



# The Fourth Wall

The Weekly Newsletter of East Cobb Christian School

May 1, 2008

## DATES TO REMEMBER

May 2	Track Meet at Perimeter School
May 3	School-wide workday
May 6	Class pictures by Jan Sanborn
May 7	Spring Musical, 11:00 a.m.
May 20 – 21	Consignement Sale
May 21	Talent Show; 12:15 dismissal
May 22	12:15 dismissal; Graduation, 7:00 p.m.
May 23	Field Day

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The ECCS Family is invited to attend the Eighth Grade Graduation Ceremony on Thursday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary. A reception will follow in the atrium.

### For 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents:

- Graduation rehearsal will be held on Tuesday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.
- Please bring to rehearsal a framed photo (no larger than 8x10) of your graduate taken at age 3 or younger.

**Congratulations and thank you to all the middle school students!** You have completed entering all **6,423** library books into the RenWeb System. We are all so proud of you and we thank you very much! Well done!

**LIBRARY BOOKS DUE!** All books are **due Monday, May 5**. A library cart will be in the hallway in Building A (lower school) at the intersection of the halls. They may also be returned to the library on Monday.

**CLARIFICATION ABOUT PERIMETER TRACK MEET:** Tomorrow, May 2, is the track meet at Perimeter Christian School. This is considered an official school day; however, we will not hold classes in the building. If your child is not participating, you may go to cheer on our other students if you like. We will not take attendance. Rain-out day is Friday, May 9.

**ECPC/ECCS Workday:** Please join us on May 3 from 8:00 a.m. to noon to help improve the facilities and grounds. Tasks will include: spreading pine straw, planting shrubs, repairing doors and windows, painting, and cleaning windows. Please bring the following tools: hammer, wrench, screwdrivers, pry bar, painting supplies, gloves, shovel, wheelbarrow, rake, tarp, and spade.

## EXPLORATORY CLASSES

**Music:** We are looking forward to our music program Wednesday, May 7 at 11:00. We will be having rehearsal Monday during school. All students K5 will be participating. We will be singing the worship music we have been working on all year and will have them woven together with scripture and a short drama. Please make note of the dress for that day. (K-4 - bright colored solid shirts, 5th grade only - representative dress of a different country) Parents of 3-5th grades, look for your student to bring home his or her "part". No parts are long or difficult and can be read the day of the program. We have been working on them in class.

**P.E. News:** Please see attachment about the track meet. We have been playing Ultimate Frisbee in third to eighth grades and kickball in kindergarten to second grades. We will begin playing Frisbee Golf next week and then finish the year with "regular" golf. I will make a three-hole golf course on the field, with a water hazard, sand traps, rough, fairway and a putting green (weather permitting). We will learn how to keep score on a scorecard and some important golf etiquette and rules. P. E. Rules: GOD REIGNS!!

**Computer and Technology:** We will not meet tomorrow because of the track meet. Beginning Monday, each middle school computer class will be dedicated to the statistics project.

Fourth and Fifth grades will be doing some new projects to wind up the year. They have done very well and I am proud of them!

## CLASS NOTES

**Kindergarten** We are so excited to celebrate our Mothers before the spring musical on Wednesday, May 7 at 9:00. Please join us for a light breakfast and fellowship. Remember this is a special time for kindergartners and their moms; please arrange childcare for siblings.

There will be no show and tell this week due to the track meet at Perimeter school. Please come for the fun day and support those who are participating.

Class pictures will be on Tuesday, May 6. Please remember to send in all library books you may have at home. The library committee is in the process of doing inventory prior to the end of the year.

**First Grade** The new Bible verse, Psalm 145: 13b, 17-20 was sent home this past Monday and is due Wednesday, May 14. It is a little longer than usual so you may want to start memorizing soon. It will be our last verse this year so as we like to say...let's finish strong! This month's core essential word is patience: waiting until later for what you want now. Hope you enjoy the activities on the May table topper sent home this week.

The students did well on their spelling test this week. We hope you are finding their words and their other homework successfully on RenWeb. Our recent spelling bee was fun and we plan to have the big one the last week of school. Remind them to work hard to learn and retain new words.

Keep reading and working on math facts each night.

