



Forest Hills

Lutheran Christian School

Forest Hills Friday News
September 2, 2016

My drive to school each day includes driving down Tongue Lane, passing all the farmers' fields. As I drove to school last Spring, I would switch my car blower from taking in air from the outside to simply recirculating the air that was already in the vehicle. The dust and dirt that were blowing around definitely affected me. However, as the Spring went on, the dust and dirt was replaced by small green plants. When the school year ended, the plants were quite small, only standing a couple of inches out of the ground.

Fast forward to August. When I came back to work after the Summer, I was surprised once again to see that these small plants had grown into full height corn stalks. The brown of the field was completely replaced with a lush field, full of great crops. It shouldn't have come as a surprise - that's what plants do, yet still I was able to reflect on the miracle of growth, a miracle that God makes happen each and every year.

However, before those crops could come to maturity, they had to be planted and take root. Once they had taken root, the farmer continued to water them and take care of them, and as he did, the crop yielded the vegetable it was supposed to yield.

It's easy to apply this thought to what is happening right now in our new school year. Each child who comes to school is like that field. They are ready to learn - they are ready to have seeds of knowledge planted within them. Throughout the year, teachers, in partnership with parents, work to water those seeds and take care of their hearts and minds so that their knowledge increases. In the end, it may look different for each and every child, yet it is evident to see growth and progress in every single one.

Yet the most important thing in which we can root is the love of God in Jesus and the knowledge of the truths in scripture. In Ephesians, Paul writes, "I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ." The seeds that we plant here at Forest Hills, the ones that we pray take a firm, deep, solid root, are the ones that help us see, help us understand, even help us grasp the love of God in Christ Jesus. These are the roots that will cause us to grow until that great harvest day when we are united with the great farmer, face to face for all eternity.

We can certainly see this analogy and apply it with our children, but the same analogy applies to you and me. It is important that we are in the Word and that His Word permeates our life. After all, His Word is one of the ways that God waters his 'crops,' allowing us to continue to grow. We too must look to God Himself so that we are also rooted and established in love.

This year, we will walk down a learning journey together as the family of God at Forest Hills. Each one of us will be taken care of by our Heavenly Father, and together we will become the field full of mature crops. We are all unique and different, yet we are all loved by Christ. In that love, we can root and flourish so that we are strong in Him. May God bless you as we partner together to grow in the grace and knowledge of God.

Mike Schiemann. <><
Principal

Coming Events

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday, 9/5 | Labor Day - NO SCHOOL |
| Tuesday, 9/6 | Hot Lunch Begins |
| Thursday, 9/8 | Running Club NEW Parent Meeting |
| Monday, 9/12 | Picture Day - SMILE! Running Club Starts |
| Friday, 9/16 | CLASS Meeting, 6:30 pm |
| Tuesday, 9/20 | Brd. of Directors Mtg., 7 pm |
| Friday, 9/30 | Grandparents/GrandFriends Visit FHLCS! |
| Friday, 10/14 | Run for the Hills CLASS Meeting, 6:30 pm |
| Monday, 10/17 | Picture Retakes |
| Monday, 10/24 | Teacher Work Day, NO SCHOOL |
| Tuesday, 10/25 | Parent Conferences NO SCHOOL Happy Birthday, Mrs. Heldt! |
| Wednesday, 10/26 | Parent Conferences NO SCHOOL |
| October 26, 27 & 28 | Northwest District Lutheran Educators Conference, No School |

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

To all those parents who came early to set up, greet families, serve ice cream, or clean up when the fun was over we thank you. Without all of you the All Family Back to School Picnic would not have been a success.

If you haven't taken advantage and signed up for one of the many opportunities to earn your PAL (Parents as Leaders) hours, stop by the tables located in the main building. Further information will be sent to volunteers in the weeks ahead.

SOAR

Standing On A Rock

That's the theme for chapel and our school this year. Pastor Nick Koschmann, our chaplain, has arranged a schedule of chapel leaders who will take us through the year with a variety of messages.

As children, teachers and the "congregation" of our school community gather together each week, we will celebrate Jesus, who is our Rock.

"²⁴ Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." **Matthew 7:24-27**

Parents of 6th - 8th graders are invited to A Chromebook Information Night on

- Wednesday, September 7th
- 6:30 p.m. in the Library

Come be part of the discussion around our Chromebook program - hear a general overview of the program, security, how the systems are integrated in the classroom.

