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## CROWN OF LIFE LUTHERAN SCHOOL

115 CRUSADER AVENUE  
WEST ST. PAUL, MN 55118  
PHONE: 651-451-3832  
WWW.CROWNOFLIFEMN.ORG

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July 2021

Dear Parents:

God willing, Crown of Life Lutheran School will begin on **Wednesday, August 25, 2021**. Our opening service will be at 8:05 am and parents are invited to join us.

For the 2021/2022 school year, the teachers will be as follows:

<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Grade</b>
Mrs. Amber Johnson	Preschool
Mrs. Michelle Kom	Kindergarten
Mrs. Kristi Bredendick	Grade 1
Miss Rebecca Kramer	Grade 2
Mrs. Bethany Ohm	Grade 3
Mrs. Penny Mielke	Grade 4
Mr. Justin Ohm	Grade 5/Athletic Director/PE 5-8
Mr. Brett Fuhrmann	Grade 6 Homeroom/6-8 Language Arts
Mr. David Noack	Grade 7 Homeroom/Science 6-8
Mr. Jared Matthies	Grade 8 Homeroom/SS 6-8
Mr. Justin Vilski	Principal/Math - Alg 1

### **Registration**

If you have not yet registered your child for school for the 2021/2022 school year, please do so soon. Call the school office (651-451-3832) or contact Mr. Vilski (385-212-9473).

### **Important Dates**

Please keep the following dates in mind:

- August 18**      **6:00 – 8:00 p.m.    *\*\*BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT\*\****  
**Required for ALL families with students entering K – 8**  
***This evening is set aside for parents and students to come in and learn what is new for the upcoming school year, check on sign-ups for their children, discuss any paperwork/tuition issues, have students bring in materials, and learn what each classroom is like. We will begin with a short devotion in the church.***
- August 25**      **First Day of School - Opening Service 8:05 am - Hot Lunch program begins**  
***All parents are welcome and invited to attend the opening service!***

**September 7** Bus service from District 197 begins

## **News Updates**

### ***New Teachers***

Our new 8th Grade teacher is Mr. Jared Matthies. Mr. Matthies is a 2012 graduate of Martin Luther College in New Ulm, MN. Mr. Matthies is married to Dani. They have two children, Jordy (2 years) and Quinn (8 months). The Matthies family moved to Minnesota this past summer from Watertown, WI where they had been for the last 5 years.

First Grade Teacher - Our new first grade teacher is Mrs. Kristi Bredendick. Mrs. Bredendick and her husband are moving from WI. Her husband has accepted a call to teach at Salem Lutheran School in Stillwater. The Bredendicks are excited to begin their MN ministry at both schools.

Please find an opportunity to introduce yourself and warmly welcome these new teachers to Crown of Life.

### ***School Opening Plan***

A 2021-2022 School Opening Plan will be sent out to families immediately once the faculty at Crown of Life has received, reviewed, and instituted any Government requirements and recommendations. This has been a very fluid process that can change very quickly. Thank you for your patience and understanding in this matter. Everyone at COL wants school to be as normal, convenient, and safe for every single student that walks through our doors.

### ***Parent Information and Bringing of School Supplies***

Information can always be found in our school handbooks (which can be found on the school website.) The administration and teachers communicate as much as possible electronically with all families. Tentatively, families should plan on attending the Back-to-School night where new information will be shared and students can bring in school supplies. The night will be held on Wednesday, August 18th from 6-8pm.

### ***Spanish***

Spanish is a ***required*** class in grades 5-8.

### ***Band***

We are continuing to work out what days will work best for both individual and group lessons. All lessons will be held during the school day at Crown of Life. More information will continue to go out to families once decisions are made.

### ***Work Done at School this Summer***

Thanks to our janitors and others who have made some wonderful updates around the school. Thank you especially to Mr. Noack, Mr. Ohm, and the members of the Properties committee for the installation of the new Gaga Pit!

### ***School Improvement***

The school will be looking to schedule 2-3 open forums where families can attend to discuss any school related issues. Please watch your emails for dates when these get

scheduled. As always, Crown of Life Lutheran School exists to serve all of the students and families who attend. We want to be informed of things that are going well and that need more attention. We value open communication between families and staff to ensure that all needs are being met.

**School Year Theme – “Together in Christ”** is the theme for this upcoming school year. It is based on Ephesians 2:21-22 - “In Christ the whole building is joined together ... and in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives.”

### ***New Administrative Program***

Crown of Life has switched to a new Student Information System called Gradelink. This was implemented last year so that everyone could register electronically. As we continue to integrate Gradelink into all informational aspects of Crown of Life, please be patient with the process as this is new for everyone. Gradelink serves Crown of Life by allowing us to electronically register, get student records, record & grade assignments, communicate with families, and keep tuition & fees accurate and up-to-date. If you ever have questions about Gradelink, please communicate with the office and we will help work through any issues.

