



Good Shepherd Lutheran School 2017-2018

"Here I Stand" 1 Corinthians 16:13



Mrs. Streuter's Class

Thank you, God, for Dad, Mom, James, Maria, Joel, and Eudora. **John**

Thank you, God, for Illinois, Chicago, the park, the game place, train tracks, my sister, and God.

Maddox

Thank you, God, for food, my school, and my friend, John. **Riley**

Thank you, God, for televisions, tents, bouncy balls, and my dad. **Logan**

Thank you, God, for tents, seeds, money, and Mommy.

Camy

Thank you, God, for mountains, recycle bins, and JJ. **Aiden**



Thank you, God, for my family, my kitties, my dog, and Jesus. **Leila**

Thank you, God, for my mommy, daddy, and peanuts. **Hailey**

Thank you, God, for my mom, dad, grandma, and Lucy, my puppy. **Natalie**

Thank you, God, for Legos and birds. Logan

Thank you, God, for soccer. **Semaj**

Thank you, God, for my mom, dad, Teagan, flowers, puddles, and Jesus. **Holden**

Thank you, God, for my friends, birds, and my family. **Grant**





Mrs. Krause's Class

Mrs. Krause's kindergarten class would like to share their special holiday recipes with you!

Bean Recipe: You have to go get 5 beans from the store for \$15. Put them in a pot with cut up oranges. Maybe add some strawberries and maybe a pumpkin too. Put them in the oven for 16 minutes. Add apples on top and eat them. **Matti**



Salad Recipe: You get a plate and put some lettuce on it. Slice potatoes on top of the lettuce and put ketchup on top of the potatoes. Add some ranch dressing and mix it up. Put it in the oven for 5 minutes.

Myla

Pie Recipe: You get a whole can of cherries. Add 3 c. of flour. Get a crust from Wal-Mart. Add flour to cherries and mix in a bowl. Put the

cherries in the crust and put it in the oven for 4 minutes. Put a cherry on top to look cool!

Ava

Salad Recipe: Maybe go to Wal-mart shopping. Buy some lettuce and skinny cheese. Mix them in a bowl and add Ranch dressing. Then put it on the table. **Elise**

Pumpkin Cookie Recipe: You take pumpkin icing, ½ a jug of pumpkin spice, and a big silver bowl full of cookie dough, and mix them up. Shape them like a pumpkin and make ribs on them and color with orange, green, and brown food coloring. Bake the cookies for about 15 minutes. Try to find pumpkin sprinkles, or turkey sprinkles to put on top. Also put lemon juice or orange juice on top. **Charlotte**

Bean Recipe: Get cauliflower and some strawberries and add six beans. Add tomatoes and mix them up. Smash the tomatoes and add 1 sugar. Cook on the stove for 8 minutes.

Max

Pie Recipe: To make a pie you have to buy strawberries and chicken. Mix them with milk. Add 2 cups of sugar and stir it a lot. Put the pie in the oven for 3 hours. Put more strawberries on top and eat it! **Bhavneet**

Turkey Recipe: Maybe go find a turkey and have the dog try to catch it. Then pass it back to school and then break it apart and cook it, then take the feathers off. Put it in the baker for 11 minutes. Put sprinkles on top then it's ready! **Marco**

Turkey Recipe: Go to the woods and get a turkey. Add a tiny bit of salt or pepper. Put a temperature pokey thing in the turkey first, and then you have to grill the turkey for a little bit, and then take it off. You could cut it up for family. **Micah**





Mrs. Sengele's Class

Jeb the scarecrow devises a secret plan to keep the local crows from having a party in his pumpkin patch. Before reading the end of the story, each kindergartener was to imagine what Jeb could do to keep his pumpkins safe from the crows.

I think Jeb will scare them away because they made a mean face and they had a stop sign. Everytime they turned it to stop the

crows did.

Isabella

Scare them away. A little drop of water dropped on Jeb's head. So he went inside his house. It was raining on the crows so they said oops it's time to go back home. The End. **Caleb**

All of them scared the crows away. They all worked together and said, "we are tough, we are going to get you". Then the sky turned to a rainbow and the crows went away. And they lived happy ever after.



Zion

The crows came back. The rain came down and their wings got wet. And then they fell down and the three scarecrows and a ghost scared them away. **Emi**

The crows thought that Jeb was going to do the karate moves to get them away but he didn't. And then Jeb wrote a stop sign to make them stop. **Violet**

Jeb created a new scarecrow and then the new scarecrow scared all the crows away and the pumpkins were safe.

Myles

Jeb made a blanket on a stick to look like a ghost and when the crows came and saw it they went away.

Nate



The dad and his little scarecrow (Jeb) put bags all around the pumpkins. And they caught the birds with the bags. And the helicopter carried them (the crows) to jail. **Adalie**

The crow takes the pumpkin. So Jeb tucks the rest under a blanket.

Mya



Mrs. Robinson's Class

Mrs. Robinson's class wants to tell you what they are thankful for:

I am thankful for God because He made me and you. I am thankful for the world. I am thankful for my mom and my dad and Connor. I am thankful for Frank, my dog, too.

Nolen P.

