Student Handbook of

WHITE CREEK LUTHERAN SCHOOL

16270 S. 300 W., Columbus, IN

www.whitecreek.org



"Rooted in Christ"

Colossians 2:6-7

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2026-2027

		WCLS
First Day of School	W	Aug. 5
No School - Labor Day	M	Sept. 7
End of First Quarter - 47 days	F	Oct. 9
No School - Fall Break	M-F	Oct. 12-16
Classes resume	M	Oct. 19
No School - Thanksgiving Holiday, *Teacher PD (M-T)	M-F	Nov. 23-27
End of Second Quarter - 40 days	F	Dec. 18
No School - Christmas Break	M-F	Dec. 21-Jan. 1
Classes resume	M	Jan. 4
NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Jr. Day	M	Jan. 18
End of Third Quarter - 44 days	F	Mar. 5
NO SCHOOL - Spring Break	M-F	Mar. 15-19
Classes resume	M	Mar. 22
NO SCHOOL - Good Friday	F	March 26
End of Fourth Quarter - 47 days	W	May 19
Last Day of School (*178 days)	W	May 19

Our Mission:

Educating for Eternity

THE PHILOSOPHY OF OUR SCHOOL

We believe there is only one God, the Triune God, consisting of three distinct persons: the Father, Who created and preserves all things; the Son, Jesus Christ, Who died and rose again to save all mankind; and the Holy Spirit, Who bestows and maintains faith in the hearts of Christian believers. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the written Word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit, without error, and our only standard of doctrine and practice. They give us guidance in this life and provide the promise and fulfillment in the resurrection of the dead and eternal life with Christ on the last day.

We believe the six Confessions and the Ecumenical Creeds, which comprise the Book of Concord 1580, are a correct explanation of the Holy Scriptures.

We believe it is our God-given duty to teach our children the Holy Scriptures, as God commanded in Deuteronomy 6:7, "You shall teach them diligently to your children," and in Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Our Lord likewise instructed us in Matthew 28:20, "Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you," and in John 21:15, "Feed my lambs." It is our responsibility to make sure that what was said of Timothy may also be said of our children: "From childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 3:15)

We believe mankind was created by God on the sixth day of creation as a perfect creature but fell into sin and remains in his sinful nature. Only through Christ can this be changed. The purpose of mankind is to love and serve God and his fellow man, which he is to do with the individual differences and abilities given to him by God. The ultimate purpose of man is to receive eternal salvation as a free gift through faith in Christ Jesus.

We believe parents, children, and others in the community need Christ-centered education, strengthened faith, and salvation.

We believe spiritual growth should be the foundation on which to build educational growth. Spiritual and educational growth should start at birth and not end until death. This growth should show in each child's understanding that mind, body, and talents are gifts from God and should be used to serve and glorify Him.

We believe it is the God-given responsibility of parents to teach their children all that is needed, so that they might use their talents as completely as possible. Enrolling children in school delegates part of this responsibility to others, but does not eliminate the parents' role. Parents must still maintain an active part by both supporting the teachers' instruction and by teaching the many equally important Christian fundamentals.

We believe the church on earth is the gathering together of Christians to build up faith and be stewards of the gifts with which God has blessed them. One of those gifts is the mind and its capabilities. The opportunity to both witness to faith in Christ Jesus and teach a child about God's wonderful gift of knowledge is a two-fold blessing. The church's duty is then to serve the child through Sunday School, worship services, a Christian day school, and other appropriate activities.

We believe Christians should be in a constant state of thanksgiving for God's gifts to them and should be trying to follow Christ's example in all aspects of their lives. As a child will try to please a parent with good behavior, a Christian will try to please his heavenly Father. Service to God, church, mankind, and the world should be the logical result of the Christian's love for God.

We believe the Christian teacher has been called by God to teach His Word. It is the role of the teacher to incorporate Christianity into all subject areas. As a part-time "parent", the teacher accepts all the children as his/her own and loves them accordingly. Therefore, all that the teacher does should be because, in the teacher's judgment, it is what will best serve the needs of the child.

