

Middle School News

Volume 1, Issue 2
January 2010

Upcoming Events:

1/25- Staff/Student Volleyball game 1:00pm

1/26-Dress Down Day \$1

1/28-Term 3 lunch forms due

1/29-2nd Term Ends

2/5-half day of school, curriculum day

2/15-2/19-NO SCHOOL, WINTER VACATION

A Note from Mrs. Priestly

It almost seems impossible to imagine, but it is time to plan for the 2010-2011 academic year! I have just come from a powerful prayer meeting held at New Testament with administrators from the area Christian schools and a representative from ACSI. What an amazing time of sharing praises and petitioning for prayer for our individual schools and for Christian education across the world. God is at work. We have all suffered enrollment issues and we are all working with lean staffing because of the current economy, yet each of us had awesome encouragement to share in individual student stories and our sense of unity with our staff. God is at work. I believe with all my heart we are coming from the ashes stronger, more committed, and more unified as a community than we were just a year ago. I have nothing but praise for the work God has done in our board, in our staff, and in our students. It is a joy to be in partnership with each one of you. I am overwhelmed to see how God has showed himself in the verse we claimed more than a year ago, "For I know the plans I have you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future." We give God all the glory for allowing us to look forward with joy and not to enter this year with trepidation. I thank each one of you for all you've done to keep this ministry strong. I ask you to pray unceasingly for our school as decisions are made and plans are put in place to grow and flourish over this next year. I know this full well: God is at work.

Administrative Announcements

- **BoxTops:** Every time you clip and save a box top, our school receives .10 cents. Every 10 box tops equals one free dollar for our school! It's such a simple way to earn money for our school from food and supplies that you already purchase. So, please check everything you buy for BoxTops before you throw away or recycle the packaging. **Simply clip box tops and put them in a baggie or envelope. Write your child's name on the baggie or envelope with the amount of box tops inside.**
- **ShopWithScrip.com** You may now pay for your order at the ShopWithScrip website when you use the online payment service of PrestoPay! Doing so eliminates your need to drop off a check after placing your order. Please see the flier which went home with the scrip order form on Tuesday for more information. You may also Reload your cards at ShopWithScrip.com which is explained on the back of that flier that went home. We hope all of these "little extras" make your scrip shopping that much more enjoyable!
- **Update from Mrs. Camacho:** statements for 2009 for Childcare expense will be going home (on MHCA letterhead) within the week. These are NOT bills, it is a statement to be used for tax purposes.

Monthly Character Trait:

February Trait

DILIGENCE

Lunches:

Term 3 lunches start
Monday, February 1,
2010

Literature and Language from Mrs. Michaels

Middle School English:

Students wrote excellent, creative short stories that taught life lessons. Some short stories, narratives, and poetry have been selected to be entered into the ACSI Creative Writing Festival. This is a great opportunity to showcase our students' talents in writing.

Sixth and seventh grade are working on chapter 12 in their English books, which is a review of all

parts of speech. At the end of this chapter, the goal is that students will be able to identify all the parts of speech in a writing sample with ease. Some students are doing very well, while others need independent practice reviewing: verbs, adverbs, prepositions, adjectives, conjunctions and interjections. The English test for chapter 12 will be Tuesday, February 2nd.

Eighth grade will continue to alternate between two weeks of

“Grammar Boot Camp” and two weeks of writing.

Middle School Reading:

All grades will continue reading short stories in their literature books.

Students were given a week off on their literature packets due to the long weekend and the start of science fair. The next chapters are due on Tuesday, January 26th.

Love in Christ,
Mrs. Michaels

Technology



January and February will be spent focusing on Internet safety and our iSafe curriculum. If you have not yet taken the parent survey, I encourage you to do so. Even if your student is not yet on the internet or on the internet unattended, the survey may bring to light questions you may have never thought to ask. Once we have completed iSafe, the Middle school and upper elementary will resume work on PowerPoint and Excel, while the lower elementary will learn how to use Microsoft Paint and Microsoft Word. Stay warm!

Much Love, Mrs. Sylvia

Physical Education News

The month of January is geared up with volleyball! The little ones played a balloon game in which they need to keep the balloon up in the air at all times working together as a team. Next week, they will be introduced to beach ball volleyball. Grades 3-8 have been instructed in basic volleyball rules and have been tested on that knowledge. We will continue to practice our

serving, rotating, and volleying techniques. We hope to be able to get the ball over the net sometime before we take on the teaching staff in a game on Monday, January 25th.

