Enriching lives and sharing Christ through quality Lutheran education.



The Purple Note

March 5, 2021

Visit our Website

UPCOMING EVENTS

9th MAYFEST meeting 5:00

11th and 12th Scholastic Book Fair **11th 4:00-5:30, 6:00-7:30 Open House along with the Book Fair**

18th Luther Academy of Music (LAM) Recital Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church 6:30

19th End of the 3rd quarter.**1:00** early dismissal. NO AFTER SCHOOL ABC CARE

APRIL 17th MAYFEST (See information below)



THIS WEEK'S PRAYER FAMILIES

This week we remember the families of Carrie Harling, Audrey H., Levi M. and Tyler M. If you know of a family you would like us to include in our prayers, please let the office know.

Chapel will be led by Pastor Kevin Zellers Wednesday, March 10th at 8:30 am. Chapel services will be live-streamed on the Martin Luther Facebook page . (Please note it is NOT the Martin Luther 2020-2021 group)

E M T W TH E E	August 23 Jumpstart K-6 25 First Day of School PreK-5	FEBRUARY 2022 S M T W Th P S 1 2 3 4 6 6 7 8 9 10 11 13 13 14 15 16 17 18 20 20 21 22 23 24 25 27 27 28	February 21 No School-Presidents' Day 22 No School-Professional Development
	September 6 No School Labor Day	MARCH 2022 S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	March 10-11 No School-Spring Breat 18 End of 3 ^{rg} quarter- Early dismissal 1:00pm
S M T W Th F S 1 2	October 4 No School- Professional Development 21-22 No School-Fall Break 29 End of 1 st quarter- Early dismissal 1:00pm	APRIL 2022 S M F W Th F S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 16 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	April 15 No School-Good Friday 18 No School-Easter Monday
S M T W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 17 13	November 11 No School-Veterans Day 12 No School-Parent Teacher Conference Day Off 25-26 No School- Thanksgiving Break	MAY 2022 S M T W Th F S I 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 7 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	May 26 Last Day of School 30 Memorial Day
	December 20-31 No School- Christmas break	JUNE 2022 S M T W Th F S 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 -	19 Father's Day
5 M T W Th F S	January 14 End of 2 nd quarter- Early dismissal 1:00pm 17 No School-M.L. King. Day	JULY 2022 S M T W Th F S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	4 Independence Day

School Calendar Template © calendarlabs.com

National Lutheran Schools Week 2021

The first week in March we will join with the 1000's of other Lutheran Schools across the country as we celebrate Lutheran Schools Week!

Our theme for this is "Sent to Serve," based on Matthew 20:28 which says:

The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.

We will include opportunities fr our students to serve others, as well as participating in fun activities with a "homecoming" sort of feel. We truly get to celebrate the fellowship of Lutheran education around the world!



Quarter Wars!

It was a "negative" year this time around! The quarters must have been plentiful!

And here are the results:

BOYS GIRLS

PreK-1st Grade

-6302 <u>-4443</u>

2nd-5th grade <u>-6432</u> -9710

HOWEVER..Since the points were relatively close year, and the support was AMAZING, we are planning to treat ALL the classes to a pizza party, but we'll have a little something for the winning classes.

We will announce the dollar totals next week.

What great way to support Lutheran missionaries in Thailand and also help with Adopt-a-Block here in Bismarck!

The winning teams will be entitled to a delicious pizza lunch!

COME IN and visit at our BOOK FAIR and OPEN HOUSE!

It has been SO LONG since we have had parents in our building! We are excited to offer a chance for parents to not only come and peruse the books at our book fair, but also come visit the rooms and actually say hi to



our teachers <u>in person</u>! This would also be a chance to possibly even meet other parents (while standing 6 feet apart!)

We will make every effort to assist people with social distancing by spreading out our book displays as best as we can. We will also give you the freedom to choose whether or not you wish to wear a mask.

The book fair will be open Thursday the 11th from 3:30-7:30 and Friday the 12th from 3:30-5:30. Please note that open house time is from 4:00-5:30, 6:00-7:30 on Thursday and will be located in the church basement.

Our Parent Teacher League (PTL) has typically helped with the set up and tear down process of our book fairs. Due to COVID, our PTL has not gathered this year. However, if you would be interested is assisting with this, we would welcome your help! We will be setting up on Wednesday, the 10th after school and packing up on Saturday morning the 13th.

