



Good Shepherd Charger News

"Rooted in Christ" Colossians 2:6-7

All School Newsletter
January 5, 2024

Charger Headlines...

Calendar of Events

Friday, January 5-Sunday, January 7

- Boys and Girls Basketball B Teams
Holy Cross Collinsville Tournament

Monday, January 8-Friday, January 19

- GSLS Auction Change Drive

Tuesday, January 9

- Boys Basketball BC Home vs. St.
Boniface 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 9-Tuesday, January 16

- Girls Basketball A Team Class S
SIJHSAA Regional Tournament

Thursday, January 11

- Chapel Service 8:25 a.m. (Gr 2-8)
- Chapel Service 8:55 a.m. (ECC-Gr1)
- Girls Basketball ACD @ Zion Belleville
5:00 p.m.

Friday, January 12

- GSLS Theme T-shirt day
- Boys Basketball AC Home vs. Unity
6:00 p.m.

Monday, January 15

- NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King, Jr.
Day

For more information:

gslcs.org/calendars



Where Do I Find?...Helpful School Links

[Health Forms](#)

[Athletics Volunteer Signup](#)

[Website](#)

[Charger Bucks-Scrip](#)

GSLS Change Drive

The Good Shepherd Lutheran School Change Drive will be held Monday, January 8th through Friday, January 19th. Please consider donating your change to this cause. (Checks and dollar bills are also accepted.) The money collected will benefit our school auction. Students will be receiving special dress days for each level their grade reaches. (See flyer for details.)



Alumni Night

Tuesday, January 23rd is Alumni Night! The Chargers Boys Basketball "A" team will take the court against the Holy Cross Lutheran Braves that evening about 7:00 p.m. The Boys "C" team is scheduled to play at 6:00 p.m. The Girls "C" team will also play at 5:00 p.m. We welcome all alumni and look forward to their return to GSLS! The band will play and will include any alum who wants to join in. All will be recognized during half time of the "A" Game. Pass the word!



National Lutheran Schools Week



We look forward to celebrating Good Shepherd Lutheran School during National Lutheran Schools Week January 22-26. Students will participate in fun dress-up days, daily devotions, and other activities to celebrate Lutheran

schools. The theme is "Connected" - John 15:1-5

(See flyer that follows for fun dress days and daily themes.)

Tuition Scholarships

Scholarship applications for LESA's Building Blocks Assistance and Good Shepherd Church and School are available now through FACTS. (See LESA flyer following for all the details.) LESA is sponsoring a virtual event on Tuesday, February 27th 12 noon - 7:00 p.m. titled, How to do a Financial Scholarship in FACTS. This will prove extremely helpful if you have not applied in the past. (Sign up times will be available soon.)

2024 GSLS Auction

Please see flyer that follows for classroom basket ideas. Next Auction meeting is Tuesday, January 9th at 6:30 p.m. Please join us in the library!

Charger Headlines Continued...

Pastor's Corner -

Join us for our Christmas Cantata tonight, Friday, January 5th, at 6:00 p.m. to mark the Twelfth Day of Christmas!

A Note from Our Counselor



My name is Tiffany Meek. I couldn't be happier to step into the school counselor role for the remainder of the school year. I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself. I currently live in Smithton with my husband and our three beautiful children. I am a Licensed Professional Counselor in Illinois and a Provisionally Licensed Professional Counselor in Missouri. I currently provide individual counseling services at Greenway Therapy and have been working in the field of mental health for over 6 years in various settings. Kids have always been one of my favorite populations to work with. There is something incredibly special about their resilience and determination. I look forward to getting to know your children and to be an additional resource for anyone who needs the support. (She will be working from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on Thursdays, beginning next week Thursday, January 11th. - Mr. Mayhew)

2024-25 GSLS Reenrollment Has Begun

Parents, please let the office know ASAP if your child will not be attending next year. You must notify the school as soon as possible to avoid the Non-Refundable fee being withdrawn from your account on January 20th. To check on re-enrollment, please go into your Parent Portal in FACTS and make sure everything listed is correct including addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts, financial information, and choose volunteer activities. Any questions, contact Jennifer Osborn 618-344-3153 or josborn@gslcs.org.

FRIENDZY

During January, students will learn what an incredible gift it is when we learn to work as a team and serve one another with our gifts. We are better together. Unit Four's Catchphrase is "Teamwork Makes The Dream Work." Students will be reflecting on how we accomplish so much more when we work together than we could on our own.



In Our Prayers This Week

Each week this school year, the faculty will be praying for the students and their families. Next week we will be praying for Kaleb G., Cooper I., Prabhgun K., and Caleb M. Please join us in prayer.

Something to Consider...

