

Rochester Central Lutheran School

RCLS PAW PRINT

December 17, 2009

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!

No School December
23-January 1

January 4—
School Resumes

Jan. 8-9 Science Fair

MR. PAHLKOTTER'S THOUGHTS...

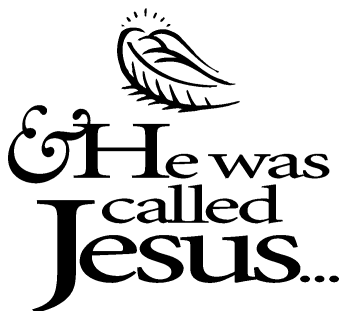
"Give Him the name Jesus because He will save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

Tonight, Thursday, is our All School Christmas Celebration entitled the "Good News Christmas Cruise." In the second to the last song of the program, we sing of God's promise fulfilled...Christ is born! Jesus is sung several times increasing in volume until the end of the song. This gains meaning when you realize that "Jesus" means "Savior." Jesus is our Savior...our Good News! I get chills every time the students sing this song...when I focus on the real meaning of our celebration...God's promise of the Savior fulfilled.

May God bless you richly as you celebrate the blessing of His fulfilled promise...Jesus. May Jesus be the center of your celebration as He is the "Good News" we will be singing about this evening at the John Marshall High School Auditorium.

The faculty and staff of RCLS wish you a very merry Christmas and a joyous and blessed New Year!

Merry Christmas,
Mr. Henry G. Pahlkotter, II
Principal



Last week, **MRS. DORI ROBBINS** came to me and shared that she and her husband Dave had been praying and that she believed it was God's will for her to retire at this time upon the completion of her disability. She shared that she so wanted to come back and be with the students; however, she now realized it was time for her to answer a new Calling and to retire after her 33+ years of teaching at Rochester Central Lutheran School.

Special points of interest:

- Sports Update
- Ugandan Connection
- GiveMN.org
- Faculty Changes
- RCLS Chess Club
- Art Room Needs
- Christmas DVD order form
- *Much, much, more!*

She apologized for the timing; however, she was confident in her decision as God had made clear to her during the seven days she was attempting to transition back to the classroom that it was His will. She said the decision was very difficult; however, she now has peace and is thankful to God for her years of ministry, her multitudes of memories of her students and the RCLS families and the blessing of her partners in ministry over the years.

We thank God for Mrs. Robbins and we pray that as she continues to heal and then transitions into retirement with God's richest blessings. A special retirement celebration will be planned in the spring of 2010 once her healing is complete and we can together express our sincere gratitude for her ministry and God's blessings through her 33+ years at RCLS.

Mrs. Robbins is loved and we thank God for her dedication and commitment to the teaching ministry.

FACULTY CHANGES...As a result of Mrs. Robbin's retirement announcement, a few staffing changes occurred this past Monday. Mrs. Debbie Pahlkotter was asked to fulfill the 4th grade teaching position and Mrs. Kaaren Eide was asked to fill the Math Resource part-time position for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year. We thank God for leading qualified people to these ministry positions. Indeed, God answers prayers.

CHRISTMAS BREAK begins Wednesday, December 23 and school resumes Monday, January 4. May Christ be the center of your Christmas celebrations this year.

GOOD NEWS CHRISTMAS CRUISE: RCLS Preschoolers through our 8th grade students will present the musical drama the "Good News Christmas Cruise" as our ALL School Christmas Celebration tonight, Thursday, December 17. The program will begin promptly at 6:30 pm at the John Marshall High School Auditorium and will end with a cookie and punch afterglow reception in the auditorium lobby.

Parents are reminded that students should come in their Christmas best unless they have a specific costume for their part and students should report as follows:

5:50 pm	Saxophone Players (Pre-program Music)
6:00 pm	Actors and Actresses (Come dressed in costume.)
6:10 pm	Students (Report to your designated spot.)
6:15 pm	Preschoolers should be seated in the auditorium in their designated areas in the front on either side of the stage. Mrs. Wetzel's preschool classes are asked to sit on the left side of the auditorium and Mrs. Mack's preschool classes are asked to sit on the right side of the auditorium. Preschoolers will be called forward for their part of the Christmas Celebration.
6:30 pm	All School Christmas Celebration Begins

DON'T FORGET TO BRING 2 DOZEN COOKIES: All RCLS families are asked to bring 2 dozen cookies for the cookie and punch afterglow celebration. Please plate them on a disposable Christmas plate. Thank you.

