

SMOKE SIGNALS



Redeemer Lutheran School
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November 30, 2007

"I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior" Habakkuk 3:18

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Dec 14	7th/8th Grade Musical 7:00PM
Dec 16	7th/8th Grade Musical 1:30PM
Dec 18	Faculty Meeting - 12:30 Dismissal
Dec 18	Applebee's Fundraiser
Dec 19	Geography Bee 2:00PM
Dec 20	Cheerleader Hot Lunch
Dec 21	12:30 Dismissal - Christmas Holidays
Dec 24 - Jan 6	Christmas & New Years Break
Jan 7	School Resumes

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Mr. Mike Mancini

Happy Thanksgiving!

As you read this edition of Smoke Signals you will have already celebrated Thanksgiving with your family and friends. On our trip to Washington D.C. the students were in awe of Gettysburg and what Abraham Lincoln, our 16th President, proclaimed on that soil. I thought of how he not only wrote the Emancipation Proclamation and the Gettysburg Address but also invited our nation to annually give thanks to our great Father in heaven. So with the excitement of our trip still in each of us I thought it would be an educational experience for all of us to read how passionate our president was about God and how this wonderful holiday came about during a year which our nation truly needed unity.

Proclamation of Thanksgiving Washington, D.C. October 3, 1863

This is the proclamation that set the precedent for America's national day of Thanksgiving. During his administration, President Lincoln issued many orders like this. For example, on November 28, 1861, he ordered government departments closed for a local day of thanksgiving.

Sarah Josepha Hale, a prominent magazine editor, wrote a letter to Lincoln on October 28, 1863, urging him to have the "day of our annual Thanksgiving made a National and fixed Union Festival." She wrote, "You may have observed that, for some years past, there has been an increasing interest felt in our land to have the Thanksgiving held on the same day, in all the

States; it now needs National recognition and authoritative fixation, only, to become permanently, an American custom and institution." The document below sets apart the last Thursday of November "as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise."

According to an April 1, 1864, letter from John Nicolay, one of President Lincoln's secretaries, this document was written by Secretary of State William Seward, and the original was in his handwriting. On October 3, 1863, fellow Cabinet member Gideon Welles recorded in his diary that he complimented Seward on his work. A year later the manuscript was sold to benefit Union troops.

By the President of the United States of America.

A Proclamation.

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battlefield; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as

with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln

*William H. Seward,
Secretary of State*

Washington, D.C. - We're back....

WOW! It is hard to believe that we just finished our FIFTH trip to our Nation's Capital. Fifty-three in all (35 students) enjoyed a fun filled week of exciting adventures and memories that will last a lifetime. When we began our inaugural trip in 2000, I never would have believed it would grow into the awesome trip it has become. This year's trip was full of many memorable things. Going in the fall season was spectacular. The colors were beautiful and there were NO crowds! Our trip to Gettysburg Memorial Battlefield was amazing. We were all stunned to think of the 54,000 casualties in three days. Our most memorable site was the laying of our wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This was an incredibly moving experience for all in attendance. We were all also very proud as four RLS students presented a wreath, with the Marine Honor Guard, at the Tomb. Another trip completed and already I'm preparing for our trip in '09! Thanks to all my parent participants and chaperones for all your patience and support. We sure do have a GREAT GOD!

4th Grade Coloma Trip:

The following is Ms. Rathe's report on their trip to the Gold Country.

The Fourth Grade class went on their annual Coloma Outdoor Discovery School trip October 29-31. The class had an awesome time learning more about the Gold Rush and life lessons. Each student had an opportunity to earn five colored beads. The beads each

have a special meaning.

The red bead stands for respect. The student is given their red respect bead on the first day. Their job is to keep their red respect bead the whole time they are at C.O.D.S. The naturalist explains to the class that they need to respect themselves, nature, and others around them.