**Can you depend on God?
Promises about Who God is....
God is Strong:**

**My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my
heart and my portion forever.
Psalm 73:26**

**The name of the Lord is a strong
tower; the righteous run to it
and are safe.
Proverbs 18:10**

**I love you, O Lord, my strength.
Psalm 18:1**

**Blessed are those whose
strength is in you, O Lord
Psalm 84:5**

**The Sovereign Lord is my
Strength; he makes my feet like
the feet of a deer, he enables me
to go on the heights.
Habakkuk 3:19**

**Take the opportunity to share
God's promises from holy
scripture and allow the holy
spirit to work in them.
Blessings on your journey!**

Robert Mayhew, Principal

The purpose of Good Shepherd Lutheran School is to provide each student with a quality Christian Education. We recognize that this begins with the premise that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior and in Him we have eternal life. The curriculum and all activities are developed around this premise.

Charger Headlines Continued...

Cough, Cold and Flu

Please continue to be vigilant about avoiding the spread of germs. As a reminder, your child **must stay home** if they have a fever of 100.0° F or higher. Wait at least 24 hours after the fever has come down without medication before sending your child back to school.

You will be asked to come pick up your child if their temperature is above 100°F or if vomiting has occurred while at school. You may want to have your child wear a mask if they have a cough.



Spring Pictures Day

Lifetouch will be taking spring pictures on Thursday, February 1st for Preschool and Kindergarten students. Grades 1-8 pictures will be taken on Friday, February 2nd. Standardized dress is **not** required for these pictures. Order forms will be sent home next week or you can order online using our school ID: EVT84XZN8



Winter sports pictures will be taken on Friday, February 2nd beginning at 7:00 a.m. Mr. Mayhew will provide a schedule and forms for the athletes in the near future.

Prospective Students Open House

Good Shepherd Lutheran School will hold an Open House on Sunday, January 28th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. for Preschool through Grade 8. Invite your friends and neighbors to tour the school and find out more about the opportunities at Good Shepherd!



Young Authors

Students in 2nd, 4th, and 6th grade are required to participate in writing and illustrating a book as part of the Young Authors program. Kdg - 8th grade students are invited to get creative and also write a book. Books are due by February 9, 2024, unless otherwise stated by your child's teacher. Any questions may be directed to your student's teacher. Happy writing! (See flyer that follows for more details.)

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Tournament

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 (as of 01-01-24) are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2024 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. The competition is free of charge. The contest will be on Saturday, January 20th at Holy Cross Lutheran School, 304 South Street, Collinsville. Doors open at 9:15 a.m. with the contest starting at 10:00 a.m.



It's That Time! Emergency Closing

If school must be closed due to the weather, parents will be notified by text. - (Parent Alert)

In addition, you can listen to your radio or TV for: *Good Shepherd, Collinsville*. Good Shepherd Collinsville's name will be listed. **Please do not call the school or teachers and other workers at their homes.**

Watch local TV Stations - **KMOV (4), KSDK (5) or FOX 2)**

Listen to Radio Stations - **KMOX (1120), WIL-FM (92.3), WRYT (1080)**

Good Shepherd Collinsville **DOES NOT** follow Collinsville Unit 10's plan for late starts or closings. If school is in session, Good Shepherd will start at the regular time.

Parents, if you decide to pick your child up early due to weather, please call the school office in advance.

NO SCHOOL

There will be no school on Monday, January 15th in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Please take time to reflect and pray for our country.



Celebrating **40** Years of Christian Education



Auction Change Drive



To benefit the education at Good Shepherd

Dear families:

Please start collecting all your loose change for our annual change drive. We will be collecting the change from January 8-19.

The grade who raises the highest dollar amount, overall, will receive a pizza and ice cream party. There will also be special dress days as the grades reach each goal level.

Thank you for supporting our children!



1st level

Free bottoms w/Good Shepherd tops

2nd level

Pajama day

3rd level

Free dress/Hat day

CONNECTED John 15:1-5

National Lutheran Schools Week 2024

Good Shepherd Lutheran School will be participating in the National Lutheran Schools Week from January 20th-January 26th. The following is the schedule of events. If you have any questions, please ask your child's teacher.

Monday, January 22nd-Theme: Connected to Christ

Dress up: Career day (wear something that shows what you would like to be when you grow up.) **Science Fair Night in the gym from 6:30-7:30.**

Tuesday, January 23rd-Theme: Connected to the Father

Dress up: Decades day (wear 1950's, 1970's, 1980's, 2000's) **Move up day at 2:15-2:35. (first grade moves to second grade, second grade to third, etc.)**

Wednesday, January 24th-Theme: Connected to the Spirit

Dress up: Dress in your favorite color from head to toe. **Spelling Bee in the church starting at 9:00.**

Thursday, January 25th-Theme: Connected to the Church

Dress up: Wear your favorite team apparel(jerseys, hats, etc.)

Assembly: Tye-Dye Iguana in the gym at 2:00-3:00.

Friday, January 26th-Theme: Connected to His Commission

Dress up: Comfy Cozy Day (pajamas, sweatshirts) **Movie Day-each class will have a movie in their room.**

Young Authors

Good Shepherd students will have the opportunity to participate in the district and state Young Authors Conference this spring. The purpose of these conferences is to support the classroom teachers in their efforts to improve students' writing and reading abilities. The conferences are different from the science and history fairs because the manuscripts are not judged at either level. The children get to enjoy the writings of others and get to meet "real" authors. The number of students allowed to attend the conferences is limited. A committee will select five representatives to attend the district conference and up to two students to attend the state conference. We would like to involve as many students as possible with the writing of their own creative stories. All submitted manuscripts will be displayed and student recognition will be given during chapel.

