St. John's Lutheran School

Parent Handbook*
2017-2018

Online Version

(A complete handbook with contact information is provided to families enrolled.)

Tuition and Fees 2017-2018*

4K Program

St. John's church members = $900
Members of other churches = $1000

Kindergarten through 8th Grade

St. John's church member's children:
1st child: $1225
2nd child: $1075
3 or more children: $925

Sister WELS church members:
1st child: $2425
2nd child: $2225
3 or more children: $2025

Members of other churches:
1st child: $2900
2nd child: $2700
3 or more children: $2500

Childcare Rates for 3-Year-Old Program and Before and After School Care for 4K thru 6th grade

$25 registration fee for one child, add $10 for each additional child
Open enrollment throughout the year if space is available

Regular Rates
One Child - $3.50 per hour
Two Children - $6.50 per hour
Three Children - $9.00 per hour
Four Children - $11.50 per hour

***"Drop-In"* Rate**
(not pre-scheduled the Thursday
before the week attending)
$4.00 per hour per child

Unregistered rate
$5.00 per hour per child

** Fees are subject to change*

Our Mission Statement

By the command of our Lord and to his glory, St. John's Lutheran School assists families by providing a Christ-centered education which equips children to lovingly serve their church, family, and community.

Purpose of St. John's Lutheran School

The purpose of St. John's Lutheran School is to share the love of Christ with our students, families, and community. We accomplish this purpose by teaching our students the truths of the Bible and all the wonders of God's creation in hopes that they will let their lights shine in their homes, communities, and beyond.

Philosophy of Education of St. John's Lutheran School

Christian education exists so that we can teach our children about God and how to lead God-pleasing lives. We can only find instructions on how to do this in the Bible. At St. John's, we believe that the whole educational experience must be taught in light of God's Word. The Bible must be our main authority. Therefore all subjects are taught from a Christian viewpoint. We follow the command of Jesus to teach the truths of the Bible to all people, so our students are also taught how to share this precious message.

Objectives of St. John's Lutheran School

In order to train students to become members of the visible church as well as to provide tools to live a life of service, St. John's will:

1. Provide the knowledge of Biblical truths through Bible history, topical Bible study, and Catechism instruction.
2. Provide an understanding of sharing and living one's faith.
3. Give support to family and peer relationships through a Biblical foundation.
4. Stress the importance of regular worship attendance and family devotional life.

In order to offer an academic foundation through curriculum and instruction that will supply the needs of our students at all grade levels, St. John's will:

1. Provide competent instruction in each area of academics.
2. Update the curriculum to provide students with developmentally appropriate instruction and the best possible transition to the next educational level.
3. Maintain a professional teaching staff to carry out these goals.

To aid its students in their social and physical development, the school will:

1. Provide the necessary facility for interactive play.
2. Provide necessary facilities for physical education instruction.
3. Provide an athletic program including interscholastic sports.

In order to provide an atmosphere that promotes Christian attitudes toward self and others, the school will:

1. Strive for open communication among parents, students, teachers, and the school board.
2. Promote a positive Christian learning environment.
3. Use God's tools of Law and Gospel to develop Christian character traits in our students.

St. John's 4K program is a kindergarten readiness program for four year olds. This program meets Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Enrollment is limited on a first come-first serve basis.

Childcare

St John's Childcare is located on the east side of the building in the basement. The main entrance is the enclosed stairway on that side. Hours are 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. throughout the calendar year. If there is a snow day which means no school, there will be no childcare that day. For more information contact the childcare coordinator or the school principal.

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Nondiscriminatory Policy

St. John's Lutheran School admits students of any race, color, sex, disability, national or ethnic origin and makes available all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally made available to students at the school. St. John's Lutheran School does not discriminate in the administration of its educational and admission policies or its athletics and other school-administered programs.

Admissions Policy

Anyone enrolling children at St. John's will agree in principle to the contents of the *Parent Handbook* and also to all school policies and decisions established by the School Board of St. John's Lutheran congregation. We require that anyone enrolling their children at St. John's will first read the handbook and sign the agreement before they choose to enroll their children. Applications are approved by our School Board on a year-by-year basis in April for the following school year. Children will be admitted to St. John's school in the following order of priority as space is available: children of St. John's members, sister congregation students, students from families without a church home, and finally, members of other Christian churches.

