



Trinity-St. Paul UPDATE



December 4, 2009

SPIRITUAL FOOD

“The true light which enlightens everyone was coming into the world.” (John 1:9).

“It was a dark and stormy night...” So begins the stereotypical mystery novel. Perhaps, this same prologue describes your story called, “The Dark Days of the Christian Life.” Yes, failure, loss and learning experiences are definitely part of the life of faith. The child of God knows what the spiritual life is like—it involves a great deal of hurt, confusion and other consequences of ignorant mistakes and sinful weakness. To know what it’s like to be a Christian is also to know times when we stumble in the darkness of worry, doubt and self-pity. As we anticipate the celebration of our Savior’s birth, we might introduce Jesus’ story to read, “*One dark and stormy night in a cold, damp stable, the true Light dawned on the earth. And those who sat in the shadow of death saw this great Light. The Messiah was born.*” The true Light. Yes, now we know what God is like. So unbounded is His goodness that He could not remain in heaven while His children were suffering and perishing on earth, yet so consuming in His wrath toward sin that He could not touch His unclean children until the Son was willing to make atonement. From the tree of Calvary now shines forth upon all the sinners of earth the true Light of God’s grace. Now we see what God has done to save sinners. He laid upon His Son the iniquity of us all. To us He gave the right to become children of God and there was Light. This Advent, may our Lord Jesus give us grace and courage to pause each day to see the Eternal Light of truth and rest securely in His finish work of salvation. Pax Domini—Mrs. Farrell

Classical Education— The famous poet, T.S. Eliot, once wrote: “*No one can become really educated without having pursued some study in which he took no interest. For it is part of education to interest ourselves in subjects for which we have no aptitude.*” As Eliot suggests, part of getting a well-rounded, well-grounded education is learning things that might not directly interest us. Perhaps you can remember classes you were forced to take that you didn’t particularly enjoy, but to this day you use the knowledge gained from those classes on a regular basis. In part, this what a classical education is—a holistic education that, unlike progressive education, is not based on the initial interests and desires of the learner but on fundamental knowledge deemed important to helping students become successful, respectable adults. At TSP, this includes the classic faith-building study of catechesis, policies and practices that help development a solid work ethic, and the practical application of manners and other social skills while holding students accountable for their actions. It is important that parents recognize the efforts of our teachers and pastors to implement and support our families in pursuing these well-grounded collective priorities and excellence in education at TSP.

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving!

Sunday began the season of Advent. During Advent we are preparing for the birth of our Savior. At school we have an Advent coloring book which we do every day. We also read about and hang an ornament on the tree. Your child had paper Advent candles in their book-bag. The directions are attached. Please help your child with this project.

Our tree is in our room and we have started to decorate it. You may bring your present anytime.

Book orders are in the folder, return them by Monday. They make great presents! Mark on the slip and I will save them for you.

Handwriting is in the folder. We are writing first, middle and last names on the paper. PLEASE watch your child as they are forming the letters. Please have them tell you the letter, the sound and something that begins with that sound.

Raging Rivers ends Friday, December 11. Turn in your sheet.

A new reading program has started today called “Read to Succeed”. If your child reads 360 minutes by February 19, they will receive a free ticket to Six Flags.

The end of the second quarter is December 18. I will be testing the children next week on things we have discussed in class. They should be able to count to 70 by 1’s, 5’s and 10’s, know the days of the week, months of the year, identify and write numbers to 20, spell their first, middle and last names, know their telephone number, address, and phone number, and know the capital, lowercase and sound of the letters we have learned to date. They should also be able to zip their coat and tie their shoes.

Our memory verse for Friday is: They will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Luke 21:27.

Chapel will be at **St. Paul** for the month of December. Have a great weekend! God’s Blessings, Mrs. Steinmeyer

1st and 2nd GRADE NEWS

Our room is starting to look like Christmas. We have colored poinsettias and decorated our tree, as well as many other activities. If you would like you can bring in gifts and put them under our tree.

