



Rochester Central Lutheran School

RCLS PAW PRINT

September 18, 2008

Preparing for tomorrow with a Christ-centered education today!

RCLS is a ministry of Family of Christ, Grace, Holy Cross and Trinity Lutheran churches.

DON'T FORGET!

Achievement Testing
9/22-9/26 for students in Grades 2-8

RCLS VIP (Very Important Person) Day
on Friday, October 3.

Special points of interest:

- *New Crosswalk*
- *School Start Time!*
- *Arriving to school late process*
- *Checking students out process*
- *Lock down drills*
- *Achievement Testing*
- *Wish List*
- *VIP Day Form*
- *8th Grade Fundraiser*
- *Women of Faith Conference*
- *United Way*
- *Scholarship Fundraiser*
- *Cell Phone Policy*
- *Much, much, more!*

Mr. Pahlkotter's Thoughts...

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."
John 15:12 & 13

My youngest son has discovered the joy of friendship. He tells us every day about his friends at school and lately, he asks me daily if I am his friend. I tell him we are buddies and then he reminds me 5 or 6 more times during the day that we are friends...we are buddies. The knowledge that he is in relationship with his friends at school and with his dad are very important to him. I think he enjoys affirming that relationship by holding my hand and reminding me...several times...that we are friends. I can't help but enjoy this affirmation of our loving relationship as father and son. Even though his several reminders could become annoying, instead, I find them encouraging.

In John chapter 15, Jesus affirms his followers by calling them friends. "I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. This is my command: Love each other." (John 15:15-17)

Christ has been the ultimate friend. Not only does He love us...He gave His life for us on a cross. What greater act of friendship is there than the sacrifice of one's life for another. As I read Scripture, it is much like my son's affirmation reminding me of our friendship...our love relationship. God's Word sometimes feels like my son's

hand holding mine... reminding me that I am not alone and that Jesus is holding my hand and walking with me through this life. My son will sometimes ask if we are best friends. Christ is the best friend we will ever have.

Take time this week to spend with your best friend...Jesus. Pray and let Him speak through Scripture as you carve some time in your schedule to spend some quality time with Him. You will be amazed how affirming time with Jesus can be.

In the name of our ultimate HERO and friend,

Mr. Henry Pahlkotter, II
RCLS Principal

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION: The new crosswalk is working very well. As we have Safety Patrol learning their jobs, it may be a little awkward at times...but it is working. Thank you for your patience. I have heard numerous compliments in regards to the crosswalk as people are feeling safer walking to and from the parking lot. Drivers, please remember 3 simple things:

1. Please drive carefully and be aware of the pedestrians. We want our children and families to be safe walking to and from the parking lot.
2. Please pull all the way forward to the sign that says *“Please stop HERE to load/unload your students”* nearest the front gym doors. Our goal is to have 3 cars load and unload at once between the crosswalk and the sign near the front gym doors.
3. Please do not park in the first row nearest the building to pick up children. We do not want drivers backing into the flow of traffic both loading and unloading students.

Thank you again for your cooperation!

SCHOOL BEGINS AT 7:40 A.M.: Please note that school is starting five minutes earlier than last school year. School begins with announcements promptly at 7:40 a.m. Students are asked to arrive at school at 7:30 a.m. so that they have enough time to be prepared and in their seats for the start of school at 7:40 a.m. Thank you.

STUDENTS ARRIVING LATER THAN THE START OF THE DAY (7:40 A.M.) must stop by the school office to receive a late slip. Students will not be admitted to class without a slip. In this way, the school office is notified of their attendance and the teacher knows they have checked in with the office.

PARENTS MUST CHECK STUDENTS OUT OF THE SCHOOL OFFICE if leaving earlier than the end of the day. Teachers are asked not to release students without a slip from the office. Parents are asked to stop in the office and sign their children out. The office staff will then give you a slip so that your child may be released to you. This is a security measure and we ask all parents to please comply. Thank you.

THIS—THAT—AND MORE!!

8TH GRADE CLASS TRIP FUNDRAISER!

The 8th graders are starting their first fundraiser! They are selling Watkins products. You may buy from any 8th grader or stop by the school office for an order form. The fundraiser goes from now to October 20. Some of the Watkins items include spices, extracts, lotions, lip balm, seasonings, and barbeque sauce. The money will go towards the eighth grade

gift to RCLS and the class trip. In the past gifts purchased for the school have been pictures, furniture, 1st aid kit, and towards the Butterfly Garden. The students in the past have taken a 3 day camping trip after graduation to various locations. Last year it was the Wisconsin Dells.

