

Zion School Connection Newsletter

#1 - August 21, 2023

School Year Theme: "Grace Given/Grace Driven"



"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God" - Ephesians 2:8

Welcome Back to School!

We are so glad to see our returning students and families, as well as welcome some new families to our school. May God bless our school year!

Our theme for this year is "Grace Given, Grace Driven". Ephesians 2:8 reminds us that our salvation from sin and eternal life in heaven comes through Jesus' sacrifice for us, and not from anything we have done or deserve. That is GRACE (God's Riches At Christ's Expense) GIVEN. That amazing grace drives us to use our gifts to serve God and those around us as a response of love and thankfulness to God - GRACE DRIVEN.

May God empower our school family to respond with love and good works in appreciation for all that he has done for us in Jesus. Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God!

School Classes Start Tuesday, August 22

Classes start at 8:00 a.m. It is a full day of school classes. We will not have a chapel service on Tuesday, but family and friends are invited to join us for our first chapel service on Wednesday, August 23 at 8:05 a.m.

Chapel Services

School families are invited to join us for our Wednesday school chapel service this week Wednesday, August 23 from 8:05-8:30 a.m. Parents, family and friends are always welcome! A chapel offering is collected at our chapel services to be designated to a mission project each year. This year's sponsored mission is our WELS Mission in the Philippines. We will share more about this ministry in the coming weeks. Please remember this ministry and the people it serves in your prayers.

TADS Tuition Agreements

We still have a number of families that need to complete their TADS tuition agreements. All agreements must be completed by the end of this week (August 29th). If you are having difficulty with the system, please contact Mr. Schneck.

Hot Lunch

Our hot lunch program begins again in September, starting on September 6. A link to the hot lunch order form was emailed out last week to K-8 student families. If you missed the link, it can be accessed here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdUGspaheRXayuPqEDAGp_VWJr0qvWJ7H9o6iKA6fgFZ6GNBw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Please note that students need to have purchased a hot lunch punch card to participate in the hot lunches. Punch cards are available in the church/school office. See the attached August/September Zion school calendar for this month's scheduled events and hot lunches.

School Sports - Soccer

Soccer practices starts Wednesday through Thursday, August 23-24, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. Boys and girls in grades 3 to 8 are eligible. Those wishing to participate must have returned their signed sports forms if they have not already done so. (Forms were sent home on Tuesday at the Back-to-School Night.) Players should also make sure they bring their cleats, sports clothes, shin guards, and water bottles to practice.

ALL STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN SPORTS NEED TO HAVE A SIGNED CONCUSSION AWARENESS FORM AND A SIGNED ATHLETIC AGREEMENT (ONE PER FAMILY) ON FILE. These documents were also available at Back-to-School Night. If your child in these grades plans on participating in any extracurricular

sports this year, we need a signed copy for them. Soccer players, please return these signed documents by Thursday, August 24.

Our first soccer matches are HOME vs St. Stephen and Trinity on Saturday, September 9 at 9 a.m. and noon.

Raise Right/Scrip

Do you use the RaiseRight/Scrip program? This year several school families used Raise Right to reduce their tuition costs for this school. It only costs a little bit of your time, but the savings could be substantial. You can use Raise Right for your own family's tuition, or designate it to help another school family. More information on the program is available on the school bulletin board, or speak to Amy Vanisacker in the church/school office.

Zion Grand Prix Pinewood Derby

Our Zion Church and School families are invited to participate in our *2nd Annual Pinewood Derby Grand Prix on Sunday, September 10th from noon until 3 p.m.* Participating Cars will be judged on both design and speed! We have divisions for Children (Preschool through grade 2), Youth (Grades 3-8), and Adults (Teens and Adults). Cars must be built according to derby rules. You may purchase a kit on your own, or from Mr. Schneck (\$5 each). Flyers with details and rules are attached to this newsletter, and also available on the table in the school hallway.

We have a couple of work days in Mr. Schneck's garage (across the parking lot from school) scheduled beforehand for families who need help or access to workshop tools: Saturday, August 26 and Saturday, September 9 from 9 a.m. to noon.

We also need volunteers to help with work days and race day! Please contact Mr. Schneck if you are interested and available.

Drop-off and Pick-up

Please be aware that the building opens for students at 7:45 a.m. Please do not send your child in before that time. Also, no students are to be in the building after school. The only exception is for those participating in sports, and then, only in designated areas.

If you wish to walk your child into school, DO NOT leave your car standing in the drop-off area - Please park in the designated spaces so that you are not blocking the flow of traffic or forcing others to drive around your vehicle.

Please also remember our drop-off and pick-up procedures for students:

PRESCHOOL – AM class drop off may park in any parking lot, but students should be walked to the Preschool room entrance. Parents picking up AM students are asked to park in the circle drive (Cole Road entrance).

PM class drop off are asked to park in the circle drive (Cole Road entrance) and walk students to the preschool room entrance.

