



The Fourth Wall

The Weekly Newsletter of East Cobb Christian School

May 13, 2010

Important Dates

May 18 - 19	Uniform Consignment Sale
May 18	Graduation Rehearsal; 7:00 p.m.
May 19	Talent Show; 11:00
May 19	12:15 Dismissal
May 20	Parents in Touch
May 20	Out-of-Uniform Day; 12:15 Dismissal
May 20	Graduation; 7:00 p.m.
May 21	Last Day of School; Field Day; 9:00 - 12:30

Announcements

The Eighth Grade class of East Cobb Christian School invites you to attend the graduation ceremony on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at 7:00 pm in the East Cobb Presbyterian Church sanctuary.

Uniform Consignment Sale: The ECCS consignment sale of dress code appropriate garments will be held on Tuesday, May 18 and Wednesday, May 19 in the church atrium. Stop by to stock up on your uniforms and become a seller to pass on your gently used items. The information sheet and seller's tags handouts that went home last week are attached to the electronic *Fourth Wall*. Also, we are in need of RACKS if you are able to let the sale borrow them. Please contact Julia Brasfield @ 770-578-1966.

Graduation Rehearsal: All 2010 ECCS graduates should plan to attend graduation rehearsal on Tuesday, May 18 at 7:00 in the sanctuary. Also, students should bring to rehearsal a framed photo, no larger than 8 x 10, of themselves taken at age 3 or younger.

Parents in Touch: Please consider joining us for our final gathering of the school year on Thursday, May 20 in the sanctuary from 8:45 - 9:30. Our praise and prayer focus will be on **God as our Fortress** using the following passages from God's Word: Ps. 18:1-3; Ps. 59:16-17; Ps. 62:6; Ps. 31:3.

Project Authentic Beauty Camp: PAB camp is this summer at ECPC, June 21-25, 9:30-12, M-F. For girls 8-18. Reserve your spot this week at bodybeautybravery.com. Questions? Call Alison Cross at 404.213.1194, or email at alison@bodybeautybravery.com.

Field Day: See the enclosed information regarding field day. Teams are listed on the back.

Track Meet Shorts: If you participated in the track meet, please turn in your clean navy shorts to the office or Mrs. Hunt by Monday, May 17.

Biscuits: Thank you so much for the support you have shown our eighth graders through purchasing Chick-fil-A biscuits and muffins on Tuesday mornings! The sale goes through next Tuesday, May 18.

Lost and Found: Please check the lost and found bin before school ends. Items left after school is out will be donated to MUST Ministries.

Library Books: Please see the enclosed list of missing library books. Please search your homes, cars, classrooms, etc. for these books!

Exploratory Classes



Art: I greatly admire the ECCS community's commitment to Fine Arts and its integration into the Christian world view being developed in our classrooms and our homes, beyond the brief "art studio time" your child experiences in an enrichment class. Throughout the week, guided instruction, and focused practice with sketching, drawing, painting, colored pencil techniques, etc. combine to nourish each child's creative bent.

Highlights of this year's art classes: Architecture (the Parthenon, Taj Mahal, Swan House, Ranch Style Houses, Frank Lloyd Wright's influence, etc.), Mr. Rule's lectures and his development of multiple site plan projects with middle school classes, Trees (tour led by Mr. Ted Robinson), Guitars (courtesy of Shane Martin's collection), Classic Cars, and drawing animals (dogs, horses, birds, fish, etc.). Besides painting watercolor flowers, we also tried upside down drawing, grid drawings, contour drawings, drawing from memory, symmetry, observation techniques, and two-point perspective drawing. Let's encourage our children to keep on sketching and drawing throughout the summer!



P. E. Rules: Everyone had a great time at the track meet. A special thanks goes to my "assist" coach Perry Carraway and the other parent volunteers who helped with the long jump and the shot put. We won several medals and ribbons. Congratulations to Cal Jennings for winning his sixth straight gold medal in the 100-meter dash! Way to go Cal – we are all proud of you. Congratulations also goes to the following: Mitchell Keim 3rd place medal in the 800 meter run, Hannah Rogers 3rd place medal in the 400 meter run, Will Harper 3rd place medal in the long jump, Jordan Jennings 3rd place medal in the 100 meter dash, Justin Fuller 3rd place medal for the shot put, Caroline Keim 6th place ribbon in the 400 meter run, William Palmer 6th place ribbon in the 400 meter run, and the boys fourth, fifth and sixth grade relay teaming for receiving the 5th place ribbon.