Forest Hills is currently accepting resumes for the position of "Resource Teacher." The position includes working with individual students and groups of students to support them in their language skills. It also includes working with the teachers to support them as they differentiate instruction for children in their classrooms. Preference will be given to applicants who have a teaching license. A Reading Endorsement will be an asset. Resumes will be accepted until Thursday, September 8 and can be e-mailed directly to Mr. Schiemann at schiemannm@fhls.org.

School to Home Communications

Today is the first **Family Envelope** of our 2016-2017 school year. Your **Family Envelope** has important communications between school and family. Look over the information each weekend, initial the front of the **Family Envelope** on the appropriate line and return it with your student on the next school day (typically on Mondays). If you need something returned to school, just put it in the **Family Envelope** and it will get to the appropriate person!

In this week's envelope you will find:

- **P.A.L. (Parents as Leaders) hours reporting form.** Put it on your refrigerator or some other convenient place to record any hours of service spent for our school. Return the form via the Family Envelope **at the end of each month** even if you have no hours to report. You will receive a new reporting form each month. **It is up to each family to report your hours monthly.** Each trimester a list will be published in this newsletter of each family who have completed the 25 service hours.
- **Let's Go GREEN!** - The school newsletter will be emailed to your family from the information you provide on TADS.
- **Volunteering At Forest Hills** - Anyone wishing to volunteer during the school day when students are present must return the Worker's Agreement and Consent/Background Authorization Form with **\$5 cash or check.** Additional forms are available in the Information Center.
- **School Expectations, Consequences and Anti-Bullying policies** - Please discuss these policies as a family, sign & return the **first page** on Tuesday.

(in your Family Envelope cont.)

- **Computer and Internet Acceptable Use Agreement** - Students in 3rd - 8th grade are asked to sign and return this form after your family discussion with a parent.

- **After School Information**

This is your opportunity to share with your child's teacher who will typically pick up your child or if they need to go to After School Care.

- **Field Trips and Insurance Coverage**

At various times classes will be taking field trips to enhance what they are learning about in their classroom. It is not always feasible to hire a bus for these trips and we will be asking for parents to help with transportation.

If you might be able to help drive this school year, please complete the enclosed Insurance Coverage form. You must also submit a Worker's Agreement and Consent/Background Authorization Form (a \$5 fee) to be eligible to drive.

Calling All Grandparents

Grandparents & Grandfriends day is coming up on Friday, September 30th from 12:30pm-3pm. We have already sent out some invitations and want to make sure that your child's grandparent /grandfriend get invited. Please see the Friday Envelope for a flyer to fill out with addresses of those that you wish us to invite.

We are also looking for volunteers on the day of the event. If you would like to help with set up, tear down, registration or one of the other many jobs that will be available, please contact Patti White info@fhlds.org or call her at 503-359-4853.

When is PE for My Child?

As we start the new school year, there are a couple of things to keep in mind for success in PE. Please help your child to remember to wear sneakers on his/her PE days. The sneakers should enclose the whole foot (must have heels and no holes)



and should support the foot. PE days are as follows: PK-2nd, Monday and Thursday; 3rd-8th Tuesday and Friday.

We will be going outside for PE in the fall and spring, weather permitting. Hats and sunglasses are welcome. Also, if your child needs to sit out of PE for any reason, please send a note to school so I am aware of the situation. Looking forward to a great and active school year!! Mrs. Carla Beyer

Fall Sports are Starting!

All 6th through 8th grade girls and boys there is still time if you are interested in playing junior high soccer! They will have their next practice on Wednesday, September 7, from 3:20 to 5:00. Bring your skin guards, soccer socks, cleats and water bottles.

All 5th-8th grade girls interested in playing volleyball will have their first practice on Tuesday, Sept 6 from 3:20-5:00. Please bring your volleyball clothes, kneepads, and water bottle.

Dance team is for boys and girls in 5th - 8th grades. Practices will begin in the fall and concludes in February at LEST. Watch this newsletter and your email for meeting information.

We're still looking for coaches for 4th and 5th grade boys and girls interested in playing soccer. Watch this newsletter or your email for further information.