We will be Christmas caroling with some of the older kids on Tuesday morning. Please make sure they dress appropriately.

Raging Rivers needs to be turned in by Friday.

We are beginning the Read to Succeed program today. If your child reads 360 minutes by February 19 they will receive a free ticket to Six Flags.

***First Grade** – We are working on writing our own sentences in Language. We will have a test on Friday. In Math we are still working hard on those addition facts.

***Second Grade** – We are studying verbs. Please ask your child the forms of be as this is a tricky one to remember. There is an example of this in the green folder. We will take a test over verbs on Friday.

In Christ – Miss Warnier

3rd and 4th GRADE NEWS

Christmas excitement and busy-ness is upon us! Although Christmas break soon approaches, we are keeping our school routines as consistent as possible.

Please continue to check assignment notebooks daily so you are informed of upcoming tests and assignments. Also, please read the entire Update for important school events and information.

The reading program “Read to Succeed” begins today. If your child reads 360 minutes by February 19, they will receive a free ticket to Six Flags.

***4th Math** – Oral addition tests 0-5 next week – We continue to work on multiplying

***3rd Science** – starting a unit about body systems

***English** – test over Be verbs on Friday

***Religion** – discussing the Christmas story

***Reading** – both classes finished their unit reading tests and have moved into the next set of stories

***Social Studies** – learning about community, state, and national governments

***4th Spelling** – Unit 15 next week

Thank you to the volunteers at the Christmas Gift Shop. It was so well organized and had such a nice variety of gifts. The students really enjoyed their shopping experience.

In Christ---Mrs. Schkade

*3&4 REMINDER – If you have not already sent your money to school for the Christmas party (a note was sent home last week) please do so by Monday. Thank you!

5th and 6th GRADE (3rd/4th Grade Math) NEWS

This coming week is going to be busy. Tuesday 5-6 & 1-2 are going caroling in both Worden and Hamel in the morning and will eat lunch at the Trinity Center followed by an activity in the afternoon. We will dismiss from St. Paul at normal time. Please have your child dress warm with gloves and caps.

On Friday, 5-8 will be going to St. Louis to the Fox to see Christmas Carol. We will eat following the performance. There is a permission slip in the folder. Please return as soon as possible.

*7th/8th **Science** – is working with the Forces of Motion

*7th/8th **History** – has a report due Wednesday on the White House

*5th/6th **Science** – is working on Eco Systems

*5th/6th **History** – we will study the construction of the great pyramid

3rd **Math** – is practicing their subtraction and addition skills

3rd **Spelling** – is Unit 14 (and the word list is in their folders)

In Christ – Mr. Hemann

5-8 LANGUAGE ARTS/ENGLISH MEMO

Field Trip to the Fox Theater to see a live production of the Christmas Carol and lunch at the Spaghetti Factory, Friday, December 11. Be sure to return your permission slip and \$10.00 for lunch on Monday! See Friday Folder for more info.

*5th & 6th **Grade English** – we will take a break from verbs and read together Dickens' Christmas Carol in preparation for our field trip to the Fox on Friday to see a live presentation of the classic. No homework this weekend!

*5th & 6th **Grade Reading** – we will spend one more day on our pop-up books and then study the Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. We will see a live presentation of the Christmas Carol on Friday at the Fox Theater in St. Louis. No homework this weekend!

*7th & 8th **Grade English** – we have finished our noun unit a week ahead of time. We will take a break from grammar and look at various Christmas Classics from literature like "The Gift of the Magi." We will be attending a live presentation at the Fox of Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol on Friday. No home work this weekend!

*7th & 8th **Grade Reading** – we will study Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol in preparation for our field trip to the Fox in St. Louis to see a live presentation. No homework this weekend!

LATIN

3rd & 4th **Grade Latin** – We took our quiz today. That means we won't have another quiz until January. However, we will have new vocabulary cards to study along with the old ones. Because we are accumulating so many, I would suggest parents purchase a "recipe" box to hold the cards.

