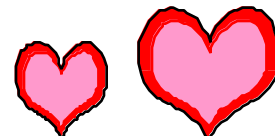


# SMOKE SIGNALS

Redeemer Lutheran School \* 468 Grand St. \* Redwood City 94062  
(650) 366-3466 \* www.redeemer-school.org



## January 30, 2004

*"The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with joy!" Psalm 126:3*

### UPCOMING DATES

Feb 11.....2004-05 Open House 7:00-8:30 p.m.  
for new families... Invite your friends!  
Feb 16.....NO SCHOOL, President's Day  
Feb 20.....Grandperson Day @ RLS 8:30 a.m.  
Feb 27.....Spelling Bee 1:30 p.m.

Mar 5-7.....Girls Basketball Tournament in Lodi  
Mar 7-12.....Lutheran Schools Week  
Mar 12-14.....Boys Roundball Tournament  
Mar 12.....Jr. High Dance 7:00-9:30 pm  
Mar 13.....Cheerleader Competition

Mar 29.....NO SCHOOL - Teacher Inservice Day

### PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

**Mr. Mike Mancini**

#### The Greatest Gift!

Wow! Here we are one week away from February and it feels like Christmas was here just yesterday. So for all of you date counters and enthusiasts who like to get your shopping done early, you now have 46 weeks left until next Christmas!

Now that all the decorations have been taken down, gift wrap put away, the tree thrown out and gifts returned, we seem to put the miracle of Christmas into the back of our minds. We have too much other stuff to worry or focus about than the Christmas story. As I sit here writing this I am reminded that the Wisemen came 1-2 months after the birth of Jesus. They came to bring him gifts! Ever thought what you would bring the King of Kings? After all the gifts he has given you and me, what would truly be the appropriate gift for Him? I was listening to a CD by Max Lucado. Max mentions what God wants from each one of us. Here is an excerpt

from "The Gift."

*"We all have one gift that God would love to have. Heaven erupts in song when each one of us gives this gift to Jesus. You know what it is? It's your heart. That's what you have that he would long to possess. But he won't take it unless you give it. He's not a heart stealer. But if you will offer it, the one who came in a moment to change the world will come in a moment to change your life, if you'll offer it. What does it mean to give Christ your heart? Well, it means to give Christ yourself. To cup in your hands your future, your pain, your past, your anxieties and your worries and to present them to Him and say, "Christ I give them to You." Even if you have done it before he accepts the gift again. He's not into returning gifts. For we have a tendency to take it back, don't we? Give Christ your heart. Give him your hurts and pains, your future and your dreams. Put your faith in the God of the universe who gave us the greatest gift, His Son."*

February is that time of year when we recognize Valentines Day. It's a day when we tell those around us how much we appreciate and love them. Why do we only wait for this day? God has asked each of us to share this gift "ALL" the time when He stated... *"LOVE the Lord your God with all your HEART and with all your SOUL, all your STRENGTH and all your MIND, and LOVE your NEIGHBOR as yourself."* Luke 10:27

This is the greatest gift each of us can give God. This is also the greatest gift we can give to one another. May your February and the rest of the year be filled with the gift of both giving and receiving LOVE!

Make it a part of your gift of LOVE to Christ, to introduce a friend to the wonderful ministries of Redeemer Lutheran School. Together we can make a difference in a child and family's life.

As we kick-off the month of February we begin the process of budgeting for next school year and reenrolling current families. We need your help. We will be sending home reenrollment information this month and would like all forms returned to the office by February 27th! We are planning for the 04-05 school year, and these numbers will give us a clear indication of enrollment for next year. Should you have any questions or concerns about next year please contact me at your earliest convenience. If you need financial assistance next year ask Mrs. Olsen to send you a form.

We are very blessed to have parents such as you and we look forward to giving your children not only a quality education, but also the Christian values and morals that will allow each child to succeed in forever changing society.

Recently I was reading "They Call Me Coach" by John Wooden, and I read a small paragraph that I feel embodies what our responsibilities are as teachers at Redeemer. I have changed some of the wording to fit Redeemer.

*"We who teach at Lutheran Schools have a great influence on the lives of all the young children who come under our supervision, and the lives we lead, and teach them to lead, will play an important roll in their future. It is essential that we regard this as a sacred trust and set the example we know is right. We must try to prevent the pressures of society and their peers from causing them to swerve from moral principles."*

Redeemer teachers have always made it a priority to teach Christian Values and morals that would shape the lives of our students.

You are all very special to our community and WE thank our great God each day for your love and commitment to Redeemer Lutheran School.

**P. J. 's MINUTE  
PASTOR VANO**

Have you seen them in the stores? They're everywhere! Hearts. Pink hearts, red hearts, white hearts with red lace, red hearts with white lace, large hearts, small hearts, candy hearts, heart boxes of chocolates, and the list goes on and on and on. What's up with all the hearts? Oh, that's right, it's almost February 14th! Valentine's Day! Have you already picked up a heart to

give to that someone special in your life? Have you already planned that nice romantic dinner for two? Maybe it's time to get started if you haven't!