We believe truth is “that which is”, not opinion nor what one might wish. Knowledge is the condition of knowing facts or truths. Wisdom is the ability to discern what is true and what is false, as well as what is worth knowing and what is not. Wisdom is insight and good judgment in determining how to use the knowledge one has attained.

We believe the role of our congregation through its school is to aid parents in the education of their children. Our Lutheran school educates each child spiritually, academically, physically, and socially to develop his or her individual capabilities to the fullest. The function of our Lutheran school is to provide Christian citizens capable of and willing to fulfill their potential in serving God in this world. (revised 2-17)

PURPOSE OF OUR SCHOOL (revised 8-18)
The purpose of St. John’s Lutheran School of White Creek is to provide Christian education so that:

1. God’s children will know the love of their heavenly Father as demonstrated by the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, for their sins and the sins of the whole world;
2. God’s children will define sin and grace in accordance with the Holy Scriptures, as described in the Lutheran confessions;
3. God’s children will live lives of Christian faith, worship, and service;
4. God’s children may develop spiritually, academically, physically, and socially in order to use their talents and skills for responsible Christian service;
5. God’s children will be prepared for the coming of our Lord and the day of judgment.

ENROLLMENT
Entering kindergartners must be five on or before August 1, 2026. All children starting in grade one must be six years old on or before August 1, 2026. Students whose birthdays fall after the stated date will not be considered for acceptance into the kindergarten program unless all testing procedures and interviews required by the county schools are completed and acceptance is authorized according to their criteria.

IMMUNIZATIONS
By the beginning of the school year, Kindergarteners must have received the following shots (or have scheduled appointments to receive): 3 Hep B, 5 DTP, 4 oral polio, 2 MMR, and 2 varicella. Sixth graders must have 2 varicella, 1 Tdap, and 1 MCV4 in addition to the course of immunizations already received. (5-94)

TUITION & FEES
A non-refundable Enrollment fee of $150 ($100 if received by the first day of April) is charged per child to ensure a place is held for the student. (2005, 2023)

School tuition for the 2025-2026 school year is $8,850 for students in Grades K-8. For students enrolled in 3-day Kindergarten, tuition is $5,250. Tuition must be paid in 4 installments, quarterly at the beginning of each school marking period. Monthly payment plans may be established with the school office as needed.

PAYMENT OF FEES
School fees (including enrollment, tuition, book/service/technology fee, athletic fees, and lunch payments) are expected to be paid by their respective due dates.

Full tuition payments are expected for any quarter during which a student is in attendance. No refund will be issued for early withdrawal within a quarter. Failure to pay tuition by due dates results in temporary suspension of student(s) until all due financial obligations are met. (11-02) Extraordinary individual circumstances may be reviewed by the Board of Education. (5-01)

OUTSTANDING FEES
If a family has outstanding fees at the end of a school year, the student will not be allowed to enroll for the following school year. In instances where a student is transferring to a different school or moving on to high school, his/her student records will not be released until the fees are paid. (10-18)

TUITION & FEES ASSISTANCE

All families are encouraged to apply for an Indiana School Choice Voucher, which can help cover a significant amount of school tuition and fees. Families may also apply for scholarships from the Lutheran SGO and from their home congregations.

SUPPLIES

Many supplies will be furnished by the school, and the expense for these items are covered by student fees. However, families will be responsible for purchasing some individual supplies for students, including an E.S.V. Bible (grades 3-8), which may be purchased from the school at present cost. A complete list will be mailed to families prior to the start of the school year. If families need assistance with supplies, they may contact the office where donation program information is coordinated. (6-23)

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Church attendance is an important aspect of the whole Christian education experience for students at White Creek Lutheran. Church attendance records are included on the report cards so parents are aware of their worship habits. These attendance records are reported to the teachers by students and may include attendance at non-Sunday services or as visitors at another church. Viewing church services virtually or online may serve a student in an emergency, but will not be counted as regular church attendance. (6-23)

To encourage faithful attendance, students with perfect church attendance will be recognized in school newsletters and at the end-of-school awards presentations.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Chapel services will be conducted each Wednesday morning at 8:00. On occasion, a chapel service may be held at the end of the day to allow more family members to attend or on a different weekday if needed to accommodate the school calendar. Parents and family are invited to worship with us at all chapel services.

