



BITS & BARKS



SUBURBAN BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL

August 17, 2017

Deeply Rooted to Grow – “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news”

Our Mission: “Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School disciples each generation to grow deeply, serve humbly, and go boldly in Christ to advance God’s Kingdom.”

SBLS Websites:

www.suburbanbethlehem.org

<http://fastdir.com/sbls/>

Hot Lunch = \$2.80

Reduced Lunch = \$0.40

Milk = \$0.35

Lunch Menu- August 16-18

August 21-25

Wednesday-Chicken strips, green beans, raw baby carrots with ranch dip, goldfish graham crackers, pears; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Thursday-Mini corn dogs, baked beans, raw broccoli with dip, cinnamon applesauce; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Friday-Cheese pizza, corn, romaine salad, fruit cocktail; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Monday-Ravioli, breadstick, green beans, raw baby carrots with ranch dip, pears; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Tuesday-Breaded pork sandwich, baked beans, romaine salad, peaches; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Wednesday –Cheese omelet, tater tots, raw broccoli with ranch dip, dinner roll, orange juice; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Thursday –Grilled chicken sandwich, mixed vegetables, raw baby carrots with ranch dip, pineapple; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Friday-Fiestada Pizza, corn, romaine salad, fruit cocktail; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish
USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer



We are Praying for You!

Each Monday our staff gathers together and prays for members of the SBLS family. A list is posted on the bulletin board near the school office. This week we prayed for: **All SBL students.**

From the Desk of the Principal

Welcome To the 134th Year of Operation for SBLS

I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for trusting us to care for your child this year. You are each valuable pieces of the ministry of SBL. And we are excited about the changes and shape of the 2017-18 school year. For the

first time ever we begin the year with 2 kindergarten classes totaling nearly 40 students. We celebrate having two new teachers on our teaching staff. We welcome Mrs. Brittany Brune in our kindergarten program and Mrs. Stacie Gass in 2nd grade. We trust you will get to know each of them and make them feel the love of SBL very quickly. Our library has been temporarily relocated to the portable classroom in the upper parking lot. We are praying it will be ready very soon. Construction just began on our building project. The next year will have us moving around and avoiding the progress of building. There are very exciting changes on the horizon.

We ask that all of you pray for God's richest blessings throughout the 2017-18 school year. May God grant us a great year.

Important Information in Back-To-School Night Folder

If you haven't yet taken the time to read through the many informational sheets in your Back-To-School Folder, now is the time to do so. We don't want you to miss all that important stuff.

Especially important is the information on new car line procedures including your family name placards, an upcoming parent program on internet safety for our children (see below), field trip driver forms, our new Math curriculum, Fast Direct, the 2017-18 handbook, and much more.

Cyber Safety For Kids

While the Internet is a great resource for all of us, it is also a source of danger. ***The Indiana State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force*** will be presenting a program to our 3-8 grade students on September 11 during the school day. They will then present a 1½-hour program directly to parents only at 7:00 pm that evening in the school commons. Topics for parents will include sexual solicitation, online bullying, and child pornography. **You don't want to miss this one!**

Here is an opportunity to learn more about keeping your child protected through safe use of websites and devices.

August/September Chapel Project

Our first chapel project of the year is the Immeasurably More Building Campaign here at SBL. We have embarked on an expansion of our church and school facilities and see an opportunity for our children to be involved in this piece of our history. We have set a goal of raising \$1,000 through contributions for the building project. Children are encouraged to contribute their own money and/or earn money for this

project through service projects to others or any variety of fundraising efforts. Parents are also encouraged to guide their children in efforts to find creative ways to gain funds for this task.

If we reach this goal of \$1,000, a brick in the new building will be added with an inscription of "SBLS 2017" in honor of the student efforts to support the new venture. Mr. Art Schroeder, co-chair of the Capital Campaign, will lead our chapel service on Wednesday, August 23rd. Please pray for this project and also feel invited to support it through your own gifts.

We welcome visitors to join us at chapel every Wednesday at 8:10 a.m.

All School Devotions

Every Monday, or first day of the school week, the student body gathers in the gym at 8:00 a.m. to share a devotional thought for the week and announcements for the day. Parents are always invited and welcome to join us for this brief beginning to our week.

Fast Direct

I would like to put in a word of encouragement to urge you to use Fast Direct if you do not already do so. Fast Direct is our student accounting system. It is an electronic communication system, grading program, lunch menu, school calendar, and a parent telephone directory all rolled into one. It is accessible from any Internet connection. Each family was assigned a username and password for access to their own private information at the beginning of the school year. New families in grades k-8 received that at Back-To-School Night. Pre-school families receive that during their first week of school. If you have misplaced that information please feel free to call

the office to get it once again. From this sign-in you can do all of the above tasks and more.

This system quickly becomes an important part of staying connected to SBLS. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask us.

Traffic Patterns

This year it is going to be especially important for all of us to be even more vigilant than ever before due to the construction challenges we will face.

For safety sake, we encourage all parents to drop their children off at the Commons door (#7) on the East side of the school in the morning.

Please do not use the upper parking lot as a drop off lane. It is not intended for that purpose. Only use the upper lot IF you are parking and walking your student inside the building! We ask

parents to enter the parking lot on the west side of church, follow the narrow lane past the construction zone, and exit at the California Rd. exit on the South end of the school parking lot. Following this pattern allows kids to always exit their car on the curbside of the vehicle. The exception might be the youngest of children who have parents who want to walk them in at the school office door (#1).