I find it interesting that our thoughts turn to love when Valentine's Day is looming on the horizon. Don't misunderstand me, I think it's great that we think about loving each other. I'm just wondering why we have to wait for Valentine's Day for our love to show itself. Actually, we don't have to wait! In fact, as Christians we are to love one another all the time. Imagine what our world would look like if there were more people loving one another instead of hating and hurting each other. It might look a lot like Paul describes it in 1 Corinthians 13.

When the love of Jesus Christ runs rampant in your life there will be patience, kindness, caring, trust, hope, perseverance, forgiveness and joy. When Christ's love flows from your life into the lives of others there won't be room for envy, boasting, sinful pride, rudeness, selfishness, unprovoked anger, or grudges. Now wouldn't that be a cool world to live in?!

As your hearts turn to love with the coming of Valentine's Day why not take the time to revitalize your relationship with the One who is Love? The love of Jesus will make a difference in your life and the lives of those around you. Get in touch with the love of our great God and see what happens. I have a feeling the world will be a better place if you do!

May God give you the love of Jesus this Valentine's Day and always!

**FROM THE  
RLS SCHOOL BOARD**

**Mr. Charles Smith, President**

The Redeemer School Board is comprised of members of the church and school. Currently, the School Board is comprised of members who have children in the school, attended Redeemer, and/or are members of the church congregation.

The School Board does not involve itself in the day to day operation of the school. That duty is delegated to the Principal. The School Board is responsible for the development and implementation of policies including budget, staffing, and curriculum.

Members of the School Board are Charles Smith, Mark Lewman, Tami Mey, Heidi Pellarin, Carol LaCasse and Karen Pavis. Any questions regarding School Board or school policy may be directed to Charles Smith at (650)638-2332 or e-mail: cbcpsmith@aol.com.

Currently the School Board is working on marketing activities to increase enrollment. Pertaining to marketing we have coordinated the Redeemer booth at the 4th of July parade, marching in the Christmas parade, advertising in local papers, and open houses. Mr. Mancini has visited the preschools in the Redwood City area and will be visiting churches which have no school affiliation.

*As a reminder, any parent who refers a new student to RLS will receive a \$400 tuition credit for each child enrolled who names them as the referring party.*

**“RLS TOWN HALL MEETING”  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2004  
7:00 PM  
CONFERENCE ROOM**

The School Board will be having an open meeting with parents to discuss the upcoming 2004-2005 school budget. The School Board wants to hear parent input regarding proposed tuition rates, proposed staff levels in each classroom, and the curriculum for the 04-05 school year.

We encourage you to attend so we can hear your input in these important areas before the final budget is completed.

Child care will be provided. (Home made chocolate chip cookies may or may not be provided - depending on my work schedule. Come early!)

See you there!  
Charles Smith  
School Board President

**PARKING LOT ETIQUETTE**

- *When dropping off or picking up your child, PLEASE PULL INTO A DESIGNATED PARKING SPOT. Please do not stop in the aisles and block traffic.*
- Please do not drop off or pick up students on

Grand Street. Please use the RLS parking lot.

- Please enter on Harrison Street and exit on Hudson Street
- The parking lot is closed to cars daily 9:00-3:00 and 3:30-5:00

Thank you for your cooperation! I know sometimes you're late or in a hurry, but please show consideration for the other late and hurried folks by completely pulling into a parking spot. Please don't pull up next to the fence or snack shop and drop off!

**THE BASIC FUND**

The Basic Fund provides scholarships for students in the Bay Area who attend private schools. Eligibility is based on income and grants are awarded on a "lottery" system. Applications are available in the school office and are due by May 7, 2004.

**HOT LUNCH**

Hot Lunch menus for February and March were sent home with your child last week and also sent out to the RLS School News E-mail group. Order forms and payment are DUE NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, FEB 4 at 3:00 PM. NO LATE FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED. No IOU's please! Additional order forms are available in the school office.

REMINDER: There is no hot lunch until Feb. 9!!

STUDENT DRINK ORDERS - The second semester drink orders have begun. If you didn't order for the year in August or re-order for the second semester, your child will no longer be receiving milk/oj! If you'd still like to order, please complete and return the yellow drink order form that was sent home earlier this month. Additional copies are available in the school office.

**PLEASE SAVE:**

- Box Tops for Education located on Big G cereals and other products
- Campbell's Soup labels (entire label)
- Pull tabs from aluminum drink cans

Collection boxes are located in school office.

## ELK'S LODGE HOOP SHOOT

The annual Elk's Lodge Hoop Shoot (free throw contest) took place on Saturday, January 17. Wow! Redeemer kids were *hot!!*

Congratulations go to:

Matt Page - 1st place 12-13 year old boys (made 20/25!)

Jenny Eastman - 1st place 12-13 year old girls

Matthew Waring - 1st place 8-9 year old boys

Joey Dinkel - 2nd place 10-11 year old boys

James Gordon - 3rd place 12-13 year old boys

*WAY TO GO!!!*

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC BEE

Redeemer's 6th annual National Geographic Bee was held on Tuesday, January 6. After a tense competition, Nick Justice (7th grader) emerged victorious! Congratulations Nick!