An **RCLS CHESS CLUB** is **getting ready** to make its move in January! Right now, we're looking for some interested and available parents to help with the club! Also, we're looking for some families who can donate one or more "learning chess" sets. If you are interested in helping with the club or donating materials - or if you just have a question - please contact Mr. Nelson at 289-3267 ext. 111 or conelson@rcls.net.

The **RCLS LIBRARY** is looking to RELAX...on **some couches**. If you have a couch you could donate to make our library cozier, we are interested! Please contact Mr. Nelson at 289-3267 ext. 111 or e-mail a picture of the couch to conelson@rcls.net. Thanks!

SIGNING IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL: There have been some questions as to why parents need to sign students both in and out of school when they arrive later or leave early. Attendance is done by the homeroom teacher at the beginning of the day using our data system and then by the school office throughout the day to keep our attendance records accurate as these are legal documents and to preserve teaching time within the classroom.

Students are not released until a parent arrives so as to maximize learning time within a classroom and because this is where students are supervised. We also ask parents to sign students in so that we are all clear as to the reasons why students have arrived late. We need to keep the most accurate records possible as school attendance is a mandate of law.

Thank you for your cooperation.

FROM THE ART ROOM: We are in need of some household items, can you help? Check out our list of items and please bring them to the art room if you can help! Thank you so much! -Mrs. Bordelon

-Buttons (old or new)	-Googly eyes (any size)	-Flat foam shapes and/or letters
-Yarn (any color, new or old)	-Re-sealable plastic baggies	-Clothespins (plastic or wooden)



The UGANDAN Connection:

In January the RCLS family will be sending monetary support through their chapel offerings to Pastor Jacob Gillard and his wife Michelle, who are missionaries in Uganda, Africa. They are working to help train others to bring the Good News of our Savior Jesus to the people who live in Uganda. The RCLS Chapel Committee is working on getting a computer hook-up so that Pastor Gillard can address the children in chapel on January 6. There are many details to work out to see if this is possible. If we do not have a "live" hook-up, we are hoping to have a video made by Pastor Gillard which will

help the children of RCLS understand more about what he and his family are doing there. We wish to invite parents and other interested people to come to chapel on January 6th to hear about this missionary and his work.

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

.... Mr. Shawn Mitchell (Gina, Claire) whose grandfather entered his heavenly home this week.
.....Those hospitalized, struggling with physical afflictions or health concerns.

RCLS on GiveMN.org

RCLS is now represented on the web site www.GiveMN.org. When you log into the site, there is a box in the right corner that says, "Donate." By typing Rochester Central Lutheran School into the "Find a Nonprofit" box, you will find the RCLS page on the site. This a great tool for RCLS to use in fundraising projects. Please visit our site and pass the information along to your friends and family!

SPORTS UPDATE

Congratulations to the Bobcat boys' basketball team for winning the New Ulm Tip-off Tournament this past weekend! In the first game the Bobcats defeated Loyola, Mankato 48-30. Jon Dicke and Michael Carl each added 10 points in the win, while Alex Gatzlaff added 4 steals and 8 assists. In the championship game, the Bobcats defeated St. Paul, New Ulm 53-13. Alex Gatzlaff and Michael Carl each contributed 14 points in the winning effort. On Tuesday of this week, the 7th grade boys defeated St. John's-Catholic 39-18. Jon Dicke led the team with 16 points and Josh Buettner added 8 points as the boys improve their season record to 3-0. The 8th grade boys defeated St. John's-Catholic 49-31. Michael Carl led the team with 18 points and 7 rebounds. Michael Ojeikhodion had 9 points while Chad and Luke Wagner added 8 and 6 points respectively. These wins bring the Bobcats season record to 6-2. The boys will play their next game this Friday versus Mayo B Traveling at 5 pm at RCLS.

The **RCLS 5th grade boys Bobcat basketball team** has played three more games since the last update in the Paw Print. On November 21, the boys played their first game at RCLS against Schaeffer Academy. The game was a defensive struggle throughout, and the game came down to moving the ball all the way down the court with 5 seconds left. The Bobcats got a game-tying shot off before the final buzzer, but it didn't fall and Schaeffer won 12-10. On December 5, the boys played St. Johns. Despite having only 4 members of the team available for the game, the boys gave an outstanding effort, and actually played mostly even with St. John's in the 2nd half, with the final score being 30-8. Finally, on December 12, the Bobcats had a much anticipated re-match with Schaeffer Academy. This time the Bobcats were able to put 5 players on the floor, and the team played smart, aggressive basketball throughout the contest. The Bobcats were finally able to take control at the start of the 2nd half, and were able to secure a 14-12 victory, bringing the team's record for the year to 3-2.