5th - 8th **Grade Latin** – 5th & 6th graders will finish the "grammatica Latina" in Capitula prima on Wednesday and Thursday. 7th & 8th graders will take a quiz Monday on vocabulary from "captiulo tertio," especially "Scaena Secunda.. We'll work the "grammatical Latine in Capitula tertia the rest of our week.

MATH

8th **Grade Math** – We'll finish up our chapter with mean, mode, median and range and review for our chapter test on Monday, Dec. 14.

7th **Grade Math** – We wrap up and review Chapter 3 and take a test on Wednesday. Then prep for our next chapter on factors and fractions!

6th **Grade Math** – We're beginning our chapter on organizing and displaying data into graphs. Next week we'll cover bar graphs and pictographs.

5th **Grade Math** – We took our time reviewing and completing our chapter test this past week. So we'll review and take our unit test next Wed. and Thurs.

BRASS CHOIR

You may want Mrs. Curtis to cry, but she will beat you at your own game. Her spies are everywhere. Consider yourselves warned. Keep practicing your page 10, and add in page 11. Think about how great eighth notes are and how much you love counting them *one-and-two-and-three-and-four-and*. These noble tasks will take you a bare minimum of 100 minutest this week. Adam was the Potentate of Practice and Cyrus was the Regent of Rehearsal. Please remember that practice times must be written down and reviewed and signed by a parent!

NEWS & NOTES

***Soup Supper** – It's time for our annual TSP Soup Supper on Dec. 16 from 5:30-6:45 PM. The meal is in the St. Paul basement and will conclude right before the Lessons and Carols Service, in which the children sing. Please join us in support of the School Scholarship Fund. We ask each TSP family to provide a dessert for this event. Thrivent Financial is providing matching funds.

***Gift Cards Available** – Christmas is quickly approaching. We have a wide-selection of gift cards available daily at Trinity St. Paul school office (St. Paul Center). Please stop by and get yours.

***PNO Thank You** – The TSP Patriot's Night Out Committee would like to thank you for your generous support at our dinner auction. Special thanks to all the parents who donated items. We made approximately \$12,000.00 after expenses. We could not have done it without you! We look forward to next year's auction.

EVENTS

TONIGHT (12/4) – BBB (D) Game @ TSP vs. Edwardsville @ 5:30 – GBB (C) Game @ TSP vs. Bethalto @ 6:30 – BBB @ TSP vs. Staunton @ 7:30

SUNDAY (12/6) – Church and Sunday School

MONDAY (12/7) – BBB Practice 3:30-5:00 – GBB Game @ Staunton vs. Litchfield @ 6:30

TUESDAY (12/8) – 1,2,5,6 Christmas Caroling – GBB Game @ Prairietown @ 5:30

WEDNESDAY (12/9) – BBB Practice 3:30-5:00 – Advent Church Services

THURSDAY (12/10) – GBB Practice 5:30-7:00 @ TSP

FRIDAY (12/11) – 5-8 Trip to the Fox Theater for Christmas Carol – BBB Game @ Troy @ 6:30

MENU

MONDAY (12/7) – Chicken Spaghetti, Salad/Croutons, Garlic Bread, Peaches, Dessert, Milk

TUESDAY (12/8) – Cheese Pups, Peas, Mandarin Oranges, Dessert, Milk

WEDNESDAY (12/9) – Chicken Tacos, Lettuce, Hot Apples, Dessert, Milk

THURSDAY (12/10) – Farmers Delight, Corn, Bread & Butter, Mixed Fruit, Dessert, Milk

FRIDAY (12/11) – Tomato Soup, Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Carrot Sticks, Crackers, Pineapple, Dessert, Milk

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 6

Trinity Church

9:30 – **Randy Stark; Sam Whitmore**

St. Paul Church

7:45 – **Sydney Anderson; Elizabeth Steinmann**

10:00 – **Megan Pellock; Brooke Webb**