Contact Mrs. Wolfgram at wolfgram@lutherschools.org if interested.

Our advanced math class will be managing the check out process with their teacher, Kristin Nistler. We are unable to process debit or credit cards, but can accept cash or checks.

Our chapel offerings and Hat Day dollars collected during the 3rd quarter will assist Adopt-a-Block!

"And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' " Matthew 25:40



Classical Education Update

Classical education is having a rebirth across our nation and even within our state. Our teachers have the opportunity to observe a school in Minot that is in its fourth year of implementing the classical model. We are thrilled to have this opportunity to observe a classical school to help us be the very best we can be as we continue in the transition to classical education.



It has been exciting to see how successful the new history curriculim has been, as well as how students have been receptive to Latin. They make connections with Latin roots both in and outside of class. It is just amazing!

For more information on classical education, take a look at the updated information on our website under "About Us."

www.lutherschools.org

MAYFEST!!! YES IT'S BACK!(...but in April.) The annual tradition of our biggest fundraiser of the year will continue!

After much discussion and consideration given to the current state of our community regarding COVID, we have decided to move forward with Mayfest once again. The date is set for April 17th from 3:00-8:00 PM. Our location is the 4-H building located near Buckstop Junction. This event will include a meal and will incorporate both online and live bidding for the auction items. Our next planning meeting will be March 9th at 5:00 at MLS. Anyone interested in helping with this is invited to attend. Free ABC Care will be provided for those with kiddos.

What IS Mayfest?

Mayfest is our school biggest fundraiser of the year. It usually includes silent and live auctions of donated items that have been given from people in our churches, communities, and families. We have a meal, fellowship, learn more about the past year as well as the future plans of the school.

Being involved in the planning is a great way to get to know other parents, teachers, and board members (interaction that we just haven't been able to have this year!) The event is a lot of fun, and very vital to the school. WE hope that you would consider helping out with this event!

Recital Time!

Luther Academy of music students have been practicing and are eager to perform for an audience once again! We have set **Thursday**, **March 18th at 6:30** for our first recital of 2021!

This is for those taking piano, instrumental and/ or Suzuki strings lessons

This will take place at **Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church** 801 East Denver Avenue.



There will be adequate room for families to social distance. We will also be sensitive to any concerns that may arise with COVID in the next few weeks and take any necessary measures needed into consideration.

Musical? Did you say musical?



Grades 3-5 are making plans for "Encore 2" a collaboration of favorites from some of the musicals that we have done over our 26 years! This was in the works for last year, but

COVID put a stop to that.

The date is set for APRIL 8th and possibly the addition of the 9th. The plan is to have an actual audience for this event, and we'll have to see how seating capacity might be impacted at that date.

Grades K-2 are also planning a musical. The date for this is April 15th. Get ready for the a stirring rendition of "Stone Soup" to come your way!

We can't tell you how excited we are to be on stage once again and to have you in our audience!

Mask Changes

To parents of students in Kindergarten-6th grade.

(This DOES NOT pertain to PRESCHOOL CLASSES.)

The input you have shared with us regarding mask usage has been greatly appreciated. We are blessed to have experienced lower numbers in our

community and school. Striving to reach that balance between giving our families the freedom to make their own choices while also providing a safe a healthy environment for our students and staff can be a bit tricky.

After visiting with parents and staff, we have decided to make changes incrementally. Beginning Monday, February 8th we will make masks optional for students when they are in their classroom or isolated from another class. Our teachers will wear masks when they are within 6 feet of the students.

In order to help us help you as parents, if you prefer that your child wear a mask, please let us know so that we can encourage him or her to do so. Otherwise, we will assume that if they are not wearing them, you are ok with that.

We will still require masks for:

- The bus ride to gym
- Anytime we mix the classes such as:
- Before and after school care (This is important!)
- Chapel

Any group events or activities, such as reading buddies, or an all school event in the fellowship area.

We will begin to have our students not so distanced in chapel if they are wearing masks and look to find a time and criteria for when we could once again open it up for parents to attend. We truly miss having parents be a part of school life at MLS. We realize that we need to have some goals to help us indicate when we can start to normalize once again.

We have been pleased with how conscientious our parent have been when it comes to keeping their children home when they aren't feeling well and getting the appropriate feed back from medical professionals before returning to school. We realize this can be a great inconvenience. We want to let you know that your cooperation has been greatly appreciated!

