



ILS Connections

A monthly Newsletter Connecting
our school families, teaching staff, school leaders,
congregation, and community!

217-442-5036 ILS.PreschoolOffice@gmail.com

Making Disciples for Life! January 2023



From our Preschool Director

Christmas continues!! The celebration of our Lord's Nativity is much larger than any notion of "Christmas" and was never intended as a singular celebration nor a one day (nor 12-day) event! Everything in the universe was changed when the Son of God was born in our flesh in a stable – a change that defeats sin, death, hell, and the devil and redeems sinners: making our lives new both now and for eternity! Indeed, Jesus was literally "born to die" – to die on the cross to bring about that redemption and eternal victory! Joy to the World! And Joy to you!!

I often watch the young children in our Preschool with amazement, pondering what each child was born for – what grand purpose will they serve; how will their life embody that great redemption Jesus came to give to them... Perhaps some will be preachers, teachers, evangelists; others may become nurses, doctors, ditch diggers, data managers, or any of a thousand professions. It is my prayer that each fulfill their profession to the best of their ability: with faith, kindness, and Joy, always ready to witness about Jesus, who came to die for everyone so that everyone might receive His gift of eternal life! Joy to the World!

It is truly amazing how dynamically each child has developed this year already in knowledge, skills, social cooperation, and in their kindness and care for others! As they are literally absorbing a universe of knowledge (every moment, experience, and item is a learning opportunity), they are doing so in the matrix of our Lutheran Preschool with faith and kindness! Our congregation and school staff are blessed and the children and their families are blessed! Joy to everyone! Joy to you!!

If you have questions or suggestions about our school please contact me: school office: 217-442-5036; text or call my cell: 217-516-0085; ILS.MichaelHeidle.Director@gmail.com or: ILS.PreschoolOffice@gmail.com.

Young Two's in Blue Toddler Room

December was a very short "month" but such an exciting two weeks! We learned about the color green, did Christmas art, performed in the Christmas program, and had our class Christmas party. The young two's had a blast with all of it. The color of the month for January will be blue. I hope everyone enjoys their Christmas break and comes back in January ready to learn and welcome new friends into our class! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mrs. Ricketts



Two's Class in our Red Room

We hope you had a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year's Day! December was so much fun!! We loved working thru the Christmas story. Hopefully our crafts looked like wisemen, shepherds, angels, and baby Jesus. "Jesus was born for me" was our take home thought we tried to plant into their hearts. By the end of two weeks I even had a few children saying Luke 2 with me. January we will continue working thru other shapes and colors.

Mrs. Lasher

Three's Class in the Yellow Room

Happy New Year! The first half of the school year went by so fast! We ended December in a great way! We had our Christmas program and all the students did an amazing job! They love being on stage and singing their little hearts out! In January, we will learn about winter and arctic animals. We will also learn how to write our names and how to use scissors. We will continue to learn our letters and numbers in circle time. Hope the new year is treating you well. Mrs. Hammer



Three's Class in our Purple Room

It's so hard to believe we have wrapped up the first half of our school year already! Our class is growing in so many different ways: educationally, emotionally, socially, physically; and it's so humbling to see their development already from the start of school to winter break! When we return, we will continue with our monthly color and shape; January is blue and ovals. Our weekly letter will pick back up at M and our number focus will be 5. We are excited to continue learning about our winter themes, and we are eager to hopefully get to play in some snow! Wishing everyone a wonderful start to 2023!

Mrs. Showers



PreK Class in our Green Room

December was an exciting month! We learned so much about the birth of Jesus through stories, songs and crafts! We will continue our God's time with Epiphany and the Wise men and baby Jesus at the temple. We enjoyed learning our songs for our Christmas program and then sang them for the residents at Holly Brook. In January we will do all things snow. We will also enjoy dress up days for Lutheran Schools Week and taste testing Chinese food for the Lunar New Year. The PreK class wish you a Happy New Year.

Mrs. Heidle



December Activity

December was a short month (in school days); and yet we accomplished a LOT!! Our Poinsettia Sale distributed 100 festive plants; our Christmas Shop let students "buy" and wrap just some 500 gifts; we had an amazing Christmas Program (with little prep time); class Christmas parties; sold lots of SCRIP; finished our school mission offering for Hope Center with \$135 and just over 100 items collected – all on top of regular school activities! Thank you to staff and parent/grandparent volunteers!!

BoxTops: Please use the BoxTops app to scan each store receipt to earn money to our school easily (without buying/selling like most fundraisers). For example, make sure you scan your receipt when you buy snacks for school! If you're not sure how to scan, any of our teachers can demonstrate on your phone or give your receipts to your teacher to scan! We have earned \$127.50 this year! If each family scanned their receipts regularly we could reach \$1000 in BoxTops this year—what a blessing that would be for our school!! BoxTops for Education => ILS!

Upcoming Dates for ILS!

- Jan. 3 School resumes
- Jan. 16 No School: Martin Luther King, Jr Day
- Jan. 23-27: School Spirit Dress Up for NLSW
- Jan. 29 ILS students sing at Immanuel's 9:30 church service
- Feb. 20 No School: Presidents Day
- Mar. 20-24: No School: Spring Break



Please visit our Immanuel website: www.ilcdanville.com and click on our School tab for info and more photos of our ILS! And be sure to follow Immanuel Lutheran Church & School on Facebook for photos, videos, and updates! Check out our Facebook page often!!

Making Disciples for Life



Train Disciples to Help Others
Grow in Faith and Fruitfulness

THANKS for using SCRIP!!

