

# East Martin Christian School



## Knight's News

August 29, 2024

~Partnering with Families ~ Educating Christian Leaders ~ Building Futures on Christ ~

### School Calendar

8/30 & 9/2 No School  
Labor Day Weekend

9/6 Hearing & Vision  
Screenings

9/12 Middle School Field  
Trip to Camp Manitou-Lin

09/13 Morning Muffins  
7:40 AM

9/27 K-4 Field Trip to  
Dutch Village (More info  
to come)

10/11 No School (In Ser-  
vice)

10/12 Harvest Sale

10/14 Picture Day

### Hot Lunch

Wednesday 9/11  
Walking Taco

Friday 9/13  
Pizza & Ice Cream

Wednesday 9/18  
Sloppy Joe/BBQ & Chips

Friday 9/20  
Chicken Patty & Chips

### Administrator's Note — Mr. Jim Greydanus

Greetings and welcome to the 2024-2025 school year. We are so pleased that you have chosen to be part of the East Martin Christian School family! Our school theme for this year is "Be Kind" based on the theme verse, "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:32 (ESV). We encourage you to make this theme a regular topic of conversation in your home as well. We are grateful that each of our teachers have returned to their positions for the new year. The EMCS teaching staff members are:

- Miss Schewe - Kindergarten, 1st Grade Math and ELA
- Mrs. Russcher - 1st Grade Bible, Science, and Social Studies and 2nd Grade
- Mrs. Porter - 3rd and 4th Grades
- Mrs. Westendorp - 5th through 8th Grade ELA, Bible, and Social Studies
- Mrs. Thornton - 5th through 8th Grade Math and Science
- Mrs. Hahn - Educational Support Services and Administrative Support
- Mrs. Johnson - Art and Outdoor Education
- Mrs. Wubben - Music and Band
- Mr. Sikma - Physical Education
- Mrs. Sikma - Library

There is a new face in the school office this year. We are pleased to welcome Rikki Jo Rempe to the position of school secretary! Many thanks to Kelsey Niemchick for serving in this position in recent years. Melanie Suk is returning for her second year as bookkeeper. Aften Veenstra serves as the director of East Martin Christian Daycare and is assisted by Marcy Robinson.

I am pleased to serve as part-time administrator for EMCS, spending approximately one day per week on campus. This day is flexible to fit with other

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professional responsibilities, but will most often be on Wednesday. Mrs. Hahn will continue to provide regular daily administrative support as the lead teacher.

We are anticipating the installation and deployment of new technology in each classroom soon. Each classroom will have a new projector installed above the whiteboard that will connect wirelessly to the teacher's new laptop computer. Students in Grades 3-8 will have new Chromebooks to use and we are ordering new iPads for the K-2 classrooms. We are using remaining grant money provided through Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools (EANS) to purchase this equipment.

We hope the 2024-2025 school year is a blessed one for your child and your entire family as together we grow in our faith and love for Jesus Christ. Please regularly keep East Martin Christian School in your prayers as we seek to teach children how to love God and others as He directs.

Blessings,

Jim Greydanus

### **New Secretary**

As mentioned earlier, **Rikki Jo Rempe** is joining us this year as school secretary. She previously worked at a pregnancy resource center as support staff for their education department and executive assistant to their CEO. She has a daughter in 1st grade at East Martin Christian and two younger children in the EMC Preschool and Daycare program.

### **School Supplies**

As we get back into the swing of school, there may be some items that you still need to get from the supply list. Please see attachment for a list of supplies needed per grade. Each child should have a **pair of indoor shoes** in order to keep our floors clean and looking nice. Also **headphones or earbuds** (depending on your child's grade level - see attachment) are needed for each student as they will be using these throughout the year and for testing coming up in a couple weeks.

### **Hearing and Vision Screenings: September 6**

The Allegan County Health Department will be conducting hearing and vision screenings for students in select grades on September 6th. Please be sure to have your student wear their glasses, contacts, and/or hearing aids to school on those days, if they have them. If you would like to opt your student out of the screening, please visit the ACHD website and complete the Vision & Hearing Screening Waiver form. This form can be found at: <https://www.allegancounty.org/health/personal-health/vision-and-hearing>

### **Morning Muffins: September 13**

EMCS families are welcome to join in the school gym on Sept. 13 at 7:40 a.m. for Morning Muffins. This is a great way to meet other families, talk with staff, and enjoy a muffin with your student(s) before school. We hope to see you!

### **Harvest Sale: October 12**

We are excited to announce that the 81st Annual Harvest Sale is scheduled for Saturday, October 12 at 4:00 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 Jessica Tucker (269) 998-2960 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 4th. Thank you for your support of the Harvest Sale and of Christian education at EMCS.

### **Hot Lunch**

Hot lunch will begin Sept. 11. Forms went home this week. Please complete and return by Tuesday, Sept. 3 if you'd like your student(s) to participate.

### **Fall Sports**

If you have any middle school students interested in fall sports, please reach out to Kelvin De Vries at (616) 481-3872.

### **Pick-ups/Drop-offs**

#### **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**

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, 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.

### **Directory/Handbook**

The school directory and handbook will be coming soon and it will include contact information for other school members. Please be sure to read the handbook portion for school guidelines.

### **Emergency Forms**

If you have not done so already, please make sure to return your forms with emergency contact information.

### **Facebook Page**

Follow East Martin Christian School on Facebook to see what's happening at school.