Statement on Gender and Human Sexuality

Every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Col 3:12-14.) Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture or the doctrines of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod and St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School.

Grounded in the teachings of the Bible as members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, we believe that God created two distinct genders "male and female he created them" (Gen. 1:27). These two genders are meant to complement one another and together are God's design for the crown of his creation as they relate to one another in matters dealing with human sexuality, marriage and gender. (Gen 1:26-27) We do not affirm attempts to change one's biological sex as given by God at birth. We believe that rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of God's creative action and design for the individual. (Psalm 139:13-14; Jeremiah 1:5)

God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (1 Cor 6:18; 7:2-5) We believe that any form of intimate sexual activity outside of God's prescribed marriage bond is sinful and offensive to God. (1 Cor 6:9-10; Heb 13:4)

Entrance Requirements

To be enrolled in 4K or Kindergarten, a child must have reached his/her fourth and fifth birthday

respectively on or before September 1 of the year in which enrollment is made. ***We will require a viewing of each new student's birth certificate.*** State law requires that all children entering an elementary school in Wisconsin for the first time be immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, measles, rubella, and Hepatitis B. Certification of these requirements must be on file in the school. Requirements can be waived only if a properly signed health or religious exemption is filed with the school. ***This needs to be done prior to the beginning of the school year.***
The following immunizations are required:

a. **By 4K:** **4** DTP/DtaP/DT, **3** polio, **1** MMR, **3** Hep B, **1** Var (chicken pox)
b. **By Kindergarten:** **4** DTP/DtaP/DT/Td, **4** polio, **2** MMR, **3** Hep B, **2 Var***
c. **Grades 1-5:** **4**DTP/DtaP/Td, **4** polio, **2** MMR, **3** Hep B, **2** Var
d. **Grade 6**: **4**DTP/DtaP/Td, **1Tdap***, **4** polio, **2** MMR, **3** Hep B, **2** Var
e. **Grades 7-8**: **4**DTP/DtaP/Td, **1**Tdap, **4** polio, **2** MMR, **3** Hep B, **2** Var

***** - Denotes required or recommended immunization

Orientation

Orientation (*previously called Registration Day*) is a two day process. All parents meet in the school gymnasium for a general assembly where information and forms are disseminated. Parents may attend either the 11:30-12:00 session on August 21 or the 6:30-7:15 session on August 22. On either of those days, parent(s) and child meet with the classroom teacher where they receive individual classroom information. At this orientation, we also require a religious orientation. This overview of main doctrines of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod is mandatory of all students attending St. John's. This is a one-time only orientation for new families of St. John's.

All registration fee payments ($25) must be paid with the submitted application. All in full tuition payments must be paid at or before Orientation unless an arrangement has been made before Orientation. Bullying agreements are also signed at each orientation.

Tuition Payment Information

Pre-registration is required through the FACTS tuition management website. All families are required to register in FACTS regardless of how tuition payments are made. Financial information is provided on a secure website and a tuition plan is selected as well as the mode of payment. A FACTS fee is charged based on how many tuition payments you make: 1 payment = $0, 2 payments = $10, and 3 payments or more = $45. These fees should be paid before school starts. ***All families must be signed up on FACTS before a child may attend school.*** If a payment will be late, contact the school secretary, or principal. Communication is essential so alternate arrangements can be made and alternative plan set up in FACTS.

If tuition payments are late, you can expect the following course of action:

After 30 days: You will be contacted by school personnel (principal and/or secretary).
After 60 days: You will receive a letter from the School Board.
After 90 days: The school board will meet to discuss your child's enrollment at St. John's.

Please understand the purpose of this policy is motivated by Christian love. We do not want any families to be put in a situation where you would be in debt to St. John's. Also remember that if you are in a situation where you find it difficult to pay tuition, communicate this to the principal or School Board, and we will work towards a solution.

We also have tuition assistance available. This assistance is provided by St. John's Lutheran Church. Please speak to the secretary at either church or school or the principal about the amount of assistance

available for each year. You can also find the tuition assistance application on our website.