LOCK-DOWN DRILLS:

The State of Minnesota now requires schools to conduct five (5) school lock-down drills per year.

This is in addition to the fire drills and tornado drills we have been conducting over the years. If your child comes home telling you we had a lock-down drill, please be aware that it was most likely a practice so that in the event of an incident, we would be prepared. If the front doors are locked during the school day, this would indicate that we are in the process of a lock-down drill. Thank you for being aware.

5TH GRADE AT CAMP OMEGA! Our 5th graders went to Camp Omega on Wednesday and are scheduled to return on Friday. Please keep their outdoor education experience, travel and overall safety in your prayers.

Thank you to **MILLS FLEET FARM** for donating a \$25 gift card to put towards the purchase of athletic equipment.

ACHIEVEMENT TESTING IS NEXT WEEK!

RCLS gives the Stanford 9 (achievement test) to grades 2 through 8 each fall as well as the Olsat (aptitude test) to grades 4 and 6. This test is given so that we can measure how students are doing in regards to their achievement, how they are doing as compared to their aptitude in grades 4 and 6, and gives us good information to make sure that our curriculum is on target. The Stanford compares like grades across the United States and is one of the tests most often given.

Research tells us that sleep and nutrition impact how well students do in school and how they perform on tests. Testing begins next week. Please take this opportunity to review your child's rest and nutrition patterns so that they not only do well on their achievement testing, but that you set a pattern for them so that they may do well all year long! Breakfast is essential!

ALSO, please observe quiet halls throughout the week. We do not want to disturb students taking tests. Please **DO NOT ENTER CLASSROOMS** if they have a note taped to their doors saying testing. Please avoid taking students out of school during the week as make up testing is always challenging and it is always better to have students take the test when the teacher is providing a positive testing environment. Thank you.

PRAYING FOR OUR FAMILIES

The week of September 22 we will pray for: Chris & Michelle Bany (Katherine, Rebecca), Scott & Ellen Bauman (Elizabeth, Ethan), David & Stacie Beecham (Britta, Rochne), John & Julie Beise (Alex), Noel Berthiaume (Joshua), and Pastor Henry & Kris Biar (Kayla, Keenan).

THRIVENT MEMBERS

Don't forget to make use of your member benefit to have gifts to RCLS matched \$1 to every \$2

given. Forms are available in the school office.

CELL PHONE POLICY

The use of cell phones by students is prohibited on school grounds and at all school functions. Exceptions are permitted only by the supervising teacher. Cell phones will be confiscated if seen or heard and will be released only to parents. This policy is listed in the Parent Handbook under Telephone Calls. Please take time to familiarize yourself with the guidelines listed in the handbook.

MARKETING COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

If you would enjoy helping us update our recruitment brochures and help us get the good word out about RCLS, contact Mr. Pahlkötter and volunteer to be on our Marketing Committee!

ANNUAL ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN FUND-RAISER

to be held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Stewartville, MN on October 19, 2008, 11:45 am—1 pm. The menu is a **Wisconsin Style Fish Feed** with red potatoes & pearled on-

ions, baked beans, coleslaw, melted butter, tartar sauce, cake, ice cream and beverage. It is a free will offering and funds raised will be matched by Thrivent.

MOMS IN TOUCH invite you to come and pray for our children on Tuesdays at 1:45 pm. We will meet in the office conference room. Please join us as you can. If you have any questions please call Charla Schultz 281-2888 or Kathy Johnson 282-9970.

WOMEN OF FAITH—INFINITE GRACE CONFERENCE 2008

This event will be held at the St. Paul Xcel Energy Center on October 17-18. You are invited to experience *Infinite Grace!* on Friday evening (7 pm—9:30 pm) and all day Saturday (9 am—5 pm). The pre-conference *I Second that Emotion* is scheduled for 10 am—3:30 pm on Friday. A bus will leave Friday morning at 7:30 am to drive up all who wish to attend the pre-conference. Please contact Denise Frey for price information and to reserve your ticket to attend. Email: dfrey@us.ibm.com or call #287-9892.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO RCLS CAN BE MADE THROUGH THE UNITED WAY!! As the United Way campaign kicks off in Olmsted County, you might be interested to know that you can contribute directly to RCLS through this campaign. The specific process may differ, depending on where you work, but the general process is this: When you submit your pledge, **select the "donor choice" option.** You should be able to write in your own specific agency. This is the option you want! With this option, write in Rochester Central Lutheran School, 2619 9 Avenue NW, Rochester, MN 55901 (507-289-3267). RCLS qualifies for contributions through United Way because we are a 501 c3 organization. Please keep us in mind and in your prayers. Thank you!