In order for the children to have successful experiences, it is important to have parent cooperation. As parents, you can encourage your children to write. How do you do that? You help them brainstorm ideas from their experiential background. You can help them (especially the younger children) to express their ideas in writing. Helping them think of ideas for illustrations, story content, and book jackets is another way for you to be involved. You can especially help them by being enthusiastic!

What can be written by children? They can write creative short stories or a collection of original poetry. They can rewrite stories or "polish" stories they've written earlier in school, either as assignments or for their journals.

Some teachers will use a period of in-class time to introduce the students to this idea and get them started. Some grades may be required to do more independent work than others.

The manuscript is due February 9, 2024, to your child's teacher unless otherwise stated by the teacher.

In order to maintain some uniformity, books should have the following:

- 1. A jacket of substantial quality with the pages securely attached. The jacket should have an illustration, a title, and the author's name.*
- 2. A title page including the title of the book, the author, a fictitious publishing company, and a copyright date.*
- 3. A dedication page, dedicating the book to someone special.*
- 4. Three or more illustrations done by the child. Students cannot use clip art or copyrighted characters. (optional for grades 5-8)*
- 5. Dictated books may be typed or hand written by an adult, but must be in the student's own language*
- 6. OPTIONAL—the child can write an author's page, telling about him/herself.*



LIST OF THEME BASKETS BY GRADE FOR THE
40TH ANNUAL GSLS BENEFIT AUCTION – May 4, 2024
Firemen’s Hall, Collinsville, IL

- PK3 – Baby Theme Basket
 - Ideas: Onsie, Bottles, Décor, Books, Stuffedies, Toys, Diapers, Monitor, Gift Cards
- PK4 – Family Fun Day Basket
 - Ideas: gift cards to local attractions: Edisons, Trampoline Park, Childrens Museums, Magic House, City Museum;
- K – Future Builders Basket
 - Ideas: Legos, Magnatiles, Building Blocks, Puzzles
- 1 – Camping and Smore’s Basket
 - Ideas: Sleeping Bag, Lawn Chairs, flashlight, camping accessories, smores kits, campfire kits
- 2 – Coffee & Hot Chocolate Basket
 - Ideas: Mugs, Coffee, Syrups, Local Coffee Gift Cards, Hot Chocolate, Marshmallows,
- 3 – Summer Theme Basket
 - Ideas: Beach towels, bubbles, Chalk, Water bottles, grilling accessories, tiki theme stuff, summer décor
- 4 – Dinner Date Night Basket
 - Ideas: Restaurant Gift Cards; Weekly Menu Board
- 5 – Spa / Wellness Basket
 - Ideas: bath salts/bombs, yoga mat, candles, journal, Water bottle, small weights
- 6 – Movie Night Basket
 - Ideas: Popcorn maker, Popcorn, bowls, snacks, cozy blanket, AMC gift card, Chef shoppe gift card
- 7 – Sunday Morning Brunch Basket
 - Ideas: waffle maker, pancake mixes, Breakfast restaurant gift cards, recipes, Coffee
- 8 – Baking Basket
 - Ideas: Baking utensils, dessert recipes, mixing bowls

K-8 Tuition Assistance

Step 1: Complete application online through FACTS

- <https://online.factsmgt.com/ga/inst-application/inst/4FG82>

Step 2: Submit payment for application (\$40)

Step 3: Submit **ALL 2023** tax documents

- Applicant & co-applicant must submit tax docs
- Taxes do not have to be filed, but must be prepared and uploaded to application
- Call LESA office with any questions

Step 4: CHECK EMAIL

- FACTS representatives will email if documentation is missing. Please respond as soon as possible and **check your junk folder** for FACTS emails.
- Tips on uploading a document can be found at www.lesastl.org

Required Documentation

- 2023—1040 Tax Form (page 1 & 2)
- 2023 W2(s)
- Business Income docs
 - ⇒ Schedule 1—5, C, E, K, etc.
- Non-taxable docs
 - ⇒ Child support, SNAP, TANF, Social Security

Do You Qualify?

1. If **at least 10% of income from 2023** is used to cover the cost of a child/children's Lutheran K-8 **net tuition**
2. Child/children must be enrolled at the school by April 30 to be eligible for a scholarship during the May awards

Questions???

FACTS Parent Line: 1.866.315.9262

LESA Office: 314.200.0790

Email: mgersman@lesastl.org

Website: lesastl.org

Deadline: April 10, 2024

Lutheran Elementary School Association (LESA)

LESA provides financial resources for children in need to obtain Lutheran Christian education in the St. Louis area. We promote and advocate for efforts to improve the sustainability and quality of Lutheran Christian schools.