



THE PANTHER PRESS

October 7, 2021

Jesus our Good Shepherd

- **Thank you** for your patience and understanding as we navigated through some health issues this week and most likely will continue to do so in the coming days. Please continue to be sensitive to your child's health and keep them home if symptoms point to anything contagious.
- **Walkathon** was a success! Our students walked a total of 240 miles last Friday! Please return your donation envelopes by **Tuesday, Oct. 12**. The online donation/pledge option will also end on the 12th.
- Next up is our annual Kleinhenn and Christmas wreath sale. Information on both of these PTL fundraisers should have come home today. Kleinhenn is cards and gifts; wreaths are fresh and made in Elmore, MN.
- **Children K-8 will sing** in church at SJL Northrop on Sunday, Oct. 17th. Service begins at 8:30. There will be a pancake breakfast following. They will sing at Zion, Fraser on Oct. 24th at 10:00 am.
- In our Mileage Club, we are almost to Chicago, Illinois!! We have 50 more miles to go!! Keep walking!!
- It is always all about Jesus, our Good Shepherd!

Mrs. Schoen's

Preschool Classroom

- We had a great time at the apple orchard on Monday, the weather was perfect and the kids had so much fun. Thank you Kailey Boyd, Nicole Nelson, Monica Pavich, and Cassie Wiens for helping on our field trip.
- **All preschool children need to have an extra set of clothes here.**
- 4 year old preschool students continue to work on writing your names so you can do it all by yourself. We have been doing a lot of projects working on our names and are also working on cutting on the line.
- Our Bible story this week was about giving of the law.
- We talked about fire prevention this week.
- We have started learning about the shapes of a square.
- Please text me if your child will be gone from school sick.
- Jesus is our Good Shepherd!

Mrs. Schoen's

Kindergarten Classroom

- We had a great time at the apple orchard on Monday, the weather was perfect and the kids had so much fun. Thank you Kailey Boyd, Nicole Nelson, Monica Pavich, and Cassie Wiens for helping on our field trip.
- **All kindergarten students need to have an extra set of clothes here.**
- We have been working on identifying the letters of the alphabet and have started to learn to write some of the letters in handwriting as well. We are working on writing them in the lines correctly. We have also learned how to read these words: I, can, the, we, see & a. Please practice these words at home. I also sent home color words to be working on at home. Our new letter we are focusing on this week is "P".
- Jesus is our Good Shepherd!



8th: Mrs. Kristen Schoen

**Mrs. Koeritz's
1st & 2nd Classroom**

- Thanks to our apple orchard chaperones! The weather was perfect and everyone had so much fun!
- Our new social studies books finally arrived and we're having some fun learning about maps, finding our state on the map, and exploring the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.
- **Memory:** Starting Monday, Oct. 11th, we'll work on 'H'. Most children can recite all 7 verses so far!
- **Spelling** tests for both grades will be on Monday, Oct. 11th. The next list will also come home that same day.
- Congratulations to Levi Nelson and Addison Schoen for completing their green sight word cards!
- Jesus is our Good Shepherd!

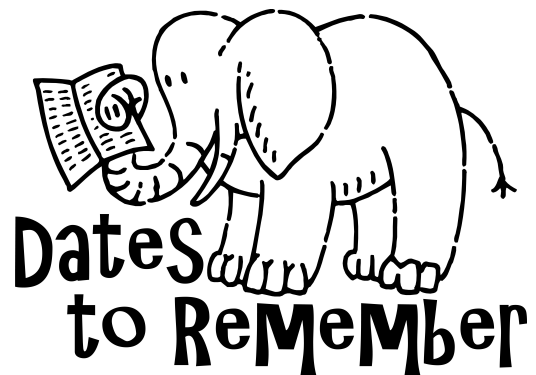


**Mrs. Wolter's
3rd & 4th Classroom**

- We had our Field Trip to McGowen Farm today! Thank you to Monica Pavich, Tara Bohlsen, and Shawn Hartung for driving! We had a great time!!
- Walk-A-Thon was a blast!! Bring your money in anytime!!
- This week in Religion, we are learning about Moses. He is another hero of our faith!
- Fourth Graders are almost finished with Earthquake Terror!
- Third graders are reading the Jigsaw Jones mystery, The Case of Hermie, the Missing Hamster!
- Encourage your child to do some reading at home every day!!
- Keep reminding your child to study memory!!
- Band this will be on Mondays! Remember your instruments.
- Name that State Test this Friday!
- Spelling Test on Unit 2 Week 2 tomorrow!
- May you have a blessed weekend!
- Jesus is our Good Shepherd!

