

# Monthly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

September 2011

## Principal's Corner



**GDLSCHOOL.ORG**

I would like to take a moment to welcome all of our new and returning families to Gloria Dei Lutheran School and Childcare Center. With many differing programs having begun here at Gloria Dei throughout the month of August, it is good to see that everyone is getting settled into their routines and becoming familiar with students and staff members alike.

As in previous years, each family will receive a newsletter at the beginning of the month containing a letter from the Administrator, Childcare Director, and our Teaching Staff. Included you will also find a calendar of events for the upcoming month, chapel information, and submissions from our various Boards (such as the School Board and PTL).

Soccer began on August 30th for our students from 4 yr. old preschool through 7<sup>th</sup> grade and the children in our after school program. We will continue until we dismiss for Fall break. I would like to thank our volunteers and parents who come to lend their support and to our participating students. Your help is truly invaluable!

Our Dad's Luncheon (students aged 4 through 7<sup>th</sup> grade) was a success with many of our fathers (or representatives) in attendance. Our students always look forward to the special events in which they are able to invite their loved ones to participate in an activity, whether it is a simple lunch or an "after hours" event. A sincere thanks goes to all of those who were able to join us on this day.

Our first official break of the school year will be Fall Break Oct. 3-10, school resumes on Tuesday Oct. 11th. Our childcare facility will remain open.

Yours in Christ,

William Knea

### Important Dates:

- Sept. 5th closed for Labor Day
- Sept. 13th PTL Meeting  
6:30 pm
- Sept. 13th Chick Fil A Spirit Night 5pm-close
- St. Judes Box and Bike A Thon
- Sept. 23rd Johnny Appleseed Day
- Sept. 25th 4 Year olds sing in church

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## Bike and Box A Thon for St. Judes...

Our children will have the opportunity to participate in a **Box-A-Thon (ages 2-4) or Bike A Thon (K-7)** to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

This event is a long-standing tradition at Gloria Dei and has been scheduled for **Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>**. The collected funds will go directly to children in need of life-saving treatments and research. Look for more information soon.

## From Ute's Desk:



How much sleep do children need? Sleep is an important factor in all our lives. When we sleep, we rest and our body is able to renew its energy.

Sleep is also important because of dreams. When we dream, we process all the events of daily life. Getting a good night's sleep, therefore, influences our psychological well being. Sleeping well is often a result of having good sleeping habits. A toddler usually sleeps between 10 and 12 hours per day. It is a good idea to have a pre-bedtime routine that, as much as possible, is always the same. This way, your child will know when it is time for bed.

- Let your child calm down by playing a quiet game together.
- Let your child choose what pajamas to wear.
- Get her to brush her teeth, go to the toilet etc.
- Listen to some soft music.
- Read or tell a story.
- Say a 'good-night prayer'.

Tuck your child in with her blanket, teddy bear, or some

other thing that makes her feel secure. A three to five year old usually sleeps between 10 and 12 hours every night. Sleeping routines and bedtime have become familiar, but at this age, children can suffer from nightmares. If your child wakes up crying because of a nightmare, she needs comfort and security.

- Go to your child's room.
- Rub her back gently.
- Speak softly.
- Do not ask your child about the dream. Often, she will not be fully awake and will go back to sleep faster if you just sit with her quietly. She usually will not even remember the nightmare in the morning.

All our lives have become so busy and the racing clock governs each day. Research shows that our nation is sleep-deprived. Even children are expected to 'run' along. Let us remember that going to bed on time is as important as eating well-balanced meals. Wishing you a blessed month of September filled with thirty restful nights.

## September Chapel Offering Details:

This month we will give to the backpack program.



We are looking for donations of individually wrapped non perishable food. Feeding America packs a backpack of food for children

who will not have enough food to eat for the weekend. All monetary donations will be presented to the shelter to use as needed.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

## *A Special Thanks...*



On behalf of the Gloria Dei Staff, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to all of our families and members of our congregation for the contributions that were made for our

**10/20/40 Celebration Carnival.** We cannot thank you enough for the cakes, 2 liters and volunteered time that played such a big part in making this special event such a success.

# What's coming up in your child's class...?

## 2 & 3 year old classrooms

### Ms. Kathy's 2 year old. Class

We will be learning about the seasons, forest animals and pets. We will talk about apples in honor of Johnny Appleseed's birthday. Our shape of the month will be square but we will be reviewing the shape of a circle as well as our primary colors. Later in the month we will learn about the circus.

### Ms. Melanie's class:

August was a blast. We are still adjusting to a new routine. Last month, we talked about ourselves, our families, animals and their families.

September is National Breakfast Month, so we will begin the month learning about good foods and healthy habits. Then we are going to take a look inside our bodies next week and learn about some of our organs and their functions. Next, we will learn about transportation. September 16th is our St. Jude Box-a-thon. We will drive box cars around our race track to raise money for cancer research. The last week of the month, we will talk about apples and celebrate Johnny Appleseed Day with the whole school.