Bible Information

St. John's also offers a 15-week Bible Information Class that explains the basic teachings of scripture from a Lutheran point of view. The class is required to become a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, but those who attend are not obligated to join. A catechism orientation is also required for non-members with a student in 6th grade. The orientation is scheduled by appointment with the pastor(s) before the child enters their 7th grade year.

Withdrawal and Re-Enrollment

Requests for tuition reimbursement after a mid-year withdrawal will be at the discretion of the School Board. Re-enrollment of students who have been taken out of St. John's will begin with application and subsequent approval by the School Board.

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4K - 8 School Hours – Procedures Before and After

Classes begin each day at 8:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Students should arrive no earlier than 7:30 a.m. as the doors are locked and because teachers will not be in their rooms until that time. Students arriving before 7:30 a.m. are on their own outside unless they go to our childcare which is located in the school basement. After 7:30 a.m. students should go directly to their classrooms upon entering school.

After school, students not involved in childcare should leave the school grounds immediately after being dismissed. After 3:15 p.m. they are no longer under school supervision. Students who ride the bus should go outside the front doors and wait on the front sidewalk area to meet their bus.

Parking Lot

The school parking lot is open to drop off students in the morning ***only***. At 8:00 a.m. the parking lot closes for the day for safety reasons. Vehicles must park on the street around or near school when picking up children after school. The lot opens again at 3:15 p.m. for after-school activities. When dropping off students do not park and leave your vehicle running next to the school building. The exhaust actually transfers into the classroom through the heating system vents. Also do not park in front of the doors and leave the vehicle unattended.

School Office

The principal is located in the office inside the parking lot entrance, next to the secretary's office. He will be available for visitation from 12:30 until 4:00 p.m. The school secretary is available in her office each day after 7:45 a.m.

Chapel

Each Wednesday morning at 8:05 a.m. the entire student body will worship together in the gymnasium for a chapel devotion. Parents are welcome!

Curriculum

The Religion Curriculum offered at St. John's is called *Christ Light*. The three components of this curriculum are home, school, and church. There are materials for use in the home that reinforce what is being taught in school. It is structured to help congregation, school, and families work together to *"tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord."*

Christ Light includes Bible stories, and memory treasures in grades K-4. Catechism study is added in 5th-8th. During the 7th-8th grade years, the catechism study will specifically prepare the students for confirmation.

Mathematics
General Math
Pre-Algebra
Algebra

Sciences
General Science
Life Science
Earth Science
Physical Science

Fine Arts
Art
Music
Drama
Forensics

Language Arts
Reading
Literature

Language Arts
Phonics
English
Writing
Spelling
Handwriting

Social Sciences
Social Studies
History
Geography

Technology
Keyboarding Skills
Computer Skills

Physical Education

Grading Scale

100	A+	80-78	C
99-96	A	77-75	C-
95-93	A-	74-72	D+
92-90	B+	71-69	D
89-87	B	68-66	D-
86-84	B-	65-0	F
83-81	C+		

School Attendance

All students are expected to attend school regularly and punctually. If your child is not going to be in school, we ask that you call the school by 7:55 a.m. or send a written note with a sibling so that we know the student is safe and at home. If illness keeps your child out of school for five days or more, or if the child is absent due to a communicable disease, an excuse from the family doctor is required. **We encourage families to take vacations and days off which coincide with days that there is no school.**

A written excuse should also be provided if the student is tardy. Tardiness of more than two hours is considered a half-day absence. If a student is habitually tardy or chronically absent without reasonable or valid reasons, an attempt will first be made to resolve the issue by a meeting between the teacher/principal and the parent(s). If this does not result in an improvement in attendance, the issue may be referred to the school board for their action.

Truancy

Frequent absences from school are the greatest single cause of poor achievement and discouragement in school. It is the legal as well as the moral responsibility of the parents, guardians, or legal custodians to ensure regular school attendance. This pattern is established early in a child's life by the attitude and support toward the school as shown by the parents.

Truancy is defined as "a pupil who is absent from school without an acceptable excuse for part of or all of any day on which school is held during a school semester."