**Second Grade** We welcomed Mrs. Atkins back this week, and are so happy to have her with us. She is doing pretty well aside from getting around a bit slower. Thank you for all the support and prayer lended for her healing and provision. We will have one final Bible verse to learn after today. This will be due Thursday, May 15 and is from Hebrews. We have finished our unit on Jesus' Miracles this week, and have started our final unit on the Parables. We will be able to act out several of these in class, which the children always enjoy.

We are enjoying Pippi very much! The children laugh out loud during our reading time in class. We have a couple of assignments coming up in relation to our Pippi story that will require some parent help. Please watch for details to allow yourselves enough time. We have loved the children's tall tales created this week.

In math, we are learning how to subtract three digit numbers, multiples of three, and how to write an array. In spelling, we are focusing on singular and plural words, specifically words where you change the 'y' to 'i' and add 'es'. We are also reviewing possessive nouns.

Mrs. Bosley is testing all our second grade students from now to the end of school for reading fluency and narration. She is taking two to three children on Tuesday and Thursday of each week. We will have those results if you would like to discuss them. She has been very pleased with our group so far.

As we near the end of the school year, please make sure your child is continuing to do his/her very best to finish assigned work. We do want to finish well. Thank you!

**Third Grade** We are so glad to have Mrs. Burgess back with us after her visit to New Jersey for her grandson's first birthday! In her absence, the class was ably taught by Mrs. Judy Squires (grandmother of Austin and McCall Mitchell).

All students should be working on their tree projects. Notebooks are to be brought to class next Tuesday, May 6 for a progress check.

This week we completed the reading of These are My People, and have been challenged by the life and example of Gladys Aylward, who gave her life to reach the people of China with the good news of Jesus Christ. Next week begins our final novel, Snow Treasure.

As the end of the school year nears, we are looking for a few good homes for our beloved third grade pet, Teri. As you know, Teri is a low maintenance creature, requiring only bi-weekly feedings (and a trip to the pet store for her crickets) and water every few days. If you would like to take a turn keeping Teri this summer, please let your child's teacher know as soon as possible.

**Fourth Grade** The Invention Convention is coming up! Students need to have their monologue memorized and it may not be more than 1 ½ minutes long. Be sure to be planning what to wear and what prop to bring. Once again, parents are welcome to join us.

Next week we will be working on how to outline passages of Scripture to better understand the structure, flow, and content of the passage. We will begin to write tall tales to finish the year off with a fun flourish!

Next week's tests and events:

Invention Convention!—Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

Chapter 11 Math Test—Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup>

Bible Memory I Cor. 9:24-25—Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup>

**Fifth Grade** The students did a marvelous job pulling weeds, spreading pine straw and cleaning up at Ms. Neff's. As always, we enjoyed hearing Ms. Neff's testimony. Several students prayed for her and her children. We appreciate Mr. Van Hosen, Mr. and Mrs. Kearney and Mrs. Saylor's help. The snacks and water the parents provided tasted wonderful after working all morning. Thank you, parents, for donating money towards garden flowers. She is going to pick them out and they will be planted soon.

We feel honored that Army veteran, Mr. Arnold Whittaker, spoke to our class about World War II. He is Olivia Winkler's grandfather. He participated, endured and survived what many consider the greatest land battle, The Battle of the Bulge.

Please note the following dates and events:

- Friday, May 2, Track Meet
- Tuesday, May 6, Dwight D. Eisenhower report due
- Wednesday, May 7, Spring Musical
- Thursday, May 8, Parade of Powerful People (visit anytime between 9:15 and 11:15)
- Thursday, May 8, English Chapter Review, (p.209-210) due
- Friday, May 9, Science section 2 quiz

### **Middle School**

**Social Studies** Wow, time is flying by! Students will be giving their explorer presentations next week. I have not assigned individual dates so students should be prepared to present on Monday, May 5. The final quiz for this quarter is scheduled for Monday, May 12. Grades went up on this last quiz! Keep up the good work!

**Language Arts** This week, the students wrote persuasive five paragraph essays. Although the theme of each writing assignment is different, we are using the same process each week: brainstorm, outline, prepare a rough draft, participate in peer editing, and then prepare the final draft. This process is designed to be a culmination of all the grammar work we have done this year, and the peer editing specifically gives the students an opportunity to use their grammar skills to help each other. The last five paragraph essay will be assigned on Monday and due on Friday, May 9. The last Wordly Wise quiz of the year will be next Thursday and will cover chapter

17. I am still working on getting the research papers graded, and they will be sent home soon.

**Math** Today we went over the Statistics Project for the last unit of the year. All next week we will be working on this project in class, both in the math time slot and computer. Please read the instructions, sign the last page, and have your student return the signed sheet Monday. Please feel free to ask any questions either via e-mail (Cranfill@gmail.com or Michael.A.Browne@gmail.com) or on Monday in class. This will be due Monday, May 12 (before everyone leaves for their class trips), and then they will be presented the last week of school! Also, all math classes will have their final cumulative assessment May 12.

