


# Gap Rap Newsletter

Growing in academic, social, physical and spiritual maturity.

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## STRAWBERRY FUNDRAISER

Florida strawberries are in peak flavor in March and are soooooo delicious! They are loaded with nutrients and powerful, disease fighting antioxidants! The berries are picked, hydro cooled and shipped out on refrigerated trucks the **SAME DAY!** They come packed in sealed, one quart, plastic containers. This fundraiser allows you to buy the freshest strawberries at the very best prices! You can purchase a full flat (8 quarts) or a half flat (4 quarts).

**Full flat - \$32**

**Half flat - \$17**

Order through a student, in the school front office or online through our website. You have one week left! Orders are **DUE FEB 22!!** Please make payment by cash or check (made payable to the school) immediately in the front office of the school. And don't forget to share this information with your friends, family and neighbors!

## PRESIDENT'S DAY

We will have no school on Monday, February 20, 2023 in honor of President's Day.

## PICTURE RETAKES

Picture retake day will be on Thursday, February 23. All new students, graduates, and class photos will be taken (no action needed). If you would like your child's photo retaken, you must request it by *Friday, February 17*. A sign up sheet is in the school office or you can respond to the email sent by the photographer. Do you need more information about picture day? Visit our website | click Students | then click School Photography. You will be redirected to the photographer's website. Note: normal uniform dress code will be in effect on retake day.

## COMFORT KITS

The Women's Ministry at SG Church is collecting items to put together "comfort kits" for the American Red Cross and the Homeless Ministry. You can help by donating items! A list has been included in the Gap Rap email sent out.

## EDUCATION FAIR

Students have been assigned projects to showcase at our upcoming Education Fair on March 7 at 6:30 pm. Join us for a "Cultural Extravaganza" to explore the many different cultures from around the world! For more information about what is expected from your child and their project requirements, you may ask your child's teacher for details as these are projects that are to be done at home.

## SOCCER

Girls & boys in grades 4th - 8th are invited to play Soccer with Standifer Gap! Games will begin in March and run through April 13 (occurring on Tuesdays/Thursdays and vs the same schools we played against with basketball). For more information, please go to our website.

## STUDENT SUPPORT

Want to know more about the Student Support Services we offer at Standifer Gap? Check out our website. A page has been added with information about this program. Click on Students | Support Services.

## REMEMBER THIS

### \* Yearbook Pictures

Do you have any pictures from field trips, student Sabbaths, or school events that you'd like to share for the yearbook? Send them to Stephanie by email or text (423-653-1557).

### \* Online Payments

You can pay tuition, hot lunch and more online through the link on our website. Please use the ACH (direct debit) option!!

### \* Snack Shop

Students can purchase a snack in the front office for \$1. Those without cash will be charged to their hot lunch account.

### \* Ukulele/Guitar

Wednesdays & Fridays at 7:30 am in the music room.

### \* Check Grades

Parents can check grades with their FACTS Family Portal login.

### \* Support & Shop





# FEBRUARY

## Birthdays

REGAN

FEB 4

JESAIAH

FEB 6

JEREMY

FEB 6

MAGGIE

FEB 16

LOGAN

FEB 24

## CALENDAR REMINDERS

- Feb 18 - SG Church Vespers 6 pm
- Feb 20 - President's Day - NO SCHOOL
- Feb 22 - Strawberry Orders DUE!!
- Feb 23 - Picture Retake Day / Class Photos
- Feb 25 - Student Sabbath - Grades 6-8
- Mar 7 - Education Fair "Cultural Extravaganza"
- Mar 13-17 - Spring Break - NO SCHOOL

## MORE LIKE JESUS

By Stephanie Land

As I'm sure you're well aware, yesterday was Valentine's Day. How could you miss it? The stores were filled with red and pink balloons, heart-shaped candies, stuffed animals and cards to "show your love to others." I'm sure you've heard it said that "Valentine's Day is a Hallmark holiday"... meaning the company is said to have made up the holiday as a way to make more money by selling cards and gifts. You can find countless things on the internet supporting and also debunking this idea, but it's true that the holiday has been completely commercialized. Regardless, underneath it all is the indication that people want to feel loved. They want to give love, and they want to receive love. Which makes complete sense since God created life to actually operate on LOVE. But is the Valentine's Day type of love - giving gifts and expecting them in return - what true love is all about?

Our understanding of love is complex and often incorrect. We say we "love" pizza. A child may view their parent's unwillingness to give into their every want as them being "unloving." We see hurt and heartbreak in relationships and wonder if "love" is really all that great. But what is the Biblical understanding of love and does it line up with our own understanding of who God is when the Bible says "God IS love" (1 John 4:8, 16)?

First Corinthians 13 talks in great depth about what love is and what love is not. Within the many listed descriptions is the concept that love is a principle of selfless giving for the health and benefit of others. Dr. Timothy Jennings, Psychiatrist and President of Come & Reason Ministries, describes what love looks like in reality in his blog, "Loving Others - What Does It Look Like?" (<https://comeandreason.com/loving-others-looks-like/>)

**"To love others means that we seek to do what is in their best interest, even when they might want something else. In order to do this, we must not only have loving concern for the other person, but we also must understand God's design laws, how reality works, what the problem is—and then, when appropriate, use our ability to act in harmony with God's design laws to bring healing influence to others... Love does what is right, healthy, and reasonable—in harmony with God's designs because it is right, healthy, and reasonable. Love doesn't do what others think seems right, but what is actually right, even if it is painful at the time. We are only able to do this as we come into unity with God, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, and understand God's design laws for life."**

The supporting Scripture for this year's school theme implores us to "Model yourselves after God and live your life in love." (Ephesians 5:1-2, The Remedy). We can be more like Jesus when, in love, we do what is right and best for others.