### ***Change in Payment Method***

Crown of Life is changing our tuition collection process. COL will no longer accept cash or check payments in person for tuition. All tuition payments will be electronically pulled through PaySimple. This is the electronic payment system that integrates with Gradelink. Since many families filled out ACH forms last year, most banking information is no longer needed. The information will be deleted from Vanco and integrated into Paysimple. Mr. Vilski will reach out to families that need to fill out an ACH form. Tuition totals will be sent to families in early August for approval or discussion. Look for your families’ tuition total in early August.

### ***Pre-Kindergarten***

We offer a preschool program for children 3-5 years of age that is flexible, offering a minimum of two half-days per week and up to five full days per week, with extended after school care.

Hours:	Half Day Preschool (Mornings)	Monday – Friday 8:00 – 11:00 am
	Half Day Preschool (Afternoons)	Monday – Friday 12:30 – 3:10 pm
	All Day Preschool	Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 3:10 pm
	After School Care	Monday – Friday 3:10 – 5:30 pm (on days with a full day of school)

**\*\*There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$100.00.**

**Fees:**                   **\$24 each half-day**  
                                 **\$44 each full day**

Monthly fees are automatically withdrawn through each family’s account which is set up with PaySimple. The registration fee should be made by cash or check (payable to Crown of Life) along with your registration form.

**\*\*Classes for Preschool begin August 25, 2021.**

## **General Information**

### ***School Supply List***

It is that time...stores are preparing the shelves and I have seen ads for school supplies. Check out the school website ([www.colwsp.org](http://www.colwsp.org)) under "School" and then "Forms." You will find an updated school supply list. Happy shopping!

### ***Transportation***

**Students in grades K-8 living in District #197** will receive bus information from the district as to the time and place of pickup. This schedule usually arrives by mail from the district about one week before school begins. You must be registered at Crown of Life Lutheran School in order to get on the bus list. Transportation policy states that a student must be transported to the same location five days a week; this can be in the morning, afternoon or both.

**The school district requires families to register their transportation needs with the school district. This form is found on the district website at [www.isd197.org](http://www.isd197.org). (Go to Parents/Transportation/E-Forms/Non-public school bus registration form.) This form needs to be filled out and returned to the school district office by August 1.**

*If you are looking for someone with which to carpool, please contact the school office. We will try to help you with names of others in your area.*

### ***School Hours***

School will begin at **8:00 am and end at 3:10 pm** every day for all grades, **Preschool through 8. School doors will open at 7:40 am for all students.** The school doors used are the door by the flagpole and the preschool entrance. Please note these times so that your child is given enough time before school to get their backpacks unloaded and prepared for the day. We would also ask that you pick your child up promptly at the end of each day. **If you are going to be late dropping off or picking up, please call the school office at 651-451-3832.**

### ***Before School Care***

\*As of now, COL is not able to offer Before School Care like past years. However, we would like to be able to offer the program if the situation changes. The biggest factor in not offering the program is staffing the rooms. Communication has gone out to several individuals to gauge interest in staffing the program. Please watch for communication about this matter in the upcoming weeks.

### ***After School Care***

After School Care is offered Monday - Friday from 3:30 - 5:30 pm, except for Early Dismissal days.

The cost is \$3.00 per half hour per child, with a \$20 per child registration fee. ASC may be used as needed; please inform your child's teacher if your child should go to ASC. Charges will be billed to your PaySimple account monthly, for the prior month's use.

Just like Before School Care, After School Care can only be offered if it is fully staffed. It is our intention to offer After School Care but there is always the possibility that staffing changes the ability to offer the program. Always be on the lookout for communication dealing with these programs.

***Lunch and Milk***

As of now, COL plans to offer lunch and milk service like past years. However, once state guidelines for reopening become more available, the faculty and Full-Time Education Committee will meet to see if lunch and milk service can operate safely and effectively. Please watch for communication about this matter in the upcoming weeks. Please see below for what has been done with lunch and milk service in the past.

CKC Good Food will again serve our lunches. The cost for lunch is \$4.25 each; milk only is 60 cents.

***Physical Exams***

Physical exams are required for students entering Kindergarten and those entering Grade 7 who are planning to be in sports. Proper forms for these were distributed in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade report cards and are also available at the school office. A new law is in effect for students entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. All 7<sup>th</sup> graders need TWO measles shots. If your child has had only one shot, he/she will need to receive another shot at this time. A good time to do this is during the 7<sup>th</sup> grade physical.

We look forward to seeing your child/ren at Crown of Life this fall!

In Christ,

Justin Vilski, Principal