Upcoming Events

- TODAY- 10/25:** Kleinhenn & Wreath PTL Fundraiser
- MONDAY 10/11:** Band Lessons
- TUESDAY 10/12:** Chapel @ 8:40am
Fire Prevention Night in Fellowship Hall @ 7pm
- THURSDAY 10/14:** Chapel @ 8:40am
- SUNDAY 10/17:** Grades K-8 sing at SJL Northrop 8:30AM service
Pancake Breakfast after church, sponsored by Board of Christian Education
- MONDAY 10/18:** Band Lessons
- TUESDAY 10/19:** PTL Meeting @ 7pm
- THUR & FRI 10/21-22: MEA BREAK, NO SCHOOL**
- SUNDAY 10/24:** LYF for grades 7-12 @ SJL 6pm
- MONDAY 10/25:** Band Lessons
Return Kleinhenn & Wreath Orders
- TUESDAY 10/26:** Chapel @ 8:40am
- WEDNESDAY 10/27:** Board of Christian Education Mtg 7pm
- THURSDAY 10/28:** Chapel @ 8:40am
- FRIDAY 10/29:** End of Quarter—NO SCHOOL
7/8TH Grade Step-Up Day @ MLHS



Mrs. Meyer's 5th & 6th Classroom

- We have a Field Trip to McGowen Farm today, October 7th! Thank you to Monica Pavich, Tara Bohlsen, and Shawn Hartung who volunteered to drive! I'm so excited to go to History Fest!
- Vocabulary Quiz Friday.
- Spelling Test Friday.
- Band lessons are on Monday.
- Walkathon Money is due Tuesday, October 12.
- Oct. 12 7:00 pm Northrop FD Fire Safety Presentation and poster contest at SJL Fellowship Hall
- Oct. 7-25 Kleinhenn and Wreath PTL Fundraiser
- Oct. 17 Grades K-8 sing at Northrop 8:30 am service. Pancake breakfast following. They will sing at Zion, Fraser on Oct. 24th at 10:00 am.
- Book Reports are due on October 27th.
- Luke, Kimi, Hailey, James, and Lili passed the addition Mad Minute! Way to go!!! That's everyone!!! :) Great job!
- Hailey, Lili, Kimi, and James passed the subtraction Mad Minute! Keep it up!!!
- Multiplication Mad Minute has begun! :)
- Please sign your child's planner every evening! :)
- Jesus our Good Shepherd

Mr. Jenks's 7th and 8th Grades Classroom

The following is written by
Mrs. Wolter and Mrs. Meyer:

- THIS FRIDAY IS THE DEADLINE FOR ANY INCOMPLETE WORK TO BE COMPLETED.
- There are no more incompletes. The children will be graded on what they completed for every assignment. So encourage your child to complete all assignments, or ask questions right away in the morning.
- The students will be working hard at practicing routines and procedures. Please encourage your child to read and interpret texts--make meaning of those words, paragraphs, and pages. Please encourage your child to express complete, clear thoughts and ideas. Please encourage your child to work together--include and involve everybody in a group effort rather than just look out for ourselves. Please encourage your child to **label their papers with the date, assignment, and page numbers. Please encourage your child to write everything in their planner from the board.**
- Our first quarter ends on October 29th already!
- Jesus is our Good Shepherd!

AMAZON SMILE NOW AVAILABLE!!!!

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop with AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. You can choose from over one million organizations to support.

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How do I select a charitable organization to support with AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization to receive donations from your future eligible AmazonSmile purchases. We will remember your selected charity whenever you shop at smile.amazon.com or with AmazonSmile activated in the Amazon Shopping app, and then every eligible purchase you make through AmazonSmile will result in a donation for your selected charity. AmazonSmile will occasionally contact you about donation amounts disbursed to your chosen charity or about the program.

Contact Heather in the office if you have questions!

Please take the time to read the following,

from Pastor John Henry of St. James Lutheran Church and School

Dear Friends in Christ,

As you may have come to understand, St. James Lutheran School is experiencing something we are not used to. Last year, by the grace of God, we did not cancel a single day of school due to COVID-19; we also managed to keep life in the classroom and school very close to normal all year long. This year, due to a large amount of illness in a classroom, all school was cancelled for a day, and that class was cancelled for two days. At the time of this writing, we have two confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our student body, and other students are staying home for various reasons this week.