CHAPEL OFFERINGS

School chapel collections offer the children an opportunity to learn cheerful and unselfish giving for our Lord's work. These offerings in the 25-26 school year totaled over $1,500 and were given to support organizations House of Hope Madagascar, the Lutheran Community Home, and the LC-MS Comfort Dog Ministry. This year, teachers and students will select recipients representing a variety of local, synodical and international missions.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION

The pastor will have the responsibility of teaching 7th and 8th grade Confirmation classes. In addition to sermon notes, memory work, and other requirements, a passing grade must be EARNED in religion and memory in order for eighth graders to be confirmed.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are issued quarterly, approximately every nine weeks, normally on the Wednesday following the end of the marking period. The report shows the child's progress and general areas where improvement is desirable. Grades are determined by test scores, homework, participation, and cooperation. The first and third report cards are supplemented with opportunities for parent-teacher conferences. Parents are welcomed and urged to make other appointments with the teachers according to need.

GRADING SCALE

The following letter grades are assigned to corresponding percentages on class work and tests*:

100%	A+	79-74%	C
99-95%	A	73-72%	C-
94-92%	A-	71-70%	D+
91-90%	B+	69-64%	D
89-84%	B	63-62%	D-
83-82%	B-	61% and below	F
81-80%	C+		

(8-00)

*Students taking courses for high school credit (Algebra, Spanish 1, etc.) will be graded on a 10-point scale so that their scores align with those at the high school level. (06-21)

HONOR ROLL

Students in **Grades 4-8** shall receive public recognition (school newsletter) for academic progress via a quarterly honor roll. In addition, honor roll students shall be recognized at the annual awards presentation for academic achievement. Students attain Honor Roll recognition by achieving a grade point average of 3.4 or higher for the quarterly marking period. (6-21)

DAILY UPDATES

Graded assignment papers, returned tests, etc. are available to you daily through your child. It is the parent's responsibility to use these daily updates to stay aware of your child's progress. Please require your child to show daily work to you. Student grades may also be accessed through an online program. Log-in information will be provided at the start of the school year.

SCHOOL WORK

Opportunity will be given the child to complete many of his assignments in school. However, a certain amount of homework that contributes to the educational process of the student should be expected by parents and children. Parents should regularly check their child's work to aid the child and to monitor the progress the child is making in school.

NOTICES TO PARENTS

Official notices to parents concerning school-related matters are available approximately once per week, usually on Wednesdays. Effective fall 2011, weekly notes are emailed to the address provided by parents. (Paper copies are sent to parents who do not have internet access.)

PARENT-TEACHER RELATIONS

Parents who wish to visit and observe in any classroom should make arrangements with the teacher the day before the visit so that testing, etc. is not disturbed. In accord with Matthew 18:15-17, any parent(s) having a complaint with a teacher is expected to route his/her complaint through the following channel outside of school hours so that class is not disrupted:

a) speak with the teacher;
b) if the problem is not solved, speak with the principal;
c) if satisfaction is not yet reached, a parent may request to speak at a school board meeting.

BUSSING

Our pupils are privileged to ride a Bartholomew County bus. It is expected that pupils respect and obey all bus rules. Effective 2013, the bus serving WCLS runs exclusively to our school and in the White Creek area, eliminating the possibility for students to combine routes or transfer buses at other schools, except in cases of emergency. Parents are encouraged to bring their child to one of many pick-up spots if they wish bus transportation and live a distance from school.

RESPONSIBILITY

Every student is responsible for his/her behavior while at school. While no student is perfect, parents and teachers need to emphasize that school is a privilege and with privileges come responsibilities. Respect and courtesy toward adults and peers is expected and is considered one of the highest ideals in becoming a fine Christian man or woman, as expressed in White Creek's Code of Conduct.

