

# St. John School News

## Message from Mrs. Kosmerchock, Principal: "Thanksgiving Blessing!"

It's hard to believe that we're entering the holiday season, and I would like to wish a very happy Thanksgiving to all our SJL families and our great community.

Thanksgiving is the time of year we all reflect on our many blessings. Although life is filled with many challenges, this is the time of year we are grateful for the kind people in our lives who love and support us so that our students believe, achieve, and succeed. I am personally thankful for my family, my friends, my faith, and the fine

folks (staff, students, and families) here at St. John Lutheran Church and School. This school is a blessing to all who work and attend. I wish for all the best to each and every member of our school and church family.

Live each day rejoicing fully in Christ knowing that through all things He is there for you holding you and loving you!

Blessings,

*Mrs. Kosmerchock, Principal*

## Classroom News

### Preschool Happenings

#### Mrs. Debbie Wagner - PreK

Our preschoolers are settling into the routines of school and are ready to explore their place "In the larger community". As we have finished our Big Day for PreK unit on "My Family," we have become more aware of all that is right around us. We will be introduced to the simple wonders of the people and places close by. We will come to appreciate that people all over the world live in communities that share traits with theirs. When studying about the community, we find out that the people in our community represent many cultures, and they learn how diverse people can live, work, and play together. We will also learn that we can all be good citizens. Demonstrating good citizenship in the classroom and in the community means being responsible - including the responsibility of "going green!" For Jesus Time, we are thanking God for blessing us - in times of trouble, by providing all that we need, knowing what's best for us, and blessing us with his forgiveness, even when we are impatient sinners.

Thank you God for the greatest gift of your son Jesus and the blessing of forgiveness!

### Mrs. Cavin – 3 Year Old

We have enjoyed learning all about our families, our neighbors, and community helpers as we did our My Family, My Community unit. The children enjoyed bringing in family pictures for us to look at. We also graphed our family sizes. We talked about how some families are large, some are small, but all families are full of love! We learned that people we live near are our neighbors. We talked about neighborhoods, and that our neighborhoods are in a city, Defiance, which is in the state of Ohio, which is part of our country, the United States of America, and we all live on the planet Earth. We have had fun watching the old playground getting taken down, and have enjoyed speculating on what the new playground will be like. Our next unit, Seasons All Around, will be lots of fun! We will have the opportunity to observe the changing seasons as the leaves turn color and the weather cools down. We have learned about Noah and Abraham, and how God always keeps his promises. We are looking forward to learning more about the people of God as we continue through the Old Testament.

## Kindergarten Happenings

### Mrs. Stottlemyer

I am so proud of my kindergarteners and the work that they have been doing this year. It is so amazing to see how much they have learned in just a few months. They are all writing their own sentences in their journals and reading sentences on their own. November is always a fun month as we study about the First Thanksgiving and do some silly turkey activities! In Jesus Time we have been learning many of the Old Testament stories, but that will soon come to an end when we start preparing for Christmas and the birth of our Savior!

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### First Grade News - Mrs. Jan McGhee

Fall has arrived and we are glad to have the cooler air. We've recently released the preying mantis that lived in the tall aquarium in our classroom. The girls loved catching crickets and grasshoppers at recess to feed to the mantis. It was so funny watching the girls scamper through the halls with the insects cupped in their hands!

The Phonics Dance letter blends are catchy and prove to be effective in remembering sounds for tackling those tough words. In Math we have been adding and subtracting numbers within fact families. Our Science unit is on Botany. We broke off branches from some sweet potato vines, rooted them, then planted them in flower pots. They are already taking over the window area.

### Second Grade News - Mrs. Cheryl Yoder

This year seems to be flying by. It is hard to believe we are already getting ready to host visitors for our chapel this month, and are well into our fall activities. Pumpkin math was a success and everyone had lots of fun! The second graders have been learning about animal adaptations for different climates, and will soon be completing an experiment based on how animals stay warm in cold environments. They are certainly looking forward to that. In religion, we are getting close to the Christmas story, which is a favorite every year.

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## Third Grade Classroom

### Mrs. Tiffany Scheurich

It's hard to believe how fast this year is going! The third graders had a lot of fun doing their Pete the Cat chapel! They worked really hard to present that to the school! We have been busy in the classroom as well. We have finished our chapter on addition in math and are well on our way to finishing our subtraction chapter and the start of multiplication and division! We have been working on personal narratives in writing class. In social studies we have finished a chapter on America's government and are learning about our heritage and culture. In science, we are starting a chapter on the Engineering Process. In reading and language arts we have been working on sequencing, literary elements and comparing and contrasting as well as sentence structure. Finally, in religion, we have been learning how the Holy Spirit blesses the church. All students met their AR goal for the first quarter! Way to go!!