I am thankful for my family because they are nice. I am thankful for God because he loves me. I am thankful for everything.

Meghan M.

I am thankful for God. I am thankful for Jesus. I am thankful for my family. I am thankful for the cross because Jesus died on it.

Cooper I.

I am thankful for you, Jesus because you died on the cross. I like you, Jesus because you made us. I love you, Jesus.

Sydney L.

I am thankful for the cross. I am thankful for my mom and dad. I am thankful for mommy. I am thankful for family.

Jake R.



I am thankful for my family because they love me and I am thankful for Jesus that He died on the cross.

Brayden B.

I am thankful for you, God. I am thankful for the birds that sing. Thank you, God for everything. I love God and Jesus. **Alyssa S.**

I am thankful because God made food and I am thankful because God made me. God made my family and I am thankful. **Adelynn G.**





Mrs. Lingafelter's Class

Students love when they get to pick their own topic to write about in class. They come up with such a variety of ideas!

My brother Joel has a bear named Blue Bear. He made up a game with him that we don't understand. I think it goes like this. You try to get Blue Bear and throw him in the air and catch him and if you catch him you win. Joel is three years old.

Maria A.

I have a cat and her name is Nala and I will get to keep her when my sister gets a puppy.

Ashlyn M.

I am so excited for Avengers Infinity War. It comes out in theaters in May 2018. It's going to be so cool. Guess what? There's going to be all of the Marvel super heroes to fight!

Jack Z.



I wanted a lot of books and I read a lot and my mom reads to me sometimes too. I like the Piggie and Gerald books. **Prabhgun K.**

I saw a cat when I almost got to school and it wanted me to pet her. She was so fluffy and cute. **Elle J.**

Once upon a time I went to find Little Red Riding Hood. When I found her I asked if I could have a muffin. She said I could.

Liam D.

I went to the store to get a fidget spinner with my mom and dad. It was fun. Chance S. $\!\!\!$



Mrs. Rincker's Class

In the fall I like to go on a trip with my parents. I like to jump in the leaves. I like to eat pumpkin pie. I like Thanksgiving because I like to eat meat. In the fall I spend time with my parents.

Braydon

In the fall I like to sleep out in my tree house. Before that I have hot dogs by the fire and have s'mores. I like to go to Eckerts in the fall. I also like to do gymnastics and play soccer in the fall. I like to celebrate Thanksgiving with my family in the fall.

Marion

In the fall I like to go to Eckerts and go pumpkin picking. I have bon fires with my friends. I like to play hide the pumpkin. I like to watch the leaves fall. **Noelle**



In the fall I like to roast marshmallows and I like to play in the leaves. In the fall I like to play soccer. In the fall I like Thanksgiving. I like to sit by the fire. **Ryan**

In the fall I like to have a bonfire. I like to go to Eckerts. I like to eat pumpkin pie. I make a pile of

leaves and jump in it. I like to carve pumpkin's faces. I like to play soccer and go on hayrides.

Henrik

In the fall I like to have bonfires. We can roast marshmallows and hot dogs. We would rake leaves in a pile and then I would jump in. Sometimes I pick pumpkins and then we can make pumpkin pie. **Alana**

In the fall I like to go to farm day because I get to decorate pumpkins. Sometimes we roast marshmallows. I go to Eckerts. We like to eat pumpkin pie. We always go to my MiMi's house and make leaf roads. We always go camping. I like the Harvest Fest because the teachers are going to square dance. We have Thanksgiving together every year! **Jonah**



Third Grade

Mrs. Batty's Class

Once there was a dragon named Carmen. Carmen lives in the Enchanted Forest with her best friend Ally, her human friend Emi, and Jack the boy dragon who is in love with Carmen. One day Emi and Carmen were walking and seeing things in the forest. Carmen saw a pixie butterfly and chased it and she got lost. Then a monster chased Emi away. Then Emi told Ally and Jack. Jack went alone and came back. He said he had seen the monster and the monster had Carmen. He had a deal with Carmen that if he saved her life Carmen will marry him. Carmen didn't take the deal. Jack said he was out of it now it was just Emi and Ally. Ally has a plan. The plan is to trick the monster into thinking Carmen is frozen and it worked. Carmen is actually frozen but the only one that knows is Jack and he said yes. Then the monster grabs Carmen and

takes her to another world, but the portal is gone. The monster has another idea to run off and make Carmen into soup. Emi beats the monster to his cave and finds his pot where he cooks soup and hides it where no one will find it. The monster finds it and put Carmen into it. It starts getting hotter and hotter until Emi put out the fire under the pot. Carmen flies out of the pot and starts running home. The monster cries but Emi and Carmen don't care. When they get home there is a welcome party and they dance until midnight.



Kaitlyn P.

Once upon a time there was a dragon named Fireball. One day a little girl named Laura and her family found a cave. They decided to live there. Fireball lived in that cave! Fireball met them. But soon hunters and came Mary, Laura's sister, saved Fireball by saying there was no dragon. And they lived happily ever after.

Autumn W.

There was a boy named Camden and another boy named Ian. There was a baby dragon. They were in a cornfield. They were surrounded by the corn. The baby dragon breathed out fire and the corn turned into popcorn. Camden and Ian brought all of the popcorn to the forest to eat the popcorn. They were hungry. The baby dragon was even hungry.

