

SCHOOL DAYS

Mr. Pete Adams - Principal

Another school year gone by. Was it just another year?? Or was it one that was lived out of faith so that it wasn't just weeks and months of wood, hay, and stubble but of silver and gold that will last? We know that we all prayed and worked and strived so that it would be the latter, and not the former. God our Father is faithful and we believe that He has worked lasting blessings.

I came across a saying that I shared with others who seemed to appreciate it too. - "Days go long, but the years fly by." Psalm 90 comes to mind, does it not, in its expression of our days and years ending with this - "And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it."

He has given us our school year 2014-2015. We will continue as a staff and board during the quieter months of summer preparing for His blessing once again on the new school year ahead. "So teach us to number our days, ..."

FIELD TRIP | RUNNING CLUB



ABOVE: The Pre-K through 3rd grade visited Boulder Ridge Wild Animal Park in mid-May. Boulder Ridge is a unique, hands-on zoo that is home to a variety of exotic animals and reptiles. The students enjoyed the variety of animals and got a chance to feed the giraffes and birds. After their time at Boulder Ridge, the students headed to a park before returning to school.

BELOW: The Eastside Running Club continued for the second year, led by Amy Van Putten and Becky Dijkstra. This year's members included Madalyn Monsma, Hannah Windemuller, Chloe Windemuller, Elizabeth Kortz, Anna Kortz and Zoe Newhof. In addition, the girls were sometimes joined in races by Irene and Rebecca Smit, alumni Natalie and Andrea Monsma, and Eastside parents. The running club ran the Riverbank 5K, the Hope Classic, the Reed's Lake 5K, and will run one additional summer race as well. **Far left:** Anna Kortz wins the Hope Classic 1 Mile race. **Middle:** Group shot before the Riverbank 5K. **Far left:** Zoe Newhof finishes strong in the Hope Classic 5K.



NOTES FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD

Greetings from the Eastside School Board. We have been especially active these last few weeks and have a few changes to communicate:

- We are pleased to announce that Mr. Dave Mahtani will be our Assistant Principle for next year. Dave will be taking on additional duties as well as his normal 4th-6th grade responsibilities.
- Curriculum changes: We have decided to make Orchestra a part of our 4th-8th grade curriculum, and therefore a course in which all of our 4th-8th grade students will participate. We also approve the expansion of our Latin curriculum into the 5th and 6th grades.
- We wish to publicly thank our outgoing board members, Bruce Miedema and Eric Phelps, for their faithful contributions during the past three years. We also would like to welcome Dave Monsma and Phil Kleyn to the school board.

2015-2016 BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2015-2016 BOARD MEMBERS:

Board President - Dave Monsma
Vice President - Tom J. Newhof
Secretary - Brad Pastoor
Treasurer - Phil Kleyn
Vice Treasurer - Tim Hop
Ben Kortz

2015-2016 BOARD COMMITTEES:

Building: Ben Kortz, Mike Pols
Education: Tom Newhof, Dave Monsma, Tim Hop, Mary Kortz, Kristin Kleyn, Meribeth Newhof
Enrollment: Dave Monsma, Tom Newhof, Tim Hop
Finance: Tim Hop, Phil Kleyn, Tom Newhof
Insurance: Tom Newhof, Bruce Miedema
Publicity: Ben Kortz, Debbie Baldwin, Brian Baldwin
Technology: Ben Kortz, Brian Baldwin, Jordan Whiteley, Dave Mahtani
Foundation: Brad Pastoor

END-OF-YEAR SCHOOL PICNIC

The annual end-of-year picnic was held June 1 at Grand Rapids Township Park. Parents, friends and supporters of Eastside joined the students for a day of games and food. Eastside students participated in classroom games as well as all-school games like soccer, kickball and tug-of-war.



