



# PANTHER PATTERN

A weekly newsletter of St. Paul's Lutheran School (September 24, 2020)

## “LET IT SHINE! LET IT SHINE! LET IT SHINE!”

Most people love a nice day of sunshine. People go for walks, bike rides, runs, or other activities outdoor on sunshiny days. It seems nice weather sparks a desire to spend time in God's creation and not under a roof.

Unfortunately, sin darkens the world around us. A frequent focus on the pandemic, illnesses, and death, along with financial concerns, racial tensions, and political finger-pointing really clouds up a person's day and perspective. One might look around and think the situation is not only sad, but utterly hopeless.

Believers in Jesus know that there is always reason to hope; we have reason to be joyful. We know our sins are forgiven because of Jesus' death on the cross in our place (*Isaiah 53:5; 1 Peter 2:24*). We know Jesus is preparing a place for us in Heaven (*John 14:2*). We know that He loves us dearly and is working all things for our ultimate good (*Romans 8:28*).

What do we do with all this comfort and hope we have through Jesus? Share it! Bring these words of encouragement to those who are feeling hopeless and helpless. Reach out in love to those in need of physical or emotional support. Show them the love of Jesus in how you treat them. Let the light of your faith shine on them!

**“In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16**

by Benjamin Bain

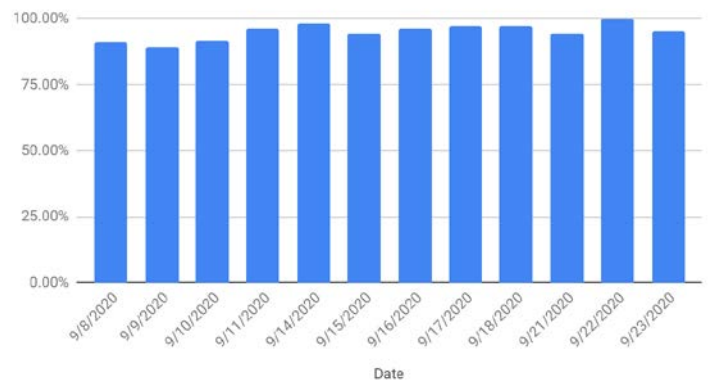


## MORNING HEALTH SCREENING

Yes, we did indeed reach 100% participation for Health Screening Forms on September 22! Thank you, parents!

The tremendous rise in case count in La Crosse County makes it more likely for your or your children to be exposed to the virus. As you complete the Health Screening Form each morning, please carefully consider your situation to determine if it is wise for your child to go to school. If you have someone in your home that you suspect could have the virus, please keep all of your children home. Remember that virtual learning is an option. It may take a day before the student can join to ensure they have all of the necessary materials for virtual learning, but we are equipped to make this available. Our goal is to help reduce the spread of the virus to other students and staff members.

% of Families Completing Health Screening Forms



If you are able to help as a morning screener please click [here](#) to sign up.

## SCHOOL DRESS

Beginning Monday, October 1, shorts are no longer allowed during the school day. Please make sure that your child has appropriate attire for the weather each day. In case of unseasonably warm weather, Mr. Bain may grant special permission on certain days via ParentSquare.



## SECOND GRADE TEACHER, LINNETTE FEHR, HONORED AS EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR!

The Alumni Association of Concordia St. Paul selected our very own second grade teacher, Linnette Fehr, as Educator of the Year! Mrs. Fehr's love of nature and all things language arts have been an inspiration for so many of her students. In addition to her service with Mrs. Fehr will be honored in a virtual presentation on Friday, October 9, 2020. Congratulations, Mrs. Fehr!



## HOT LUNCH NEWS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) granted nationwide waivers to allow the continuation of free meals to ALL STUDENTS through the National School Lunch Program's Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). This applies to all St. Paul's students, regardless of income. Holmen will continue to provide our food. Menu changes may happen more frequently and with short notice during this time due to demand. Thank you for your patience with menu changes. The program runs September 1<sup>st</sup> through December 18<sup>th</sup>.

Virtual students can order lunches by contacting the school district they reside in.

**Holmen:** Will deliver lunches weekly. Lunches need to be ordered the week before and can be ordered by calling 608.526.1325

**Onalaska:** Contact Karrie Johnson at 608) 779-5760 ext. 4951

**West Salem:** Contact Emily Klunk at [klunk.emily@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:klunk.emily@wsalem.k12.wi.us) or (608)-786-3078  
<https://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us/content/s/school-district-of-west-salem-school-nutrition-services>

**Bangor:** Contact Emily Klunk at [klunk.emily@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:klunk.emily@wsalem.k12.wi.us) or (608)-786-3078 [https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded\\_file/898148/Meal\\_Ordering\\_Information\\_Fall\\_2020.pdf](https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/898148/Meal_Ordering_Information_Fall_2020.pdf)