Ian W.

Bob and Larry were out on a walk. They spotted a spotted oval shape. They both walked toward it. Then it started shaking. Then a dragon popped out. They jumped back. The dragon looked oddly at them. Then they walked home and the dragon was following them so they took it home.

Liam G.



There was a mom dragon and a dad dragon. They were laying a nest for mom. She was going to hatch an egg for the baby dragon. A big breeze and the nest fell on the ground. A little girl found a baby dragon. She took it home with her. Then she told the mom they were not keeping the dragon. She said get rid of it. She slept one night with it. She went to a jungle forest. The mom dragon gave her the baby and now it breathes fire. Then the girl ran home. **Ava G.**

<u>The Egg</u>

Once upon a time, in the Nalygus Woods of Raptor Hill, there was a raptor called the Dragonis mel. It went extinct thousands of years before the first people came to raptor hill. Researchers from the lab at Fort Eagle found a giant egg. When they brought it back to the lab, the oldest scientist said,"This looks like a Dragonismel egg." The head of the researchers said they were extinct and it looked more like a Haast's Eagle egg. They called me in. I decided it was a hybrid between the two.

The Creature

A few months later, the egg hatched. It was a fire-breathing, four-tabbed, scaled raptor. We decided to call it a Dragon. The last Dragonismel mated with a Haast's Eagle. They had an egg and died. The egg was hidden and not found

until very near hatching. The Dragon was put in the New Creature Room. Three days later, it escaped.

The Rescue

I decided to ride my Peregrinefalcon mobile to catch the Dragon. By now, we had named him Firesicle. Firesicle left burnt marks, so I followed them. Whenever I saw him, he saw me first so he ran away. Then I got an idea. I would make the Peregrinefalcon mobile invisible. Firesicle fell for it! When I caught him, we trained him and he never ran away again. Until..... **Dean H.**

One day at the castle one of the guards heard a crying sound from the cave. I went over there and found a baby dragon. When I was there I fed it meat. And then I took care of it myself. When it got older we loved to fly. After that we ate. Then we played outside. We also loved to sleep. One day we heard a sound of a baby dragon again. So we flew over there and found a baby dragon. We kept



it for ourselves. Stormfly and Windshire were happy. **Madyson H.**

I was playing with Neal my baby dragon. I fell asleep. Neal roared then I woke up and he was gone. I ran to the King and told him what had happened. The king sent 200,000,000 knights to get Neal. They got him but when they were bringing him home they were attacked. They lost him again so I chased the thieves and got to the dragon and brought Neal to the king. The king asked where the other soldiers were. I said they were defeated.

Caleb D.



Mrs. Pritchard's Class

Class 3-2 wrote stories with the title, The Baby Dragon.

A long time ago, there was a baby dragon. He was three feet tall and one foot wide. He lived in a small cave that was surrounded by jungle. There was a small pond by the cave that he drank from. There were lots of fish in the pond which he ate. One day he was drinking water when two green goblins came running up to him. These were the guards of the evil dragon who lived in the biggest mountain in that part of the jungle. The goblins tied his hands together with a piece of rope. Then they brought him to the evil dragon who made him do all the work around the mountain. In a different part of the jungle, the helping dragon knew the baby dragon was in trouble so he flew to the evil dragon's mountain. The evil

dragon was asleep so the helping dragon picked up the baby dragon and flew him to his mountain. And the baby dragon lived there for the rest of his life. The End.

James A.

Long ago, far above in the air, there were some dragons who lost their baby! But, down in Knight Land there was a knight named Jake. Jake was about to go in the castle then BOOM! a loud thing hit the ground in the castle. "What?" he said. "Oh no! There's someone in the castle with the evil knight!" So Jake goes in and says, "cool" because right before him is a baby dragon. Jake yelled, "Ahhhhhh!" because the castle gate closed behind him. Then Jake picked up the baby dragon. The baby dragon was red and had yellow dots. So the evil knight did not see them. They set a trap to catch the evil knight. The trap was a cage swinging from the ceiling. Then BOOM! the evil knight was trapped and the dragons came for the baby dragon. "Bye!" said Jake. Then the evil knight got up. He broke out of the cage. "Help!" yelled Jake. But it was too late. When the dragon was flying, there was a net that got the baby dragon but the baby dragon got out and beat up the evil knight and helped Jake. The End. **Ezra C.**

Once upon a time, there were two kids named Jenny and Jeff. One day they were taking a walk and they saw a huge, grey, spotted egg. They carefully picked up the egg and took it home. They wondered what was inside the egg. Then their dad told them they were spending the weekend at their grandparent's house. They decided to take the egg with them and Jenny put it in her backpack. One hour later . . .Jeff realized the egg had started to crack! "Oh no!" he started to tell Jenny. But then, a baby dragon popped its head out of the egg. It was a tiny, little, pink dragon. They finally reached their



grandparents house and their grandma met them at the door. They raced each other inside and when Jeff went to get the dragon it was gone! They searched the whole house and still couldn't find him! They searched the timber and their grandparent's backyard. They finally found him sleeping in a flower pot. They took him inside and tried to come up with a name but they couldn't so they asked their grandpa. He asked, "What does he like to do?" "Well," said Jeff, "we don't

actually know." So they went outside to see what he liked to do. They finally decided his name was Sleepy and Sleepy had a happy life living with his new owners. The End.