An excused absence shall consist of the following:

- Personal illness
- Serious illness in the family
- Death in the immediate family and/or a funeral for a family or friend
- Medical, dental, chiropractic, optometric, or other pre-approved professional appointments which shall not exceed one-half day.
- Family trips that can be taken only during the normal school term. Parents or guardians are required to notify the school prior to the vacation. Student vacations or trips without parents, guardians, or legal custodian's accompaniment are not excused absences.
- A court appearance or other legal procedure which requires the attendance of the student.
- A quarantine imposed by a public health officer.
- Attendance at special events of educational value approved by the principal.
- Special circumstances that show good cause and are approved in advance by the principal.

Unexcused absence shall consist of all absences not defined above as excused absences. If a child is absent more than 10 days in a semester, the School Board will be notified.

If a child is absent on consecutive days for a period of 2 weeks, the child will be automatically unenrolled. You will then have to re-enroll your children at the discretion of the School Board.

Meeting Individual Needs

St. John's Lutheran School wants to meet the needs of all students at our school. For this reason teachers will work closely with parents to monitor student progress. If these efforts do not result in success, students may be tested to determine their learning needs. Following testing the teacher and parent(s) will meet to develop a plan appropriate for the student. This plan, in certain cases, will be based on an independent review and may result in a school board recommendation that the student should be transferred to public schooling. This type of recommendation is to benefit the student so that they may receive an education in an environment which may be better equipped or staffed to handle a particular need.

Students also have the opportunity to participate in various competitions during the course of the year. These activities include the National Geography Bee, St. John's Spelling Bee, math meets, a science and fine arts fair, the Optimist Oratorical Contest, and other forensic opportunities.

Remedial Programs

St. John's Lutheran School qualifies for available federal funds distributed to the school district each year. In spring the students of grades K, 1, and 2 are tested in language arts and math. For the students that qualify, extra and individual help is offered to those students the following school year. Parents of those who qualify will be notified and given details on how their child will benefit from the extra

help provided by a teacher who comes to our school weekly from the school district.

Cancellations and Delays

St. John's will make every effort to let parents know of delays and cancellations in a timely manner. If Baraboo schools are closed, we most likely will be closed. This is not guaranteed, but likely. These delays and cancellations are announced on NBC 15 and Channel 3000. You may wish to sign up for one of these channels' automatic alerts.

School Lunch

St. John's Lutheran School offers a school lunch program. Please make sure your child has lunch tickets if they are eating at school. Lunch tickets may be purchased from the secretary in the school office. Applications for free and reduced meals may also be obtained from the office.

Field Trips

During the school year, classes may go on field trips to various places of interest and value. These field trips will be under the supervision of the classroom teacher and volunteer chaperones.

School Pictures

School pictures are taken in September. Families are not obligated to make any picture purchases. Kindergarten and eighth grade class pictures are taken in May.

Computer Use

Specific rules have been established for school computer use. Those rules are posted in each room where computers are located.

Telephone Use

There are telephones available for student use. The telephone may be used to arrange for rides after a school activity such as an away basketball game. During the school day use of the telephone is only on an emergency basis and requires permission from an adult. Cell phones must be turned off and turned in to the classroom teacher during the school day. If a student is caught using a cell phone, it will be confiscated. A parent may retrieve it at the school office.

Bicycles

Students riding bicycles to school must park them in the bicycle rack. They shall not ride their bikes in the school parking lot or in the area where the bus students wait on or near the front sidewalk. If the student must remain at school for any length of time, the bike must remain in the bicycle rack. We recommend that each bike be locked.

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Church Attendance & Church Singing

"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching" Hebrews 10:25

St. John's takes weekly church attendance. All teachers encourage students to attend their church regularly. As parents you should set that example by also regularly attending church with your children. This example that you set will make a lasting impression. Church attendance is recorded on each child's report card.

We have a deep concern for the spiritual needs and welfare of each member of St. John's

congregation, both student and parents. If you or your child(ren) are absent from worship for an extended period, the information will be forwarded to St. John's Spiritual Growth committee. This committee serves our church by supporting and encouraging regular worship attendance.

Students will have the opportunity to praise their Lord by singing in church. A schedule for each class will be given to you. If a child is unable to attend a service in which his or her class is scheduled to sing, parents should notify the child's teacher with a note or phone call prior to the scheduled date. If a child must miss a singing date due to illness, the child should bring a written excuse when he or she returns to school the next week. Please extend this courtesy to excuse your child and to make planning easier. On weeks that your child(ren) sing, please plan on attending the complete service. If you must leave early during the service, please be courteous and choose a discrete time during worship to gather your child(ren). This limits the disruption of the worship service.

