



Secondary School News

Coventry Christian Schools

Vol. 13, Issue 4

October 5, 2009

Calendar of Events

October

10/1 Career/College Fair for juniors/seniors

10/6 Grandparents Gathering, 9 a.m., CV

10/8 Grandparents' Day, PV

10/12 Columbus Day--School Closed

10/17 All school yard sale, CV

10/18 Board Meeting, 1:30 p.m., PV

10/19 Spiritual Emphasis Day at Camp Manatawny; 5th Grade to Paradise Farms

10/21 Market Day Pick-Up, 6:30 p.m., PV

10/27-10/30 Middle School Trips

November

11/3 Grandparents' Gathering, Coventry, 9 a.m.

11/4 Picture Day

11/6 First Quarter Ends

11/13 Open House 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.--Invite families you would like to see at CCS!

11/15 Board of Trustees Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Pleasantview

11/18 Market Day Pick-up

11/20 Progress Reports Issued

11/25 No Classes

11/26-27 Thanksgiving Holiday--No School

SEE www.coventrychristian.com for sports schedules! Go Eagles!

I Do Not Run for Nothing

"That you may become blameless and pure, children of God . . . in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing."

Philippians 2:15-16

Okay, so every once in a while I abuse my position as principal to write something in this newsletter that pertains to one of my greatest joys--running. Because I run, I get accused of playing favorites with the illustrations I choose that utilize running to make their point. Running does, however, provide many wonderful object lessons and analogies that serve to teach spiritual lessons. In fact, the Bible is full of such lessons based upon the sport or discipline of running, so forgive me as I indulge once more.

People often ask me why I run. They especially want to know why I run marathons. Currently, I run to qualify for the Boston Marathon. If I do not qualify this year, will my training have been for nothing? Would I, as the Apostle Paul says, "have run or labored for nothing?" Of course not. I put in about ten hours per week of aerobic and anaerobic training. There are a host of physical and mental benefits from that. I enjoyed God's beautiful creation during most of that training. I benefitted from the company of others who enjoy the sport as we laughed, pondered, and preached to each other about everything from running itself to relationships, studies, politics, religion, and professional sports. I cleared my mind of stress so that I could better serve my family and my colleagues and students at school. So even if I don't qualify for the Boston Marathon next week, my training would have been worthwhile.

The Apostle Paul, however, was not speaking about running. He was comparing teaching and mentoring those who are young in their faith to running a race or training for one. In the sport of running, especially marathoning, an athlete can train for months, even years, to accomplish a goal and miss the mark. He still enjoys a host of benefits that make the journey worthwhile. In the pursuit of Christian education, there are no consolations for missing the mark. To win the race, we must graduate students who are dedicated to Christ and who demonstrate this by their love for and service to others. The extent to which our alumni see their lives as tools in God's hands that he would use to bless others in his name is the extent to which we call our running worthwhile.

If our students graduate to a life of self-serving pursuits in academics and careers, if they do not honor God with the knowledge and skills we have given them, then we will have run in vain. There will be no consolation for such failures. An engineer who uses his skills to improve the lives of citizens of third world countries, a doctor who chooses to take healthcare to those who would not have it otherwise, a lawyer who fights

for the oppressed, an athlete who glorifies God rather than self, a mechanic who does his work with integrity and compassion, a custodian who does his work as though for God. These are the dreams we have for our alumni. These make the training worthwhile. These are the Boston qualifiers.

Website/Renweb Reminders

Do you know where to go for the sports schedules, driving directions, and team information for our athletic teams? Do you know where to find archived newsletters and school forms you lost? How about curriculum overviews and the school calendar? Be sure to use the school website and to let us know what you would like to see there. While our website serves as a brochure for those who do not know us, it is also a place for you to find commonly needed information and documents. Check out the site this week.

Do not forget to check your child's progress on Renweb at least weekly. As a reminder, you can go to www.renweb.com and log in to Parents Web to see current progress for your child in all of his or her classes. If you need help logging in, please email Mr. Fisher at paulfisher@educatingforlife.com to get assistance. Do not accept technical difficulties as the final answer! Have your problem fixed and stay informed!

7th Grade Fossil Trip October 5

The 7th Earth Science class will be taking a trip to Swatara Gap State Park on Monday, October 5. In years past, we have had an annual caving trip, but due to a strange disease that is killing eastern brown bats, all caves are currently off limits in this part of the country until farther notice. However, we have been looking for a fall fossil digging location and have found one. Look for a permission slip to come home this week.

Grandparents' Day This Thursday, October 8

Grandparents' Day is this Thursday, October 8. Grandparents day starts at 9:00 a.m. in the cafeteria, where we will have refreshments while students meet and greet their grandparents. That will be followed by visits to classes at 9:30, pictures and other opportunities and activities, and a special chapel service at 11:00 a.m. Grandparents are also welcome to take their grandchildren out for a special lunch if they so choose.

Columbus Day--No Classes

Please be aware that there will be no classes next Monday, October 12, as teachers will be meeting for in-service.

Spiritual Emphasis Day October 19

Spiritual Emphasis Day is scheduled for Monday, October 19. All students will go by bus to Camp Manatawny for a day of classes and activities centered around spiritual and moral themes. This will be a dress down day, and lunch will be provided. Students who live close to camp may be dropped off at camp instead of school but should not report before 8:00 a.m. The cost of the trip is \$10 per student. A permission slip will be coming home soon. Please remit payment with that. If you have any questions, give us a call.

College Planning Seminar for CCS Families October 20

The first of many opportunities we will be providing to support you as your children approach their college years will be held on Tuesday, October 20, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Pleasantview Campus. The seminar is free and is open to all secondary families.

McPrincipal's Night, Tuesday, October 20

Prior to going to the college planning seminar, stop by McDonald's on High Street in Pottstown. From 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., a portion of proceeds from all orders come right back to CCS. It will be a fun time of fellowship and celebration of CCS.

Juniors Take PSAT Wednesday, Oct. 14

The juniors will be taking the PSAT on Wednesday, October 14. The PSAT serves as a practice test for the SAT and gives students an idea of how they will score on the SAT itself. It will provide you with a guide for areas that will need the most preparation to improve for the official SAT in June and again next fall. Following the PSAT, students will be given information and resources for studying for the SAT itself. Students scoring in the 99th percentile will qualify for National Merit Scholar Awards. Stay tuned for more college support to come.

Upcoming Academic Assessments/Projects:

Middle School

Day	5th	6th	7th	8th
Monday		Life Science Test	Fossil Trip	
Tuesday				Bible test 1
Wednesday	Soc. St. Test, Unit 1		Math test	
Thursday				
Friday	Reading test			Bible test 2; English spelling test
Monday, 10/12				

High School

Day	9th	10th	11th	12th
Monday		Bradstreet/Taylor Quiz, Am. Lit.		
Tuesday	English ch. 15 test			Finance test; Odyssey Quiz, World Lit.
Wednesday		Jonathan Edwards Quiz Am. Lit.	Trig test moved from 10/2	
Thursday				Calculus test
Friday	English vocabulary test	Chem Creative Minds Fair proposal due	British Lit. Honors project due	Aeneid Quiz, World Lit.
Monday, 10/12				