In the afternoon all students are taken to the commons if they are staying for latchkey or to the car line through door #8 if they are being picked up right after school. Again, parents should enter the west end of the church parking lot, follow past the construction zone, and pick up their child at door #8 near the south end of the drive. New procedures for identifying who you are picking up were explained at Back-To-School Night and are included in this B & B in another article.

Those of you who come into school to pick up your pre-school or kindergarten children should park in the upper lot at the end of the day and enter door #1. Because of the addition of the portable classroom, parking will be a little tight. **Please do not use the upper parking lot as a drop off lane. It is not intended for that purpose. Only use the upper lot IF you are parking and walking your student inside the building!** Please observe the signs to enter the upper lot through the south entrance and exit through the west drive. We all need to be extra observant for the safety of our children.

No children should be unattended in any parts of the school or left to wait in other areas.

Carline Safety and Name Placards

In your Family Folder at Back-To-School Night you should have received two yellow name placards for use in carline. We ask that you display these cards so we know who is picking up which children. The name on the placard is the last name of your children. The number is unique to you. If you have other family members regularly picking up kids you need to give them one of these placards for their vehicle. If you need extra cards please let Mrs. Macke know. She will make more for you. If someone is unexpectedly picking up your kids you need to be sure to let them know the family number. We will release kids to those you want to pick them up **ONLY** if they can tell us the name and family number or if they have your placard.

All of this is an effort to insure the safety of our children. Please help us do all we can to protect your child!

Attendance/Tardy Policy Reminder

This is just a reminder that SBLS believes it is in every child's best interest to be very prompt and punctual in attending school. A full explanation of our policy can be found in your 2017-18 School Handbook.

While we are following the absence and tardy count for each child, it is your responsibility to keep count on your child and to know where they stand. This can be done on your FastDirect Account. On your FD home screen there is an "Options Available" box that includes an attendance tab for each of your children. There you will find a running total of days present, absent, and tardy.

Please try out this option now. You will see the report for the first days of school. If you have any questions, please ask Mr. Brune.

Weather Related Issues

While winter weather is far off, fog is not an uncommon occurrence at this time of year. When any weather related issues cause a change in the normal school schedule, SBLS will make a decision based on safety of children, and post delays and cancellations on local media.

Weather delays and closings are listed on all local media under Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran School.

There is also a weather information mailbox on our school phone system. You may call that to get the most recent weather information for SBLS. Do note that when we have a weather related delay, the latchkey program opens at the regular time and goes until school starts. In the event of a school closing, the latchkey program is not open.

Windy City Players

Throughout the year we have a number of groups that perform school assemblies for our students. Our first assembly will be The Windy City Players. They will be here on Friday, September 8 @ 8:30 am. Three aspiring actors will present the familiar story of **Robin Hood**. As with all of our assemblies, parents and siblings are invited to attend and enjoy the production in our school gymnasium.

School Pictures

Fall School Pictures are scheduled for August 28th for pre-k through grade 8 beginning at 8:00 a.m. Nursery School pictures will be taken on August 29th at the beginning of each class. Even though we take pictures of all of our students to use for yearbook and other purposes, you are not obligated to purchase any pictures. We do ask that you fill out the form that will come home next week in the Family Folder and return it school on picture day. If you have any questions please call the school office.

PTO

We will be having a very informal PTO meeting on Thursday August 31 at 8:00 a.m. in the school commons. Please bring your calendars and new ideas! Our goal is to have parents from every classroom attend. We would love to have some new faces join us. This is a great opportunity to meet some new parents. Younger siblings are always welcome. If you would like to be included but are unable to attend the meeting or have any questions, please feel free call or text me at 760-7358. Carrie Johnson

Matt's Rack

Have you heard the name, Matt's Rack? It is a not-for-profit clothing bank for area Lutheran School students. The sole purpose is to provide new and/or gently used clothing to any area student enrolled in a Lutheran school, grades pre-school through high school. Children can receive up to 5 full sets of school clothing, new gym shoes, boots, coats, hats/gloves, etc.

Qualification is solely based on need. If you are in need of help with free clothing for your child please contact Mr. Brune for further information.

Lutheran Middle School Musical Auditions

This year our Lutheran Middle Schools are presenting a production of Shrek Jr., The Musical. Any Lutheran School Student in grades 6-8 are invited to try out at Concordia High School on Sunday, September 17 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. Audition packets are available from Mr. Chris Murphy, Director of Drama @ CLHS.

Last year 4 of our own students were part of the cast of the middle school production. We encourage all of you to consider participating.

iCREW Back to School Bash

All 5th -8th graders are invited to join us for a Back to School kickoff event. There will be activities with prizes, snacks, and a short devotion to start the new school year off right. Bring a snack to share and your friends.

Sunday, August 27, 2017

2:00 -3:30 p.m.

SBLS Commons/Gym

Any questions, call or text Kayli Greener at 260.438.6361 or Kelsey Greener at 260.438.3874

SBL Kid's Korner

aka Sunday School

Parents, please stop by the school bulletin board by the office to pick up a copy of the monthly parent cue; and visit

www.deeplyrootedtogrow.org for updates on Kid's Korner.

Parents Needed! We need volunteers once per month in nursery 2-4 year old.

Leaders lessons will be emailed to you a week before your Sunday. Contact Summer Martin through sunnymom79@frontier.com or 260 705 5964. May God bless you.

***Have a great
weekend!
Worship your
Lord!***