesus came to take our place to save us, sinners, from our sins, and how we can show our thanks to him for doing so. Our hymn for the week is, "Salvation Unto Us Has Come"

Reading - What would it be like to immigrate to the US in the early 1900s? We are exploring this and many other concepts through our new novel, "In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson."

Spelling/Vocabulary: Test will be on Friday.

EXTRA NOTES:

- **Feature Month** -September is the fourth grade feature month. Something new we are doing this year. Special projects we have been working on will be on display in the church's basement. Also, we are helping to serve during coffee hour on **Sunday, September 24 (the same Sunday we sing)**. We will be serving donut holes. It would be great if each family could bring 2-4 dozen donut holes to be served that day.
- **MAP Testing:** MAP testing is going well. I can't wait to share with you your child's progress!
- **Free National Park Pass** - Fourth grade is a special year, when they can get a free national park pass so that they can see America's national parks and historic sites for free with their families. Here is the link to the website. It is good for a year <https://everykidoutdoors.gov/index.htm> The website should tell you all the information you need.



Have a blessed week in the Lord!

5th-6th Grade News

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

Our featured class of the week: Science. In science, I try to get the kids hands-on with our lessons as much as possible. I want them to either be completing a lab, researching on a Chromebook, or analyzing a video at least once a week. As a result, we spend very little time in our textbooks, and the notes and handouts are important to keep track of. I will also use our science units to build the background for the essays we write in English class. This year the science-themed essay will come in the third quarter in the form of an informative essay about natural disasters.

In other classes, this week in religion we are studying the beginning of Jesus' ministry and the second article of the Apostles' Creed along with it. In math, both classes are continuing our study of multiplication. We are finishing up our study of waves and energy in science with a project about the electromagnetic spectrum. In social studies, we took a test this week on the Ancient Greek civilization, and will start a deeper dive into the Battle of Thermopylae (originally we were going to do Athenian Democracy, but the students were more interested in the battles.) Finally in English we are continuing our study of subjects and predicates.

Please remember that this Friday is a half day of school, during which we will be traveling to Koi Gardens for a field trip. Students will not need a lunch but could bring a snack if desired.

Also, just a reminder if you haven't seen it on the front page, our class is singing along with the rest of the student body in church at St. Matthew on Sunday. Please attend if you are able.

7th-8th Grade News

Mr. Jacob Biebert (715.402.0094)

It was a very odd week at school as we finished up MAP testing this week. Our schedule was destroyed, but we still managed to make good use of our time as we gathered testing data, patched up learning gaps in regards to learning objectives that the students were struggling with, caught up on some missing work, and even dove forward with some new objectives.

Here is the memory work for next week:

9/25: Psalm 139:14, Isaiah 59:2 ; 9/27: The Conclusion to the Commandments; 9/28: Hymn 385: 1,4,5

We have been doing an in depth study on the lessons we can learn from the Mt. St. Helens volcanic explosion. It is very cool to see how God sustained life despite such a huge explosion filled with destruction on the life around the mountain. One student mentioned that they felt the explosion on Mt. St. Helens was over dramatized until we discussed that it had the force of 21,000 atomic bombs behind it. Chalk this up to another place that I would love to take the kids if we can find time. I am actively working on trying to get a field trip or trips planned to see Grand Coulee Dam and Palouse Falls this fall. I will share more information as I get some details.

As we are getting further into the first quarter, and soccer has started up, some of the bad tendencies are starting to creep up with homework. Please have your children double check their planners, and even have them show you their completed homework for the following day to keep the accountable as things get busier.

Please don't forget that we sing this upcoming Sunday @10:15. The students have sounded beautiful in their practicing. Please help them to be there for the worship service if possible.

The D.C. meeting has been moved to this upcoming Monday right after school. Please try your best to be there for some important information in regards to the upcoming trip.

Fall weather seems to be creeping closer which is a little bittersweet, but I pray you have a blessed weekend with whatever your family chooses to do. See you Monday.

Where You Get the Strength

My dad had to say it to me and my siblings so often that he ended up abbreviating it. "ABK!" he would call out to the back seats of the station wagon. "ABK!" he would yell upstairs where our bedrooms were. "ABK!" he would say in the backyard while sitting in his lawn chair near the grill and watching us play.

"ABK" stood for Always Be Kind.

We knew Christians were supposed to be kind. We had heard the Bible verse, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." But it was so hard! Siblings were so annoying and obnoxious! And whatever it was, they did it on purpose!

It's difficult for adults to be kind and compassionate as well. Being unkind seems to come naturally. To be honest, it's easy to prove that other people don't deserve our kindness. Unkindness seems to come just as naturally to them as it does to me.

Where will I ever get the strength to forgive unkind people?

The strength will come from realizing that God has forgiven me even when I don't deserve it. I will get the strength from seeing how Christ treated me even when I was a sinner. My own forgiveness from a kind and compassionate God will give me the strength to be kind and compassionate as well.

There is a hint in the Lord's Prayer. "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." When I call on God to forgive my sins, I am called to do the same for all those unkind people around me.

Prayer:

"Forgive our sins as we forgive," you taught us, Lord, to pray, but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say. Amen.

Want more daily devotions?

I get them here!



Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:32