Over the next week, during P.E. we will be playing various recreation games (in preparation for Field Day). Over the summer, get out and exercise. Try to get at least 60 minutes of exercise per day for five days a week. It has been a pleasure teaching your children this school year. P.E. Rules; GOD REIGNS!!



Class Notes

Kindergarten Wow, what an awesome year we have had in kindergarten! The children have truly blessed us. Thank you for allowing us to come beside you to help teach and nurture your children. We also thank you for your support, care and love over the year.

We want to thank our fabulous room parents, Peter and Miriam Moore. We also want to thank Lisa Adams for the terrific job she did organizing and scheduling our field trips. We could not have done it without you!

For show and tell this week, each child may bring one item to share with their classmates. The item can be anything they would like; however, they must be prepared to share the beginning and ending sound.

Please have all reading books back in to us by Friday, May 14. Please remember to have your child read to you over the summer to keep preparing them for first grade. They will lose much of their ability without the practice over the summer.

Friday, May 21 will be our last day of school and it will be a fun one. It is field day so please refer to the *Fourth Wall* for team color. Be sure to wear that color shirt. We will be gathering on the field as a kindergarten class and will participate in the activities as a class. We will not have class in the kindergarten room.

Please send in a large shopping bag with handles by Wednesday, May 19. We will use the bag to send home all school supplies.

Also, to the Teacher Appreciation Committee, you have made us feel very loved and appreciated this year. You do a wonderful job! We are grateful for the beautiful and yummy gifts you showered us with this school year.

First Grade "I thank my God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3. We are so thankful for the wonderful year God has given us and the blessing you and your child have been to us. It is hard to believe this school year is drawing to a close. Thank you so much for entrusting your child to our care.

In Bible we have finished the New Testament study of the apostles. Our last verse, Psalm 145:13b, 17-20, is due next Tuesday, May 18.

Please remember that all Open Court Readers need to be turned in next Wednesday, May 19.

We are so excited about going to see Mr. Coleman this Friday, May 14. Please remember to bring some homemade goodies for Mr. Coleman. The children might also enjoy bringing carrots, celery, or parsley for the goats. Please let your children wear jeans and old tennis shoes as they might get dirty. We want to give a big thank you to Mrs. Mollica and Mrs. Young for helping us drive.

Our end of the year party is next Thursday at 11:00. Mrs. Austin, Mrs. Griffin, Mrs. Roach and Mrs. Trapnell are in charge. We are grateful for their help and look forward to seeing what they have planned for us. Please send in a large bag to help them carry things home on Thursday.

Please remember to have your child read daily and practice math over the summer. We want them to be all set for second grade. God bless your time this summer and bring you back safely next year!

Second Grade Next Tuesday and Wednesday we will share our own recipes and a sample for each classmate. A sheet will come home on Monday for you to help your child fill out for their recipe. These will be copied to put in a class cookbook. On Tuesday, Talbott, Phoebe, Lexie, Luke and Nathan will share their recipes. On Wednesday, Knox, Lily, Maggie, Abby and Ian will share their recipes. This will conclude our Pippi novel. Next week will be bittersweet, but we are anxious to celebrate our end of the year party and participate in Field Day! You have all been such wonderful support and encouragement this year!

Third Grade Tuesday was our last field trip of the school year, to Atlanta's very own "China Town." It was an interesting and informative visit, thanks to our excellent tour guide, Larry Ragan. Thanks also to each Mom who drove and chaperoned, making the trip possible.

What a delight it is to see the results of our third graders' tree projects. The projects will be on display outside the classrooms for the next few days, so please stop by and take a look at them.

To help with carrying home school supplies, each student should bring 2 or 3 grocery/shopping bags to class by next Tuesday.

As we come to the end of this school year, we want to thank our room parents, Jay and Kappy Memory, and Kenny and Helen Smith, for the many ways they have helped keep our classes running smoothly this year. And to all parents, it has been a great privilege to partner with you in the education of your children this past year. We hope each family has a wonderful and restful summer.

Fourth Grade (Mrs. Ficarrotta) I count this job as nothing less than a pure joy, to be privileged enough to be called. It has been such a joy having this amazing group of students yet again this year in fourth grade. It has been a wonderful journey of growing and learning together. Thank you all for your ongoing grace allowed, as I navigated through unknown territory. All the while this year has been a very special gift. This group will always hold a very special place in my heart and will remain in my prayers always. I want to dance at their weddings. :)

I would like to thank our fabulous room parents, Cindy and Rob Rule and Jamie and Scott Stephens. They have shared and been available all year to serve each of us. We all thank you for giving of your time and love. Also to Amy and Rick Palmer for the tremendous job they gave us all as field trip coordinators. We were all so completely on auto-pilot on our journeys, because of all your behind the scenes work. We all are so very grateful for these ongoing services granted by these parents.