Discipline Policy, Grades 5-8

These guidelines are set forth that those children in the care of the school might see the emphasis the Board of Education, the Faculty, and Staff place on the importance of building Christian character as well as academic abilities. If the parents sit down with their child(ren) and explain each guideline to the child(ren) and then they emphasize to the child that these are the principles by which all Christians try to live (themselves included), these guidelines will serve as the rule rather than as a punitive measure. Because of the maturity and different demands on the kindergarten through fourth graders, the aim will be more that of preparation and growing toward the policy stated below. While still in effect the consequences are modified to suit the ages of the classroom.

In an effort to define disciplinary problems these definitions are set forth.

General Disobedience: neglecting to follow established rules, disregarding the instructions or requests of teachers/staff members

Lying: the act of telling an untruth or withholding truth so that harm is done to another or to the liar, or to gain advantage deceitfully.

Cheating: the act of taking another's knowledge to improve grades or gain status or willfully giving knowledge to another with no effort on their part.

Violence: Willfully hurting another person or living thing (includes emotional bullying). Bringing knives, guns, explosives, or other items that can cause harm fall in the category of violence.

Vandalism: Willfully defacing or destroying property. Bringing knives, guns, explosives, spray paint, lighters or other items that can cause destruction fall in the category of vandalism.

Vulgar Language: Language not accepted in the normal use of everyday language according to an accepted dictionary, or language used with intent to embarrass.

Swearing: The use of God's name in a manner not acceptable to Lutheran Doctrine (beliefs).

Disrespect: A student not treating others according to (A) and (B) as listed below:

a) each student treats another as a Christian brother or sister (Love thy neighbor as thyself);
b) each student treats adults (parents, teachers, pastors, etc.) with the honor accorded them with both age and status (The Fourth Commandment).

Disruptive Behavior: Behavior which results in the loss of instructional or study time in the classroom due to a student's inability to settle down.

Drugs (including alcohol & tobacco): Any illegal drug or the use of medication that is not authorized by a physician, parent, and/or supervised by a teacher.

Sexually explicit behavior: Acts or language which make a mockery of the gift God gave to marriage.

Dress: Clothes (or lack of) which the teacher feels is unbecoming a young Christian man or woman. The school dress code is found in the school handbook. (6-95)

Classroom teachers may manage behavior and consequences as needed in the classroom, utilizing such consequences as sentence writing, loss of privileges, parent contact, etc. When behavior correction needs the support of the principal, the infraction will be documented and the following policy as adopted by the Board of Education will be enacted. Consequences include:

1) Infraction notice
2) Sentence writing, time out (isolation), loss of recess(es), tagging (all-time teacher eye-contact), student-teacher conference, loss of privileges, constructive work assignments, after-school detention time, or combinations.
3) Parent, teacher, principal conference (if principal is the teacher, then another teacher)
4) Suspension Principal/Parent Conference
5) Suspension with Board of Education Conference
6) Release
7) Expulsion

**Students with special needs may have to have an individualized behavior program in place, while still working within the boundaries of the discipline policy. (7-17)*

The following chart lists consequences for each infraction (as numbered on the previous page). Where several consequences are listed, the appropriate consequence is determined by the severity of the action:

Offense	1st	2nd	3rd
General Disobedience	1	1	1,2 *after-school detention
Lying	2,3	2,3,4,5	5,7
Cheating	2,3	2,3,4,5	5,7
Violence	2,3,4,7	2,3,4,5,7	5,7 (6-95)
Vandalism	1,2,3,4,7	2,3,4,5,7	5,7
Vulgar Language	1,2,3	2,3,4,5	5,7
Swearing	1,2	2,3,4,5	5,7
Disrespect	1,2	2,3,4,5	5,7
Disruptive Overt Behavior	1,2,3	2,3,4,5	2,3,4,5,6,7
Drugs	3,5,7	3,5,7	7
Sexually explicit behavior	1,2,3	2,3,4,5	5,7
Dress	1,2	2,3,4,5	5,7