Congratulations to all of our contestants:

- ◇ 4th grade - Ben Justice & Jessica Vano
- ◇ 5th grade - Jessica Gotelli & Jenny Mize
- ◇ 6th grade - Heather Smith & Jenny Eastman
- ◇ 7th grade - Brannon Prasad & Nick Justice
- ◇ 8th grade - Kevin Middleton (2nd place) & Kyle Mey

How would you do? Test your knowledge with a few sample questions. (Answers are on the next page!)

1. What river rises in the Adirondack Mountains and flows through Albany to its outlet near New York City?
2. The Straits of Mackinac separate the two peninsulas of which state?
3. The longest river in New England shares its name with which state?
4. Urdu is an official language of a Muslim country that was once part of British India. Name this country.

## SECOND QUARTER HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to our Honor Roll recipients for the second quarter. Honor Roll is given to students in grades 3-8 who maintain a B+ or higher grade point average.

### 3rd Grade

Jordynn Lewman      Jacquelyn Krantz  
Matthew Waring

### 4th Grade

Mike Harper      Nicole Haemmerling  
Peter Simon      Ben Justice  
Chris Moffat      Shanna Cooley

### 5th Grade

Joey Dinkel      Katherine Ruiz

### 6th Grade

Tarlon Badiee      Josh Chiamos  
Jenny Eastman      Heather Smith  
Derek White

### 7th Grade

Chris Haemmerling      Nick Justice  
Alexis Staver

### 8th Grade

Jacque Arends      Marissa Christensen  
Ryan Heywood      Becky Mayfield-Cook  
Kevin Middleton      Kristi Olsen  
Samantha Proctor

*KUDOS TO ALL!*

## READING COUNTS! AWARDS

Scholastic *Reading Counts!* is a reading program fairly new to Redeemer for students in grades 1-8. Students read lexile level-appropriate books and take quizzes to test their comprehension. Points are awarded based on the difficulty of the book and then accumulate in the student's account. Encourage your child to read and be a life-long learner!

Certificates were given out to students in grades 3-8 who reached varying award levels. Congratulations go to the following students:

### LEVEL #1 - BLUE LEVEL - 25+ POINTS EARNED CERTIFICATE

#### Grade 3

Jacquelyn Krantz      Devyn Story  
Matthew Waring

Grade 5  
Damien Aguirre            Joey Dinkel  
Jessica Gotelli            Jenny Mize  
Jesse Wiley

Grade 6  
Josh Chiamos            Wes Hollingsworth

Grade 7  
Megan LaCasse            Noelle Pollastrini  
Alisa Rhodes

Grade 8  
Melanie Burgdorf            Kyle Mey  
Kristi Olsen            Randy Rhodes  
Will Simon

**LEVEL #2 - RED LEVEL - 50+ POINTS EARNED  
CERTIFICATE & HOMEWORK PASS**

Grade 3  
Jordynn Lewman            Courtney Lucas  
Tessie Rhodes

Grade 4  
Emily Burns            Shanna Cooley  
Nicole Haemmerling            Mike Harper  
Ben Justice            Morgan LaCasse  
Chris Moffat            Allie Pollastrini  
Peter Simon            Kevin Sweat  
Jessica Vano

**LEVEL #3- BRONZE LEVEL - 100+ POINTS EARNED  
CERTIFICATE & HOMEWORK PASS &  
SNACK SHOPPE GIFT BUCK**

Grade 3  
Nicole Pavis

Grade 7  
Nick Justice            Brannon Prasad

**ANSWERS TO  
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHY BEE QUESTIONS:**

1. Hudson River
2. Michigan
3. Connecticut
4. Pakistan

How'd you do???

**2004- 2005  
OPEN HOUSE  
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11  
7:00- 8:30 P.M.**

This Open House is for prospective families who may be interested in enrolling their child for next year or beyond. Spread the word! If you have friends, business associates, family, etc. who are looking for a quality Christian education for their child, encourage them to look at Redeemer. A flier is enclosed! Pass it on!

Remember, refer a new family to RLS and you could be eligible for a \$400 tuition credit!

**SPELLING BEES**

We will once again be holding our school-wide spelling bees on Friday, February 27 beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the Church. Grades 1-8 will be holding classroom bees to determine their contestants. Two participants from each grade will be determined and will compete in three separate bees - Grades 1 & 2, Grades 3 & 4, and Grades 5-8. Parents and friends are welcome and encouraged to attend and support the contestants, so mark your calendars now!

**GRAND "PERSON" DAY  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

On Friday, February 20, we will be celebrating Grandparents! We are inviting all of our Grandparents (or a special Grand "Person") to come to chapel and then go to the child's classroom for special refreshments. *Parents are also welcome to attend, but ONLY if accompanied by a grand person!* Because of the difficulty some grandparents may encounter with stairs, the 1st and 2nd grade party will be held in Fellowship Hall and the 8th grade's will be in the conference room. Look for an invitation with RSVP to come home with your child in the near future.

