



Secondary School News

Coventry Christian Schools

Vol. 13, Issue 26

March 29, 2010

Calendar of Events

April

4/2--Good Friday-School Closed

4/5--No Classes, Extended Care Available

4/6--Grandparent Gathering at Coventry Campus, 9 a.m.

4/9--Progress Reports Issued

4/10--Spaghetti Dinner to Benefit Mexico Mission Trip, 5-7 p.m., PV campus

4/17-22--Senior Mission Trip-Mexico

4/26-4/30-9th-11th Class Trips

4/28--Market Day Pick-UP, PV

May

5/4--Grandparents Gathering, CV, 9 a.m.

5/10--PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m., PV

5/14--Parent/Teacher Conferences, No Classes, EC available--All school arts how during conferences

5/16--Board of Trustees Meeting

5/24--Spiritual Emphasis Day

5/26--Market Day Pick-Up, PV

5/27-6/3--Senior Final Exams

5/31--Memorial Day, School Closed

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

A Compelling Reason to Serve

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship."

Romans 12:1

You often hear Christians express a desire to "bring glory to God" or to "glorify God." The mission statement of Coventry Christian Schools, if it is realized in the lives of our students, will certainly fulfill that Christian desire. The ultimate aim, expressed in our mission statement, is to graduate alumni who serve others. The Lord's greatest command is to love him, and he teaches us that to love him is to love others. We love others by laying down our lives for them. Jesus modeled this for us so that we would be crystal clear about the meaning of love and service.

Service always requires laying down oneself, setting aside one's own needs or desires in order to focus upon and fulfill the needs or desires of another. Of course, this is not always an unpleasant sacrifice. In fact, we can all share anecdotes of times when we experienced great joy in sacrificial service to others. Sometimes we strongly desire to serve. However, in our sinful nature, we find it far more alluring to do something for ourselves. In the Spirit of Christ, however, we find that sacrificial service is appealing to us. We can be so transformed that we actually begin to think like servants, serving from the heart, rather than occasionally, out of obligation, acting like servants.

God himself became a man, setting aside all of his rights to be served, and served among us. His service culminated in a brutal and humiliating death at the hands of those who should have been serving him. Our lives are forever redeemed by his service to us. How, then, do we properly show our gratitude and worship him? If we raise children who worship him with their lips on Sunday mornings, that's pretty good. If our children abstain from sin, that's pretty good too. The ultimate worship, however, is revealed by the apostle Paul in Romans 12:1, "offer your bodies as living sacrifices."

Obviously, as parents, we need to start with our own worship. Are we offering our bodies in service as a way of life? If not, how will our children? Are we constantly planning service experiences for our children and weaving service into our family life and time together or do our children experience a childhood in which they are constantly served by others? In a society that worships children, we need to pause to seriously consider this.

That desire to glorify God will be realized to the extent that our lives are marked by service. If we graduate from our homes and our school young adults who get up daily and offer themselves for the sake of others, they will be mirror images of Jesus. The world will see and glorify him as he is revealed in their service. As our high school mission trips are just around the corner, please join me in praying that the Spirit of God will work through those experiences to expose our students to the joy of true worship--a life of sacrificial service to others. May our Lord Jesus Christ be glorified!

New Service Requirement for Graduation

This month the Board of Trustees passed a new policy that requires 40 hours of service be logged for each year of high school. This requirement will be implemented for the 2010-11 school year. The 40 hour requirement will only be required of the 2010-11 year and the years that follow. So for the 9th grade class of 2010-11, a total of 160 hours of service will be required for graduation. The class of 2010 obviously has no requirement to meet. Because of the ample opportunities provided within the regular programs of our school community, this new policy is really viewed as a way to document and celebrate the service that is already being completed by our students. Very few students will find this to be a burden as most CCS students are already serving a minimum of 40 hours per school year. Class trips alone will earn students an average of 30 hours of service, and school service clubs provide opportunities for an average of 30 hours to be earned just during the school day alone. The official policy follows:

Philippians 2:4 "Each of you should look not only to your own interests but also to the interests of others."

At Coventry Christian Schools, we believe that our alumni should demonstrate their faith through service. Because of this conviction, we plan and provide service opportunities for our students. These service opportunities are a part of the curriculum, not an extracurricular activity. As such, all high school students must log at least 40 service hours per school year in order to graduate. Transfer students may have the requirement waived for years spent at a school that does not require the same service hours. All service hours will be documented and verified by the signature of a faculty, staff, or administrative team member or by the director of the organization served by the student. The school will provide ample opportunity for required service to be earned under school direction and in the usual course of the school year if a student has difficulty finding ways to serve apart from the school's support. Service hours are reported on the official high school transcript.

