

Monthly Newsletter

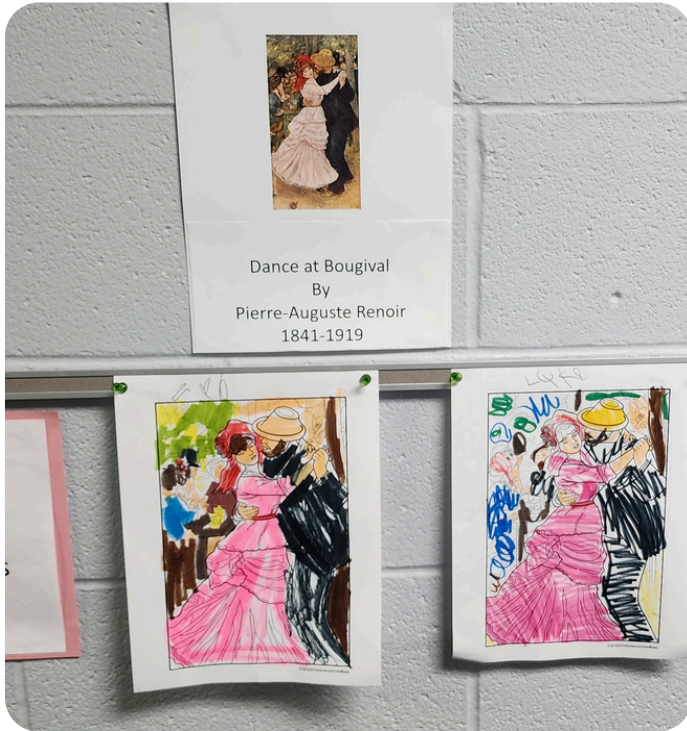
March 2025



Reading is the first step to opening our children to a new world of experiences. We created two main literacy pillars of learning for the 2024-25 school year: a new robust writing curriculum and reading support for students who may need additional help. We have also implemented a new enrichment spot in our day for students who need extra challenges for their learning.

At the start of our school year, 60% of our students (29 of 46) in grades K-6 were reading at benchmark, according to Acadience, a reading tool we use to check our ability. Before Christmas, that number increased to 76% (35 of 46). Based on the reading checks at the end of February, if reading continues to be successful, 89% (40 of 45) students should hit their reading goals by the end of the year. If programming growth trends stay true, by the end of 2025-26, we should have 97% of our students reading above the national average. We also have a strong pre-kindergarten program that sets students up for success, allowing our next year's kindergarten students to have higher mastery of language than their peers.

Nebraska created a new goal: the Nebraska Literacy Project aims to have 75% of all students reading at benchmark by the end of 3rd grade in 2030. By Christmas 2024, we had already achieved the goal. Our achievement should easily surpass expectations and be higher than those of our regionally comparable schools. We must keep reading, writing, and conversation at the front of instruction; literacy is the cornerstone of a classical education.



Artist in Residence 2025

During all the activities in February, auctions, penny wars, and donations, the staff had decided to work with the Nebraska Arts Council to hire an artist in residence in the spring. Final decisions for our artist are being made soon. We have selected visual arts as the target of projects, giving each student the opportunity to be taught by, work with, and create art from a master in the skill.

A classical model of education shares a love of beauty. God's creation is a wonder to observe. Man's interpretation of beauty in the visual arts can give us peace and a lifetime of joy. We are thankful to those who donated to the project, and we look forward to sharing more information once the dates are set.

Spring Concert

March 31, 6:00 p.m.

Another facet of experiencing beauty is through sound and music. Our music teacher, Ms. Post, will be sharing our student's musical abilities with families on March 31st at 6:00 p.m. The concert will be about 30 minutes in length. Our performance will be in Reif Performance Center (ZCA gym). Some of our band students will also be performing some light pieces for families following the vocal performance.



Zion Classical Signage

Zion Classical Academy is continuing to move forward with new branding. Part of the Board of Director's goals are to place new signs on the Reif Performance Center, as well as new signage on Marian Road. Early drafts have been created and we will share more information in newsletters and social media soon.

**ZION CLASSICAL
ACADEMY**





Open House March 6

Zion Classical Academy is welcoming any community members or prospective families to come out and take a tour of the facilities. If church members, former students, or friends of the school wish to come for a visit, please call our office to set up a time to visit with Mr. Adams!

