



RLA News and Notes

August 21, 2008

Principal's Note

It's time to write the first newsletter of the year and as usual there are either no thoughts in my head or too many thoughts in my head as to what to write. One is as bad as the other, but at the beginning of the year it is normal for my head to be swimming with items of interest and importance to the people who read News & Notes.

The new building is one year old now but our faculty is blessed to have two new members. Mr. Joe and Mrs. Natalie Liss come to us from Trinity Lutheran School in Jackson, MI. I hear Jackson is a lovely community. Anyone want to buy a house there? I think I know of one for sale! Please welcome the Liss family to South Bend when you have a chance. Mr. Liss adds instant credibility to our Science program in grades 4-7. Mrs. Liss will be teaching music and leading our choir.

Also new, is EasyTech, our new computer curriculum. We should have the program all loaded and ready to use shortly. Mrs. Liss will be teaching computers and EasyTech will allow her to track students who will proceed with projects at different rates of speed. This program comes to us with the endorsement of the National Lutheran School office in St. Louis.

We welcome Mrs. Marie Zell to our office. She will be handling both the receptionist duties and the financial duties handled by Mrs. Littell last year. The Zell's moved to South Bend last year and Marie's son is in the 4th grade and her husband is pastor of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. I can't hide my joy that the School Board decided to fill our office position despite a budget crunch.

I've already received several questions concerning volunteer hours and the opportunities available to parents. At the moment, we are handling requests as they come in with lunch/ recess duties and classroom assistance for teachers. We also are in need of people to help in the library with shelving of books and cataloging new books. This may take some training so we need to know ahead of time. Opportunities for Saturday morning activities, such as adding mulch to our playgrounds, will be announced shortly.

I am happy to announce that a parent has stepped forward to serve as PTL (Parent-Teacher League) president. With other people also indicating an interest in serving as officers it appears like we can get this program off the ground in September. Watch for an announcement for time and date of the first meeting.

We have been surveying the student interest in volleyball and/or soccer. At this point, we are a little short of the necessary number of players to participate in either. Volleyball would be for

girls in grades 4-7 and soccer would be coed for grades 4-7. We are trying to encourage several other students to sign-up and give it a try so that others who really want to play will get the chance. We ask parents to encourage their children to try new things so RLA can continue to add activities to it's program.

The Skillet Restaurant is back providing lunch for our student body again this year. Lunches are still \$3.50 but costs are hurting both parties as we try to keep the price stable. Donations of napkins, styrofoam cups, plastic silverware would help us greatly. If anyone would like to help out please speak with Mrs. Zell.

Chapel Offering

Our Chapel offering for 8/18 was \$8.01. This quarter we are going to be donating our offerings to the Hope Mission in South Bend so they can continue to serve hot meals to the needy. Some of our older children will also be helping serve meals as a service project. Chapel is normally held on Wednesdays at 8:30. Parents are always welcome to worship with us.

Search Engine

Instead of using Google try GoodSearch.com. RLA earns a penny for every search. Good Search also has a new shopping program that can raise funds to support RLA. We had a great April with over 1700 hits. May was our highest number yet with over 2200. In other words, we made more money in one month than our entire first year in the program. Our summer numbers went down so it is time to begin "searching" for RLA.

Market Day

RLA made \$166.43 in May which brings our grand total to \$1901.83 for the year. Thank you to all who supported us. Information for our 2008-09 program will be coming home soon.

Calendar

The complete school calendar for this year is posted on our web-site (www.rlasouthbend.com). We are hoping to be making some changes to our site in the near future. Parents can email teachers through the site and we hope to get some more useful parenting links on the site this year.

Condolences

Our prayers are with the VanLue (Alyssa grade 1) family as they mourn the loss of mother and grandmother Mary Ann Scott. Funeral services were held Wednesday. May God's peace be with them.

Mentors Wanted

Returning parents: Interested in helping a new family adjust to RLA? Contact the office if you'd like to help out.

Wish List

Back by popular demand! People often ask where they might be able to help us out with donated items. Here are a few items:
Styrofoam cups
divided Styrofoam plates
plastic silverware
napkins
gallons of milk
apple juice
video projector for Science lab
TV sets (that work!)
DVD players
computers - Pentium 4 or newer

Dates to Remember:

8/26 – 12:00 - MLEA pastors meet at RLA
9/1 – Labor Day – No School
9/11 – 7:30 - School Board
9/17 – *Captive Free* leads Chapel
10/7 – PBA Day – 11:45 dismissal
10/8 – School Pictures