Keeping our staff and students healthy is of utmost importance to everyone at MLS. We realize that there are differing opinions when it comes to how to address COVID issues, and navigating this has been a challenge. I am hopeful that we can celebrate our freedoms while also showing care for the concerns of our neighbor.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. (wolfgram@lutherschools.org or 400-1179) As always, I welcome your input.

In His service, Denise Wolfgram

One last thing--

Please remember to have your child come to school prepared with mask, especially if they will be spending any time in before school ABC Care as we are seeing more students who do take advantage of that service and it can get a little crowded, so masks are needed.

We will order more masks for those students who do not have a mask. The fee

for these will be charged to either your TADS account or ABC Care account.

Chapel Services



The Martin Luther Chapel services will be live streamed on the **Martin Luther Facebook Page.** This is a change from the Martin Luther School 2020-2021 group. This will allow more people the opportunity to worship with us. We know that there are

grandparents, family members, and other MLS supporters who appreciate seeing the services and hearing any special music that the students provide.

Watch for chapel every Wednesday at 8:30 AM!



Lunches are still at NO COST TO OUR STUDENTS!!

We are LOVING the good eats that our cook, Miss Beverly, has created for us! From the office and kitchen staff, we apologize for any menu changes that have taken place as we have gotten started. We will try to announce those changes earlier to allow you time to make any arrangements as you see fit. We sometimes need to make substitutions as we navigate through this new program with the "Summer Lunch Program" which allows us to provide these meal at no cost to you.

RECENT CDC QUARANTINE CHANGES

Public health experts locally and at the national level are always analyzing data and making changes as new information becomes available. As a result, the CDC issued new guidance reducing the number of days close contacts will need to quarantine following an exposure to a COVID-positive individual.

- The new guidelines allow close contacts of those infected to reduce their quarantine period from 14 days to 10 days.
- If the close contact receives a negative result from a COVID test, they can reduce their quarantine to seven days.
- Residents at long-term care facilities and other congregate living settings are exempt from the new guidance and should continue to quarantine for the full 14 days.
- "Individuals will be able to end their quarantine after seven days if they
 receive a negative COVID-19 diagnostic test, are symptom free and wear

a face covering or after 10 days without being tested," explained Howell.

- To test out of quarantine, a person can either do a PCR test or a rapid antigen test. The earliest a test should be done is 48 hours before being released from quarantine. Individuals must continue to quarantine while awaiting test results.
- Individuals should continue to monitor their symptoms and wear a face covering for the full 14 days.
- The NDDoH will be working to update the website and factsheets with the new information. For more information on COVID-19, visit <u>health.nd.gov/coronavirus.</u>
- <u>Click here for a printable version on the new guidelines</u>

Pick Up During the School Day and Office Access

One of the hardest adjustments for us to make at MLS **AND** the hardest restriction to have to enforce is to limit parent access to the building. We've always appreciated the opportunity to visit with our parents and grandparents at drop off and pick up time. We appreciate your understanding when we work to reinforce new procedures to help keep all of us healthy and in school.

Just as a reminder for our K-6 grade guardians/parents.

- Parents are to drop off their student at the south door and not enter the building.
- If you need to contact Julie or Mrs. Wolfgram in the office, call the office (224-9070) and we will arrange to let you in and meet with you.
- In the case that you are in the building, we ask that you wear a mask.
- If you need to pick up your child early or for an appointment during the school day, contact the school when you have arrived, and we will escort your child to the front door to meet you.
- Please note that the NORTH door is for Zion Lutheran Church activity only. Martin Luther families are to use the SOUTH and WEST doors only, NOT THE NORTH DOOR.

If you need to visit in person with Julie, our office manager, call her at 224-9070, and she will arrange a time for you to meet with her.

IMPORTANT INFO----SNOW DAYS!?!?!

We've already had our first bit of cool weather, and soon we'll be seeing snow in the forecast. To be informed about any cancellations due to weather, we will be using the "Remind" program and will contact parents via text.

To be included in the system, enter this number: (Like the phone number to whom you are texting) **81010**

Text the message: @mrsdwolfg

If you do not text, simply send an email to the following address:

mrsdwolfg@mail.remind.com.

Thank you for participating We don't want to leave anyone out in the cold! (No pun intended. It just happened.)