Date of Policy Inception - June, 1987 (revisions 7-17, 6-23)

DRESS

As children attending a Christian day school, clothing worn by our students should also be in harmony with Christian teaching. Guidelines for school AND any school functions are as follows:

- Shorts must have an inseam of at least 5 inches (no track/running shorts or rolled jean shorts with less than 5" inseam). Students wearing skirts or dresses should be able to wear shorts of the appropriate length underneath (6-21)
- Clothing must be modest, bearing no patterns, lettering or logos that reference drugs, sex, alcohol, violence, foul language or divisive social/political groups. (revised 6-21)
- Shirts must have shoulder straps that are a minimum of two (2) inches in width. Halter tops, those with high-cut or low-cut armholes, or low-cut necklines that expose undergarments or cleavage are not permitted. All shirts must be long enough to cover the midriff area when sitting or reaching.
- Hats and hoods are not to be worn in the building. (6-21)

- Shoes with high heels, except in the case of a special event that requires dressing in a more formal manner, are not to be worn to school. Parents are asked to monitor that footwear is such that children can run and be active on the playground without risk of injury.

For outdoor recess, expected dress will be determined by the temperature. For temperatures below 40 degrees, students must have legs fully covered and wear a coat or additional sweatshirt layer; below 60 degrees, students must have their arms covered. (7-19) Students found in violation of this policy will be given appropriate clothing to wear for the day. The option will be given to contact parents to bring a change of clothing which meets the stated guidelines. (6-06)

PLAYGROUND
At the beginning of the year a list of rules for safe playground activity is given to and discussed with each student.

RECESS
15 Degrees F without wind is the cutoff for outdoor play. If the temperature is below that figure, if it is raining, or if conditions are too wet or muddy, children will not go outside for recess. Therefore, notes for staying in for reasons of cold weather are not needed. Students are expected to dress appropriately for outdoor recess as outlined in the dress policy. When sending a note in regards to recess excuse, please state illness and date of excuse.

LUNCH PROGRAM
Hot lunch will be made available for purchase daily. Extra milk will be available to students at recess and lunch. Cost are to be determined and will be made available prior to the start of school. A pre-pay system for lunches is currently in place. Applications for free & reduced lunches are sent home for every school family at the beginning of the school year. Should family circumstances change, applications are available from the school office at any time during the school year. Strict confidentiality is upheld. (6-08)

Our school's wellness policy encourages students bringing lunch items and snacks from home to choose healthy options, saving treats for special occasions. Students may not bring soda pop to drink at lunch. (6-22)

ALLERGY POLICY (7-19)
White Creek Lutheran School aims to provide a safe and healthy environment for the Christ-centered education of children. In instances where children have exceptional health-related conditions, provisions must be made to ensure their well-being. A complete allergy policy has been established by the Board of Education and is available upon request. School students and families must note the following:

1. Foods containing nuts are not allowed at White Creek School, with the exception of lunch times **inside** our school cafeteria. Peanut butter sandwiches will be prepared in our school kitchens by trained staff with a very specific protocol that helps ensure no cross-contamination.
2. Students may bring foods containing nuts **for lunch** from home. These students (and those with items containing nuts from the cafeteria) will be required to choose a seat at one of the designated tables in the cafeteria. They will also be asked to wash their hands directly after lunch time so as not to contaminate other surfaces.
3. Students may **not** bring foods containing nuts for snack time from home. Because snacks are typically eaten outside during recess time or in classrooms and carried through hallways, foods with nuts would be difficult for staff to regulate.
4. Food residue can cause a significant reaction for children with severe allergies. Students who choose to bring foods with nuts must take extra care (disposing of trash properly, good handwashing) to ensure the safety of their school mates.

