



GREEN PARK LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Faithfully Equipping the Next Generation

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“Rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.” Colossians 2:7

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Taking Our Academic Pulse!

While many of my articles focus on the spiritual and emotional development of our students, I want to dedicate the comments in this message to the academic success of our students. When talking about statistics I'm reminded that they can be interpreted and given a spin, so I'll try to state them as authentically as possible. Annually our students take the Stanford Achievement Test or SAT. That is usually done in the spring of the year and given to all students in grades K-7. Our eighth graders take a test from the ACT group which is called the EXPLORE Test. We just received the results from the EXPLORE Test which the eighth graders took earlier this fall.

We've always said our students do well on tests and that they have always done well as they go on to high school and beyond. These recent EXPLORE Tests verify those statements for this group of eighth graders and really for the last three years for our eighth graders as stated by the ACT company. While our students greatly exceed the national norms in every subject, **twenty-seven of our thirty-four students scored above the 90th percentile in Math.** Nine of the students scored at the 100th percentile according to the ACT.

I bring these scores to your attention, not to brag, but to reassure you that your children are receiving a quality, Christian, and high expectations, education that compares to any school locally and nationally. Our students come from strong homes where the parents care about their child's education and want the best for them. The children are nurtured and educated by caring teachers who help them achieve their best and give glory to God.

By now you should have received the re-enrollment packet for next year. Re-enroll with the confidence that your child is in a great Christian environment and is being well educated in the secular subjects. You may look at the tuition cost and ask, "Is it worth the cost?" I'll let that be a rhetorical question for you to ponder in light of the statistics stated above.

Thank you for your continued support for our school as we work together, to keep your child "Rooted in Faith."

Gary Spieler, Principal

HE IS COMING - CHRISTMAS PAGEANT - TONIGHT

Are you ready? Tucked beneath the bows and wrapping paper is a special Christmas gift...the gift of Jesus! This year our Christmas story is "rooted" in the words of Isaiah and Luke as they take us to the "root" of Christmas, God's Word. Our "getting ready" includes narratives, tableaux, violins and lots of singing by both choir AND guests! We invite you to wrap yourself in colorful Christmas apparel, and join us for carols and pageant as we welcome the Savior! **"HE IS COMING"** will be presented by grades 3-5 on Friday, December 9, at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Come, get ready for Christmas!

CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY - DECEMBER 21

Please join us Wednesday, December 21, 9:00 am for our Christmas Assembly chapel service in the gymnasium. We will enjoy performances from our band, strings and choir as we celebrate the coming Savior. Everyone is welcome! Students are invited to enjoy Christmas attire including dresses and festive shirts, sweaters and sweatshirts with uniform pants, skirts or jeans.

CHRISTMAS BREAK

A reminder to everyone that Wednesday, December 21, is an 11:30 a.m. Early Dismissal day. Child care will be available from 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Children attending after school care should bring a lunch and drink. School will not be in session during Christmas Break, December 22 through January 3. Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 4. On behalf of the faculty and staff we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year.

EARLY ENROLLMENT CONTINUES

Thank you for sending your children to Green Park. We love each and every one of our students - what a pleasure it is to share God's love in our education! We are now enrolling for the 2012-2013 school year. Early enrollment applications received on or before January 20 are \$100, after the 20th enrollment is \$200. The forms have been sent home, are online and are listed below. Please note: We need all completed forms with the check in order to consider it complete. Please take association church endorsement forms to your church representative or pastor. Questions? Contact kelly.pfund@greenparklutherschool.org.

PROSPECTIVE FAMILY TOURS

Know of a friend considering Christian education? Invite them to tour Green Park! Prior to our early enrollment deadline January 20, we will be hosting the following meet & greets for prospective families. Please consider inviting a friend/colleague/neighbor/etc. to come visit. We will tour the campus, share more about our curriculum and offer light refreshments.