Grace P.

Nancey and Mike tried to find a baby dragon, but they saw it was being taken away by the evil dragon! The evil dragon locked the baby dragon in a cage and he was hanging over lava. The baby was crying for help. Nancey and Mike saved the baby dragon with their claws. The cage was made in wood with spikes. Those bars were weaker than I thought. After all, the kind should have a good cage.

Serena P.

Once upon a time, there were two baby dragons named Steve and Bob. It was 2017 on Dragon Island. The two babies were chasing a dragonfly and got lost. The two babies called for their cousin and he came. He told them how to go to their cave and the babies set off. One hour later, they were at their cave. They learned never to chase a dragonfly again and not to go into the Dragon Forest again.

Alex R.

Once upon a time there was this baby dragon that was lost in the woods. A princess named Rose hiked into the woods and got lost, too. The baby dragon and princess Rose tried to get out of the woods so they both ran and ran and Princess Rose stumbled into the dragon. She was surprised! She had never seen anything like it. She was kind of scared and so was the baby dragon. Later, they became friends so the princess promised they would stay friends. Princess Rose took the baby dragon home with her. In Rose's castle, the dragon loved it there. Everybody loved the cute little baby dragon. One day the princess and the baby dragon went on a walk. The dragon set the leash on fire and ran into the woods. Rose's mom, Queen Star, and Princess Rose ran after the dragon but it was too late. The dragon was nowhere to be seen. So they went home. Later, they saw something was on fire so they went to check it out. It looked like the baby dragon shooting fire out of its mouth. "Oh! You're back baby dragon! I thought you were gone! You know what we should name you? Flame!" The king loved having another boy in the castle but Flame burned everything! Flame learned how to talk. It was amazing! He was so funny! He made up lots of jokes and he and Rose were the best of friends. Flame and Princess Rose

grew up and lived happily ever after. The End. **Samantha S.**

The dragons Bear, Gold, Candy, and Fire lived in a volcano. The volcano is very hot, so they had to go to a



new volcano. They found a new volcano. They were settled in the new volcano. Then they played in their new home and sometimes they played outside. They made new friends. They let the other friends into their new home. The End. **Natalie T.**



Mrs. Maske's Class

The 4th grade wrote about things that they give thanks for and ways to give thanks in these poems.

Thanks**g**iving Offer**i**ng Li**v**ing Lif**e**

Turkey Ham Animals Pho**n**es Crac**k**ers **S**upper By: Nolan

> God offering Veterans love

Thanksgiving Having food Good Graces being nice to others Drinks School By: Brindy



God Fam**i**ly Gi**v**ing Lov**e**

Clothes Happiness Thankfulness Friends Thanksgiving Savior By: Kate

> God Friends Valentines Teacher

Thankfulness Helping Others Anchored in Christ Fun Thanksgiving Happiness By: Jeremy



Giving Ice Loving People Life

Thanks

Holidays Ava Nice Kind People Jesus Saved Us from our sins By: Elise

Thanks**g**ivng Offering Lo**v**e Car**e**

Thankfulness Heaven Happy Kindness King Worship By: Henry



Thanks**g**iving L**i**ving No**v**ember Bibl**e**

Turkey Happy People Ham Native Americans Kindness Stuffing By: Kylie

Thanksgivin**g** Isabella Love Eternal Life

> Trees Hope Animals Nativity Kindness Stars

By: Natalia



God offer**i**ng Lo**v**e Fre**e**dom

Life on Earth Heaven Eternal Life No life in Hell God's Kindness Jesus Suffering for our sins By: Brady



Thanks**g**iving Stuffing Lo**v**e Eternal Lif**e**

> Turkey Ham Animals Nice people Kindness Supper

By: Andrew



Mrs. Daniels's Class

The fifth graders were asked to complete this thought: "Thankful....."

5-1

--I am thankful for every single thing God has given me: the word of God, the Bible, the commandments, my life, my family, my items, my school, my blessings, and everyone whom I have met. **Kaleb B.**

--Thankful is a very special word to me. Thankful means that someone has given



something to you or maybe even had to make a sacrifice and you have shown gratitude. Most of the time we try to say "thank you" but it always does not happen. Sometimes we don't even show any thankfulness when someone does something to help us because we think that it was just a little thing and it does not deserve any thankfulness. **Joey F.**

--Thankful to me means "be happy that people give or do something nice to me." I think that being thankful is to give thanks about the things we have. What I am thankful for is my family, friends, God, my talents, and all God gave me. **Carter H.**

--Thankful is when you are filled with gratitude. In some cases, it means to be relieved that something is over. Like when you have a bad day you just want it to be over. Another way is when you are glad with what you have. As it says in 1 Thessalonians 5:18: "In everything, give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." **Emma H.**