Happy Birthday to Connor Daniels

## 4 year old classrooms

### Ms. Susie's class

We will be studying senses and colors and the letter Cc week of Sept. 14-17 , Woody's Animal, letter Tt, Sept. 21-24 Apples, Letter Aa, we will also be talking about Johnny Apple seed and doing special projects with apples, the week of September 28 - October 1 Fire Safety and the letter Nn. Our Christian Value will be Self Control.

### Ms. Debi's Class:

Our month of August and the first weeks of school have just flown by! We are enjoying our Pre-K class and adjusting very well to the classroom routines. All the children are very social and enjoy being together. In the month of Sept. we will be exploring different jobs we might have when we grow up, and dressing up to show what we might want to be. We will review our 5 senses and our colors, we will also talk about what kind of "backyard" animals we might see around our homes. We will also be doing activities with apples, and talking about fire safety in our homes, schools and community.

## M. Petersen's Kindergarten and First Grade News

WOW!!! We are off to a GREAT start! Everyone is working hard and working together. We are having fun. Thank you so much for sharing your child with me. Each student is truly a blessing to our classroom.

In September we will be working on the following:

Kindergarten: □ We will continue learning about animals. We will be planning a trip to the zoo at the conclusion of this unit. Students will pick an animal to study and become an expert. They will make a diorama of the habitat in which their animal lives. Each child will need a shoebox for this project. The students will then be our guides through the zoo. Look for more details concerning this trip soon in your child's folder.

First Grade: □ Like Kindergarten we are learning about animals. We will be adding new vocabulary and working in greater detail with our inquiry skills. We will also look forward to the trip to the zoo. We will also choose an animal and become an expert (a different animal from last year). We will also be the guides at the zoo. In addition to this, the first grade will have to compile a nonfiction book or a poster presentation using the research they have found about their animal.

## 2nd and 3rd Grade Happenings

"I am Jesus' Little Lamb" is our theme this year. It helps us remember that no matter what Jesus takes care of us. "Jesus tends his flock like a shepherd. He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart. He gently leads those who have young." Isaiah 40:11 "Jesus will be here for us when we are working or playing. In religion we will be seeing how the Holy Spirit blesses his church. The Holy Spirit is one of the persons of the Trinity. He is a part of God that lives in our hearts and empowers believer for their work of spreading the Gospel. We see his work in countries around the world as more people hear his word. In math second and third grades are learning number strategies and skills. Second grade is especially learning number concepts, patterns and 2-digit addition. Third grade is working with addition and subtraction of 3-4-and 5- digit numbers. In reading and language arts both grades are learning writer's skills and reading strategies. Second grade will complete their unit called, "Being Me" and start "Helping Hands." Third grade will complete "Something Special!" and start "What a Team!" We start a new Literature Circle book in September. In Social Studies we are learning about communities around the world. In science we are learning about living things in our world. We were able to see living things on our recent fieldtrip to Bernheim Forest. We are enjoying learning to play the recorder.

## Mr. Knea's 4th– 7th Grade News

**Religion:** God rescued Jacob's family from bondage in Egypt. In the same way God rescues us from the bondage of sin through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection saves us to be a people devoted to Him.

**Reading:** Analyzing collections of stories analyzing the characters, the conflict, moral lessons, climax, and suspense. Literature circle is happening each Friday. Each student is required to test on Accelerated Reader books totaling 6 points or more choosing each month.

**Math:** Grade 4 we will be working identifying, and use the properties of addition. In grade 5 we will write quotients for multi-digit divisors. In grade 6 we will be writing and solving equations using division. In Pre-Algebra we will write equivalent rational numbers solving equations and inequalities.

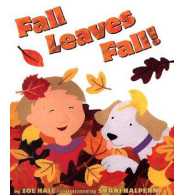
**Science:** Learning about protests and fungi.

**Social Studies:** Studying about America from 1860-1877. **Class Trip** As part of our American study we will take a trip to Washington D.C. for about \$600 per person less any fundraising this year around the last weeks of school.

**Language/grammar:** Working with the parts of speech. Creative writing and speech presentations are a big part of our daily activities.

**PE:** Practicing skills in a variety of athletic activities.

**Music:** We sing a variety of songs identify the dynamics for balance, expression, and good tone quality. We also practice and play a variety of instruments each week.



## PTL News

Our meetings are the second Tuesday of the month except for November (Wed. Nov. 9th). at 7:00 pm. We will need 8 volunteers to help at the box and bikeathon on Sept. 16th to distribute drinks, popsicles and to punch the lap markers. A note will be going home later in the month. Please let the school office know if you can help.

Money that is raised this year will go to building an outdoor classroom for our school. We have the following upcoming events: Volksmarch, Christmas Parade, Santa's workshop and we do the AR store.

Next Meeting 9/13/11 at 7 pm



## Spirit Day

Our very first Spirit Day will be on **Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>**. For fun, we are going to mimic some of the antics of Johnny Appleseed. In the story, Johnny wore ratty flannel shirts, blue jeans, and a pot upon his head. We would like to encourage our children to come in dressed this very same way!\*  
Go on - have fun with it!