THE CAN CAGE in the RCLS parking lot will continue to be in place through the first snow. The cans will be recycled, and the funds will go towards the 8th grade class gift and trip. *Cans only, please! We cannot accept plastic bottles, tin cans, cardboard, glass, or garbage. Also, please tie your garbage bags to create less of a mess.* Thank you for helping us with this project!

SPORTS UPDATE

Congratulations to the Bobcat soccer team who defeated Resurrection last Tuesday 6-4 in their season opener! Goals were scored by Lucas Ziemba (2), Matt Buettner (2), and John Mattison (2). On Friday, the Bobcats defeated Wykoff 10-1. Goals were scored by Mason Nordman, Audrey Wingren (2), Danielle Buettner, Rose Gregoire, Katrina Wessel, John Mattison (2), and Matt Buettner (2). The win on Friday brings the Bobcats record to 2-0 on the season. Games this week are Tuesday, September 16 vs. Lake City and Friday, September 19th at Silo.

WISH LIST ITEMS: Our ministry staff is often in need of items that are not essential but are wish items that our limited budget may not be able to provide. We will be listing items periodically for our families and friends to consider providing a donation to cover. You may do so in thanksgiving of Christian education, in honor of a birthday or special event or you may remain anonymous if you so choose. We know that Christian giving is a blessing not only for the receiver but also for those who are able to give. Please contact the school office if you are willing to fund one or more of these items. Thank you.

<u>Department or Teacher</u>	<u>Wish List Item</u>	<u>Approx. Cost</u>
Music Program	F Bass Recorder (1)	\$300.00
Music Program	Bar Chime Tree (20 bars w/out table stand)	\$65.00
Music Program	Alto Xylophone (1)	\$600.00
Music Program	Bass Xylophone (1)	\$1500.00
Music Program	Soprano Xylophone (1)	\$415.00
5 th Grade Program	DVD/VHS Player (2)	\$100.00 each
Grade 2	Bar Stool "teacher chair" tall with a back New/Used Card Table 4 Bean Bags Moon Sand Remote clicker for Laptop	

BOX TOP COMPETITION

-The competition is by classroom and not by grade. For example, 7A and 7B are counted separately. The competition includes Preschool-Grade 8.

- All box tops are to be handed into the classroom's teacher. They can be handed in separately or on the sheets.
- Minimum total for 1 Smart Board is 50,000 Box Tops.
- Box tops will be counted on the following dates:

September 26

October 31

November 15

December 12

January 30

February 15 (End of contest)

February 17—\$500 given to the class with the most Box Tops for their field trip.

MR. PAHLKOTTER AT CALVARY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH THIS SUNDAY! Mr. Pahlkotter has been invited to participate in a discussion panel at Calvary Evangelical Free Church this weekend regarding the topic of Christian education. The members of Calvary Evangelical Free are celebrating Christian education this weekend. We pray that God will bless this opportunity for Mr. Pahlkotter to share our mission and ministry at RCLS with families considering Christian education for their children. We are blessed to have families from Calvary Evangelical Free Church. If you see Mr. Pahlkotter on Sunday, please stop by and say hello.

VISITORS AND PARENTS ARE ASKED TO CHECK IN THE OFFICE: It is essential that the school office know at all times who is or is not in the building. All guests and parents are asked to check in at the office before proceeding to classrooms. Visitors are asked to wear a visitor button which indicates you have checked in the office and they are aware that you are in the building. Staff has been informed to question anyone who is in the building without a visitor button. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Remember your leaders,
who spoke the word of God
to you.
Consider the outcome of their
way of life and imitate
their faith.
Hebrews 13:7**

RCLS SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER
On Sunday, October 5, 2008, from 11 am—10 pm when you dine at the Timber Lodge Steakhouse for lunch or dinner 15% of all proceeds will go to the RCLS Scholarship Fund. Please call Timber Lodge at 252-8075 for call ahead seating and make your reservations today. Just mention RCLS when you are ordering and when you make the reservation. Carry out orders also qualify. And don't forget the Timber Lodge Scrip at the RCLS office! If you are unable to participate but would like to support students demonstrating a financial need, please make your gifts directly to RCLS.

