

EMCS NEWSLETTER

September 3, 2026



Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year! Whether you are new to the East Martin Christian School community or you have been part of EMCS for many years, we are happy you have chosen this school. We look forward to another year guiding our students' growth in knowledge and in their faith in Jesus.

Our theme for this year is Name Above All Names, based on Psalm 9:10a "And those who know your name put their trust in you." This theme will be woven throughout Friday chapel messages and daily lessons. We encourage you to include this theme in your family devotions and discussions as well.

This year I am excited to join the community at EMCS along with a few other new faces. I will be serving as the principal and ESS teacher. Ms. Anika Vander Veen will be teaching 5th-8th grade mathematics and science, and Mrs. Abigail Toly will be teaching 3rd and 4th grade. We also have Mrs. Allison Sanford filling in for Mrs. Sara Russcher while she is on maternity leave.

The EMCS teaching staff members are:

- Mrs. Sisson - Principal and Educational Support Services
- Ms. Schewe - Kindergarten
- Mrs. Russcher (Currently Mrs. Sanford) – 1 and 2 Grades
- Mrs. Toly – 3 and 4 Grades
- Mrs. Westendorp - 5 through 8 Grade ELA, Social Studies, and Bible
- Ms. Vander Veen – 5 through 8 Grade Math and Science
- Mrs. Johnson - Art and Outdoor Education
- Mrs. Wubben - Music and Band
- Mr. Stallard - Physical Education

Additionally, Melanie Suk serves as bookkeeper, Rikki Jo Rempe is our secretary, and Jim Greydanus is our administrative consultant. Aften Veenstra is the director of East Martin Christian Daycare and is assisted by Marcy Robinson.

A very big thank you to all those who participated in the summer cleaning of our building! Sharing this workload makes a huge difference in preparing the school for the return of students.

This year, we want to emphasize the importance of building and maintaining a strong, Christ-centered community. With several new staff members and families joining EMCS, we invite you to join us for **Parent Information Night on September 10 from 6:30–7:40 p.m.**

Parents will hear important information from members of the Board of Education and classroom teachers and learn about ways they can support and be involved in the EMCS community. We look forward to connecting, growing, and partnering together this school year!

EMCS is a very special place, and we give thanks to God for His provision of Christ-centered education in this community. Please lift our students, staff, and families in your prayers as we put our trust in God and look forward to a wonderful school year!

Blessings,
Brandie Sisson

ANNOUNCEMENTS



9/4 - No School

9/7 - No School (Labor Day)

9/8 - Sub, Soup, Cinnamon Rolls Orders Due

**9/8 - Middle School Field Trip:
Camp Manitou-Lin**

9/10 - Parent Information Night – 6:30 p.m.

**9/11 - Middle School Field Trip:
Bible League's Annual Conference**

**9/18 - Fun Friday: Wear Sports
Teams/Colors**

9/25 - Donuts with Grown-ups - 7:40 a.m.

HARVEST SALE:

We are excited to announce that the 83rd Annual Harvest Sale is scheduled for Saturday, October 10, at 4 p.m. This is a big event, so be sure to invite your family and friends!

If you would like to donate or sponsor this event please contact Stephany Williams (616) 206-9042 with items/description to be included in the Harvest Sale booklet.

Please be sure to turn in all donations (excluding perishable items) and auction items to the school office by October 2. Thank you for your support of the Harvest Sale and of Christian education at EMCS.

PICK-UP/DROP-OFF INFORMATION:

Morning

Students are not to be dropped off before 7:45 AM, we are not able to allow students in the building before 7:55 AM. Please have them walk around back or if you are able to, drop them off by the playground.

Midday

If you are bringing a student to school late or picking them up early for an appointment, please use the front door. We have the doors locked during the day for safety. Use the button for the buzzer, and someone will open the door for you.

Inclement Weather

In the case of inclement weather, a sign will be posted on the front door stating "IN". You may drop off your student(s) in the front and they may come inside at 7:45 AM.

After School Pick-up

We do have a bus coming to pick up a student every day after school. Please allow the bus to enter first and then the car line can follow. For safety purposes, we are asking students to stay on the sidewalk until they have been picked up. Once they have been picked up, please have the kids play on the grassy area, by the greenhouse, if you are staying late.

**EAST MARTIN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
516 118TH AVE. MARTIN, MI 49070
269-672-5722 | www.eastmartin.org**