A special word of THANKS to those who ordered SCRIP in December: we received more orders than usual and raised \$251 in December!! Thank you very much!!

SCRIP offers gift cards to places you shop/eat: you order through Immanuel (by 9 am second Monday of the month); it doesn't cost you extra; you spend it like any gift card; and SCRIP gives a % back to Immanuel! *Thank you!*

School Mission Offerings

For January/February our ILS Mission offerings will extend God's love and care to elderly residents at Villas of Holly Brook. A *Chapel Offerings* sheet went home listing items we'll collect each week or send \$\$ in envelope!

Emergency Closings!

Since we do not rely on busing, we do not follow the closings of public schools. Listen for "Immanuel Lutheran School, Danville" (not Immanuel Lutheran Preschool – there is another in our region) on WCIA, D102, KRock, WDAN, WITY, KISS, KOOL for closing information. IF we close for weather (or any other purpose) you will receive an email from ILS or a group text from your child's teacher even before it airs on the radio.



NLSW

National Lutheran Schools Week

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod has more than 1,100 early childhood centers / preschools and 750 elementary schools across our nation! This month LCMS schools join in celebrating National Lutheran Schools WEEK January 23 – 29! We will promote our school in our community and celebrate in school with special activities and dress up days:

- Monday (1/23): Character Day
- Tuesday (1/25): Color Day
- Wednesday (1/26): Sports Day
- Thursday (1/27): Hat Day
- Friday (1/28): Pajama Day

Get ready for the FUN of NLSW!!

Tuition / Fees

ILS now has 74 students! Thank you to EVERYONE staying current on tuition, lunch, BeforeCare, and other payments! Your prompt payments are greatly appreciated! All tuition and other fees are due on the 10th and late after the 15th! If you are struggling to keep up, please speak with Mr. Heidle to set up a payment plan that will work or see about financial aid. Lunch and other fees can be paid by cash, check, or EFT – if you want to use EFT simply write "EFT" by the balance due with your signature or initials and return it to the school office and we'll set it up! IF you need to change the date/details of a scheduled EFT, be sure to call/text Mr Heidle several days in advance! We're here to help!!

Poinsettias – Top Seller!

CONGRATULATIONS to our Top Seller: Alexandria (Alex) in Mrs. Hammer's room who sold an amazing 21 poinsettias!! Alex received a Christmas stocking filled with goodies as her prize! Honorable mention to: Leighton and Charley who each sold 9; Savanna, Becca, Adelynn each sold 6; and Rome and Conner also posted multiple sales! Thank you, everyone!

ILS PARENTS SURVEY!

We value your opinions and support; so as we prepare to promote our school in the community we want you to tell us what you like about ILS (what we're getting right) and tell us what ILS needs to change! PLEASE complete the ILS Parents Survey attached to this newsletter and return it to our school office at your earliest convenience (Jan 18 deadline). We would love to hear from every family!!



Parents: *we need your feedback!!*

From our School Director:

January 23 – 29 ILS will join the other 1,100 preschools and 750 elementary schools in our Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod in celebrating “National Lutheran Schools Week (NLSW)”! This is a big deal and there will be lots of celebration fun for your children in school all week. **We also want to showcase our school in our congregation and community; you can help! Please take a few moments to give some of your thoughtful feedback to some school testimonial questions on this sheet and submit it by Jan. 18!** We will highlight some of your parent/family testimonials for our congregation as we celebrate NLSW. So, please get your testimonials back to us right away!

Please strive to join us on **Sunday, January 29** at Immanuel Lutheran Church’s 9:30 am Service as the ILS children sing during the service. We will feature some of the children’s artwork on display for our congregation. As usual, we will post highlights of our activities on our church/school facebook page – be sure to “like” and follow our page!

Please know how important it is for us to show our school’s gratitude to our congregation! Immanuel Lutheran Church not only provides our building for us to operate our school, but also provides monthly financial support (\$8,000 monthly) to help us keep tuition as low as possible! Yes, without the church’s support, your tuition would cost much more! In addition to that many church members give of their time to help with maintenance/improvements and their prayers! **That is why we want to highlight the impact Immanuel Lutheran School has made for your child(ren) and family! So please get your completed testimonial to us!**

Thanks for your time and support for our Immanuel Lutheran School!!
If you have any questions or suggestions about our school please contact me in the school office: **217-442-5036**; cell: **217-516-0085**; or email: ***ILS.MichaelHeidle.Director@gmail.com***

ILS Parent Testimonial Info

Please take a few moments to thoughtfully answer these questions and submit your answers by Jan. 18! We will type your answers and post them on a “wall of testimonials” for our congregation/community!

- 1. How did you first learn about Immanuel Lutheran School?**

- 2. What features of our school helped you make the decision to enroll your child(ren) at ILS?**

**3. In what ways has ILS helped your child's growth and development?
(please be specific)**

4. In what ways has Immanuel Lutheran Church & School made a positive impact or helped your family? (please be specific)

5. What improvements are needed in our ILS program? (please be specific)

6. If one of your friends with young children asked you why they should enroll their child in ILS, how would you answer them? What factors specifically would you point out to them?

Also, we will soon begin the registration process for next school year. We would like to reach out to other churches that do not operate a preschool. We could use your help in sharing the message about ILS!

- What church do you attend? _____**
- Would you be willing to share ILS info with your church and be an ILS contact person for parents in your church? _____**

Name: _____

Who from your family has attended ILS or DLS?