Enjoy your summer together. I'll look forward to seeing these students grow as fifth graders next year. With all my love through our Lord's Grace.

Fourth Grade (Miss Work) It's been quite a year and I want to thank the parents and students and Mrs. Ficarrotta for all you've done for me! We truly have been on an adventure together. I echo Mrs. Ficarrotta's thanks for our room parents and field trip coordinator. I'd be lost without you!

Class Notes

The students have been diligent in their efforts to raise funds for Ivan and Jonathan. We are up to almost \$150! Praise God for the work He is doing in the hearts of the students and in the hearts of Ivan and Jonathan.

Our last field trip is this Friday. Students may wear khaki shorts and ECCS t-shirt. Bring a sack lunch and a drink as well as \$5 for the gift shop. Drivers, you'll want to dress comfortably, too, since we'll be doing some walking on uneven ground. Drivers are as follows: Mansheim, Brothers, Keim, Mollica and alternate is Palmer. Everybody needs to be at school by 8:20 to leave on time.

Upcoming tests and events:

Civil War Test—Monday, May 17

Turn Homeward, Hannalee essay due—Tuesday, May 18

Pajama Day (watch for more information to come home)—Thursday, May 19

Computer & Technology: Each student created a birthday card for Mrs. Staley for our MS Publisher unit. A copy is coming home today. Also, I e-mailed a copy of each student's "All About Me" MS Power Point assignment to their mother's e-mail address listed in the school directory. The students really enjoyed working on these assignments. I hope you enjoy the results! I enjoyed having the fourth grade in computer class! Have a fabulous summer!

Fifth Grade On Monday, Mr. Cross told us about his Opa's (grandfather's) family who lived in Holland. His Opa's parents hid a Jewish family in their home and saved them from the Holocaust. The reason they did this was because they were Christians and believed God wanted them to. We were riveted by this testimony. It would have been certain death if caught.

I want to thank Mr. and Mrs. Preece for being such wonderful fifth grade room parents. Both of them did behind the scenes work to make our parents' meetings and extra activities function smoothly. Becki Shannon was exceptional in organizing our field trips. It takes many hours of planning, making phone calls and emailing to orchestrate our many events. Thank you so much, Becki. I also appreciate Mrs. Brothers and Mrs. Mansheim for being my right arm. Not only are they efficient, they love your children! Lastly, thank you, parents, for the time you give in various ways. Your involvement makes our school and class extra special!

Please send a strong bag to school with your fifth grader next week. The students may also send a cleaning rag to help clean the classroom.

Please note the following:

- Friday, May 14 Service project at Miss Neff's
- Friday, May 14 Chapter 11 English test
- Monday, May 17 Bible take-home test due

Computer & Technology: I e-mailed a copy of each student's MS Power Point assignment to their mother's e-mail address listed in the school directory. The Power Point presentation was about the research topic they had in Mrs. Hull's class. The students worked very hard and enjoyed this assignment. I hope you enjoy the fruit of their labor! Thank you for the opportunity to teach the Fifth Grade computer class! Have a fabulous summer!

Middle School

Year-End Party: The middle school students will have lunch together on Thursday, May 20 at 11:15. Please send in \$5.00 per student for lunch from Subway. Please turn money into the school office by Wednesday, May 19. If your student does not like Subway, they may bring their own lunch.

Social Studies Students have been learning about the last half of the 20th Century. We have covered the Korean and Vietnam Wars, the Bay of Pigs and the Cuban Missile Crisis. We are ending with a study on the Civil Rights Movement and a brief overview of the social movements of the 60s and 70s. The 8th grade final is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, and the 7th grade final and 6th grade test are scheduled for Wednesday, May 19.

Language Arts Wow! We're done! Even though this novel study was a quick one, I'm so glad we got to squeeze it in. The Language Arts cumulative exam is tomorrow, but it is only for seventh and eighth grades. The exam covers everything we have studied this semester, and each student has a study guide to help with reviewing. Eighth grade also has a final writing assignment due tomorrow. Sixth grade will have a regular literature quiz covering chapters 25-31 of *To Kill A Mockingbird*. All quizzes and writing assignments were handed back earlier this week so students could use them to study, so there is nothing being sent home today. We'll spend any class time next week watching the *To Kill A Mockingbird* movie. It has been a great year! I wish everyone a wonderful, restful break.

Math

Math 6: We reviewed this last chapter on geometry, finding the area or perimeter of triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles. We have learned to find dimensions of a right triangle using the Pythagorean Theorem. We have learned to find square roots and where the radical sign and the pi sign are located on our calculators. Everyone has worked hard! Our test over this chapter will be tomorrow morning. Please call if your student has any questions! I will miss everyone over the summer!