We maintain our commitment to keeping things as normal as possible, and to keeping as many students in class for as much time as possible. Our goal is uninterrupted in-person Christian education.

We have never operated with a “COVID Policy.” Instead, teachers and the School Board (“Board of Christian Ed.”) have emphasized the Student and Family Handbook and policies already in place since well before 2020. Since the government recommendations are always changing, and since practices vary greatly between school districts within Martin County, it does not make sense for us to try to come up with a “policy” out of the blue in a stressful moment.

As you may also have come to understand, our principal, Mr. Jon Jenks, has agreed to a temporary leave of absence. In his absence, and on behalf of the teachers and School Board, I would like to reiterate what the SJL School Student and Family Handbook says regarding Student Health (page 9):

Student Health

The teacher must be informed of any illness and/or the reason for the child’s absence.

In case of communicable disease, the school should be notified immediately. If possible, report to the teacher any exposure to communicable disease.

- **Criteria for keeping your child at home**

- Has had a fever over 100 degrees during the previous 24 hours

- Has vomited in the previous 24 hours

- Has skin sores which are open and draining material

- Has streptococcal, a throat infection (remain home 24 hours after antibiotics are started and be fever free for 24 hours)

- Has had diarrhea during previous 24 hours

- Any lice or nits



- **Criteria for sending children home**

- Fever over 100 degrees F

- Vomits during the day

- Has diarrhea

- Is constantly crying—fussy—which is unexplained for an unusual amount of time

- Any drainage

- When staff have reason to question the health of a child

- **Note**

- When in doubt, consider the safety of your child and the other children and keep your child home.

- Children well enough to attend school are to follow the regular activities of the class during class time and at recess—inside or outside.

The Handbook states that teachers may send students home at any time they “have reason to question the health of a child.” On behalf of the teachers and staff, I would like to offer some guidance about specific questions that arise between teachers and parents around COVID-19.

Teachers cannot and will not mandate COVID-19 tests or COVID-19 vaccination.

Be aware that teachers and staff will be consulting with our School Nurse when making decisions.

Teachers are aware that COVID-19 sometimes presents a strange variety of symptoms. They are also aware that some symptoms of COVID-19 are the same as those of normal allergies.

Teachers will therefore especially take note of COVID-specific symptoms, like loss of taste or smell. Symptoms of mild colds and allergies will be assumed to come from mild colds and allergies until there is reason to believe otherwise.

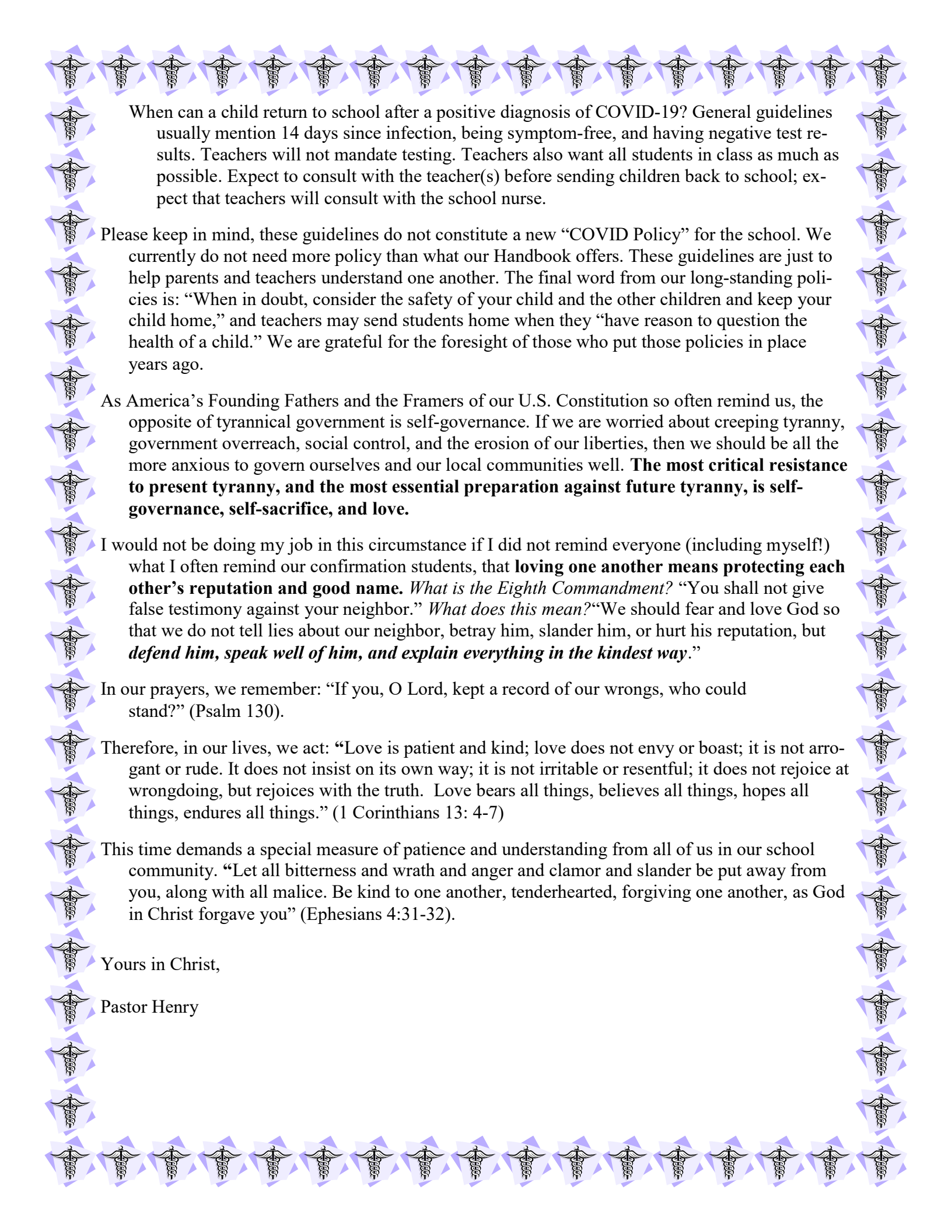
Teachers are aware that people get tested for COVID for many reasons. They do not need to know if you or your child are awaiting test results. If they find out that you are awaiting results, they will assume that you will, in good faith, report any information that pertains to our school’s health at the appropriate time.