The Bobcats play their last game of 2009 at the RCLS gym on Saturday, December 19 at 8:00 am against the St. Francis White squad.

Team members are Tate Rench, Jacob Erpelding, Bryce Fistler, Copper Bibbs, Dong-Hwan Lim, David Will, and Calvin Blume.





Dressing for the Cold

If you're going outside in the cold, stay safe — and warm. Make sure your kids have a snack before going out. The calories will give their bodies energy in the cold weather.

And protect your kids' faces with sunscreen. The idea of a sunburn in January can seem odd, but snow can reflect up to 85% of the [sun's ultraviolet rays](#).

Kids should dress warmly in layers of clothes. If the top layer gets wet from snow or freezing rain, they can peel off some clothes down to a dry layer.

Avoid cotton clothing because it won't keep the kids very warm. Stick with wool or other fabrics. Dress them in long underwear, a turtleneck, and a sweater and coat. Add more layers depending on the temperature. Waterproof pants and jackets are great top layers because they don't let the wetness seep into the other clothing. The cold-weather ensemble wouldn't be complete without warm socks and boots to keep feet dry and a hat to top it off.

There's no set amount of time kids should be allowed to stay out in the cold. However, when being cold becomes unpleasant, it's time to go inside. Sometimes, though, kids may just need some dry gloves. It helps to have an extra pair of gloves or mittens tucked into their pockets if they plan to be outdoors for a while.

Sponsored by Olmsted County Public Health



December 17	- All School Christmas Celebration, PS-8, 6:30 pm
December 18	- Mid-term
December 21	- Board of Directors, 6:15 pm
December 22	- A special Christmas Choirs Chapel (all choirs to participate)
	- Christmas Parties
Dec. 23-Jan. 1	- Christmas Break
December 29	- Ski/Snowboard Trip, 8 am—5 pm
January 2	- Ski/Snowboard Trip, 8 am -5 pm
January 4	- School Resumes, Normal Hours
January 6	- Grade 3 to sing at Chapel
January 8-9	- Science Fair
January 13	- Kindergarten to sing at Chapel
January 14	- Auction Meeting, 6:30-8 pm, cafeteria
January 15	- Early Dismissal, 12:45 pm
January 15-17	- 7/8 Boys/Girls Basketball Tournament in Faribault
January 18	- No School—Martin Luther King Day
January 20	- Concert Choir to sing at Chapel
January 21	- Gr. 4 to Bethany Samaritan, 10-11 am

January 23	- Ski/Snowboard Trip, 8 am—5 pm
January 27	- Grade 4 to sing at Chapel
January 28	- Last day of 2nd Quarter, 41 days
January 29	- No School—Records Day
January 30	- 7/8 Boys/Girls BB at Mustang Classic in Winona
February 1	- Community Open House, 6:30-8 pm
February 3	- President's Day Celebration, Gr. 4, 1:30-2:30, RCLS cafeteria
February 6	- Ski/Snowboard Trip, 8 am—5 pm
February 12	- Parent Transport to school
Feb. 12-14	- RCLS Invitational Basketball Tourney
February 15	- No School—President's Day
February 17	- Ash Wednesday
February 20	- Ski/Snowboard Trip, 8 am—5 pm
February 21	- Kindergarten 100's Day Museum

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL DRAMA CELEBRATION DVDs:

We have received enough interest that the program will be taped and DVDs will be sold for \$15.00 each.

Please complete the section below if you are interested in purchasing a copy and include your payment. Checks should be made out to RCLS. **We will have a limited number of DVDs available.**

Please return this form to the school office no later than Monday, December 21! Thank you!!

GOOD NEWS CHRISTMAS CRUISE DVD ORDER FORM

Print Name: _____

How many copies do you want to purchase? _____

Total payment enclosed (\$15 x number of copies): \$ _____

Signature: _____

Please **choose one** of the following:

_____ **Send home with my student when they are completed.**

Student's Name _____ **Grade** _____

_____ **I'll pick it up in the school office once they are available.**