Discipline

At St. John's we try to help and instruct our students on how to obey what God commands. We ask all of our students to contribute to the atmosphere of mutual love and respect. Individual teachers' classroom rules and school rules should be followed without exception.

All of us at St. John's represent our school and our Lord and Savior at all times. No matter where we are, our students will want to reflect Christian conduct. As God's children, let's make use of every opportunity to let our light shine so that we glorify our Father in heaven.

Christian disciplinary measures are carried out by the teachers; the only exception being suspension (which can be carried out by the principal or School Board only) or expulsion. When students misbehave they will also need to face the consequences of their actions. Following are the guidelines used for discipline at St. John's:

1. Disciplining by the classroom teacher which could include detention after school.
2. Repeated offenses will result in the student's removal from the classroom to the principal's office.
3. Repeated visits to the principal's office could result in an in-school suspension. Parents will be notified for a possible meeting. If deemed necessary by the principal, the matter may be referred to the School Board for further action.
4. If a student's misbehavior persists, counseling could be recommended. In some cases it could be determined that student and parents would be better served by transferring to another school.
5. Expulsion is the final step which could result. The School Board will be involved in all expulsions.

The school reserves the right to skip steps in this process depending on the severity of the behavior. Severity of behavior will be judged by the teachers, principal, and/or School Board of St. John's. Examples of such severe acts include, but are not limited to:

1. Immoral conduct (profane or obscene speech, writing, or action contrary to Christian decency);
2. Viewing improper computer sites;
3. Continued willful disobedience;
4. Abusive acts of behavior (verbal, physical, or through social media);
5. Scandalous conduct on or off campus which is a serious violation of Christian behavior (including pre-marital sex, homosexuality, use of illegal substances).

The guidelines for these serious offenses are as follows:

First offense:

A first offense will result in forfeiture of participation in all school-sponsored activities for a period of one month. The School Board will convene to define any further action depending on the circumstances of the offense.

Second offense:

A second offense will result in immediate expulsion from our school.

Bullying is another form of misbehavior which is not tolerated at St. John's. Bullying is intentional, unprovoked, repeated and done to cause hurt and harm. You can find more information about bullying in our school's bullying policy. Each family signs a bullying agreement at orientation each year.

Teacher / Parent Relationship

If a disagreement occurs between a teacher and parent, a procedure is set for us in Matthew chapter 18. Paraphrased, it says to go first to the person with which there is a problem. This could be done several times before one party asks a third person be involved, namely another teacher, the principal or a pastor. If the problem cannot be solved in a satisfactory manner, it can then be referred to the School Board.

Homework

Study time is provided during the day for students to work on assignments. Most students, especially in the upper grades, can also be expected to bring some work home. Homework is to be completed by the deadline set by the teacher. If you have a concern with the amount or difficulty of the work your child brings home, please contact his/her teacher. Habitually late or missing homework will be addressed by each teacher with parent(s)/student. If deemed necessary by the teacher or principal, in chronic cases the matter may be referred to the School Board for further action.

Personal Appearance / Dress Code

Dress styles alter continuously; therefore, we ask parents to be responsible and sensible in supervising the way their child dresses. Any teacher or staff member reserves the right to inform any student when their clothing is immodest or inappropriate. In those cases, the student must make the adjustment. The School Board may impose restrictions on dress.

The following are some specific guidelines:

1. Clothing that is frayed, ripped, torn, cut, or has holes is not permitted.
2. Shirts and other tops should provide full coverage so midriff is not exposed.
3. Skirts, dresses, and shorts will be a hand length from the knee when sitting.
4. No flip-flops may be worn to school.
5. Hats may not be worn in the school building.

If the dress code is violated, the student may call home and have parents bring acceptable clothing. If there are several repeated offenses of the dress code, the child and parents will be asked to appear at a School Board meeting for consultation.