--I am thankful for so many things. I am thankful for my family and friends that God has given me. I always think of thankful as a meaning of grateful and greatly appreciated. I am also thankful for the talents God has given me and my family. God has blessed me with so many things, like a shelter to protect me, food so I don't starve, and a family to comfort me. Thank you for giving me a Christian school so I can learn more about you, God. **Kate J.**

--Thankful means you are happy to have it for example I am thankful for living on this earth There are many things I am thankful for such as TV, sports, video games, God, Jesus, board games, clothes, a school, a family, a dog, other pets and ice cream. I am not thankful for war, hunger, famine, homeless people, and the devil. **Evan K.**



--I am thankful for everything that I have, because a lot of people in this sinful world don't have the things that I have. All of us are so lucky to be in this school and getting to have all these blessings from God the father. There are so many things to be thankful for, from a wonderful family to a nice meal and so many more things God has blessed us with. **Savannah L.**

--Thankful means you are happy with what you have. Louis M.

--Thankful is a feeling. Another word for thankful is grateful. I am thankful because, without God, I would not be here, and I am thankful for God because He is keeping me safe when I am playing hockey. **Tannan N.**

--Thankful is what you feel when you get something. You are glad that the person gave it to you. Things that I am thankful for are my health, that I am more healthy than other people.

I am glad that God gave me a shelter so I don't have to live on the streets trying to find food wherever I can. I am glad that I have clothing so that I can stay warm in the winter when it is cold. I am glad that I have food to eat so I don't starve when I am hungry. **Jack P.**

--Thankful means "pleased or relieved" or "expressing gratitude and relief" and I'm thankful for God. Without God, we wouldn't even be alive, Earth wouldn't exist. I'm also thankful for the food I eat and the clothes I wear, my family,

teachers, friends and so many other people. Without thanks, how would people know how you feel about them? **Ana P.**

---Thankful to me means spending time with my family and loving on my two favorite ponies in the world. I love Thanksgiving, because it makes me think of how many blessings God has given us. Every year my family and I leave to go to my grandparent's house for Thanksgiving. My grandparents bake the best meals for our feast! Pumpkin pie, roasted turkey, and fruit Jello are only some of the wonderful foods we have. Before we eat, the adults sit and talk, except for the men who watch TV, the kids play with the toys in the house. After that, we have our traditional Thanksgiving prayer, then we eat, and that is our Thanksgiving feast! **Madelyn Z.**

5-2



--I am thankful for my family, friends, food, pets, and a shelter to keep me safe. My friends are all nice and always cheer me up when I am sad. My parents make me feel better when I am sick and keep me safe. I am thankful for my pets and that I have food on my table at night. The one thing that I am most thankful for is that I am able to worship God. **Dani C.**

--What I think thankful means is that you should be

content about what you get, even if you don't like it very well. It also means that you should give to others not just take from them but also give back. **Rebe D.**

--I'm thankful for my family and friends because they help me for everything. When I'm sad they help me be happy. I'm also thankful for my school because it will make me have a good education so I will get in college and I will get a good job. The last thing I'm thankful for is God because He is always there for me and protects from everything. He put all the people I know and love in my life.

Kassi Gray

--To me being thankful means to thank others when they give you things. It also means to not complain. I am thankful for many things like my family and friends. I am also thankful for food, clothes, and shelter. I am also thankful for getting to go to a Lutheran school. **Addie L.**

--I am thankful for all that was created. I am also thankful for all my teachers, especially for Mrs. Daniels, because she teaches me all the things I need to know. I am also thankful for my church, school, friends, family, food, and shelter. I thank God for sending Jesus to die on the cross to save us from our sins. **Catrina L.**

--Thankful means "full of thanks." A thankful person usually doesn't really want anything they don't need to have. There is a holiday with the word "thanks" in it, and it's called Thanksgiving. On Thanksgiving, people gather at someone's house and have a BIG dinner. Most people say what they are thankful for on Thanksgiving. Then, after they're done eating, they might watch football or talk about stuff. **Andrew M.**



--I'm thankful for my family and all of my great and nice teachers, and my dog, because I think it was December that my other dog, Napa, died, but now I have my dog, Frank, and I am very thankful for him. I am thankful for my family because they babysit me when I need a babysitter, and they give me food when I am hungry. I am very thankful for that. **Connor P.**

--I am thankful for having such a great family, having friends, and having God as my Savior. I am thankful for having such a great family, because they are there when I am in despair or hurt. I am thankful for having friends, because I can share things with them. I am thankful for having God as my Savior so I can go to heaven. I am thankful for school so I can learn and activities so I can have fun. The reason why I am thankful for school is because I need to learn to get smarter. The reason why I am thankful for activities is because I like to have fun by doing them. **Ryder R.** --I'm thankful for my family, friends, nice teachers, and God-given talents. I'm also thankful for Jesus because He died on the cross to forgive our sins. Without these things, I would not be able to carry on with my life and be successful. I'm also thankful for my parents who take care of me and friends to cheer me up when I'm sad. **Kade S.**

--I'm thankful for my family and friends. I am thankful for the food, water, and shelter that God has given me. Also, I am thankful for my clothes, shoes, my house and more. It is sad that some people don't have this. I am thankful for school and my teachers. They take their time to teach me and my classmates. I am very thankful for this. **Olivia S.**

--I am thankful for my family and friends for being there when I am sad. My family is there when I am sick, and teachers help me learn so I can be a smart man. I am thankful for shelter, and all the food in the world. I am also thankful for all the holidays. **Evan W.**

--I am thankful for a lot of things that God has given me. I am thankful for my family because they love and support me. I am thankful for all the talents that God has given me and I want to put them to good use. I am thankful for the shelter, food, and water I have gotten. I have been gifted with a lot of things and I am happy with them! I want to put my good gifts to use. **Chloe W.**





Ms. Combs' Class

What Is Something You Wished You Had Learned Earlier?