**La Crosse:** Contact Pam Soucek, at 608-789-7625

**La Crescent:** Contact Terri Williams at 507-895-4484 x5065 [terri.williams@isd300.k12.mn.us](mailto:terri.williams@isd300.k12.mn.us)

## MISSION OFFERING COLLECTED EACH WEDNESDAY

Each Wednesday morning, our students have the opportunity to bring a mission offering. For the first semester, or first and second quarters, our mission offering has been designated for mission work in India. Follow the links below for some information about WELS mission work in India. We also are blessed to have Pastor Mark Rieke, who recently served in the mission field in India, now serving First Lutheran Church in La Crescent, MN. Pastor Rieke will be recording a chapel devotion for our St. Paul's students to be shared on November 4. We would also love to schedule a time for him to share more information with our students about the mission in India. Learn more about WELS mission work in India using these links!

[A written summary of WELS mission work in India](#)

[Many pictures of WELS mission work in India](#)

[A video about WELS mission work in India](#)

## CHANGING INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY METHOD FOR OCTOBER

Before the school year began, the Board of Education asked parents to choose either virtual learning or in-person learning for their children. The Board asked parents to commit to this instructional delivery form through the end of September. Of course, a need to quarantine or mild symptoms would also necessitate a student to stay home, so teachers are ready to provide virtual instruction in those cases as well. *(Please note: virtual learning may require a 24-hour notice to make the switch, as students may need specific materials at home for effective virtual learning.)*

The Board of Education decided to permit parents the opportunity to make a switch each month. September is coming to an end soon. We would like to know if any parents would like to CHANGE the instructional delivery method for their children for the month of October. **Only parents wishing to make a change need to complete this [form](#).** The deadline for completion is Saturday, September 26.

## SCRIP

Did you know you can still order SCRIP? To place a SCRIP order email Katy Miller at [kmiller@stpaulsonalaska.org](mailto:kmiller@stpaulsonalaska.org) with the order you would like and to arrange for pick up.

## PRE-PLANNED ABSENCES

If your child will miss school for any pre-planned reason, please complete the Pre-Planned Absence form as soon as you are aware of the absence or at least 2 school days before the absence. **This also applies to virtual learners who will miss class meetings.** For a copy of the form, please click [here](#).

## UN-PLANNED ABSENCES

As a matter of policy, **we would ask that you call school before 7:45 am** on days when your child will be absent from school or possibly late. If we do not hear from you, and your child is absent when school begins, we will be contacting you at home or at work. We want to know that your child is safe and that you know where he or she is. **Please do not leave messages with morning screeners.**

## IMMUNIZATION LETTERS

Legal letters have been mailed as a follow up to prior communications via email and calls, to any family who has students that are non-compliant or not up-to-date with immunizations. If you receive a letter in the mail, please follow up with the school office immediately. We are required by the State of Wisconsin to submit a report to the county identifying all non-compliant students. Thank you in advance for your timely response.

## MEDICATION FORMS

Any medication, prescription, over-the counter or inhaler, taken by a child at school needs to be kept in the school office and must have a signed Medication Form on file. Click [here](#) to print a copy of the form. All medications must be in the original bottle for the office to administer the medication.

## FALL SPORTS

LALSAC Fall Sports (CC and Volleyball) were officially postponed until spring. A great amount of discussion, including consultation with our school principals, led to this decision. Watch ParentSquare for updates from Mr. Fetenco, St. Paul's Athletic Director, regarding any sports updates.

## BAND

The following is a message from Mr. Witte about registration for band this year.

October 6 and 7 will mark the beginning of our band lessons for this school year. Mr. Bain and I have been working together for the past month to make sure lessons happen safely during the school day and comply with various schedules and covid protocols. This year lessons will take place in the custodial office in the basement on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. I am scheduled to be teaching at **St. Paul's Onalaska Tuesday and Wednesdays in the afternoon**. Specific student lesson times will be sent to you next week. *Please note that as the year progresses, the schedule may change.* Next week, I am planning to meet with all those students intending to do band this year on **Tuesday, Sept 29 1:00-1:20 PM**. This will be a "getting to know you", "get prepared", and "answer questions" lesson time. You will not need instruments for this lesson but will need them by the following week.

If you know of anyone who hasn't registered for band yet, there is still time! Registration for St. Paul's will close Wednesday, Sept 30th, so encourage others to jump in! Go to <https://www.lutherhigh.org/arts/les-band> for info and online registration.

If you have any questions contact Mr. Witte at [wittjona@luther.k12.wi.us](mailto:wittjona@luther.k12.wi.us)

## GREAT THINGS HAPPENING AT ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL



Not only did these students get to learn about the life cycle of a monarch butterfly, they also got to see it happen in the classroom!