Parent Teacher Conferences March 11-13

Our spring parent-teacher conferences will be on March 11th and 13th from 3:30 - 6:00 p.m. Conferences will be 15 to 20 minutes in length. Please sign up for a time slot with your teacher or on our shared google document. If you need assistance with sign-up, please call our office to schedule a time.



Next Year's Teacher Greeting March 25

Zion Classical Academy is switching curriculum night on March 25th, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. to a family meet and greet for next year's teachers. Come and visit your children's teachers for the 2025-26 school year. Ask them questions about what they plan on teaching, the goals for student learning, and how their classrooms function!

.....The next PTO meeting is March 4 at 6:30pm in the East Fellowship Hall.....



Garden Program 2025

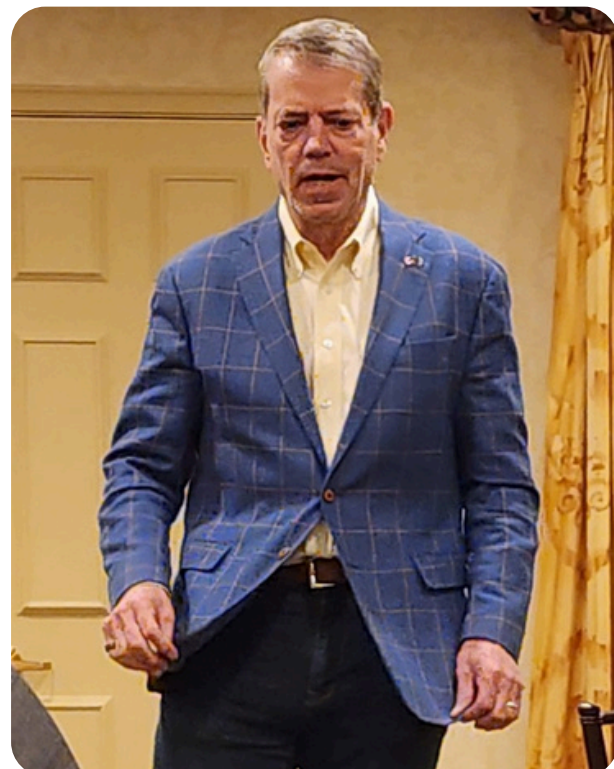
The ZCA garden program will begin soon! This year, Mrs. Teresa and Mr. Adams are going to help organize spring and summer work. A volunteer sheet will be sent out for projects and ongoing work that will need to be accomplished. The soil needs to have quite a bit of work done to it to produce strong plants and produce. If families and friends have contacts that would donate manure from horses or cows, please reach out. We are also in search of a rear tine tiller that we could borrow to dig up grass and hard topsoil. Our soil is clay-heavy, and we hope to add softer sands and composts. Mr. Adams is not much of a flower person, so if anyone knows more about pollinators, please partner up with us!



LB 624 and Legislation

Political engagement can be a daunting topic to tackle. Our legislatures in Nebraska do a strong job of listening to their constituents. LB 624, similar to LB 1402, would allow the state to give ten million dollars to private and parochial schools for students in the highest need. Four students received scholarships this school year, and they made a significant impact on their families.

Your voice matters. Senator Dan Lanowski is our local District 33 representative. He supports parochial schools and faith-based education. Senator Dover was the mover of LB 624 and would enjoy hearing your support. Governor Pillen also supports faith-based education, and he would appreciate hearing that you support his goals. If you want to learn more on how to contact senators, please contact Mr. Adams to learn!



MARCH

2025

MONDAY

3

NO SCHOOL

10

BISCUITS &
GRAVY

17

CHILI DOGS

24

HOT DOGS

31

CRISPY CHICKEN SANDWICH

TUESDAY

4

TAQUITOS
BEANS

11

BEEF NACHOS
BLACK BEANS

18

GRILLED CHICKEN
DINNER ROLLS

25

CHICKEN NACHOS
BLACK BEANS

1

WEDNESDAY

5

CHEESE TORTELLINI
GREEN BEANS

12

BAKED BREADED CHICKEN

19

TATERTOT CASSEROLL

26

LASAGNA
GARLIC TOAST

2

THURSDAY

6

RIB SANDWICH

13

SPAGHETTI &
MEATBALLS

20

POPCORN CHICKEN

27

CORNDOGS
FRENCH FRIES

3

FRIDAY

7

HAM & DINNER ROLL
GREEN BEANS

14

NO SCHOOL

21

HAMBURGERS
BAKED BEANS

28

PIZZA

4