Parents picking up PM students may park in any parking lot.

KINDERGARTEN – Parents should park in the playground parking lot (Macomb Street entrance) and walk their children in through door "A". Kindergarten pick-up is at the west school hall entrance, door "B" (Next to the school garden).

GRADES 1-8 - Grades 1-8 are dropped off and picked up in the playground parking lot at school door "A".

At the end of the day, students are not to loiter in the school hallways but to go right to their vehicles or wait for their rides in the school entrance, on the school entrance sidewalk or, if it is raining or extremely cold, along the window bench in the gymnasium.

Please be aware of children, your own and others, when dropping off and picking up before and after school. Be aware of traffic flow in the parking lot. Please also maintain control of your children in the lot, and BUCKLE LITTLE ONES IN before you take a minute to visit with other parents. Students allowed to play on the playground after school MUST BE SUPERVISED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN. Please do not send your children to the playground after school unless you are supervising them or have asked another parent to do so. If you are using the preschool playground gates, please close them behind you. Let's all work together to avoid accidents and keep our children safe!

Tardiness/Absences

School classes start at 8:00 a.m. Students should be in their classrooms and ready to go at that time. Bringing your child late to school can be frustrating for them, as they don't get proper time to settle in for the day, as well as disruptive for the class. If you are late bringing your child to school, they must come with a written excuse from their parent indicating the reason for their tardiness, or you may also phone into the office to let us know you will be late. Three unexcused tardies result in one absent day being applied to their school record, as per our handbook policy.

Whenever possible, please notify the teacher in advance of any absences. If your child is going to be absent for the day and the teacher was not notified in advance, please call into the school office to let us know.

If your child is ill...

A note on illnesses: We are asked by the health department to continue to be extra-vigilant with regard to illnesses of any kind. So:

1. If your child is ill with any type of cold or fever or you suspect they are coming down with something, please keep them home.
2. If your child suffers allergy symptoms, you must send a note indicating so to your child's teacher, including if they are using allergy medication.
3. Please check your child's temperature if they seem to be feeling unwell. If a student has a fever of 100.4 F or above they must stay home until 24 hours after the fever has passed WITHOUT fever reducing medication. If your child has a fever (100.4 degrees F or above), we must send them home.

Please be considerate of these requirements so that we can keep on serving our families safely.

Saturday Workday - Playground Upkeep

Parents and school family are invited to help us out with spreading fresh mulch on our playground areas on Saturday, August 26 from 9 a.m. until noon. Gloves, boots, and garden rakes (not leaf rakes) are recommended. Many hands make light work, so if you have the time on Saturday, please help us out. Thanks!

Warrior Oasis

The Zion Upper Grades "Warrior Oasis" will again be selling milk and juice options for lunches to students daily. Students in grades K-8 wanting to purchase milk or juice for lunch can do so across from the school library at the start of lunch hour, 11:45 to 11:55 a.m.

Drink items available:

Horizon Organic Whole Milk or Hershey Chocolate Milk \$1.25

Juicy Juice Boxes \$0.50 (Apple, Fruit Punch, Grape, Berry)

Meijer Orange Juice (bottle) \$1.00

Purchases are cash only. Profits will go towards the upper grade field trip fund.

Delicious Coffee with Friends!

The Warrior Oasis Cafe is open on TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS in the gym, including the first day of school! After dropping off the kiddos, come enjoy a great cup of coffee or hot tea with fellow parents and friends before heading out for the day, or grab a cup to go. Coffee is served starting at 7:45 a.m. Cost is a free-will donation to the 7th-8th Field Trip Fund.

On the Calendar...

Tuesday, August 22 - FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL! Classes begin 8 a.m.
Warrior Oasis Coffee available in the gym

Wednesday, August 23 - School Chapel 8:05 a.m.
Soccer Practice 3 to 4:30 p.m.
Worship Service at Zion Lutheran 7:00 p.m.

- Thursday, August 24 - Soccer Practice 3 to 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, August 26 - Pinewood Derby workshop open 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE WORK DAY 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Sunday, August 27 - *Worship Service at Zion Lutheran 9:00 a.m.*

And Coming Up...

- Friday, September 1, and Monday, September 4 - NO School classes for Labor Day holiday
- Tuesday, September 5 - Zion Christian Education Association (CEA) first meeting of the year 3:10 p.m.
- Saturday, September 9 - Pinewood Derby workshop open 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
HOME Soccer matches vs St. Stephen and Trinity 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.
- Sunday, September 10 - Christian Education Sunday – PreK-8 students sing for 9 a.m. service at Zion
Zion Grand Prix Pinewood Derby 12-3 p.m.

Zion Lutheran School

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THROUGH FAITH—AND THIS IS NOT FROM
YOURSELVES. IT IS A GIFT OF GOD.
-EPHESIANS 2:8-