JUNIOR HIGH CLASS TRIP

By Madalyn Monsma

Wednesday after school, we (Hannah, Elizabeth and Madelyn) and our moms set off on an adventure that we will never forget. Chicago! We were so excited for what the moms had in store for us! Once we arrived in Chicago, we had to first eat at Gino's East, the best pizza place around. We waited for a long time to get our food, but it was worth it! It was the best possible way to kick off our trip through the streets of Chicago the next day!

We started Thursday morning visiting the Willis (or Sears) Tower, the tallest building in Chicago. The SkyDeck was a small glass room on the very top floor, letting us look down 110 stories below. Yikes! The Art Institute, The Bean, and the Shedd Aquarium were definitely some highlights of our day, but the Architectural Boat Tour had to be our favorite. We cruised down the river through the middle of Chicago, snapping pictures, while our friendly tour guide outlined Chicago's fascinating history for us.

Navy Pier was also a great place to be, considering that we had some ice cream and took some rides on the ferris wheel, the dutch swing, and a small lighthouse ride. We were also able to ride double-decker buses and a trolley through the city and also learned more about Chicago through those guides. We made sure to stop at the Fire Department so we could take a picture on the front of a Chicago fire engine and met George, the firefighter. At night, we ate at Chick-Fil-A and then walked over to the John Hancock Building for a spectacular view of Chicago, illuminated by city lights. We ended the busy day by swimming at the hotel and collapsing in our plushy white beds.

The next morning we rode a bus to William Harris Lee & Co., a place where they make and repair stringed instruments where we were given a very interesting tour. Then we walked to a souvenir shop for some gifts to take home to our families. We then walked over to Garrett's Popcorn for the absolute best popcorn you will ever taste in your life! By that time, we were exhausted from all the traveling the day before and all of the walking we had done, so we decided to go home ... but we will never forget that amazing trip to Chicago with our moms.

CHICAGO PHOTOS



2015-2016 SCHOOL CALENDAR

September 1 - First day of school
September 4-7 - Labor Day break
September 3 - Picnic on the Patio
September 9 - Parent/Board/Staff Meeting
September 11 - Bike Hike
September 16 - School Pictures
September 17 - Promoters Meeting
October 6 & 20 - Banket
October 9 - End of first marking period (4th-8th)
October 14-15 - Teacher's Convention
October 22 - Promoters Meeting
October 30 - End of first marking period (K-3rd)
November 6 - Parent/Teacher Conferences (half day)
November 11 - Grandparent's Day Chapel
November 19 - Promoters Meeting
November 25 - Thanksgiving Chapel
November 25 - End of second marking period (4th-8th)
November 26-27 - Thanksgiving Break
December 10 - Choir/Orchestra Concert

December 21 - Christmas Chapel
Dec 24 - Jan 1 - Christmas Break
January 4 - School resumes
January 15 - End of first semester
January 21 - Promoters Meeting
February 13 - Pizza Night
February 19 - Winter Break
February 26 - End of fourth marking period (4th-8th)
March 11 - Parent/Teacher Conferences (half day)
March 17 - Promoters Meeting
March 18 - End of third marking period (K-3rd)
April 1-8 - Spring Break
April 21 - Promoters Meeting
April 22 - End of fifth marking period (4th - 8th)
April 22 -All-School Program
May 19-20 - Junior High Class Trip
May 30 - Memorial Day Break
May 31 - Chapel, Graduation Practice
June 1 - Afternoon Graduation and School Picnic

ORCHESTRA COMPOSITION PROJECT

The highlight of orchestra this school year was their year-long student composition project. The students in grades 4th-8th each composed a musical theme on the topic "To Everything There is a Season," and then Crista Phelps arranged the themes for orchestra. The students also created poems and artwork to accompany their theme. They performed the complete composition at the April 24 Spring Concert, with Dave Mahtani narrating the students' poems while their artwork was projected on a big screen. The end result was a multi-media experience that carried the audience through various aspects of the four seasons.

The orchestra also had a chance to perform parts of the piece at Heritage and Adams schools when they visited to accompany chapel singing. **A compilation video from the April 24 concert can be found on Eastside's homepage (www.eastsidechr.org).**