Friday, January 6, 1:30-3:00 pm

Thursday, January 12, 11:30-1:00 pm (includes light lunch)

Wednesday, January 18, 8:30 chapel, 9:00-10:30 am

To RSVP or to schedule private tours contact Katy Schmitt katy.schmitt@greenparklutherschool.org.

WE'RE PUMPED. ARE YOU?

There's a buzz in the air here on campus...and it's not just the Christmas buzz...it's for our AUCTION! While it's scheduled for February 10, 2012, plans are in full swing. The more involved, the lighter the load - plus our children benefit! The more we raise, the better our improvements for curriculum and technology can be. Here are a few ways you can get involved...won't you consider?

- Bring in a decent bottle of wine - \$15 or better for our wine pull
- Visit an auction tree near the office or kindergarten room for suggested donation ideas
- Ask a local business for a gift certificate donation
- Offer up your condo for a fun weekend
- Attend the next auction meeting (bring a \$5/\$10 gift card for the grab bags)—**Monday, December 19, 7:00 pm**
- Simply sell your share of raffle tickets - \$20 worth (Note-for every 20-affle tickets sold and received by Monday, December 19, your child's name will be entered into a drawing to receive a \$20 Target Gift Cards. 3 names will be drawn during the Christmas Assembly on Wednesday, December 21.)
- Share your Cardinals tickets or big ticket items
- Plan to attend - put it on your calendar and invite your family & friends
- Share this message with a grandparent
- Get the kids involved! Pick up an auction item (valued at \$25 or more) by December 16—if we collect 100 items, the whole school will celebrate with a Ted Drewes ice cream party!

Thanks to all of you who have been participating in the efforts. We can't wait for the fun event and to better our ministry and help our school.

CHURCH CHOIR SCHEDULE

The **Christ Memorial Cherubs** (grades 1-3) will sing for both the 9:20 and 10:45 a.m. services on Sunday, December 11. Please meet in the Worship Preparation Room 15 minutes before each service begins.

The **Sonrise Saints and God's Joy Choir** (Resurrection and Gethsemane) will sing this Sunday, December 11, in The Festival of Sacred Christmas Music at Resurrection. Please arrive by 3:30 p.m. to warm up in the Sonrise Harbor area downstairs. We will return downstairs after the service where your parents can meet you. See you this Sunday as we sing about our Savior's birth.

Peace Choristers will sing Sunday, December 11, in the 8:00 a.m. service. Please meet in the choir room at 7:30 a.m.

Christ Memorial Junior Choir will sing Wednesday, December 21, at the 5:00 p.m. Advent service. Please arrive by 4:40 p.m. and meet in room 208. We will also sing Christmas Eve at the 3:00 p.m. service. Please arrive by 2:30 p.m. and meet in Room 208. See you there.

SPIRIT DAY - DECEMBER 16

Friday, December 16, is Green Park Spirit Day. Students may wear any Christian T-shirt or Green Park Spirit Wear (this includes t-shirts, hoodies, or sweatshirts that have *Green Park* or *Vikings* on them); with blue jeans or shorts (no skirts are allowed unless the approved Plaid Skort is worn.) Students also have the choice to wear their uniform dress as well.

EAT AT FRIDAYS DECEMBER 21

Our next Eat & Earn Night is Wednesday, December 21, from 11:00 a.m. to close at T.G.I. Friday's in South County. T.G. I. Friday's will donate 10% of the total food sales generated by our supporters to Green Park! **Flyers are included with the Green Sheet attachments!** Don't forget to order your T.G.I. Friday's gift cards through Scrip, and earn money for your family and Green Park. Invite your family, friends and neighbors, and enjoy an evening without cooking!

MARKET DAY

Did you receive your January Market Day flyer? If not, stop by the school office and pick one up today! Place your *online order* at www.marketday.com using your charge card and be a step ahead!!! Enter the GPLS code **24637** when placing your order or you can complete the paper order form in the catalog. Order sheets are due to the office by Wednesday, December 21. Internet orders are due by 11:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 28. Pick-up is Thursday, January 5, from 3:00-4:00 pm in Room #201 in the Elementary Wing. If you have any questions regarding our Market Day program, please contact Debbie Wolf at 772-1640 or Cynthia Truemper at 845-1888.

