



# Secondary School News

Coventry Christian Schools

Vol. 13, Issue 32

May 17, 2010

## Calendar of Events

### May

5/16--Board of Trustees Meeting

5/23--Sports Awards, 6 p.m., PV

5/24--Spiritual Emphasis Day

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

5/28--Junior/Senior Formal

5/27-6/2--Senior Final Exams

5/31--Memorial Day, School Closed

### June

1-2--Senior Finals

2--Academic Awards, 8 a.m.

3--Dorney Park

4--Secondary Picnic

11--Promotion, 6:00 p.m.

Senior Commencement, 7:30 p.m.

SEE [www.coventrychristian.com](http://www.coventrychristian.com) for sports schedules! Go Eagles!

## Partners in Education

**“Coventry Christian Schools exists to partner with parents in a community of academic excellence, nurturing young people in the faith, hope, and love of Jesus Christ, equipping them to serve God and others.”**

### CCS Mission Statement

I thoroughly enjoyed our parent-teacher conferences yesterday. There are no two ways about it; we do not spend enough time together considering our partnership on behalf of our children. Our mission statement declares that we exist to be a community of partners with a single-minded aim to nurture our children in faith, hope, and love and to lead them to use their skills, knowledge, and talents to love others as themselves. The first key phrase in the statement is “to partner with parents.”

What does such a partnership look like? When I worked in the public school setting, parents were not partners as much as they were adversaries. This was not universally true of every parent-teacher relationship, but it was commonplace for the collective community of parents to be referred to in derogatory or condescending terms by our administration and faculty, and the parents reciprocated with a profound lack of faith in the faculty and administration. How has the relationship between professional educators and parents become so troubled in our country? There are many answers that are rooted in the consumer-service provider nature of education these days as well as the unfortunate behavior of teachers’ unions and the politicalization of educational issues to garner votes. None of these answers truly satisfy.

The solution for the troubled relationship between families and the educational establishment is found in the faith, hope, and love of Jesus Christ, which takes such a predominant role in our mission at CCS. When parent and teacher or parent and principal lay their struggles and hopes for their children on the table and join in prayer before God in a common love for the child, powerful partnerships are forged. When the selflessness nurtured by the Spirit of Christ enters into conflicts and disagreements between school and home, productive and peaceful resolutions unfold and school-home partnerships are strengthened through the process.

At CCS, we seek to bring Christ into our partnership. The relationship between parent and teacher must be under the headship of Jesus Christ. This makes all the difference. If we succeed in rooting our relationships in the faith, hope, and love of Jesus Christ, nothing will stop us from fulfilling our shared mission on behalf of our children. As CCS parents,

Sheri and I are so thankful to have such a meaningful partnership with our children's teachers. As a principal and a teacher, Sheri and I are so gratified by the work we are able to do because of the support we receive from parents who are on the same proverbial page as our team of educators. At CCS we have found a school where the core values and philosophies of our children's teachers match ours. We only have 18 years with each of our children before they must blaze their own trails, and I am deeply thankful for the team of parents, teachers, coaches, and others at CCS who are our partners in our roles as our children's primary teachers. Our children will spend more time under the influence of their teachers each week day than they will with us. Our partnership with and trust in them is paramount!

If you are reading this and thinking, "I wish I had the same sentiment as he does," then you need to spend more time building a partnership with your child's teachers. Schools will only be as effective as the relationship between the parents and the teachers. No school succeeds because of the credentials of its faculty alone, and certainly not in the kind of challenging mission that CCS is striving to fulfill. Schools succeed because parents and teachers form a strong community. It is my prayer that we will all seek to build meaningful relationships with each other built upon faith and selfless service to one another so that our children will realize the dreams we all have for them. Yesterday was a good day for building community, but the rubber meets the road in the day-to-day opportunities we each have to get to know and to spend time with each other. Let's take advantage of those, partners.

## Sign Up for Fall Sports Now!

Sign-up sheets for the fall season have been posted on the bulletin board outside the office. It is important for all interested students to sign up now since we are making schedules and commitments for the fall now based upon those lists. High school students, you have made us so proud by stepping up to form our varsity baseball and girls' soccer teams. We can't wait to cheer you on in boys soccer and in the Events Center for girls' volleyball. We're looking to field cross country at any level in which we have at least six committed students. For the last two years, the high school boys' cross country has represented us well with victories over both public and private schools and strong performances at district championships.

Middle school students are the building blocks of our athletic program. We need the dedication and humble efforts of our younger students to help build our program into a league powerhouse. We urge all middle school students and their parents to take advantage of every program CCS has to offer. Start your 2010-11 school year off by joining a team now.