Personal appearances often dictate an attitude. A poor personal appearance may be perceived as being contrary to proper social norms which in turn may not be proper for the given age group or a Christian school setting. Whether this perception is justifiable may be subject to debate; however, if a specific appearance is judged to be improper, then the teacher/principal will in consultation with the

parent(s) to try to reach an agreeable resolution. Questionable items or changes in appearance, although not limited to, that may not be permitted, include: permanent tattoos, temporary tattoos if the content or subject is inappropriate, body piercing besides for earrings, extreme hair color, and extreme hair styles. This policy is not meant to restrict individualism or personal choices but has the main purpose that the parents should give considerable thought to what is proper and allowable for a Christian elementary school child.

Distribution of Medication

In order for any teacher to dispense prescription medicine or over-the-counter drugs, such as Tylenol, the school must have a written permission slip signed by the parent or guardian. Medication will be administered by the classroom teacher or designated staff person with appropriate written permission.

Unnecessary Items

Students should not bring items to school that would endanger the property or safety of themselves or others. Electronic devices are not allowed in school. Teachers have the liberty to make decisions about the appropriateness of any items students may bring. Examples of items not allowed would include gum or other unhealthy snacks, weapons (including ammunition), and any other items that may be deemed by teacher or staff to be dangerous or unnecessary.

Care of School and Student Property

The School Board expects all students to practice good stewardship in the care of the school and church property. Restitution will be required for any damage done to school, church, or personal property of others.

Lost and Found

Labeling of your child's clothing will make recovery of a lost item easier. Items left at school will be placed in the lost and found area. Occasionally the box will be emptied and the items taken to a thrift store.

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General Rules of the School

St. John's Lutheran School is responsible for the safety of children during school hours and also during extra-curricular activities. Students will not be allowed to leave the school premises while under school supervision times unless the parent has given a written or verbal request to a teacher.

School Security System

All entrance doors to the school will remain locked during the school day. If you would like to enter the building during the school day, go to the front door, the back parking lot door, or the childcare door on the east end. Those locations all have a-phones. Press the button and wait for personnel to answer. You may be asked to identify yourself before entering. The lock will then be opened when you hear a "clicking" sound and you may then enter.

Visitors

To ensure building security we ask that you sign in upon entering the building and sign out before you leave. The sign-in book is located near the school office. This procedure should be used between 8:00 a.m. and 2:45 p.m.

Communicable Diseases

If a child develops chicken pox, the Sauk County Health Department must be notified by the parent. Head lice, a common communicable disease, require treatment and removal of nits from the hair before a child can be readmitted to class. For pink eye and strep throat, a child must be on medication for 24 hours before he/she can return to school. If your child is ill in the morning or has a fever, they cannot come to school. Teachers have the discretion under any circumstances to send a child home because of sickness.

Insurance

The school is covered with secondary provider insurance through Church Mutual Insurance Company. The cost of this insurance is covered through registration fees. You must ask the school office for a form to complete if you request Church Mutual to cover any claims not covered by your primary insurance company.

Playground in Winter

Winter weather conditions bring some considerations for recess time. Unless the weather is severe, classes will be going outside for recess. Parents are asked to make sure their children bring appropriate clothing for cold weather. If a child is recovering from an illness and is unable to go outside, we ask that parents send a note to his/her teacher. Boots and snow pants should be worn on snowy days. Students who come without boots on wet days, or boots and snow pants on snowy days, must play on the paved area of the playground at recess.

Fire, Crisis, and Tornado Drills

In accordance with state regulations, fire drills are conducted at St. John's Lutheran School once each month. The children are taught evacuation routes. The drills are started at the discretion of the custodian or school secretary.

Crisis drills (including lockdown, evacuation, administrative hold, etc.) are practiced on a regular basis.

Tornado drills are also practiced in the spring of the year.

Peanut Smart School

St. John's is resolved to be a peanut smart environment. There are dangers associated with potential reactions that could result with a few of St John's students. Those students are well aware of these dangers. It is the school's intention to make all our students more aware; therefore, we will do the following for all students of St. John's:

1. Continually educate all students at St. John's about the dangers of allergic reactions and why peanut allergies are especially dangerous. Children who need to be protected will be identified.
2. Make people that enter the building aware that we strive to be a peanut smart environment. This can be done with special posters or signs.

Asbestos Notification

In compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), this is notice that St. John's Lutheran School has an Asbestos Management Plan at the administrative office. The plan is available for inspection by the public, parents, and school employees.

