

Message from Mrs. Bunn

Grandparents' Day

Thank you to the parents and St. John church members that helped with our performance and lunch. I heard from many grandparents and parents that they really enjoyed all of it. The students were super excited to share what they had worked so hard on these last weeks. They did a fantastic job!

Gr. 2-4 Religion Class

We studied the resurrection of Jesus this past week in religion class. An angel told the women who came to Jesus' tomb that he had risen from the dead. Jesus also appeared to the women and to Mary Magdalene who told the disciples what she had seen. All of these events make us sure that Jesus has the power to raise us and the we can trust his promise to save us from death. We are comforted because Jesus is alive and because of his promise to us. We want to joyfully share this good news with our friends, family, and the rest of the world!

Check in with your Child

As it gets harder to focus on schoolwork, memory work, and independent reading at home, your child may need some extra encouragement to continue with their studies until the close of this school year. Be sure to ask about memory work since many are trying to quickly learn it at school and this is not working for many. Also, please check that they are reading at least 20 minutes daily. Some may need to do some extra long reading sessions to catch up on their independent reading assignments for the quarter, since a few students seemed to have taken a reading break as of late. We have a number of students who have to use recess time to catch up on reading and learn memory work. It would be better for them to be able to use that time for social interaction, exercise, fresh air, and a brain break. Lost recess time can be avoided if these things are done at home each night. I have talked to students who need to do some catch up and they can show you their progress any time by logging in to AR at home. Thanks in advance for your help in this area.



CRY OF THE CARDINAL

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Message from Pastor Gehl

Remember when we used to be allowed to play games at recess that had a relatively high likelihood of causing bodily harm? Remember getting hit in the torso (or stocking-cap-protected head) with a snowball that was more slushy ice than snow? Remember playing dodgeball in the gym when no one held back, but threw the rubber playground balls at you as hard as possible to take you out? Remember when the front-end-loader pushed all the snow into a pile on one end of the parking lot that was two stories high and we played "king of the hill"? Only the big kids lasted more than a few minutes at the top, pushing and throwing everyone else back down the slope. The "high ground advantage" (subtle Obi Wan Kenobi reference) is a real thing, isn't it? It's easier to defend an elevated position; attackers are at a great disadvantage when they have to come from down below.

This week Thursday was the 40th day after Easter, celebrating the day when Jesus ascended up into heaven. He sits himself at the right hand of his Father. What's he doing up there? Well, first of all, God's right hand is a position, not a location. God is spirit - he doesn't have a right hand or a left hand. Jesus ascended to a position of power and glory and preeminence and supremacy. You might say he's the King of the hill, but that would be a gross understatement. Listen to how Paul puts it in his letter to the Ephesians: "...how surpassingly great his power is for us who believe. It is as great as the working of his mighty strength, which God worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule, authority, power, and dominion, and above every name that is given, not only in this age but also in the one to come. God also placed all things under his feet and made him head over everything for the church."

Sometimes, doesn't it seem like the people of God are vastly outnumbered and greatly overpowered by the people of the world? While true that we might be in the minority, we're far from helpless. That couldn't be further from the truth. Jesus, our living Savior and our reigning King, has the high ground. There's no threat that can overthrow him. And he doesn't rule for his own sake; he rules for YOUR sake - for the good of his church of believers. Because he ascended and reigns, no threat of body or soul can overcome YOU, either! You may not be able to see him with your eyes, but you can be sure that he directs all things for your good with an incomparable power and an amazing love from his Father's right hand.

In Christ's Service and Yours! Pastor Mike Gehl



Classroom News

Hello, all!

Our school year is starting to wrap up! Even though it is coming to a close, our PreK classroom is still full of fun activities to come!

Next week on Wednesday, May 19th, we will FINALLY use all the egg cartons that you guys have so wonderfully let me have! Our daily challenge for that day will be to build the Great Wall of China in our classroom. The kids have been watching the egg cartons coming in and have brought some in themselves and over the pass week their anticipation for using them is growing. "Miss Buss, when are we using those?" seems to be a very popular question as of late. :) We also have some other fun challenges coming up such as making pudding, doing more hidden pictures (they LOVE those!), and we will begin to look at items in a microscope. We started with magnifying glasses this week before we move on to microscopes. We took them outside and looked for items that we could look at through our magnifying glasses. We practiced how to use them, and there was much excitement in that activity as well. We also made edible JELLO slime as a class... however, they did not know it was edible but rather that it just smelled really good!

Math has us looking at coins, so this week we looked at the quarter and we worked on sorting the coins. We also have been playing number bingo, and tricking our brains with using tangrams. Tangrams are an excellent puzzle for the kiddos as they work on flipping pieces to fit them in a certain space. It is also really nice because there isn't ONE right solution to a puzzle. Most have been enjoying that challenge as well.

As always, if you have any questions over the next few weeks, please reach out! I'd be more than happy to answer them. With that being said, have a great few weeks ahead!

Miss Buss

Classroom News

Mrs. Wicks' Classroom News

Thank you to all of those who helped make our Grandparent's Day great last week! Many thanks, as always, to our lunch crew for putting our meal together. Our students received lots of compliments. Videos of the performances will be appearing online soon; check our facebook page and links sent through the Remind app.

All around our classroom, we can see signs that the school year is wrapping up. Kindergarten has finished their Superkids workbooks and are now working on extending and re-viewing what we have already learned in Language Arts. First grade has finished their handwriting curriculum. Most of our other subjects will go until the end of the year, though we will wind them down early to get in some extra fun before we depart for summer.

Please keep checking your student's folder for messages. I plan to send out a note asking who would like some summer work. I generally offer a folder of worksheets to review things that we learned during the year. This is not required work by any means, though I do recommend keeping up with some kind of academics to stay sharp. I offer incentives for reading and academic work as well- \$1 towards Scholastic Book Club orders for each 20 worksheets completed, picture books read, chapters read, or any combination of the three. Incoming and outgoing students can earn up to \$10 over the summer.

We have a couple of special events left before the end of our year. First, our fourth quarter reading goal offers a 'Sports Day' for those who complete their goal. Don't forget that in order to get this in before the end of the year, reading goals need to be met by Friday, May 21st. Secondly, our last day of school includes a closing service, awards ceremony, bouncy house fun, and a picnic. We highly encourage parents to join us for the program. Students will be dismissed after the picnic.

