



BITS & BARKS



SUBURBAN BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL

August 31, 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-

Monday-Labor Day – no school

Tuesday-Breaded chicken sandwich, sweet potato fries, romaine salad, peaches; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Wednesday –Walking taco, corn, raw baby carrots with ranch dip, pears; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Thursday –Cheese toastie, baked beans, strawberry yogurt, apple slices; OR yogurt and cheese stick as main dish

Friday- Cheesy garlic French bread, green beans, 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: **Dylan Berg, Miles Atz, Lukas Alford, Linkoln Boatwright, Macy Becerra, Ian Bricker, Sienna Walker, Drew Belschner, Jack Belschner, Jordan Beard, Dylan Hinton, Kendell Brooks and Mrs. Patty Macke.**

From the Desk of the Principal

From time to time I add an article or two from a resource called *Home & school Connection*. It is a source for practical ideas for parents. This week I offer the following food for thought.

“What does respect look like?” *Your youngster’s daily dealings with adults and kids alike will be more pleasant if he/she speaks and acts respectfully. Try these tips for helping your son/daughter learn about respect.*

Respectful Replies. *Think about something that you and your youngster disagree on (say, whether his video game time should be limited). Model having a respectful*

discussion about it. You might say that his brain and body are growing and that he needs to run and play to stay healthy. Then, suggest a respectful response, such as, “I want to be healthy but I love video games.” Have him brainstorm other situations where people have different opinions but still speak to each other with respect.

Everyday acts. *When you mow the lawn or clean up after your dog, you can teach your child about respect for neighbors. Explain that keeping your neighborhood clean and neat makes it nice for everyone. Ask her to think of other respectful things neighbors should do. If you share an apartment laundry room, she might say that you respect neighbors’ time by removing your clothes when they’re done so others get to use the washers and dryers.”*

Look for other ways to teach respect as well. But the biggest learning tool is remembering that our children imitate the adults in their life. Be the lesson!

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. This week's contributions were \$201.88. Great job! The running total for two weeks is now \$ 798.87.

Help us reach our gift-giving goal of \$1,000. 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? 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.

NO SCHOOL

Please note that there is no school on Labor Day, September 4. Enjoy the long weekend!

Spring 2017 ISTEP Results

The Individual Student Reports for last year's 3rd through 8th graders, which parents have had access to online for over a month, have been received by school and are being sent home in this week's Family Folder. As a school SBLS scored very close to the same as the past two years. If you have any questions regarding your child's score please contact their homeroom teacher from last school year or the teacher of the subject of interest in the upper grades.

Baptism/Dedication Birthdays

Baptism is a big deal for us Christians. God tells us "He who believes and is baptized will be saved." Thus we treat our Baptismal Birthday as a very special day. We also celebrate Baptism and Dedication Birthdays monthly in

one of our chapel services. On September 20 we will be celebrating the August and September Baptism and Dedication Birthdays. Every year we give a remembrance gift to each child. Thanks to Mrs. Julie Mueller for preparing these gifts each month.

Parents, siblings, grandparents, sponsors, friends are invited to join us for that celebration in chapel. Chapel begins at 8:10, usually in church (but sometimes in the gym).

Field Trip Driver Form

We want to remind you that all adults who offer to drive for any field trips are required to have this form on file in our school office before you can drive for a field trip. **This form must be filled out anew each year!** It would be discouraging for the students, other parents, and the teacher to have to cancel a trip due to a lack of certified drivers. The form is for the safety and protection of our children and only needs to be filled out once per school year. It does need to be filled out for each individual who wants to drive. If you have not yet returned your completed form please make sure to do so immediately. If you need another form you may contact the school office.

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 to display these cards so we know who is picking up each child. 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.

Flower and Plant Box Tops for Education Show

It's time to bring in your child's potted plant, flower, herb or vegetable from the Fort Wayne Parks Dept. to be entered into our school's annual "Flower, Vegetable, Herb or Potted Plant Show" held on Wednesday, September 6 here at SBLS. Bring your plant into school on that day between the hours of 7-9 a.m. in the commons. You can enter plants you have received in previous years as well. At the show, ribbons will be awarded by the judges from the Fort Wayne Parks Department. If your child receives a "Blue" ribbon, they are invited to bring their entry to the annual "City-Wide Blue Ribbon Show" held at McMillen Park Community Center (formally McMillen Ice Arena) on Saturday September 9th. However you will need to take your plant to the McMillen Park Community Center either on Friday, September 8 between the hours of 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. or on Saturday, September 9 between the hours of 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. Please read the attached pages detailing the "seed and plant categories" and how they are judged. If your child transferred from another school, they may also enter their plant. If your plant died or did not do well, there will be a special "My Favorite Plant" category. Bring this plant into school as well and a "Green Thumb" ribbon will be awarded. On Wednesday September 6th, the day of the show, please make arrangements to pick up your child's plant in the commons between the hours of 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. Contact Nancy Johnston with questions before or after school in the commons or at 260-414-5145.

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.

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.

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.

Volunteers Needed! We need adults once per month in nursery 2-4 year old and middle school.

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!**