We are also working on building up our stamina to run a mile to meet: The President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports Qualifying Standards in February. To give you an example, a boy of 13 meeting the *Presidential*

Physical Fitness Award should be able to run the mile in 6 minutes, 50 seconds; a boy of 13 meeting the *National Physical Fitness Award* should be able to run the mile in 8 minutes, 6 seconds; and a boy of 13 meeting the *Health Fitness Award* should be able to run the mile in 8 minutes. We are striving to do our personal best!

In Christ, Mrs. Saucier



Mrs. Santos says...

HISTORY: It is now almost 3rd term and we are reaching peak performance. We will be working at a steady pace to cover the maximum ground over term 3. Rest, eat right and put on your running shoes as we race on through History.

SCIENCE: Caution! Due dates are closer than they appear! I am very excited about the science fair top-

ics this year! There is quite a variety of interesting science. Each Wednesday students will have the opportunity to work on their research papers. To make the best use of this time, students should be prepared with their resources and note cards. Meet all due dates for increased success and decreased stress. For questions or concerns, email:

mrs_santos@live.com

God Bless You,
Mrs. Santos



► In November, we had the privilege to celebrate Mrs. Priestly's birthday on the 18th. Our theme for November was Trust. We also had prayer partners sit together to complete a "THANKSGIVING" acrostic puzzle.

► In December, we had Mr. John Kingsley from Straight Ahead Ministries speak on Encouragement. Thank you to those families who baked or brought in soda for their yearly men's dinner associated with Straight Ahead Ministries.

► January's chapel theme is Generosity and we had the pleasure of having Pastor Curtis Dias from Calvary Pentecostal Church speak on Generosity. We all enjoyed hearing Pastor Dias sing, and preach from the Word of God. We also had Pastor Tom Heim from the Lakeville Nazarene Church speak also on Generosity this month, thank you!

► February's theme will be Diligence.

Art

We're learning facial proportions for portraits. People are usually surprised to learn about all the "half" measures that are on a head. See if your child can tell or show you some. The students are drawing some great portrait studies!

Love, Mrs. D'Amato



Mrs. O'Donnell's 8th Grade Science:

This is an exciting time of year for science class because its Science Fair! The kids are preparing interesting projects to share with the rest of the school. Stay tuned for future developments!

God Bless, Mrs. O'Donnell

Math News.....

6th Grade: Prime numbers, composite numbers, charts and graphs, LCM and GCF. Parents, remember all these? We're also learning divisibility rules, however, nothing beats having facts memorized. Please study. Thank you.

Love, Mrs. D'Amato

7th Grade: We are moving right along in 7th grade math and preparing for SAT's! Word problems, fractions and decimals, oh my! All of our favorite things!

8th Grade: In Algebra we will be doing a review of slopes and graphing lines before continu-

ing on. In Geometry we are exploring the world of polygons and the measures of all types of angles. Great stuff!

Love, Mrs. O'Donnell

check us out!

www.mhca.net



8TH GRADE NOTES

Nothing new to report at this time.....

Mrs. Michaels

Bible Note

There is no doubt that we are wrapping up this term with a great deal of enthusiasm and joy. Over the last several weeks, we have learned much about God's wonderful love for every person. We have also learned that in His Word God has given us a flowing stream of wisdom so that we may live our lives skillfully. As we move forward in the coming months, let us continue to study God's Word thoroughly that we might know how great and how good Jesus Christ is in all His awesome wonder (Ecclesiastes 5:7). Blessings, Pastor Smith



Music/Performing Arts

We are already preparing for our Spring musical by practicing rhythm, beat and learning about percussion. It's fun watching our students develop their skills and creativity at the same time! The

Boomwhackers (percussion tubes that you can hit off of "anything" to make music) are a hoot! We are still in need of one more "Boomwhackers" music book (\$19.99 +

s&h) if anyone is looking to make a small donation to our program.

Love, Mrs. Sylvia

Middle School Spanish

6th & 7th Grade: We are moving through the verbs! Class has been very interesting being able to understand each other's thoughts and sentences. Everyone is doing a great job in this area. Please keep up the great work. If you need help in any area, please see me. I would love to help. Our next adventure will be designing an educational game together.

8th Grade: What a great job on your posters! Thanks you for all the vocabulary words and instruction brought to us on this project! We have also been working on short stories, fairy tales, fables and poems. Our next assignment is a five paragraph story of fiction. I can't wait to see how they come out. Remember to use those safe, reliable resources at home and school. There is no end to your abilities when you are prepared. You are doing an amazing job and should be very proud of yourselves!

Jesus en mi corazon, Señora Holmes