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Athletics

St. John's Lutheran School offers an interscholastic program for both boys and girls. The team sports offered for students in grades 5-8 are volleyball (girls), soccer, basketball, cheerleading (6th-8th), and track. An annual fee of $25 is assessed for each child that participates in interscholastic sports.

As extra-curricular activities; participation in athletics is a privilege. Students who wish to participate on the various interscholastic teams must also meet academic guidelines. When a student's academic performance becomes a concern of the teacher, the teacher will contact the parents and communicate the problem.

Students will make full use of their God-given abilities in the classroom. A C-average will be the standard for eligibility averaged at both mid-quarter and at the end of quarter taken from the seven major classes at the top section of the report card (Religion, Math, Reading, Spelling, Language, Science, and Social Studies). An F may be grounds for removal from the team.

If a student does not meet the C-average standard, he or she will be suspended from the team for five school days. The student will miss all practices and games, and will not sit on the bench or be in uniform during that time. If after that time, academic performance has not improved, a meeting of the teacher, parent, student, and principal will be held to outline a plan of action.

After the five-day suspension has ended, based on the date provided on the form from the teacher, the student may return to the team if satisfactory academic requirements have been met. It is expected that the parents will continue to closely monitor academic performance to avoid further difficulties.

All athletic policies and procedures are outlined in the *Athletic Handbook*.

Athletic Physicals

All students who participate in interscholastic sports and cheerleading must have a record of a physical on file. Those without a physical card will not be allowed to participate. Physicals must be updated every two years. They are offered in May by Medical Associates at a very reasonable cost.

Junior Choir

In addition to class choirs, the students in grades 5-8 have the opportunity to participate in the Junior Choir. The choir will sing for various church services including, but not limited to, a post-Easter concert and the PTO Taco Night/Spring Concert which is held in April.

Hand Bell Choir

St. John's has a voluntary 8th grade hand bell choir which practices once a week at church. Their playing schedule is included in the singing schedule. In the event that we do not have enough 8th graders, we will ask for volunteers from the 7th grade.

Drama

Children have the opportunity to participate in drama presentations throughout their years at St. John's. Grades 1-4 present a fall musical and grades 5-8 produce a spring musical.

Fine Arts Fair

Fifth through eighth grade students at St. John's Lutheran School are encouraged to participate in the Fine Arts Fair, which is held twice a year at Luther High School in Onalaska. The Fine Arts Fair allows students from several WELS schools to compete in various academic activities. This includes vocal music, instrumental music, piano, art, math, social studies, chess, spelling, and forensics. Due to the large number of events, the fair is held on two dates. The first phase is the first Saturday in November, while the second phase is the second Saturday in March.

Sunday School

Sunday School is taught at church, beginning at 8:45 AM. A Bible class for adults is also taught at the same time at church, but it is not (currently) based on the same series that we use for the Sunday School children. Parents are urged to bring their children to Sunday School and attend Bible class as a part of the overall program of Christian education at St. John's.

Room Parents

Each year we have at least two parents to volunteer as helpers for their child's classroom. They arrange snacks for the classroom on various holidays. In addition, seventh grade parents serve and clean up for the closing service / graduation in May.

Parent-Teacher Organization

The purpose of this group is to promote parental involvement in St. John's and take ownership by involvement in the school. Special presentations are planned that will help to carry out PTO's purpose. As a parent, you are automatically a member of PTO, and you are encouraged to be part of one or more committees of this organization in order to better carry out the mission of St. John's.

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Some Annual Special Events Explained

Fun Night

The PTO Fun Night Committee generally plans and organizes this event. The evening is an opportunity to bring present and former families together to socialize. It also provides funds for the school used to purchase non-budgeted items. Fun Night has a carnival-like atmosphere.

PTO Taco Night/ Spring Concert

The evening is another opportunity to bring families together for a taco supper and to be entertained with the talents of the Junior Bells and Junior Choir. This year we are planning to hold it on Friday, April 17.

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In Closing

St. John's Lutheran School is here to serve you. Our goal is to assist you in the Christian and educational training of your children. During the time your child is in our care, we will do our very best to see that the authority which you have delegated to us is used by making God's Word our guide. Teachers, parents, and children will grow together in knowing Jesus as our Savior. We have our Lord's promise that he will bless such efforts.

"Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." (Ephesians 4:15-16)

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