

Bluejay Bulletin

December 4, 2009

Calendar Updates for Next Week

December Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 Christmas Practice 11- 12	7 1:00 Early Dismissal Girls Basketball Practice 3:30-5 Boys Basketball Practice 6- 7:30	8	9 Advent Worship 6:30 Girls Basketball Practice 3:30- 5	10 Boys Basketball Practice 6:00- 7:30	11 Boys and Girls Basketball @ St. Paul's NFDL 5-8pm	12 Boys and Girls Basketball vs. Calvary 1-4 Fall Sports Banquet

From the Faculty's Desk

The Microwave

"But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons." Galatians 4:4-5

A man once sent his parents a microwave oven for Christmas. Here's how he recalls the experience:

"They were excited that now they, too, could be a part of the instant generation. When Dad unpacked the microwave and plugged it in, literally within seconds, the microwave transformed two smiles into frowns! Even after reading the directions, they couldn't make it work. Two days later, my mother was playing bridge with a friend and confessed her inability to get that microwave oven even to boil water. 'To get this dumb thing to work,' she exclaimed, 'I really don't need better directions; I just needed my son to come along with the gift!'"

When God gave the gift of salvation, he didn't send a booklet of complicated instructions for us to figure out.

He sent his Son.

The love we received at Christmas isn't an idea. It isn't a concept or a bunch of directions on how to live better. It's a person. It's Jesus. It's the grandest outpouring of love and concern that anyone could ever imagine. It is the willingness of the Son of God to make Himself nothing to give us everything. It is the Son of God who took on human flesh and

became also the Son of Man so that He could fix what is broken between us and God. It is the assurance that you are forgiven for all your failures because of God's Son.

No complicated instructions. Just salvation for your soul. Peace with God. Let that love be your gift this Christmas! Let that peace fill your heart. Let the assurance that you are a child of God because of what Jesus did for you bring you much joy!

School News

The St. John's Lutheran School Education Committee would like to remind all families that the school staff will not be responsible for students prior to the doors opening at 7:50 am, or after the doors are close at 3:15 pm. Parents should make appropriate arrangements especially since the winter season will soon be here. Students attending athletic practice held during after school hours should be dropped off no sooner than 10 minutes before the start of practice, and then picked up promptly at the end of practice. Also students attending after school activities are reminded to remain in the designated areas. Students will not be allowed in the classroom areas.

HINI Update: Please see the note at the end of the newsletter regarding important HINI information.

School Picture Gift Packages: In the office are school picture gift packages. The packages include 8 magnets of your child's school pictures as well as 8 laminated tags (like gift tags, or name tags for a suitcase.) If you would be interested please stop by the office and check them out. The cost is \$20 for the two sheets or you can buy just one of them for \$12. If you do not want them also please let us know so we can send them back.

Mission Offering

Last Week: \$23.60

This Week: \$25.62

Total for 2nd Quarter: \$130.48

Sports News

SOCCER/VOLLEYBALL AWARDS PRESENTATION will be before the first basketball game on Saturday, Dec. 5th at Montello. We will begin with awards at 11:00, have a potluck lunch (please bring a dish to pass), and then enjoy the games that day. Upper grade soccer and volleyball are only having awards on that day. K-4 soccer players will not need to be there for awards. The Dec. 5th games will be in the Montello ELEMENTARY GYM and we are asked to use the FAR PARKING LOT by the tennis courts due to activities at Montello High School. The west door will be open for our use. Also pictures will be taken on that day for all the basketball teams starting at noon.

BASKETBALL PICTURES will be taken on Saturday December 5 beginning at noon. Schedule is as follows: Girls B, Boys B, Girls A, Boys A. Picture envelopes will be sent

home when they arrive here at school. There will also be envelopes available the day of pictures.

Classroom News

Notes from the 4K/5K/Grade 1 Room

First of all, **THANK YOU PARENTS**, for two things:

1. ...for having your child in attendance at our Thanksgiving worship service.
2. ...for doing an excellent job of helping your child learn this week's memory treasures for the Christmas Eve service. They recited a much longer verse than usual on Wednesday and did a great job! Keep up the good work.

Advent has begun, and so our classroom decorations and activities are aimed at helping us prepare for the celebration of our Savior's birth and His coming again on the Last Day. We have a special devotion each morning with our Advent candle(s) lit, and we have two Advent calendars to open each day. One of them has doors with little wooden ornaments in it and we hang them on a mini tree. Each child eagerly awaits his/her turn. We are going oldest to youngest, so the 4K's are having to be **very** patient.

This week was the last lesson of the Old Testament portion of our Word of God stories. Next week our lesson will be, "An Angel Visits Mary." Memory Treasures for the week are listed on the Christmas Service recitation schedule.