**Pre-Algebra** A cumulative study review has been sent home today with your student as well as the statistics project requirement. Students, press on 'til the end!

**Geometry** Your students have been assigned the cumulative review at the end of chapter twelve to prepare for the upcoming test. This is due on or before May 12. They should also review nightly their vocabulary and theorems.

**Algebra 1 (Browne—1<sup>st</sup> period)** Please look over the extra material that will help prepare your student for high school next year!

**Algebra 1 (Browne—2<sup>nd</sup> period)** Well done finishing up this unit strong. Please keep looking over the cumulative reviews for the final.

**Pre-Algebra (Browne—4<sup>th</sup> period)** I am very impressed with how far this class went this year, completing the Math 6 curriculum and getting well into Pre-Algebra. Please keep looking over the cumulative reviews for the final.

**Science** Well pigeon dissection is off to a "soaring" start. The initial queasy feelings seem to have passed for most students and they are enjoying seeing the detail to which our God has created these animals. They are also marveling at the diversity of the individual birds.

**Bible** Our goal in sixth and seventh grade Bible classes is to make it to Acts 12! Surprisingly, a few students had never heard of one of the stories in the beginning of Acts. That's fun when it happens! Eighth graders are getting close to the end of "The Case for Faith". It has very thought provoking questions in it. All need to be practicing the New Testament hand symbols for a test.

**Spanish** Hola! The Spanish class is going to Moe's for lunch to join the Mexican celebration of *Cinco de Mayo*. The manager at the restaurant on Johnson Ferry and Lower Roswell is so nice that he will make our visit a very special one by giving us every thing we order at half price! Please send money for lunch on Monday. Cinco de Mayo is not Mexican Independence Day; it is the commemoration of an important battle between Mexican soldiers and the French in 1862.

Remember that Spanish tests will be Monday May 12 for every class. The students need to finish their lesson exercises in their workbooks. Also, lesson plans and home work are posted on RenWeb.

**Health** We have one more lecture, one more homework assignment (due May 5) and one more test for the semester. The test is on Monday, May 12 - there are several tests that same day, but this date was on the syllabus that was given out in January. Let's finish strong.

## THE PRINCIPAL'S PLACE

One of the books on my shelf that I used this week to work through a discipline issue with some young men is *Raising a Modern-Day Knight* by Robert Lewis. The back cover says "The medieval custom of knighthood offers a unique approach to shaping a boy into a man. In those days, lads were trained from an early age, being equipped with a masculine vision, a code of conduct, and a cause in which to invest their lives. Ceremonies were held in their honor, celebrating the boys' progress. Objectives were set, goals achieved, and along the way, these boys became men."

This book was written for men to use with sons, but I recommend both mothers and fathers read it. I suggest this for several reasons. It will help spouses to be on the same page. A woman can undermine their husband's authority in the home. It will help mothers to inspire their sons to be Godly men, and it will help in inspiring mothers on the qualities for daughters to look for in a mate, too. It will also help our mothers who have lost spouses due to death or divorce to encourage and train their sons in manhood. The anthologies by William Bennett, *The Book of Virtues* and *The Children's Book of Virtues* are a great source of stories illustrating biblical manhood.

The ten biblical ideals that need to be imparted to our sons are loyalty, servant-leadership, kindness, humility, purity, honesty, self-discipline, excellence, integrity, and perseverance. We need to call them to these virtues, praise them when we see them exhibiting these qualities, and of course, we need to model these virtues in front of them.

I wrote this with hesitation and passion. My father died when I was six. Before I was a Christian, I dated what some in my family called "strays", guys I thought needed me and needed fixing. I was raised to be able to take care of myself. My independent strength instilled in me through circumstances and example has made it difficult for me to be submissive to my husband. There have been times that I undermined his authority and role as spiritual leader. While I often wanted him to be stronger, my strength and independent spirit, lack of respect and obedience had a negative influence on my children and my husband.

This summer, when the schedule is not as hectic, set life goals for your sons. Purposely train our boys to be men.