I wish I had learned how to properly hit a softball earlier. I have played since tee ball, but until about 3rd or 4th grade, I didn't know to hit properly. Even though that is three years ago, I took one year off. The year I



took off was the worst year I could have taken off. It was the year pitchers would throw harder. When I came back to play, I was not used to fast pitchers, so I struck out most of the time. I tried out for a team and made it. My coach was helpful,

and he taught me to time the ball. That season my batting percentage was good, but not as good as I wanted it. So I practiced and practiced, and finally this year, I can time it right and hit it. I am excited for my games to start. **~Katie B.**

Something I wished I learned earlier would be the words that I got wrong during spelling bee's. The thing is I have never not made it in one, but I have only won one! And I feel like I'm running out of chances because I only have

three more left to win until high school, but I do think that I could win this year. I am not very worried about this year's spelling bee because the words that I have had so far on tests have been generally easy, and they usually stay within the



level of where six graders are. Although, I do not want the words to be too easy because I would prefer a challenge more. ~Adam B.

Something I wish I would have learned earlier is I wish I would have learned how to play soccer earlier. I could have been much better at soccer now if I learned earlier. Also soccer would be more fun if I had learned earlier. Now soccer is still fun, but if I would have been really good a lot earlier, I would have to play super hard teams, and it would be difficult. I started playing at age 6, and now I play for one of the best clubs in Illinois. Now you know what I wanted to know earlier. **~Troy C.** Something I wish I had developed earlier is the ability to write stories and journals. I wish I learned that earlier because I think it would have benefited me in the future. Although English isn't my favorite subject, my favorite thing to do



in English is to write. I feel I would be a much better writer if I would have practiced writing at a younger age. When I was three or four, my mom and I would always write stories together. I always

enjoyed doing that. To sum it all up, I think my life today would have been better if I would have learned to write earlier. **~Grace C.**

Something I wish I learned earlier is how to ride a dirt bike. I learned to ride a dirt bike at five years old. If I learned to ride a bike at the age of two or three, I might be a little better at riding. I am not the best rider out there, but I would like to be. If you tried to ride a dirtbike, you would probably be a lot better than my sister because she hit a tree and a fence whenever she rode my dirt bike five years ago. You should ride dirtbikes. They are fun to ride.

I wish that I had learned to play the mental game of golf earlier. The things that people say to you sometimes get in your head. Some will say things that are mean, or you may hit a bad shot and it stays in your head. When you play competitively, girls get serious and say things to mess you up. Sometimes the parents are even worse. They say something, and you go down into a mental breakdown. Now I have learned to let those things go and handle the girls or parents in a God-pleasing way. **~Emma H.**

Something I wish I learned earlier is how to play volleyball. I wish this

because I started volleyball in second grade, but I could have played in kindergarten. If I knew what volleyball was and that I could play so young I probably would. If I had learned volleyball earlier, I could be serving my overhand serve constantly. Now if



I serve overhand, it only sometimes goes over the net and sometimes it doesn't. Also, if I did start earlier, then I may have had more time with friends.

~Olivia J.

I wish I had learned the ancient skill of playing games when I was younger. Playing games is how anybody and everybody entertain themselves. Throughout the course of mankind we have entertained ourselves by playing all sorts of games. I wish I had learned the skill of being the best at games I play or have played. Even though I had known how to play games I just was not very good at them, even the games I made up myself. Now I am pretty good at the games I play. There will always be someone who is better than you, but the least you can do is practice and try to become the best. **~Douglas K.**

Something I wish I learned earlier is playing the piano. I have always liked



the piano, but every time I try to play, I fail. My grandma tried to give lessons when I was older, but I could not play it. If I had learned earlier, I could play, and I could play for others, too. Playing

the piano now is very hard because I cannot get my hands moving correctly, so I wish that I learned to play the piano earlier. That way playing it now would be very easy. **~Alex L.**



Ms. Combs' Class

Eighth Grade:

What's the Most Important Thing?

In my opinion, at the age of 13, the most important thing is traveling. Traveling allows you to experience new things. When you travel, whether it's for a vacation, business, or just random, it teaches you new things. Traveling can



teach you how other people live, it opens your eyes to new cultures, and allows you to help other people. Living in the United States, we are all very fortunate, a lot more fortunate than other countries. If you travel somewhere that has poverty, it

opens your eyes to see how they live, and it makes you more grateful for what you already have; it also gives you the opportunity to help others, like God wants us to do. **Emma B.** Even though this is not true to most teenagers, Jesus is the most important thing. He is always there for me. Jesus has and always will love me.

