

Dear Lansing Christian Families,

I trust this letter finds you all enjoying the summer, yet anticipating the start of another year of school. We are looking forward to welcoming back our students! Our team has been busy preparing for your arrival on **Tuesday, August 30**. Classes will begin at 8:00am. As we work on the final preparations for the beginning of the school year, I would like to take this opportunity to pass on some important start-up information.

#### **LCS Spiritual Theme – Growing a Heart for God’s World**

Our vision statement speaks to God’s redemption of all of life and his unique call to each one of us to be part of that important work in the world. In order to engage the world for Jesus Christ, we need to know how to love the world – the whole world.

**Our theme for 2016-17 is *Growing a Heart for God’s World*.** The whole school verse that has been selected is Mark 16:15 **And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.”**

#### **Back to School Events**

**Preschool 3 Popsicles on the Playground** – Tuesday, August 16, 6:00-7:00pm

**Preschool 4 Carnival** – Tuesday, August 16, 7:00-8:30pm

**Kindergarten Popsicles on the Playground** – Thursday, August 18, 6:30-7:30pm

**Meet the Teacher** – Wednesday, August 24, 4:00-6:00pm

All students must be accompanied by a parent. If you are interested in buying LCS spirit wear, it will be available for purchase at the Welcome Center during this event.

**Preschool 3 Snoopy Day** – Tuesday, August 30 (A specific Snoopy time was sent to parents on a postcard from their child’s teacher.)

**Preschool 4 Snoopy Day** – Wednesday, August 31 (A specific Snoopy time was sent to parents on a postcard from their child’s teacher.)

#### **First Day Chapel**

On the first day of school, Tuesday, **August 30** we will have a school wide chapel beginning at **8:15am**. Parents are invited to join the K-12 student body in a brief time of praise and worship and a whole school community prayer.

#### **Pilgrim Play**

We are excited to offer athletics to our lower elementary students this year through a new program called ***Pilgrim PLAY***. This is a co-ed program designed for LCS students in **PreK-4 year old up to 3rd grade**.

**Pilgrim PLAY** is about both learning skills and learning to play a sport. Pilgrim PLAY participants will receive instruction and practice skills with varsity high school coaches. Players will be divided into teams by age groups and placed with high school athletes to work on drills and lead-up type games. Each Saturday will end with a series of matches. No scores will be kept in these matches.

We have great expectations for how **Pilgrim PLAY** will enrich each student's experience in our elementary at LCS.

[Click here](#) to register your student for this program. Early registration ends on September 7. Please contact [Garrett Anderson](#) with questions.

## **Back to School Forms**

For the 2016-2017 school year, parents will complete Back-to-School Forms electronically through Skyward. These forms include verifying and updating personal information, health information, field trip permission, technology permission, concussion forms, etc. All students, Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade must have these forms completed prior to the start of school.

**Due to a requirement by the State of Michigan, preschool students must also have the Child Information Form on file.** This form was included in the preschool information packet that was emailed a couple weeks ago. Please print the form out, complete it, and return it to the preschool teacher or the elementary office. The other forms included in the packet should be sent in as hard copies.

To access Skyward and complete the forms, go to [www.lansingchristianschool.org](http://www.lansingchristianschool.org) and click on the Skyward link at the top of the page or go to [lcssis.lansingchristianschool.org](http://lcssis.lansingchristianschool.org). You will then click on "Family Access Login" and use your ID and Password to login to Skyward. Email [Dionne Mumby](mailto:Dionne.Mumby@lansingchristianschool.org) if you do not know your login information.

Next, click on the link for "Back-to-School Forms" or "Go to Back-to-School Forms for (Student)". You will then proceed step by step through the verification process. When you are finished, be sure to click on "Submit Back-to-School Forms" to complete the process.

Please complete the information before the start of the school year. If you have any questions regarding technical issues, please contact [Dionne Mumby](mailto:Dionne.Mumby@lansingchristianschool.org). If you have questions related to information required on the forms, please contact [Luann Willemin](mailto:Luann.Willemin@lansingchristianschool.org).

## **Welcome to Our New LCS Teacher!**

Jason Lohman— 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mr. Lohman is a graduate of Grand Valley State University. He is certified to teach K-5 all subjects and K-8 mathematics. In addition to being a talented teacher, he enjoys music, wood working, landscaping, and video production. He is looking forward to joining our LCS community!

## **Classroom Supplies**

Classroom supplies may be brought in on August 24 during Meet the Teacher or on the first day of school. Click [here](#) if you need a copy of your child's supply list.

## **Hot Lunch Program**

Hot lunch begins on the first day of school. Payment for prepaid hot lunches may be dropped off in the elementary office. To facilitate accurate tracking of hot lunch payments, we prefer payments be made by check. Online payments can be made using REVTRAK on your child's Skyward account. Your child's lunch card balance will be available on Skyward.

## **After School Care and Daycare**

After school care and daycare will begin on the first day of school. Students must be registered in order to participate in this program. Click [here](#) for the after school care registration form. Click [here](#) for a daycare information and registration form.

If you have questions regarding the program, please contact [Leslie Haidamous](mailto:Leslie.Haidamous@lansingchristianschool.org).

## **Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures for K-5 Students**

Keeping your children safe during the school day is a priority for us. This includes arrival and dismissal times. Student safeties and school personnel will monitor the drop-off and pick-up lane each day.

Parents, who are not leaving their vehicle, must use the elementary entrance drop off lane in the morning. If you wish to walk your child in to school, please park in the parking lot.

To keep our dismissal time running smoothly, each family is issued a **rearview mirror tag with a family identification number on it**. This number will be used to identify families as they arrive in the pick-up lane. Family identification numbers will be entered into a computer, which will then appear as family names on a shared Google document in each classroom. **If you have your rearview mirror tag from last year, you may continue to use it. If you are new to the school or need a new tag, please stop by the elementary office.**

Parents who wish to come into the building to pick-up their child may park in the parking lot and enter the building.

### **Communication**

Clear and consistent communication is a part of our commitment in partnering with parents. Teachers will send home monthly or weekly newsletters that inform you of important events in the classroom. The elementary office will send home a **weekly update each Tuesday** highlighting elementary news. The e-letter, published by the main office, is e-mailed each Friday and contains information for the elementary, middle, and high school.

### **Math Curriculum**

We are excited to announce, that we have updated our elementary math program. Last year, the elementary teachers engaged in an in-depth study of different math programs. After reading through sample materials, speaking with curriculum directors and teachers from various public and Christian schools, we decided to adopt the Math Expressions Program. The program has many strengths that will benefit our students. Learn more about the math program as we highlight different elements in our weekly elementary newsletter. We look forward to engaging our students in this program.

---