

# St. John's Lutheran Preschool Press



St. John's Lutheran Preschool

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February 2010

## God's Box of Chocolates

*Everywhere I look near Valentine's Day, there's chocolate: boxes of chocolate in all the stores, chocolate on tv promising to be the only love you need, chocolate girl scout cookies--CHOCOLATE! I even saw chocolate Altoid breath mints in the grocery checkout aisle the other day! I think that's what led me to remember the famous quote from Forrest Gump: "Life is like a box of chocolates...you never know what you're gonna get." (I even remembered it with his accent.)*

*In reality, that phrase can be true in many ways. We wake up every morning completely unsure of what the day may hold for us. We've made our plans. Sometimes they even happen the way we make them. But we never know for sure, do we?*

*The days that come with caramel in the middle are my favorite. The ones with the strawberry goo are just so so--but the ones with coconut--YUCK! I'd rather go back to bed. Then there's the days where tragedy or difficult times come out of nowhere, and the chocolate sits in the pantry untouched...there's no sweetness to be had in those moments, it seems.*

*God knows that life as it pertains to circumstances is uncertain for us. That's why He comforts us and reminds us so many times that He is our constant companion, our steadfast friend, our consistently loving God and Savior.*

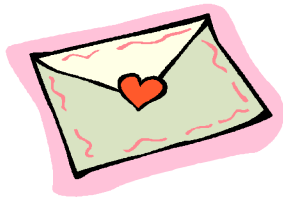
*You see, no matter what chocolate we are "in the middle of" right now, He is there--with the certainty of His promise today as well as His hope of heaven in the future.*

*This faith, this confidence, this hope is our unbreakable spiritual lifeline--HIS love for us no matter what, when, how or why. Let's binge on His priceless box of chocolates today...the sweetest and most satisfying of them all.*

*"Taste and see that the Lord is good;  
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him."  
Psalm 34:8*



-Written by LauraLee Shaw



### Dates to Remember:

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Lincoln's Birthday  
NO SCHOOL

Friday, February 12

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Happy Valentine's Day!

Sunday, February 14

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March Tuition Due  
February 20

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Casmir Pulaski Day  
NO SCHOOL

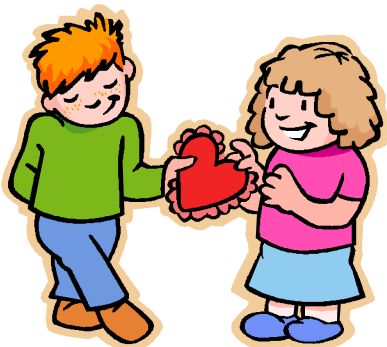
Monday, March 1

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Spring Break  
March 29-April 5

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Classes Resume  
April 6





**Register my child for the  
2010-2011 school year!**

**If you haven't returned your  
registration form please do so  
by the next deadline,  
February 26**



### **Parking Lot Pointers**

For the safety of the children please park in designated parking spaces only. Parking along the curbs presents a dangerous situation for small children entering and leaving the building as they cannot be seen above the cars.



# Family Page



## Think About This

Kids misbehave. They test our patience, often at times when we have little patience left. Frustrated, we can resort to nagging, long lectures and anger. These strategies fail to shape good behavior.

Parents should look calm, even if they feel angry. Angry parents appear weak. Anger conveys to a child, "You are too much for me to handle." A calm parent, however, appears confident.

To help you stay in control even when your child is out of control:

- Set limits on your child's behavior. Be clear about your rules and what will happen if the rule is broken.
- Respond to a broken rule right away. Do not let your anger build.
- Calmly tell your child that you are sorry he has chosen to disobey and has to pay the consequence.
- Then, let it be over. Help your child realize he is loved and capable of being good.

*-Adapted from an article in Parent Help Line Newsletter*

## Building Skills for Families

### Valentine's Day Cake

With a few ingredients your and your child can have fun making a Valentine's Day Cake

#### Ingredients:

- One package white cake mix
- Red candy sprinkles or heart-shaped candies
- Red food coloring
- Whipped cream or frosting

#### Directions:

1. Help your child prepare the cake mix and pour into the pan
2. Squeeze a few drops of red food coloring into the batter and swirl it through the batter with a knife
3. Bake the cake and let it cool completely
4. Frost it with whipped cream or frosting and top it with red candy sprinkles or heart-shaped candies



## Springfield Area Happenings



### February

- 5 & 6—Freestyle Motocross-Wheels of Madness. PCCC. 7pm. Admission.
- 16—"Diary of a Wimpy Kid" Student Program for 4th & 5th graders. 1pm-2:30pm. Chatham Public Library. Registration required.
- 20—Rainforest Festival. Washington Park Botanical Garden.
- 23—IHOP Pancake Day. Enjoy a free short stack of pancakes in exchange for a donation to CMN.
- 26—Junie B. Jones. Sangamon Auditorium. 7pm.
- 27—KidFest. PCCC. Admission. 10am-4pm

### March

- 5—Romeo & Juliet. Sangamon Auditorium. 8pm.
- 6 & 7—"12th Illinois Products Expo...A Food and Cooking Extravaganza". Orr Building. IL State Fairgrounds.
- 19 & 20—Quilt Show. Orr Building. IL State Fairgrounds. Admission.

Grab some popcorn and enjoy Valentine's Day as a family

Top 10 Valentine's Movies for Families

1. The Little Mermaid
2. The Princess Diaries
3. The Aristocats
4. Cheaper by the Dozen
5. The Parent Trap
6. Be My Valentine, Charlie Brown
7. Shrek
8. Hairspray
9. Cinderella
10. Lady and the Tramp