He gives me food and drink, house and home, land and animals, and all that I have, and still takes care of them. The reason Jesus is the most important thing is because he keeps me from sin, death, and the power of the devil. He hung and died on a cross for me. He also keeps me in



my faith so that I may go to heaven. If it was not for Jesus, I would fall into temptation every time, and would be controlled by the Devil. So it is very clear what is the most important thing, I hope you feel the same way. **Kyle C** At the age of 14, I think the most important things in my life right now are food, family, or basketball. Probably more of the food because it keeps me alive, but I love my family, too. They are really supportive of me and what I do (most of the time). Some people would say to me "Oh, Carson's gonna choose



shoes as the most important thing." Sure, I love shoes but they aren't the most important thing in my life. Basketball is my third option because I love it and everything about it. I

don't know what I would be doing in my life if basketball wasn't here. Basketball is mostly what I do in my free time, besides watch Netflix. This is what is most important to me in my life right now. **Carson C.**

The Triune God created us, redeems us, and sanctified us. In the creeds we confess of our broken sinful selves, always contrary to the will of the God who created us and doomed us to perish eternally, but it -fortunately- does not
end there. After God the Father created us, Jesus Christ took on human flesh to die on the cross incarnate in our place, rising from death victorious. We believe



in the creeds that the Holy Ghost calls us by the Gospel, to the one True Faith, so we may live forever on the restored creation, free from sin and from death. To honor anything

more than this is idolatry and sin. Whether I be at the age of 14,

140 or 1444, Christianity is, and forever shall be, -the most essential thing.

~Lars G.

"Whosoever will be saved, before all things it is necessary that he hold the catholic faith." -The Athanasian Creed

The most important thing in my life is my family. My family is always there

for me, unlike friends who come and go. There's no one else in my life who I'm more close to than my parents and brother. I cannot go a day without talking to them. They are my whole world, and I couldn't imagine a life without them. **~Maddy G.**





The most important thing to me is my faith in Jesus. I want to be sure that I am a firm believer in Christ. I also want to be sure that everything in my life is a God-Pleasing action. I also want to serve others and not myself. I want to be a humble,

human being and be the Christian model to non-believers I need to be.

~Declan G.

You control the equilibrium of your life. You put certain things before others and make priorities. Priorities are how people stay productive, and essentially, priorities make up our life. Keeping those priorities in balance can determine your quality of life and effectiveness of your legacy. Do you balance your social life and your relationship with God? Do you put miniscule problems over big ones? Balancing your life is the most important thing. **~Meghan H**. In my opinion, I believe the most important thing is traveling. At the age of 13, I've been to many places, and I love traveling the world. I believe you should enjoy and explore God's creation. God has created this world for us, and

we shouldn't just stay in one place our whole life. There are many great places in this world you can explore, like the tall mountains in Nepal or the



nice blue waters in the Caribbean. God has given inventors the ability to invent ways of transportation for us and because of that, I believe God wants us to travel, so we can explore his creation. **~Khushi J.**

I would say one of the most important things to me is family. They care about me and are there to help me. My parents sometimes make me food when I am sick or injured. They also provide for me. This is why my family is the most important thing. **~Eli L.**

The most important thing to me, as a fourteen-year-old, is music. I am able to participate in many extracurricular music activities as well as listen to it in my free time. I can play instruments with my friends and family at church or for



fun, and I can listen to it with my friends. Music is another way of serving God. Music allows us to play hymns for the church so people can listen, learn, and understand what the stanzas

mean and say. Music can also be a way of having fun with friends and family. You can do rap battles with your siblings or you can listen to old records you found in your grandparent's basement. All these things I am able to do with music make it very important to me. **~Claire L.** The most important thing to me is my career in my future life. I love that we can choose to be who we want to be. I can be a teacher and pursue my life with wonderful children who have fun in my class and make me smile every day. In other countries, I would not be able to choose my career because they would choose it for me. They would tell me how to live everyday until I die. My dream



is to become a first grade teacher. I've loved children all my life, and all I want for them is to be loved. Also, a lot of children don't
come from the best of houses. I have
grown up in a very nice house, but I have seen a lot of children's lives that are very hard; some of those children

don't see love in everyday life. But when I'm a teacher, I want to show them love and nurture them like they are my own. This is my dream and who I want to become. **~Quinn O.**

Seventh Grade:

Persuasive Paragraphs

There are many fun sports to play in gym, but I think schools should play lacrosse for gym. Many schools play lacrosse in gym. Lacrosse is a very active and fast-paced game, but it's very new in the Midwest and should be spread



around. Lacrosse has increased 200% nationwide and way more in the Midwest. Lacrosse is a very active game. In lacrosse, just like basketball, you are always moving, always being on your guard, and always having hand-eye coordination. Lacrosse is a fast-paced game. Lacrosse has three twenty minute

periods (depending on where you play). You are always defending or trying to score. In lacrosse, you are always running no matter what and working with your team to get a goal. Lacrosse can help keep anyone and everyone active. Play more and more, and you will have a love for the sport. **~ Lillie C.**

Children need at least 10 to 12 hours of sleep per night. Sleep is very important for your developing brain. The first reason why you need as much sleep as possible at night is because your brain is trying to get your body to grow. When you are asleep, your body finally gets a break, so it starts to grow.