Teachers and staff really only need to know if you have reason to suspect that your child has any communicable disease, including COVID, RSV, strep throat, influenza, etc. In general, teachers and staff will treat COVID like other infectious diseases when making determinations about the health of children.

Teachers are aware that “exposure” is not really helpful or meaningful by itself in determining infection. Teachers and parents should watch for and discuss symptoms.

Teachers will treat a positive COVID-19 test the same way they would treat a positive test for strep throat.

You may wonder if you should send your kids to school if there is COVID-19 in the household, but some kids do not appear to have been infected. Ask yourself, honestly, “What would I do if this were not COVID, but influenza? Would I send my child to school if his brother has influenza?” Take note of how much the child may or may not have been exposed. Let the teacher know your concerns, per the Handbook. Be aware that teachers will be watching for any symptoms in this case, and may send a student home “when staff have reason to question the health of a child.”



When can a child return to school after a positive diagnosis of COVID-19? General guidelines usually mention 14 days since infection, being symptom-free, and having negative test results. Teachers will not mandate testing. Teachers also want all students in class as much as possible. Expect to consult with the teacher(s) before sending children back to school; expect that teachers will consult with the school nurse.

Please keep in mind, these guidelines do not constitute a new “COVID Policy” for the school. We currently do not need more policy than what our Handbook offers. These guidelines are just to help parents and teachers understand one another. The final word from our long-standing policies is: “When in doubt, consider the safety of your child and the other children and keep your child home,” and teachers may send students home when they “have reason to question the health of a child.” We are grateful for the foresight of those who put those policies in place years ago.

As America’s Founding Fathers and the Framers of our U.S. Constitution so often remind us, the opposite of tyrannical government is self-governance. If we are worried about creeping tyranny, government overreach, social control, and the erosion of our liberties, then we should be all the more anxious to govern ourselves and our local communities well. **The most critical resistance to present tyranny, and the most essential preparation against future tyranny, is self-governance, self-sacrifice, and love.**

I would not be doing my job in this circumstance if I did not remind everyone (including myself!) what I often remind our confirmation students, that **loving one another means protecting each other’s reputation and good name.** *What is the Eighth Commandment?* “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.” *What does this mean?* “We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but **defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.**”

In our prayers, we remember: “If you, O Lord, kept a record of our wrongs, who could stand?” (Psalm 130).

Therefore, in our lives, we act: “Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.” (1 Corinthians 13: 4-7)

This time demands a special measure of patience and understanding from all of us in our school community. “Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you” (Ephesians 4:31-32).

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Henry