



BITS & BARKS



SUBURBAN BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL

August 24, 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/sbbs/>

Hot Lunch = \$2.80

Reduced Lunch = \$0.40

Milk = \$0.35

Lunch Menu- Aug. 28-Sept. 1

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

Tuesday-Cavatini, peas and carrots, romaine salad, breadstick, pears; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Wednesday –Shredded pork BBQ sandwich, baked beans, raw broccoli with dip, peaches; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Thursday –Chicken nuggets, french fries, raw baby carrots with ranch dip, goldfish graham crackers, mandarin oranges; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Friday- Pepperoni and cheese stuffed breadstick, 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 Nursery school students and families, All Pre-K students and families, all Kindergarteners, Aspen Benz, Emerson Atz, Kayley Bill, Emma Wike, Kate Becerra, Brianna Beard, Elizabeth Akey, Badriyah Eddison, Grace Belschner and Mrs. Kathy Blessing.**

From the Desk of the Principal

Drop-Off & Pick-Up

We try very hard to make our drop-off and pick-up times as safe as we possibly can. Traffic patterns and where you drop off or pick up your child are a big part of that safety.

That is why we encourage parents to use door # 7 to the commons as the main point for

dropping off children in the morning. It seems to have the more secure flow of traffic. While door # 1 is the location for bringing pre-school students into their room, we do not encourage that for dropping off other children, especially if you do not want to walk them into the school. The upper parking lot just doesn't have the same flow as the back car line. The lot is smaller and more congested, especially with the construction and growth this year. Thus, there should be more concern for the safety of our children. If you do walk your child into school at door # 1 please be sure to stay with them until the bell rings at 7:45. Children should never be left without supervision in the hallways. The staff is instructed to send unsupervised students to the latchkey program prior to the 7:45 bell. Likewise, at the end of the day students are to be picked up in

the car line in the back unless you are coming into the building to pick them up. We do not want children in the parking lot unless attended by an adult.

Please use extra caution and follow safety procedures as you drop off children and drive through parking lots.

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 (no children at evening session please) 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. **We are going to keep a running total of the offerings given each week. This total will appear in the daily announcements, Bits & Barks, and a "thermometer" in the commons will display to the total as well. Help us reach our gift-giving goal of \$1,000. This first week of chapel offerings saw contributions of \$566.89. Yes. You read that correct. We are off to a great start. Maybe we can add much more than 1 brick to the building? Can you help us achieve our goal?**

Mr. Art Schroeder, co-chair of the Capital Campaign, led our chapel service this week.

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.

Looking for a Clarinet?

We have several clarinets that were donated by a past parent with the intention of being given to an SBLS student who is in our school band program. The desire is to give them to someone who could really use the financial help of not having to purchase an instrument, but any good home will be considered.

If your child is/will be playing the clarinet in our school band please speak with Mr. Brune.

Is Your Child in school and Prompt?

This is probably a good time for you to check to see how your child is doing at being present and on time. The large majority of our students are doing great in this area. Yet, a few are struggling to get here on time. We don't like to see students fall behind for any reason, especially for things that can be eliminated. Be sure to check the attendance section of the Report Card page on Fast Direct. Make sure to discuss the situation with your child if they have been tardy. A 5-minute earlier start can make a difference in your child's feelings about their day at school.

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 Value

We want to take the opportunity to encourage all parents to become familiar with and regularly check your Fast Direct Account.

Fast Direct is our student accounting online 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 is assigned a username and password for access to their own private information at the beginning of the school year. If you have not yet received that information please call the school office to get it. 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 about it.

Carline Safety and Name Placards

SO how is the concept of name placards for carline working for you?

Remember that 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 is in this week's Family Folder and return it to school on picture day. If you have any questions please call the school office.

Flower and Plant Show

The Flower and Plant Show is coming soon. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 6. That's the day your child may bring their plant into school. More details in next week's Bits and Barks.

Box Tops for Education

It's time to start collecting Box Tops, and earn money for our school. For each Box Top turned in, our school earns 10 cents. This money helps buy supplies for SBLS. Box Tops can be found on products such as cereals; Yoplait yogurt; Hamburger Helper; Old El Paso products; Totino's pizza; snacks such as granola bars, Chex mix, Fruit by the Foot; natural organics such as Annie's and Cascadian farm products; Kleenex tissue; Lysol cleaners and Ziploc brand bags. Look for the Box Top on the product, cut it out and send into school with your child.

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.

jCREW 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

Port A Pit Chicken

The 6th, 7th, and 8th grades from Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran School are selling barbecued chicken or ribs. Find a student or Mr. Doepner (8th grade teacher) and buy some tickets. The cost is \$7.00 per chicken half. The cost of the ribs is \$9.00 (1/2 slab). This great tasting food can be picked up on Saturday, September 16 from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm at Dick's Sporting Goods (Apple Glen parking area). Ticket holders need to pick up their order by no later than 1:00 pm or it may be resold. The money raised will help the 8th grade students travel to Washington DC - May 21 - 25. Thanks for helping us.

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 to teach. Contact Summer Martin through sunnymom79@frontier.com or 260.705.5964. May God bless you.

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