K-4th Grades Running Club



All **NEW to Running Club**

families who want to participate need to attend the parent information meeting on

Thursday, September 8th at 3:15 pm in the Library.

Ms. Hoffman will be going over expectations as well as handing out the Runners Contract. **Returning runners can pick up your set of information in the school office. Runners cannot participate until a signed form is received prior to run time.**



Beginning Monday, September 12th the club will meet after school out on the "track" on Mondays and Thursdays from 3 - 3:30 p.m. for the months of September - October and again April - May.

Our goal is to promote running fun for our younger students.

Students Leaving During the School Day

A student needing to leave school during school hours must bring a note or send an email to their teacher and the office from his/her parent stating when he/she needs to leave.

The person picking them up needs to sign them out at the office. Students will not be released from the classroom. The office will contact the classroom and have the student sent to the office. Your cooperation and understanding will help with minimal disruption in the classroom.



Student Phone Use

In order to keep lines open for school business and for parents, please be aware that students use of the phone is limited to emergencies only. Forgetting a lunch, homework, band instrument, sports clothing/equipment or a note to go to a friend's after school is not an emergency!

Cell Phones are not encouraged and **may not** be used during the school day. They need to be stored in lockers (**turned off**) during the school day.



Parking Lot Safety

We appreciate your assistance in making drop off and pick up safer for our students. We have noticed many of you entering the parking lot at the north entrance and pulling through to park so you can walk your children in to school. Thank-you! That leaves the south entrance free for **exit only**, minimizing congestion. Also, please use the crosswalk from St. Peter's to the school when walking your student across the parking lot. Our goal is to keep everyone safe. Please see the Pickup Procedure diagram that is included in today's Family Envelope.



We welcome new and returning families! Our first **CLASS** meeting

will be held in the Library on **Friday, September 16**, 6:30-8:00pm.

Help us make this year great for our students and our school by investing your time and talents.

CLASS (Community Leaders Advocating & Serving Students) is an organization of parents and Forest Hills staff committed to supporting the students of the school.

A Note about Lunchtime

Parents please make sure that what your child brings for lunch is ready to eat. With 70 children per lunch period, time does not allow for the parent helper to cut apples, peel oranges, warm food, etc. If your child needs a utensil, please send one. **Children in Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd and primary multiage classrooms do not have use of the microwave ovens.** Students in 3rd through 8th grade may use the microwaves to warm-up or reheat food. Please do not send things that must be prepared or that take more than 1-1/2 minutes to reheat. (ie Easy Mac) If your child forgets his/her lunch, crackers, cheese and fruit are available. **Please note that after 3 "forgets" your TADS account will be charged \$2 to cover the added cost.** Thank you in advance for helping us make the lunch period run smoothly!

Our Preschool program is in need of a Play Structure. If you have one or know of someone that could help fulfill our need, contact Mike Schiemann schiemannm@fhlds.org.





Each Friday is School Spirit Friday!

Wear your Forest Hills shirtwear or a shirt that is one of our school colors - black, forest green, and white.

Student-Parent Handbook

Click on the following link to take you to our Student-Parent Handbook found on our webpage. Please read this handbook and sign the Parent Agreement of Handbook Policies & Procedures form sent home today in your Family Envelope.

<http://www.fhls.org/Info/FH%20Handbook%202016-17.pdf>

Visitor's Badge Required

After the 8:15 am bell Rings, ANYONE who is not a student or paid FHLCS staff member must first sign-in at the office and clearly display a visitor's badge during their time on campus. This is important even if you plan to only be in the building for a few minutes.



Gradelink

Attention Parents with a child in our 3rd - 8th grades. You are able to check your child's progress by going online. Going home today in your Family Envelope is a step by step informational flyer that has your child's specific log in information. If you have questions, contact your child's teacher.



Lutheran Church Extension Fund

› where investments build ministry

Forest Hills Lutheran Christian School
September 2016

Ready to align your faith and finances? Get started with an investment with Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) that fits your needs. With LCEF, you will work with a financial partner who shares your values—without sacrificing great interest rates. Plus, LCEF's many investment options provide you with convenient, secure access to your account information whenever you need it. If you want to talk in person first, give LCEF a call at **800-843-5233** or visit their website at **lcef.org**.