And because at our age our body's are developing need as much sleep as we can get. Another reason why you need sleep is because you can get horrible migraines from not getting rest. You can also get a heart attack, high blood pressure,



and a stroke. The third reason for getting enough sleep is it helps in school. If you are exhausted from staying up all night your brain won't perform to its full potential. Then you would fail your test because you didn't get the sleep you needed. In conclusion, children need 10 to 12 hours of sleep every night. Children who receive enough sleep will stay healthy, do better at school, and have a nice growing body. **~Abbey G.** School should be later in the day. It should be later in the day because kids won't be as tired when they get to school, they will have more time to finish homework, and teachers will also have more time to sleep or grade papers. If we



would move school back a few hours, it would be better for all of us. It is proven that people who don't get enough sleep are more likely to develop emotional disorders. It is found that it is stressful for both

parents and children when kids have a lot of homework and little time to do it; if we move school back a few hours, it would be better for everyone. Teachers only get about 6 hours of sleep on average; if we would move school back later in the day, teachers could also get more sleep. That's why we should move school back a few hours, it would be better for everyone. **~Megan J.**

I think everything should cost less money because it would be easier for families to provide necessities, people who don't have a lot of money could provide for themselves, and parents wouldn't have to work as much. If everything cost less, it would be much easier for families to provide necessities. For families that have a couple children, providing money and caring for their kids is probably pretty difficult. If everything cost less, parents wouldn't have to stress as much about caring for their children. They could work four days a week

and stay home three days. Also, it would make it a lot easier to buy good food for their children. Another reason everything should cost less is people who don't have lots of money could provide for



themselves. It is also hard for people without homes to provide for themselves, so if everything cost less, there wouldn't be as many people struggling to provide food. Also, they could buy houses for themselves. The last reason I think everything should cost less is parents wouldn't have to work as much. The main reason people work is to earn money, so if they didn't have to earn as much, they also wouldn't have to work as much. They would have more time to spend with their children and would not have to pay babysitters and nannies. I know this paragraph probably won't change our system of economy, but I hope you can see my reasoning. **~Kate M.**

You should come to Sam's Barbeque. It is the best restaurant in the

world. By going, you'll help support a small community and local business. every

year Sam's Barbecue sends a large percentage of their profit to different charities. The restaurant has also been locally owned for 30 years, using original recipes. Secondly Sam's Barbecue has the freshest ingredients. The barbeque's a part of



a farm, where they pick fresh produce daily. Thirdly, the barbeque restaurant has a very extensive menu at a good price. There's something for everyone, every type of barbeque you have ever imagined. They also have premium fish, steak, and sandwiches. This is why you should go to Sam's Barbeque. It will be the tastiest restaurant you'll ever visit. **~Sam S.**

There are several reasons why we should have softball at our school. The first reason why we should have a softball team at our school is because it will keep us in shape. Being in shape is a very important thing in life. If you don't



stay in shape, it can sometimes be hard to maneuver. It can really help in after school activities or in the sport, generally. Another reason is it is a great sport for sportsmanship. Although in every sport there's sportsmanship,

this sport has a lot of different cheers. This can cheer up a teammate if they're upset from striking out or missing a catch. The last reason is boys have baseball, but girls don't get to play softball. I don't understand why boys are allowed to play baseball when girls can't play softball. If we played softball, it won't be as mocking as when boys play baseball. If there were girls that really liked softball but couldn't play till the next year, then we could change that and have it in the starting of summer. Overall, I think this is why we should have softball at our school. **~Sophie T.** School days should be shorter. There are three reasons for this. The first is that school days take up most of a student's day, leaving them with very little time to do things at home. This is a problem because students cannot socialize with their friends or get the proper amount of exercise. This can lead to obesity, depression, and stress. The second reason is that we have homework after school. This continues school at home when home should have a break from school. Homework also keeps kids up late into the night which prevents sleep.

The third reason is that students often end up working late into the night because they do not have enough time to finish work. This eliminates sleep, which is bad for



their health. On top of that, they also have to go to school sleep deprived and tired the next morning and don't learn much because of it. To sum it all up, I think that school days should be shorter for the above reasons. Students should have a shorter school day so they stay healthy, have time for other things, and learn more. **~Gavin T.**

Sports are an important part of life. There are several reasons sports are an important part of life. The first reason is that sports have great utility. Sports are the sources of recreation. They provide relief and a sense relaxation in a life of monotony of routine marked by miseries, hardships and hurdles. The second reason is the great virtue of sports teaches everybody to acquire the will to win.



If anyone knows how to acquire any will, he will succeed in every aspect of life. Life is full of struggle that has been started since the creation of the world. The third reason is without

sports a good society can never be constructed by its members. Spirit of endurance and fellowship, willingness to scarify – these various qualities which are of great value only can help us to rebuild an ideal society. Society as a whole depends on benefit of its members, who maintain the law and order of the same society. I think sports are an important part of life because it provides many forms of ways to be able to show more of who you are. Playing sports can make you stronger and healthier, contributing to lower obesity rates. **~Elliott W.**

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