SHARE A VIEWBOOK

Green Park's 2012 View Book is in! Come by the office (or request one to be sent home) and see what our latest brochure/View Book looks like. If you know of a friend/colleague/neighbor considering Christian education, please take one to share. We would love to share the great news of our ministry with others!

BOX TOP CONTEST

Our Box Top Contest continues through Friday, December 16. The class that collects the most Box Tops will receive a Pizza Party. The winning class will be announced when we return from Christmas Break! When attaching your Box Tops; please glue or tape (no staples please.) Please send your "Bonus Box Tops", in a baggie marked with the student name. Good luck everyone!

SPEECH & LANGUAGE SCREENING REMINDER

Don't forget, if you would like to have your child screened for speech and language through *Lutheran Association for Special Education*, forms are due to Green Park by Friday, December 16. Children will be screened in January by Mrs. Carol Lima, CCC-SLP, who has served our Green Park community for many years. The fee for the initial speech-language screening is **\$15 per child**. Checks for screening may be made out to *Green Park*. A summary report will be sent home for each student that receives a speech and language screening indicating whether the child would benefit from further assessment. Forms are included with the Green Sheet this week.

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

12/12	Chicken Patty on Bun or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich w/Baked Beans & Chocolate Pudding
12/13	Twin Tacos or Ham & Cheese Sandwich with Corn & Jell-O
12/14	Burrito w/Cheese or Spaghetti & Meat Sauce w/Roll, Peas & Pears
12/15	Cheeseburger or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich w/French Fries & Applesauce
12/16	Spicy Chicken Sandwich or Corn Dog w/Green Beans & Mixed Fruit

SCHOOL CALENDAR

12/9	1:30 & 7:00 p.m. Grades 3-5 Christmas Musical
12/13	8:30 a.m. Geography Bee - Grades 4-8 7:00 p.m. School Board Meeting
12/16	Green Park Spirit Day
12/21	9:00 a.m. Christmas Assembly 11:30 a.m. Early Dismissal - Christmas Break Begins 11:00 a.m. to Close - Eat & Earn - T.G.I. Friday's End of 2nd Quarter
12/22-1/3	NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break
1/4	Classes Resume 8:30 a.m. Faith Families
1/6	Report Cards Home
1/6-7	Green Park Basketball Tournament
1/9	7:00 p.m. PTO/Auction Meeting
1/10	8:30 a.m. Spelling Bee (Grades 5-8) 7:00 p.m. School Board Meeting
1/11	8:30 a.m. Chapel
1/13	11:30 a.m. Early Dismissal
1/16	NO SCHOOL - MLK, Jr. Birthday

ATHLETIC CALENDAR

Viking Boys (A1) Basketball 7-8th

12/12	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00
12/13	Game	vs. Messiah	4:30
12/15	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00
12/16	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00
12/19	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00
12/20	Game	vs. River Roads	5:45
12/22	Practice	Green Park	10:00-12:00
12/27	Practice	Green Park	10:00-12:00
12/29	Practice	Green Park	10:00-12:00
1/3	Practice	Green Park	5:00-6:30
1/5	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00
1/5-7	Tournament @ St. Mark's-Eureka		TBA
1/9	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00

LUTHERAN SOUTH CRAFT FAIR

The Lutheran South Craft Fair will be held Saturday, December 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All proceeds benefit the Athletic Department. For more information call Marge at 918-7301 or Lynne at 638-9186.

LUTHERAN SOUTH MUSIC CONCERTS

The Music Department at Lutheran High School South announces two Christmas events: Advent Band Concert, Saturday, December 10, 7:00 p.m. at Concordia Lutheran Church in Kirkwood and Christmas Choir Concert, Sunday, December 18, 7:00 p.m. in the Kuhlmann Center at LHSS. The community is invited to both performances.