VERY IMPORTANT PERSON DAY (V.I.P. Day) is Friday, October 3rd. Every student is asked to invite a special person (this includes grandparents) to come to school with them on Friday, October 3rd. Guests are asked to come at 7:45 a.m. for a special reception in their honor and then to attend chapel with the student who has invited them at 8:15 a.m. Chapel will be on Friday that week for V.I.P. Day. Students will then have an opportunity for their V.I.P.'s to go to school with them and the morning will end at 10:30 a.m. with a very special program. We chose to host V.I.P. Day on a Friday so that those very important persons coming from out of town could possibly come for the weekend. We ask that all V.I.P.'s be at least 18 years of age. Please complete the form below indicating who your child is inviting to be their V.I.P. on October 3 and return to your child's teacher. Thank you!

******* V.I.P. Form *******

Name of Child: _____ Grade: _____

Name of V.I.P.: 1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

I grant permission to the V.I.P. listed to come to school with my child(ren) and participate in this special event.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

_____ I am willing to assist with V.I.P. registration beginning at 7:45 a.m.

_____ I am willing to assist with the V.I.P. reception at 7:45 a.m.

September 19	- Gr. 4 to Government Center to vote! 9:30-11:30 am
Sept. 22-26	-Achievement Testing, Grs. 2-8
September 22	-Cross Country Meet, 4 pm -Board of Directors, 6:15 pm
September 24	-Concert Choir to sing at Chapel
October 1	-No Chapel—will be held on Friday with VIP Day!
October 3	-Gr. 2 to sing at Chapel -Camp Omega Cross Country Meet, 1:30 pm - VIP Day, 7:45—10:30 am -Mid Quarter
October 4	-Conference Soccer Tournament- Plainview
October 6	- Picture Day
October 8	-Gr. 5 to sing at Chapel
October 9	-Coffee & Tour, 7:45 am -Mid-Quarter Reports go home. 31st in recognition of Reformation
October 10	-Parent Transport <u>to school</u> —AM only! -Fall Play, 7 pm
October 11	-State Cross Country Meet at Concordia Academy, Bloomington, starting at noon -Fall Play, 7 pm
October 12	-Fall Play, 2 pm
October 15	-Gr. 1 to sing at Chapel
Oct. 16-17	-No School—MN South District Education Conference, Mankato
Oct. 20-25	-Book Fair
October 23	-Horizon's Breakfast Fundraiser, 8-9 am
October 25	-Hallelujah Carnival, 4-7 pm
October 26	-Board of Directors, 6:15 pm
October 29	-No Chapel—Chapel on Friday 10/31 in recognition of Reformation
October 31	-Chapel, 8 am

**View the RCLS calendar at www.rcls.net and click on view calendar.

NOW IS THE TIME TO HELP THE CARNIVAL!!

Hurray! Hurray! We are on our way!!

If you were one of the **40** people who said they would help with the Carnival on our before school volunteer slips or if you have a **super love for the Carnival**, now is the time to sign-up for the job---no, the JOY -- you would want to do to help the Carnival be a success again this year.

The Carnival Committee has divided the necessary work for the Carnival between three areas: **Planning and Set-up, Kitchen, and Running Games**. Please look for the Carnival Sign-up Table with the yellow-backed sign-up sheets in front of the office. We need many people to make it work well, and many people working together will allow everyone to enjoy the Carnival. So, pick out the area where you would find JOY in helping and put your name down. Your volunteerism is very, very much appreciated.

P.S. Second grade parents and other interested parents: If you were unable to come to the Carnival Meeting on Tuesday night, please sign-up outside the office. It will save the Carnival Committee a phone call or two or three or....

PACK 29'S FIRST PACK MEETING Pack 29 will be having it's first meeting at GSR September 25 at 6:30 pm. This is Cub Scouts in Kindergarten through grade 5. If you would like to sign-up for Cub Scouts come join us! For directions: www.gamehavenbsa.org Questions? Please contact Shelly at 261-8025 or shelly.erpelding@gmail.com Check out our Pack website www.pack29rcls.org for more Pack or Den activities!

UPCOMING EVENTS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!!

- VIP Day (Very Important Person Day), October 3, 7:45—10:30 am, at RCLS
- Fall Play, October 10 (7 pm), October 11 (7 pm), and October 12 (2 pm), RCLS gym
- Book Fair, October 20-25, RCLS Library
- Hallelujah Carnival, October 25, 4-7 pm, RCLS gym
- Putting on the Ritz, November 14, beginning at 6pm, held at the Rochester International Event Center
- December will be filled with concerts and programs!

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