The yellow bead stands for gold. During their stay at C.O.D.S., they have an opportunity to pan for gold. Each child is given a gold vial for their pouch to keep their gold in. Thirteen out of the fifteen Redeemer students came home with gold.

The brown bead represents a lesson taught by a Native American. On the second night, a Native American tells about her life, her ancestors, and tells fables to the students. The students earn a brown bead by reenacting a lesson told by the Native American

The green bead stands for nature. On the second day, the students go on a seven hour, three mile hike and learn about different plants on Monroe Ridge. The students are put into groups and become professors. They learn about a plant and then teach it to the rest of the group.

The last bead is blue. The blue bead stands for the American River where James Marshall found the gold nugget that started the Gold Rush. At the end of the third day, each student dips his or her gold pouch into the river.

The class's favorite things at C.O.D.S. were the food, panning for gold, and the hike. The students and chaperones had a great time!

"Bah Humbug"

Get ready to take a trip to the year 1840 as the 7th and 8th grade classes present the wonderful adaptation of the Christmas Carol called "Bah Humbug." Come and enjoy this Christmas season musical about a man who forgets what the true meaning of Christmas is really about. Mrs. Lenahan our 8th grade teacher, Mrs. Maier our 7th grade teacher, and myself will direct this wonderful musical. Performance starts at 7pm on December 14th and an encore matinee will be performed on Sunday the 16th at 1:30pm in Fellowship Hall.

Our theme for the new school year of 2007/2008 is Habakkuk 3:18. "I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior".

This verse truly states what our hope is for the Redeemer community. Each of us with joy can rejoice daily with others the great things our Savior does for us! It also gives us a chance to learn how to spell Habakkuk. :)



CHAPEL OFFERINGS

Teddy Bears!

We will once again be collecting TEDDY BEARS as chapel offerings for the San Mateo County Children's Fund. These bears are given to children who are going through stressful times.

Bring in a **NEW**, soft, cuddly, dark-colored 12-18 inch bear to chapel November 30th, December 7th or December 14th. (Bears will be collected and delivered on Sunday, December 16th.)

Chapel offerings for the first quarter totaled \$600!! We sent our offerings to Lutheran World Relief to help out the Southern California Fire victims.

Thank you for your continued generosity! Cash offerings will also continue to be gratefully accepted during November and December, along with your donations of bears!

RC PAL TOY & BOOK DRIVE

We have a barrel in Fellowship Hall for the RC Police Activities League Police Officers and Firefighters Association TOY AND BOOK DRIVE. They are collecting NEW UNWRAPPED toys and books for boys and girls ages 8-12. Items will be distributed to needy families in RC and SM County areas. Barrel will be picked up December 19th.

COMPUTERS WANTED

If you or your company have iMacs, eMacs or any PowerMac G4 or later machines that are being retired, please consider donating them to Redeemer School. We are in constant need of both replacement machines and parts for our existing machines.



If you have any questions, please contact the school office or John Madden at jmadden@redeemer-school.org

THANK YOU!

FIRST QUARTER HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to our Honor Roll recipients for the first quarter. Honor Roll is awarded each quarter to students in grades 3-8 who earn a 3.5-3.99 GPA. Principal's Honor Roll is given to students who earn a perfect 4.0 GPA for the quarter.

PRINCIPAL'S HONOR ROLL

4.0 GPA

3rd grade	Delaney Brown Caitlin Trainer
5th grade	Caitlin Johnson
6th grade	Sarah Burrows
7th grade	Olivia Gambelin Megan Hawley Ryan Smith
8th grade	Sara Dumanske Michael Harper Ben Justice

HONOR ROLL

3.5-3.99 GPA

3rd Grade

Justin Abdel Shahid	Gina Fazio
Cristian Palafox	Alexander Patapoff
Nicholas Patapoff	

4th Grade

Katey Zimmer	Olivia Pellarin
Diamond Pearson	Jakob Baumann
Amanda Hawley	Giulio Gambelin

5th Grade

Nick Chiamos	Monica Krantz
Mikaela Lewman	Taylor Madsen
Nina Pent	Sabrina Proctor
Cooper Obianwu	

6th Grade

Kaylee Kohlmaier	Anika McGuire
Brian LaCasse	Emily Moffat
Jacob Weller	

7th Grade

Katie Anderson	Jordynn Lewman
Courtney Lucas	Lisette Palafox
Domonique Pearson	Tori Ramirez
Jordan Robinson	

CONGRATULATIONS to one and all for your hard work!