SCHOOL NURSE
Bartholomew County Public Health Department furnishes our school with a visiting nurse and dental hygienist. Our pupils are periodically checked for hearing, vision, blood pressure, scoliosis, and dental health. Vaccination records are monitored; additional or booster shots which are necessary are administered through the county health department or a family's private physician.

SMOKING/TOBACCO USE

Smoking is not permitted in the building, creating a “smoke free” atmosphere for students and staff members. This policy applies to all staff, students, parents, congregation members, contracted workers and visitors to the school building. Adults smoking outside the building are asked to do so at a distance greater than 8 feet from entrances and dispose of items in a way that helps maintain a safe and clean campus. (12-18)

POLICY ON HEAD LICE

Students found to have nits or lice, discovered in examination precipitated by outward symptoms or through general screenings, must be picked up from school immediately and treated at home. The child may return to school 24 hours after treatment. (6-25)

SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULE

The time before and after school is needed by the teachers for planning and preparation. Students not riding the bus should arrive between 7:30 and 7:45 a.m. unless other arrangements have been made with the school office due to the parents’ work schedules. Dismissal is at 3:00 p.m., so all students should be picked up within 15 minutes of that time.

TARDINESS POLICY

For the school day to begin in an organized fashion where students are ready to learn, students should arrive at school no later than 7:45 a.m. After this point the child is considered tardy* and the listed steps are to be followed:

- Parent must accompany the child into the school building and take his/her child(ren) to each class;
- Parent is then to report to the school office to complete a tardy report listing the reason for the late arrival;
- If five tardies are compiled in a quarter, the parents will be contacted to attend a meeting at school with the teacher and the principal. If the problem continues, a meeting with the Board of Education will be scheduled.

For purposes of awards, each five tardies are counted as an absence when calculating perfect or excellent attendance. (6-06)

OFFICE CHECK-IN PROCEDURE

If students must leave during the school day (any time prior to 3:00), the adult picking up must report to the office to check the student out and wait while a staff member retrieves the student from class. If a student returns during the school day, the student should check in at the office but does not need to be accompanied by an adult. Students arriving late to school after an appointment should check in at the office before proceeding to class. (7-19)

ATTENDANCE POLICY

School attendance is critical to a student's ability to derive the full benefits provided in the school. Maximum learning occurs through teacher instruction, class participation, and interaction among students. Therefore, any school absence, excused or unexcused, places the student at a disadvantage. Regular school attendance further prepares students to assume their roles as productive members of the work force and society.

Students are subject to the requirements of state law and school attendance policies. Fulfilling the requirements of the law and policies is the responsibility of the students and their parent(s) / guardian(s). A student who is absent from school, whether such absence is excused or unexcused, is expected to independently make up any work missed during such absence.

Students will not receive academic credit missed for unexcused absences exceeding 5 days. (7-19)

Excused Absences: Students may be absent from school for the following reasons:

1. Illness or injury requiring absence.
2. Death of immediate family member.
3. Death of another person when requested by parent or guardian (subject to approval by the principal).
4. Confirmed medical/dental appointments.

Exempt Absences: Students may be counted as present when participating in the following:

1. Educationally related non-classroom activities approved by the principal.
2. When subpoenaed to appear in court as a witness in a judicial proceeding.
3. Service as a legislative page in the Indiana General Assembly.
4. Worker on election day.

The State of Indiana considers ten (10) days of absence during a school year, except in cases of extended illnesses or unusual circumstances, to be excessive. Please note:

