**Kingdom Kids is back in session!**

Welcome back! We have had a couple new teachers join us this year. Mitch and Laurie Berumen are taking over the 2nd and 3rd grade classes and Jessica Banks is teaching the 4th and 5th graders with me.  Laurie had the joy of working with some of our kids in VBS this summer. Jessica has been teaching for several years now in our Preschool room. Each of them are enjoying getting to know the kids of GBC even better in their new settings!

 **Just some reminders:**

* **Cold and Flu and icky bug** season is now upon us! ***If your kid(s) have had a fever, been vomiting, or have been diagnosed with anything else contagious 24 hours ago or less***, please feel free to let them rest **at home**. We are big on sharing the light of Jesus here…but we’d rather you kept the germs under a bushel! 😊
* We are still walking over to the Annex every Sunday. As it is getting colder out, please make sure your kids…especially young ladies, are **dressed appropriately**. It is a very cold walk some mornings!
* We try very hard to be in the front yard of GBC when church is getting out…but as we don’t have a place for the kids to hang out if church is still in session…in the fall months when it’s raining or starts snowing, we will be watching for adults to leave church before we walk over, so our kids aren’t struggling to stay quiet in the greeting area! Be patient with us as it gets colder and we can no longer pass time playing in the front grassy area.

 **Changes your kids may be telling you about this year:**

* This year, we are going to do something different for our kids program. Our Christmas program was a HUGE success last year and it was a ton of fun doing it with the kids. Thank you again for getting your kids to all the practices…and all the help you gave us! This year, we will **NOT** be doing a Christmas program, instead, we are going to be doing an **Easter program** during both services on Palm Sunday. We will begin picking parts and practicing Sunday mornings starting **January 6th**.  This is open to kids from Kindergarten thru 8th grade. If your kids would like to be a part of this, please make sure they are at Sunday School the first two Sundays of January! If your middle schooler would rather not participate, their class with Pastor Jesse is still available.
* Last Sunday, was the first Sunday we introduced what is called the **GBC Buck** to our classes. When your child brings their Bible, they get a buck. When they get caught doing something kind, they get a buck. When your child brings a friend, they get a buck. When they know a Bible verse, win a sword drill (for our older kids), or help other kids find what they need, they get a buck. Just before Christmas, we will be giving them an opportunity to “shop” with their GBC Bucks.
* This semester, we are saving our offering money to buy a cow for a village through Samaritan’s Purse. Help us out by giving your child opportunities to raise money by helping you at home or helping a neighbor you know and trust do odd chores.  They are super excited about the cow!
* Finally, we strive to provide a safe and learning environment for every child who walks through these doors. If your child is struggling during class, we will do our best to insure they are safe and will continue to teach. However, if they are having a hard time and we are no longer able to keep them or others around them safe, or if they are becoming disruptive to the class and are no longer learning or allowing others to learn around them, if we do not have enough helpers to sit one on one with them or it simply isn’t possible, we will be contacting you via text or sending a helper to find you. This will be a last resort. We desire every single child that comes to Kingdom Kids to grow in their faith and in their knowledge of Jesus. If you as a parent know of behavioral concerns or any special needs concerning your child, please come and talk to me, so we can set up a plan that will allow us to be successful in effectively teaching your child about Jesus and His Word.

I am so excited to get a whole new year to share Jesus with our kids. When you get home from church, ask your kiddo what they learned. Ask them about songs they are singing! Thank you for trusting us with your kids! We sure do love them dearly.

In His Name and for His Glory,

**Alicia Wold**---Children’s Ministry Director and 4th and 5th grade Teacher

**Don and Arlene De Boer**—K and 1st grade Teachers

**Mitch and Laurie Berumen**—2nd and 3rd grade Teachers

**Jessica Banks**—4th and 5th grade Teacher