Our Town Was Spectacular

Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Thomas and her drama classes! Those of you who missed the production of *Our Town* cannot appreciate what you have lost by missing that experience. We have very talented actors and actresses and an instructor and director who is second-to-none. The performing arts are becoming a strong suit at CCS. If you have not been out to see what all the buzz is about, we encourage you to come to the next show--of course, you'll have to wait until next year!

Sports Opportunities Grow and Abound

For one reason or another, sometimes students fail to mention things happening at school when they come home from a long school day. Our spring sports competition gets underway this week, and there are lots of events to go and be a part of. High school girls' soccer and both middle and high school baseball have their first games this week. The golf team's season has begun. The running club is training, and some of our high school members are participating in track meets and invitationals throughout the spring. Check out our sports calendar online and pick some events to attend!

In Case You Didn't Know. . .

For many high school students, the highlight of the school year is fast approaching. Every late April or early May, our high school students go on their class mission trips. The freshman go backpacking on the Appalachian Trail in Virginia. While not a traditional mission trip, the opportunities for spiritual growth and service abound as the class faces a monumental challenge together. The sophomores and juniors serve the poor of the Appalachian region in Maytown, KY. Our seniors buy the materials, pay their own way, and give a week to build a house for a homeless family in Mexico. As these trips approach, please join us in praying for those we serve and for our students to grow in their love for others.

Financial Aid Applications Due April 15, Get Started Now

If you want to re-enroll your child but know that you will need financial aid for the 2010-11 school year, you must go to www.ffna1.com to complete a financial aid application. Financial aid decisions will be made in May. Aid is limited, so late applications may not be accepted. You must still complete your re-enrollment form and pay the re-enrollment fee in order to reserve a spot for your child. Financial aid applications are not considered unless re-enrollment has been completed.

Important Band Dates

The spring band rehearsal is just around the corner on Tuesday, May 25. In the meantime, there are several dates to be reminded of. Practices for 4th grade and up will be held starting Wed, March 31, at 8 a.m. at Pleasantview and every Wednesday thereafter until the concert. On the morning of the concert, the band will practice at The Hill School Center for the Performing Arts from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. The concert will be that evening at 7 p.m.

College Funding Seminar

There will be a college funding seminar on Tuesday, March 30, 6:30 p.m. in the Pleasantview chapel. The seminar is for parents of children of any age. It will provide a cursory view of the college funding challenge and will provide follow-up opportunities with a consultant, Mr. Pete Dewalt, should attendees be interested. If you attended the fall session, this will be a repeat of that information. The seminar is free, but the follow-up consulting is not. Parents who simply wish to meet with Mr. Fisher to get help with the FAFSA (college financial aid) or college application process can simply make an appointment with Mr. Fisher.

Annual PTO Auction, April 17

Be sure to mark your calendars! The annual PTO auction is a great evening of fun and celebration of the CCS community. Invitations were sent home three weeks ago. If you did not get one, please give us a call so that we can get you the information needed to RSVP. This year's auction will be held at the French Creek Golf Club. If you have not been before, why not make this your first auction? It won't be your last!

Spaghetti Dinner to Benefit Senior Mexico Trip, Saturday, April 10

The spaghetti dinner that was originally planned for March 26 has been rescheduled for Saturday, April 10, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The dinner will benefit the senior class as they work to earn the money needed to buy the materials for the house they will build for a homeless family in Acuna, Mexico. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Put it on your calendar and join in this service to a family that needs our help!

Parent/Teacher Conferences May 14

Be sure to make plans to come to parent/teacher conferences on Friday, May 14. The day can sneak up on us and make it hard to get off of work. Please plan now for this important day.

Test and Project Calendar for This Week

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5th	Spanish test	Math quiz		Science test	
6th	Math test	Science test			
7th				Science test	
8th	Element Quiz (Science)		Science test	Spanish test; Eng- lish summa due	
9th	English Summa due; Bio quiz; Worldviews essay due	English reading quiz (p. 128-204)			
10th	Worldviews essay due	Chem I test; Brit. Lit. diary projects due	Brit Lit honors projects due		
11th	Worldviews essay due				
12th	Worldviews essay due			Chem II test	