1. A doctor's excuse stating that the child is physically unable to attend class is required for each absence after ten (10) days of absences per school year to receive an excused absence. Failure to comply with this regulation upon request may result in the loss of credits and/or failure.
2. A student absent from school is also unable to participate in athletics or school events on the same day, except in cases of exempt absences.
3. The school should be called by 8:00 a.m. stating the reason for student absence.
4. When a student accumulates ten (10) days of absences, the family must make an appeal to the Board of Education for the student to receive class credit. A form documenting absences, completion of missed work, etc. should be signed and submitted. (6-25)
5. If a student is present at school but has missed more than 3 hours of instructional time (due to appointments, tardiness, etc.) this will be counted as a half day absence. (6-23)
6. Every effort should be made to see that doctor and dental appointments are made on non-school time.
7. If, due to inclement road conditions, a school bus cannot make its regular stop to pick up a student, that student will be counted present at school. The student will be responsible for making up missed work.
8. If during inclement weather, a school bus runs and does make its regular stop, but a student's parent deems it necessary to keep the student home, the absence will be counted and work must be made up.
9. When a student accumulates fifteen (15) days of absences for the school year, the parents may be cited to the courts for educational neglect. The State regards this as chronic absenteeism. (6-99)
10. When a student accumulates fifteen (15) days of absences, the student may be moved to "probationary enrollment," and an attendance contract put in place. If the contract is not upheld, the student may not be allowed to re-enroll for the next semester or school year. (6-22)
11. On a designated e-learning day, students who check in with the classroom teacher (via email or phone) and complete all assignments are counted as present. (6-21)

BOOKMOBILE VISITS

The Bartholomew County Library's bookmobile makes its books available to the students of White Creek during the school year. Special care must be taken with those books and they must be returned in timely fashion. Residents of the area are also welcomed to check out books during the bookmobile's visits.

CHILDREN'S FUND

The Children's Fund has been established to provide services for the children of White Creek School. Its money will be used to finance class tours, field trips, and special student programs. All the money will be used only for student activities as approved by the faculty and the Board of Education.

SCHOOL TRIPS

Each class will have an opportunity to take one school day for some educational trip or activity. Other field trips applicable to the curriculum may be taken as desired by the teachers. Children's Fund money will be used for transportation, entrance fees for trips, and accompanying expenses. Individuals serving as chaperones for school field trips may not bring younger siblings unless an invitation has specifically been issued at the announcement of the trip. (5-98) Parents or family members wishing to chaperone school trips must have a volunteer application form and completed criminal history background check on file in the school office. (5-07)

In order for a student to participate in school-scheduled field trips, all due work must be completed. If other classes/teachers are present in the building on the day in question, the child will be given the opportunity to make up that work in school during normal school hours. If no other teachers are present in the building on the field trip day, the parents will be contacted to keep the child home to complete missing work. (5-01)

TOYS, TRADING CARDS, GADGETS

Toys, baseball and trading cards, electronic equipment, music players, cameras, and remote control items are not allowed at school. Specific exemptions are listed in the technology agreement or as specified by a teacher as deemed necessary for school projects. (7-08)

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES – CELL PHONES & SMART WATCHES

Students are encouraged to leave cell phones and smart watches at home. However, the following policy is in place if parents feel it is necessary for the student to carry the device to school:

Cell phones and smart watches will be turned off and turned in to the classroom teacher at the beginning of the day. Students found to be using or keeping a device during the school day will be required to surrender the it, and it will be taken to the principal's office. On the first offense, the student may have it back at the end of the school day. On a second offense, the student's parent must retrieve the device from the office. A third offense will be considered blatant insubordination, and further consequences as outlined in the discipline policy will apply.

Office staff and teachers must always be made aware of students' transportation arrangements. Parents who need to contact students during the school day should call the office. The office can relay the message, retrieve the student right away in an urgent situation, or have the student return the call at a time between classes. They may use the conference room if privacy is needed. Students bringing personal communication devices must do so at their own risk. The school and staff cannot be responsible for loss or damage. (6-21)

PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS ACTIVITIES

In accordance with policy adopted by the Board of Education, the student participating in extra-curricular sports is required to maintain an overall grade average of at least a 2.00 on a 4.00 scale. Falling below this level or receiving an "F" grade on his/her report card or midterm report will result in the student's two-week suspension during which time extra attention may be given to the failing subject(s). Grades will be reviewed at the end of that period. (10-28-01) - See the Athletic Handbook for further clarification.