Math 7: The students have taught the reviews this week and have done a wonderful job. Tomorrow we will test over chapters 6-9, and 11. I have so enjoyed teaching this group! Have a great summer!

Math 8: Tomorrow we will have our test over unit 2, sections 1-9. The rest of the unit involves graphing quadratic functions, which we covered before Spring Break. They have worked hard this year and will do well in high school math. I am so proud of our graduates and I will miss them. Congratulations! Have a wonderful summer.

Computer & Technology Each student has been working on a fictional letter about going on a mission trip. The students are then automatically generating a personalized letter for each person in their "Contacts" table stored in a MS Access database. This assignment is due in class tomorrow, as tomorrow is our last class for the year. I have enjoyed teaching the middle school students this year. Have a fabulous summer!

Science We will be going to the Georgia Aquarium next Monday, May 17. We will be taking a class in the learning loop, seeing some of the behind scenes areas and attending the 4-D movie and the new Planet Shark Exhibit. Students need to arrive at 8:00 a.m. for us to be able to get through the traffic and be on time for the set scheduled the aquarium has assigned us. Dress for the field trip is the ECCS navy blue field trip polo shirt, sneakers and nice jeans, khakis or khaki shorts. Students will need to bring a disposable lunch. We will return in time for the 3:15 carpool. Drivers for the field trip are Karen Brothers, Debra Mansheim, Becki Shannon, Caroline Cranfill, Ginny Bates, Nancy Earhart, Cynthia Meyer, Karen Robertson and alternate Lisa Gregory.

The shark lab practical will be next Tuesday, May 18. The following links are good resources for practicing for the lab practical:

http://www.cumberland.k12.il.us/schools/chs/Starwalt%20Projects/Shark%20Web%20Pages/vertebrate_biology_shark_dissect.htm

<http://jb004.k12.sd.us/MY%20WEBSITE%20INFO/BIOLOGY%202/ANIMAL%20KINGDOM/SHARK%20DISSECTION/SHARK%20DISSECTION%20HOMEPAGE.htm>

Thank you for the amazing joy and privilege of teaching your children. It has been a blessing sharing this year with you.

Bible Sixth and seventh graders will conclude the year with the Philippians 2:1-11 verse quiz and the New Testament hand symbols test. Keep practicing on both! We are concluding our time in *The Young Peacemaker* and it has been a great study in conflict resolution.

Eighth graders will have their self-image paper due on Tuesday, May 18. I have so much enjoyed teaching them this year and will miss them so much!

Spanish It has been a great pleasure to teach your children this year. As a teacher, I am very satisfied with everything we accomplished. Our middle school students have developed abilities that enable them to communicate ideas in a variety of topics, feelings, opinions, likes and dislikes in Spanish. The last test will be on Tuesday, May 18.

I send off our eighth graders with my best wishes. May our Lord bless and use them abundantly. They should know their hard work in Spanish at ECCS will pay off in high school. They completed Spanish I that counts for placement for Spanish II. Have a great summer!

Health The test from Tuesday this week is being sent home today. It has been a pleasure teaching your student in Health this year. Next year we will be studying nutrition, fitness, exercise and first aid.



THE PRINCIPAL'S PLACE

Thank you for making my birthday enjoyable and not just survivable. I love my punching bag and have set it up in my carport at home. I even bought gloves for my husband to use. You must stop in the office to read the book with notes from each child in the school. Some of the comments include: "You are one of the nicest ladies I have ever gotten in trouble with." "I'm glad you have lived so long. I'm also glad you are around to keep peace with us." "You are an impartial judge." "I love the way you give so many second chances." "You are the best principal ever, but that is probably because I haven't had a different principal." "I like it when you do the snow dance." "I like your car."

Thank you to those of you who participated in the survey. The SMT and I value your feedback and your comments. One thing many of you noticed was that homework became more manageable after Christmas. While it wasn't broadcasted, a good deal of time on our faculty retreat dealt with the negative impact the homework was having on family time.

We had our first meeting about the Apogee Scholarship Program last night. It's a win-win situation. You donate and receive a education credit which reduces your state tax liability by that amount (not to exceed \$2500). You also get to use the credit as a charitable donation on your federal tax return. The "catch" is the donation needs to be made this year and the credit is taken when you file your 2010 taxes. Money donated now will allow us to give scholarships to qualified applicants for next year. The brochure is attached to the electronic version of *The Fourth Wall*. We hope you will participate and get others to participate.