

# Cougar Connection

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2025-2026

Make A Joyful Noise

December 19

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One of our favorite traditions: caroling in the hallways on the morning of the last day of school before Christmas break. We even had a surprise visit from Santa!

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## From the Principal's Desk

Happy Friday, St. John's!

Our hallways were filled with carols and laughter all morning today. Gifts were exchanged, cookies and treats shared, and the joy of Christmas- and the excitement of a long break ahead- made the morning fly by.

Thank you to all who attended our Christmas program on Monday of this week. It was a lot of hard work by both students and teachers, but it was worth it to hear the Good News of Jesus's birth proclaimed by our children.

We wish each and every one of our families a beautiful Christmas and happy New Year. Have a restful break, and we will see you in 2026, Cougars!

## Looking Ahead...

Dec. 20 - Jan. 4- Christmas Break

Jan. 5- School Resumes

Jan. 9- End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

Jan. 19- No School

Jan. 26-30- Lutheran Schools Week

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"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!" Psalm 98:4

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## In Chapel This Week...

This year, our chapel messages will use our school theme- Make a Joyful Noise- and focus on some of the hymns we sing in church. When we return from break, the hymn of the week will be "As With Gladness, Men of Old."



Congratulations to our basketball teams for their performance during the Cougar Classic! Pictured are the girls, who took home the 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophy!

## Athletics

Thank you to ALL who came and helped out at our Cougar Classic at RLHS last weekend. It was an amazing success! A big thank you to our athletic director, Amanda Knoell, and our concessions coordinator, Jessica Britson, who put in countless hours to make the event memorable. See the calendar on our website for upcoming January games!

## From Our Church

Thank you to everyone who donated food and gift cards for our families in need- the bins were MUCH appreciated during this holiday season!

Our church has many special services over the Christmas holiday. We would love for all of you to join us at one. Here is our worship schedule:

Christmas Eve- 4 pm, 11 pm

Christmas Day- 9 am

New Year's Eve- Hymn Sing @ 6 pm

## Rockstars of the Week

This year, we will be recognizing students who stand out for their acts of kindness and/or service toward others, who are helping to "Make a Joyful Noise" in God's glory here at St. John's.

Our rockstars for last week: Alicia Petkus (5K), Alana Bernal (2nd), Shamaya van Sliedrecht (3rd); and Katie Lockie (7th). The rockstars for this week: Brayleigh Davis (3K); Luke Pringle(1st); Jozie Wilson (4th); and Lou Duchac (8th). Keep up the great work, Cougars!

## Parent-Teacher League (PTL)

A big thank you to all who came to Panera to support our school- it was a great evening!

An even bigger thank you to PTL for sponsoring a Christmas lunch for our teachers and staff on December 18<sup>th</sup>. In a week that is full of busy schedules, late nights, and last-minute projects, our staff was so grateful for this special treat!

We have several fun events coming up in 2026- if you'd like to volunteer and get involved, please contact Amanda Kotowski for more information.

## VIP Day

VIP Day is coming up quickly at the end of January. Mark your calendars for Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. Each child will get to bring one special VIP with them to school that day (a half day with dismissal at 11:45). There will be a special chapel, a guest presenter, and all sorts of fun and games to enjoy. We will send out more information with a sign-up sheet the week that we return to school.

## Crusader Corner

If you have a current 8th grader who is planning to apply to Racine Lutheran High School for the 2026-2027 school year, we want to let you know that enrollment applications are already underway!

Racine Lutheran High School invites prospective students and families for the 2026-2027 school year to our Winter Open House on Wednesday, January 14, from 5:00-7:00 PM. This is a drop-in event with no registration required. Academic enrollment applications are well underway, and we anticipate a waitlist forming by February. Families are encouraged to tour our beautiful building, meet our teachers, staff, administrators, coaches, and students, and pick up an enrollment application folder.

## Needed

We would like to stock up on cardboard wrapping paper tubes and paper towel tubes for some upcoming science projects. Please hang onto them over the holiday and drop them off with Ms. Heins in 2026!



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**We'd love to have you join us for worship! We have two services on Sundays- one at 7:45 and one at 10:15, with Sunday School and Bible class in between. There is also a Wednesday evening service at 6:00 pm. We hope to see you there!**