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## Fourth Grade Classroom

### Miss Carli Rossow

Wow! It's the second quarter already. We've been busy writing all sorts of Poetry: Couplets, Quatrains, Limericks, Recipe Poems. You might want to ask us what are soles have been up to or what are fish are talking about. We visited Wayside School as Miss Rossow read Louis Sachar's *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*, and then we discovered the power of words as we read Monalisa Degross's *Donovan's Word Jar*. You'll have to stop by and check out our collection of words. Addition and Subtraction have been keeping us busy, but ready or not here comes Multiplication and Division. We've got this! Test us on our multiplication and division facts. We're working our way through the Old Testament during Religion Class. We made it to the Promised Land. I hear there are Judges around somewhere. What was your favorite activity during PE class? We've been discovering the joys of badminton these last few weeks. Game On! There's so much to learn in Ohio History. It's fascinating to learn about all those Native Americans who used to live here in Ohio. Those early settlers had to work hard to survive, but in the words of our state motto: With God, All Things Are Possible!

**Sixth Grade – Ms. Santo**

**Science** - 5th graders will be finishing up with multiplication and will be moving onto dividing whole numbers. 6th graders will be wrapping up fractions, decimals, and percents and will be learning about the number system. 7th graders will be moving into integers and fractions. 4th and 5th grade sciences will finish learning about the engineering process and will move into Earth sciences. 4th graders will be learning about the processes that shape Earth's surface, and 5th graders will be studying the solar system. 6th graders will be ending the Earth's Resources chapter and will start biology with cells and organisms. 7th and 8th graders will be learning about Earth's water systems and atmosphere.

**Fifth Grade – Miss Mews**

**5th/6th Religion** – What are the Ten Commandments? How do they apply to our daily lives? Students have explored the importance of God's Law and how the Gospel delivers us from our daily sin.

**5th/6th/7th Reading** – We have been using comprehension tools, such as inferring and summarizing, to guide us in understanding our short stories.

**5th/6th Writing/Grammar** – What goes into writing a sentence? Students are learning the many different parts of speech and how to use them effectively in their sentences.

**5th-8th P.E.** – Have you ever played dodgeball? Did you know that there's more than one way to play? Students have been bringing out their competitive side with the different variations of dodgeball.

**Seventh & Eighth Grade – Mrs. Phillips**

**7th/8th Social Studies** - The 7th/8th graders are finishing up the Age of Exploration! We enjoyed collaborating in groups to write, direct, and film a Christopher Columbus Commercial. We also enjoyed watching each one. They were funny and entertaining!

**5th/6th Social Studies** - The 5th/6th graders will be done with their third magazine titled *Plains Indians*. Reading these magazines is a breeze, and we love connecting the past to the present.

**ELA w/ Spelling & Vocab** - Grammar for 7th/8th is a blast. We love that we're able to have at least 10 minutes left over for us to work on our homework in class! We do a class homework check and everyone seems to be getting less than 5 wrong, which is amazing. We're learning about prepositions, the different verb forms, and starting to get into adjectives. Writing can be a little daunting, but our brainstorming activity helps a lot. The goal is to not think or put the pencil down, but to keep on writing. We're learning how to formally format an essay.

**Math** - 8th graders will be finishing up with learning how to graph equations with two variables. They had fun learning about slope intercept form by writing out their names on graph paper, slaying zombies, and taping the floor in my room. We really enjoy these hands-on learning activities.

**Reading** - 8th graders are enjoying reading a lot. We're getting started on our next story, *Flowers for Algernon*. We finished our *Tell-Tale Hearts* one-pager with the story elements.

**FOOD DRIVE**

Help the school children collect food items for the St. John Food Pantry! Our goal is **2500 items**. Together we can make this happen! Bring your items to the school and they will be added to the count!

**STOP! Have you ordered your SCRIP for Black Friday shopping?**

It is easy to do! Go out to our school website at [stjohntigers.com](http://stjohntigers.com) and click on our SCRIP program. You can order online or at the school. Orders need to be in every Tuesday by 10 a.m. If you need help, contact Brandi Berry our SCRIP coordinator and she will be happy to help you. Your rebate can help our school earn money!