## Sports Awards Banquet, May 23

The sports award banquet for all middle and high school winter and spring sports will be held on Sunday evening, May 23, 6 p.m., at the Pleasantview campus. A light dinner will be served. All athletes and their families are strongly encouraged to attend as this is an important time to honor and celebrate the accomplishments of both individuals and teams. Invitations with more details will be coming home this week.

## Take Advantage of Pre-pay Discounts on Tuition

This is just the annual reminder that families that pre-pay tuition receive discounts according to the following schedule. If you have any questions, please contact Cyndy Schnovel in our business office.

- 4% discount if tuition paid in full by May 1st, 2010
- 3% discount if tuition paid in full by June 1st, 2010
- 2% discount if tuition paid in full by July 1st, 2010

## Band Concert

The spring band recital is just around the corner on Tuesday, May 25. 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 The Hill School at 7 p.m.

## Building of Hope Donation Days

The Building of Hope, a food pantry and clothing room located behind the school at the Pleasantview campus, is an outreach of the Chesmont Church of Christ, which meets at the Pleasantview campus of CCS. Its doors were recently opened to the public for the first time. Eight families were served. To continue to help those in need, supplies must be continually restocked. The church has asked if the school would partner with it in its efforts. To help out, you can bring donations to the drop-off boxes near the office and the chapel. Items needed include: toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex, cleaning supplies, feminine hygiene products, shampoos, conditioners, bath soap, detergents, fabric softeners, light bulbs, trash bags, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, etc. If you have any questions, contact Becky Lee at 484-942-3185. This special drive runs through May 14, but donations will be accepted indefinitely.

## Spiritual Emphasis Day, May 24

Monday, May 24, is Spiritual Emphasis Day. Every spring, Ambassadors, our student-led Christian fellowship group, plans and leads this fun and edifying event out at Camp Manatawny. Permission slips will come home the week before the event. All students in grades 5-12 will report to school as usual but will go by bus to the camp in Douglassville and will return to school for bus dismissal.

## Biology Class to Philadelphia Zoo

The high school biology class will be traveling to the Philadelphia Zoo on Tuesday, June 1.

## Academic Awards Ceremony, June 2

The academic awards ceremony will be held on Wednesday, June 2, from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Parents are welcome to attend. Honors will be given to the top student in each major academic discipline at each grade level. Those honored will receive a commemorative pin.

## Dorney Park June 3--Did You Earn Your Trip?

The Coventry Challenge fundraiser has been a great success this year, supporting our annual fund to the tune of \$36,000 so far. Are you a part of that success? No doubt you have seen the communication that has been coming home or through email from Debbie Beck regarding your opportunity to earn a trip to Dorney Park on June 3. To be eligible for this trip, your family must raise a minimum of \$150. We will also be giving a free ticket to each family for every \$150 that they raise. Please remember that the Dorney trip is a reward for those who meet that \$150 level of achievement. It is meant to be a way to say thank you to those who stepped up to support the annual fund. June 3 will be a regular school day. We will only be sending the necessary teachers to Dorney to provide chaperones for students whose parents are not attending. All other faculty will be in school teaching classes for the rest of the student body. June 3 is not a day off, and any absences must be for an excused reason. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Beck at [debbiebeck@educatingforlife.com](mailto:debbiebeck@educatingforlife.com).

## Senior End-of-the-Year Schedule

The schedule for seniors during these last days of their CCS tenure are always full of questions. Here are some clarifications. The senior exams take place before the last week of school. Exam dates are 5/27-5/28 and 6/1-6/2. On the 28th, all exams will be in the morning due to preparations for the formal in the afternoon. Seniors are not required to come to school during the last week of school, June 7-11, unless they have outstanding obligations to take care of. Senior skip day is on Friday, May 21. There is also a faculty-chaperoned senior "prank night" This is a scheduled day off for seniors. It is an excused absence. If you have any questions about the senior schedule, please send an email to Mr. Fisher or give the office a call.

## Test and Project Calendar for This Week

Please note that this schedule is tentative and subject to change, but we hope to provide a reasonable guide each week to what you can expect in the coming days.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>5th</b>		English test (prepositions)			
<b>6th</b>	Computer practical	Science test	Math quiz		History test-ch. 18
<b>7th</b>			Spanish Oral Presentation due		Science test
<b>8th</b>		English- <i>Prince Caspian</i> Test	Bible test	Spanish Project due	Algebra I test
<b>9th</b>	Biology quiz				World Languages project due
<b>10th</b>				Algebra 2 test, ch. 9	<i>Great Gatsby</i> quiz; World Languages project due
<b>11th</b>			Sociology test	Physics test	
<b>12th</b>		Chem II test	Sociology test		<i>Hamlet</i> , project due