MANDATORY PARENT PARTICIPATION HOURS

I wanted to remind all of you about your yearly work hours. The deadline to complete your 07-08 hours is April 30, 2008. Complete details and forms were included in your summer packet. If you need another form, please stop by the school office or download a copy from our website www.redeemer-school.org.

The qualifying "year" for earned hours is May 1st of one year to April 30th of the following year. April 30th is the final day to complete parent hours for the current school year. All parent hour forms are due at this time and will not be accepted after May 7th. Accounts not credited with the required hours by this deadline will be billed at \$20 per hour for unfinished hours (for example: If a two-parent family completes only 30 of the required 35 hours, they would be billed \$100 for the remaining 5 hours). Balance of billed hours must be paid no later than May 20th. Students with unfulfilled hours or unpaid balances will not be allowed to participate in end of school activities (including field trips and graduation) and final report cards will be held until payment is received.

Families must complete a minimum of 50% of hours due in actual time volunteered. We want to encourage you to be involved in your child's education and school activities. Unfulfilled hours in excess of 50% (17.5 hours for two-parent households and 10 hours for single-parent) must be paid at \$25/hour.

Opportunities for participation will be announced in Smoke Signals, RLSNEWS e-mails, classroom newsletters, and at PSC meetings. As this is a contractual agreement, you are ultimately responsible for the completion of hours and being aware of what opportunities are available. We do not "assign" jobs - you will need to find jobs to complete your hours. Parents are also encouraged to contact their teacher(s) for more ideas or information! The PSC offers many opportunities throughout the year to get involved. Don't wait until March or April to ask for volunteer opportunities! Don't delay, volunteer today!

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC BEE

Redeemer will be holding our tenth annual National Geographic Bee on Wednesday, **December 19th** at **2:00 PM** in the church. Students in grades 4-8 may participate in the Bee. The teachers will be holding classroom bees in the weeks prior to determine class representatives. Read up on worldwide current events and look over your US and world maps for a leg up on the competition!!



GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

by Miss Kinstler, Coach

This volleyball season flew by and the girls worked really hard! We had a very young team and I am very excited for the next couple of years. We all had a great time during practices and games. The girls always found a way to laugh, which made this season fun! During our tournament weekend we got to know each other better. Even though we ended the day early, we had lots of fun! We will have an awards night at a later time in the year. I hope to see everyone again next year!! We will miss Emily Burns, Sara Dumanske, and Annie Perry next year! Good Luck in high school. I hope you tryout for the volleyball team! Thank you to all the parents who drove and supported us throughout the year. Girls, thank you for all your hard work! Go Braves!