A Christian attitude is expected on and off the ball court. Specific consequences are listed in the Athletic Handbook, which is given to all participating students at the beginning of the sports season. The form must be agreed to and signed by both parents and athletes for the student to participate in the school's sports program. Athletes are expected to attend all practice sessions, meetings, public appearances, etc., except in the case of illness. They shall advise the coach before a planned absence or as soon as possible in the case of an unplanned one. (6-95) Students must submit a signed medical release from a physician/other medical personnel before participating in any extracurricular sports at White Creek. (4-99)

INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS

The following interscholastic sports are offered to our students in grades 4-8*: Volleyball (girls), Cross Country, Basketball, Cheerleading, and Archery

*With fluctuating enrollment, the initial grade for sports may be determined each year depending on the number of students interested. The uniform fee for the year will be $25 per sport, payable at the start of the season. All funds will be put into a separate uniform account that will be used for future uniform purchases. ***Note that these fees do NOT cover destruction or loss.*** (10-93, 12-25)

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

White Creek is happy to recognize its students on their birthdays, but to ensure that necessary instructional time is not lost, birthday celebrations will be held during recess. If parents wish to send treats for the class, they are asked to plan for something that can easily be served and eaten within that time frame and to let the teacher know in advance of the day. (6-07)

PARTY INVITATIONS

Invitations to parties, gatherings, etc. may NOT be handed out at school unless all members of the class or all members of the same gender in that class are included. In situations where the entire group is not invited, parents will have to make contact outside of the school setting. (1-12)

NOTICE OF NONDESCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

White Creek Lutheran School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, and athletic and other school administered programs.

SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS AND DELAYS

Since White Creek uses county bus service, school closings and/or delays will be the same as those announced by the Bartholomew County Schools. Please listen to White River Broadcasting radio stations or watch TV channels 6 & 8 for such announcements. The State of Indiana requires that missed days are made up before the end of the school year.

Our snow day plan is as follows:

- If severe weather is anticipated and school is closed in advance with time to prepare, E-learning will be conducted.
- If school is closed without advance notice, no E-learning will take place, and the day cannot be counted.
- Snow make-up days may be added to the end of the school year.

2 Hour Delayed Start Days for Teacher Professional Development are tentatively planned on the following dates: August 28, September 18, November 6, February 5, March 12, and April 9

FACULTY & STAFF

Mrs. Michelle Barnett	812-342-3780	Kindergarten	mbarnett@whitecreek.org
Miss Mary Anne Schneider	812-521-2984	Grade 1	mschneider@whitecreek.org
Mrs. Kim Enzinger	812-522-8976	Grade 2	kenzinger@whitecreek.org
Mrs. Karie Sutton	972-922-7276	Grade 3	ksutton@whitecreek.org
Mrs. Lindsay Mullis	231-750-1256	Grade 4	lmullis@whitecreek.org
Miss Sydney Morey	812-344-5872	Grade 5	smorey@whitecreek.org
Miss Maddie Whiteside	812-521-0100	Grade 6	mwhiteside@whitecreek.org
Mr. Owen Ballard	812-569-7162	Grade 7, PE	oballard@whitecreek.org
Mrs. Vicki Murphy	812-350-2266	Grade 8	vmurphy@whitecreek.org
Mrs. Jill Price	812-528-1652	Teacher Aide	jprice@whitecreek.org
Mrs. Whitney Vandercar	812-371-3983	Principal, Departmentalized subjects	wvandercar@whitecreek.org
Pastor Matt Jung	812-764-8664	Religion Class Grade 6	stpaulsjonesville@gmail.com
Pastor Jim Haugen	440-376-6275	Pastor, Confirmation 7-8	pastorhaugen@whitecreek.org

Mrs. Shannon Garrison 812-390-8805 Church/School Secretary

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mr. Brad Schlehuser	812-799-6228
Mr. David Koeberlein	812-342-2351
Mrs. Katie Meyer	812-212-0376
Mr. Zach Morey	812-350-6191
Mrs. Jill Harris	513-252-4878
Mrs. Michele Claycamp	812-525-9916

WEB SITE
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