After being blessed with a comfortably mild November, it is beginning to get colder. The children should have hats and gloves or mittens in addition to their warm coats with them at school each day. The snow will begin to fall sooner or later, so plan ahead. Your child will need snow pants and boots to be able to go outdoors for recess.

Show n' Tell

4K/5K/1—Guess My Number—Each child should bring a bag or container of objects that they have counted. (with the older students it may be a clear container if they have a large enough number that it's not able to be counted just by looking) The student will ask his/her classmates to, "Guess my number." They will then have to be able to be familiar with the surrounding numbers in order to be able to say, "No, it's more (or less) than that, etc. Of course the 4K's number of objects will most likely be fewer than that of the older students, so we'll have their 4K classmates have first chance at guessing.

News from Grades 2-5 (Mrs. Krueger):

Thank you, parents, for having your children at the Thanksgiving service on time. Everything went very smoothly that evening. It was a great opportunity for the children to praise their Lord!

We have begun an awesome time of year – Advent – the coming of the Lord! We get to prepare our hearts to celebrate the birthday of our King! In the classroom we are using an Advent devotion book in the morning and afternoon and are lighting the candle on our Advent wreath each time. This week it's the Prophecy Candle. It's a way for the children to focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

Each day we eliminate something from our schedule so we can prepare for telling the Christmas story on Christmas Eve. There is songs to learn and much to memorize. Spending time at home with the recitations and songs will also be very beneficial.

On Monday, one of the first questions I was asked was, "When are we going to put the Christmas tree up?" Mind you, it was still November on Monday!! Anyway, we might have the tree up and decorated by the time you read this. The children take turns putting the

ornaments on the tree, and that can probably be done while we're working on our art project on Friday.

The children should have come home last Wednesday with the child's name that was picked for our Christmas present exchange. When the present is wrapped, please put your child's name on the inside so it can be kept a surprise until the party (yea, right!). Presents can be brought to school the week of Dec. 21. Each child is asked to bring a snack for the Christmas party on Dec. 23. Sometimes it's nice to have non-sugary items like cheese, crackers, pretzel mix, fruit pizza, etc. Remember – no peanuts in anything. Mrs. Krueger will supply the beverage for the party.

No one probably wants to think about it yet, but we all know the snow and cold is coming. Here's a "heads-up" about our winter policy. Please have your child bring hats and gloves/mittens for recess. Boots will also be required for everyone, 4K – 8, during recess time. This year there will be no "King of the Mountain" allowed on the snow hill for any of the grades. We hope to keep everyone both warm and safe.

God bless your week!

6-8th Grade News

I would like to start off by thanking everyone for being there for the Thanksgiving Eve worship service. The children all sang beautifully! We all have so much to be thankful for.

Advent had begun! We are preparing for our Lord's birth. We have started afternoon devotions focused around the Advent season. We also light an advent wreath in the classroom. Next week we will be getting the rest of the room decorated for the Christmas season.

We are finished up Chapter 20 in History on Thursday. Instead of having another Chapter Test we are going to be doing an activity based on the Newsies' Strike of 1889. We will begin preparations for that activity next week.

Preparations have begun for our Christmas Eve worship service. The schedule for recitations was sent home last week. We have been taking time in the mornings to work on our parts in class. We began our practices in church on Friday. There is practice on Sunday from 11- 12. Please make sure everyone is practicing their part at home there is a lot to learn.

The snow has begun to fall! With this means that we need to make sure everyone is dressed appropriately. Please make sure that everyone has a jacket to wear outside for recess. Hats and gloves are also a good thing to have as it is much colder outside now. We don't want anyone getting sick! Boots will be required for everyone, 4K-8, to go outside for recess. There will also be no "King of the Mountain" this year. We are trying to keep everyone safe this season.

*******IMPORTANT HINI INFORMATION*******

HINI vaccine is now available and Green Lake County has scheduled a clinic at our school to vaccinate those who have returned their consent forms.

WHEN: THURSDAY, December 17TH

1:00 P.M TO 3:00 P.M. FOR 5TH THRU 12TH GRADERS.

3:15 P.M. TO 4:30 P.M. FOR PRESCHOOL THRU 4TH GRADE. A PARENT MUST BE PRESENT FOR THE YOUNGER CHILDREN.

WHERE: PRINCETON PUBLIC SCHOOL

NOTE: If your child has gotten any live vaccines 28 days prior to the scheduled clinic (i.e. varicella, MMR or seasonal or HINI Flu mist), you need to call the Green Lake County Health Department at 920-294-4070 and let them know.

In addition, if you previously did not return a consent form, and would now like to have your child get vaccinated with the HINI vaccine, forms can be obtained at the school office or by going to the Green Lake County website at: www.co.green-lake.wi.us and click on the HINI link on the right side of the page. These forms need to be returned to the school by December 14th. In the event you signed a consent form and no longer wish to have your child vaccinated, you must notify Green Lake County Health Department at least 24 hours before the clinic date.