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

by Mr. Doody, Coach

The Boys Varsity Volleyball team had a terrific year. I was concerned when the season began. We only had three returning players and our team had five players who had never before played a volleyball match. The year began with an exciting three-game overtime victory over Zion, San Francisco. After a back and forth match, Ryan Smith's timely serving pulled us from being down a match point all the way to a two point victory. This set the tone for the year as we continued to improve, especially our serves and service receive defense. Our upper classmen, Ben Justice and Adrian Palafox, continued to lead the charge by improving their play. But more importantly, they helped the younger players learn the offense and defense. This paid huge dividends as the year continued. We lost twice to a disciplined Prince of Peace team. However, we earned victories against Zion, Piedmont, Calvary, and Grace. We finished the season with a 6-2 league record. By far the high point of the season was the POP tournament. Despite playing well during the morning, we lost in the pool finals to St. John's. We played our way back through the Gold bracket during the afternoon. We ended up playing St. John's again in the Consolation Finals for 3rd place. With a terrific team effort that combined timely blocking from Adrian Palafox and a steady attack spearheaded by Ben Justice, we beat St. John's for the 3rd place trophy. I was thrilled with the effort, improvement and teamwork from all the members of the team. I look forward to next year when Ryan Smith, Sean Smith, Isaiah Labelle, Aaron Burns, Dakota Turiello, and Jacob Weller will all be a year better (and hopefully a little taller). Congratulations on a wonderful year.



eScrip

Thank you Supporters!

Thanks to our growing eScrip membership, contributions to Redeemer are better than ever. Money earned by eScrip is funding the new library management system! If you haven't signed up yet for this hassle-free way to donate money to our school, please see below for easy instructions. Remember to update your Safeway card and any credit or debit cards that have expired.

Sign Up Online

1. Go to www.escrip.com
2. Click on "sign up"
3. Follow the instructions (our group ID# is 137104928)

YEARBOOK PICTURES

I need your pictures! If you have digital pictures of school events -- Beach Day, Field Trips, Sports, Costume parade, Classroom activities, etc -- please be generous and share them with me! The more pictures I have to choose from, the better the yearbook will be! I will be putting together the Beach Day and Costume Parade collages soon and need your pictures ASAP.

Please put pictures on a CD. If you have no more than five pictures to share, you may email them to me at golsen@redeemer-school.org. Please look through your pictures first and send only the best! God didn't bless me with the patience to look through 50 fuzzy dark shots for the one fabulous one!! Thank you! Thank you!

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

- ◇ Advent Services - Weds Dec 5, 12, 19 @ 7:00 PM
- ◇ Sun, Dec 16 - Special Sunday 30 Performance @ 10:00AM worship service
- ◇ Christmas Eve - 5:00 PM & 11:00 PM
- ◇ Christmas Day - 10:00 AM

HOT LUNCH VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR 2ND QUARTER

Volunteers are still needed to work hot lunch on the following dates:

- Friday, Dec. 14
- Wednesday, Dec 19
- Wednesday, Jan. 16
- Friday, Jan. 18
- Wednesday, Jan. 23
- Wednesday, Jan. 30
- Friday, Feb. 1
- Monday, Feb. 4
- Wednesday, Feb. 6
- Wednesday, Feb. 13
- Wednesday, Feb. 20
- Friday, Feb. 22
- Friday, Feb. 29

Hours are 11:15AM-12:45PM. Please contact Susie Gilbert at srmadsen@stanford.edu to sign up for a time slot.

PLEASE WELCOME...

We are pleased to welcome Miss Sue Wilson as our long term substitute teacher in first grade while Mrs. Madden is on maternity leave. Miss Wilson lives in San Carlos and has taught primary grades for 32 years in the Mount Pleasant School District in San Jose. We are very pleased to have her on staff!

Mrs. Madden had to begin her maternity leave a little earlier than she had planned. Her baby is due in about 10 days and Mrs. Madden is doing fine, resting at home.

MORE NEW STUDENTS!

We added two new students in November. Please welcome and add to your directory:

Scott Brownlee - 8th grade

Parents: Paul & Lois
2700 Prindle Road
Belmont 94002
593-7219

Lauren Doss - 1st grade

Parents: Stephen & Mandie
2457 Melendy Drive
San Carlos 94070
226-3195



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REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

"The mission of Redeemer Ministries is to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus and the community of faith, offering them hope, help and healing in His name."

REDEEMER SUNDAY WORSHIP

Band-Led Worship - 8:30 a.m.

Organ-Led Worship - 10:00 a.m.

Children's Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.



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