



# CRY OF THE CARDINAL

March 12, 2021 – St. John Lutheran School Newsletter—Volume 10

## A Message From Pastor Gehl

This Sunday morning is going to be darker than usual. Not because the sun's rays have weakened, all of a sudden. Not because there are more clouds in the sky. (That may very well be the case, but I'm no weatherman and I know better than to make that sort of prediction.) The sky will be darker this Sunday morning because we've turned the hands of our clocks ahead the night before. Now, instead of the sun rising around 6:00, it's going to peek above the horizon around 7:00. I know... things will get progressively better as we move through March and into April, but it still has a dulling effect on our minds when the beginning of our day is that much darker than we've been used to. The Bible talks about how sin darkens our understanding and how the devil blinds us from seeing God and his grace and his blessings. And isn't that the truth? It's so very easy to get caught up in "life" and become distracted from the things that really matter - God's Word and his promises and our thankful response. It's so easy to doubt God's love and recognize him as the source of all our blessings and rejoice in the light of his salvation and forgiveness. But just as the mornings get progressively brighter though March and into April, our outlook brightens as Easter approaches. Our Savior, Jesus, lives! Sometimes we see that dimly, but it's true nonetheless. Our Jesus always lives! And he always lives for you!

In Christ's Service and Yours - Pastor Mike Gehl



# Classroom News

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## Ms. Buss' Classroom News

The start of March has found us having some beautiful weather! We have enjoyed it at school for sure! Please keep in mind that if you take your child's winter items home to send them back in case, we would get any more winter weather coming our way. There is a part of me that says we are still in Wisconsin and March generally has this reputation of if it comes in like a lamb it goes out like a lion! :)

The kids have been working on daily STEM challenges in our room and they have a range of difficulty. This week we made boats out of aluminum foil and guess how many pennies would fit in the boat before it sank. They were all amazed at how many MORE pennies their boats could hold than they had guessed. We also built a city as a class, and made ramps. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. All the activities that we are doing has the kids working on beginner science concepts, technology (which for early education is more learning and practicing how you can use different materials and also using them in different ways, and the building encompasses Engineering. We get our math work throughout the day and also with building challenges that have us building shapes etc.

One of the things that I would like to do in April or May with them is have a building challenge that has them building the Great Wall of China! (What a great way to also teach about different landmarks!) However, for this, I am in need of a LOT of egg cartons. So, if you are throwing your egg cartons away, could you kindly consider donating them to our classroom. The kids would LOVE it. I thank you in advance.

The kids had a lot of fun for spirit week this week! So many were dressed up! Thanks for taking part in our week and our field trip!

Finally, please remember that on Friday, March 26th all students in my PreK class and Mrs. Foelske's Preschool class only have a half day of school. Dismissal for ALL Early Education students will happen at 11:30.

As always, please reach out if you have any questions! Have a great few weeks, as we continue to approach Easter and the amazing reminder of how much Jesus loves us and everything that he did to take away our sins!



# Classroom News

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## Mrs. Foleske's Classroom News

Preschool is a letter finding powerhouse! Many of us can and will shout out letters we know in the things we see all around us. I highly encourage parents to help your child by going on a letter hunt, look at signs, books, billboards, and cereal boxes. (We have done letters A-S with the most recent letters or ones in your child's name being the easiest for them.)

Next week in Bible story we will shift gears from Jesus Miracles to the beginning of his Passion (the week leading up to Easter and all that happened.) We continue with our month focus on purple, ovals, and number eight.

Please continue to send snow stuff or at least boots, jackets, hats and gloves for your child. With Wisconsin being so changeable it best to be prepared for what ever the weather could be or change to as the day goes on.

Please be aware that we have a few more days off coming up. Preschool and Pre-K have a half day(11:30 release) on March 26 for a Early Childhood open house. We also have off April 2&5 for Good Friday and Easter Monday.

As school is going to be heading into the final quarter assessments on your child and their readiness for Pre-K will be happening. I will contact parents if I have any concerns about your child's progress. If this happens I would be asking to meet and talk about what plans could be made to address anything that is concerning. If you want to schedule a meeting to talk about these assessments feel free to message me. However, in this case no news means good news.

As always feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions. Mrs. Alexa Foelske

## Mrs. Wicks' Classroom News

The month of March has been a busy one for the K/1 classroom. We have had a great Spirit Week, enjoyed the warming weather, and learned a lot. My apologies to those friends with March birthdays; I forgot to add them to our printed classroom calendar. This month we are celebrating Oliver on the 5th, Jaylyn on the 12th, Bianca on the 19th, and Lily Rebecca on the 27th. Happy Birthday, friends!

We are also celebrating the end of third quarter. We will be finishing out our second quarter science unit on changes over the next couple of weeks. It has been a fun unit which allowed us to make predictions, try experiments, and observe and record changes that happen to a variety of materials. Our fourth quarter unit will allow us a chance to see a different kind of change- watching seeds grow into plants! We will be studying plants and growing a variety of items with emphasis on what every living thing needs to survive.