

Jefferson County Christian School
November Newsletter 2015

Dear JCCS School Family:

I have had such a fantastic week because I had the opportunity to teach our fifth graders for four days. It made me realize how much I miss teaching elementary students and it gave me a closer, longer look inside a JCCS classroom than I have had for a while. To hear the children say the pledges to the American flag, the Christian flag, the Bible, and then hear the assigned "prayer person" pray encourages my heart. We have had such rich days full of Bible, Penmanship, Math, Reading, English, Spelling, World History, and Science which made the time go by so fast for me. I cannot confirm that the students felt the same way. To watch these students respond, and problem solve, and learn, and grow, blesses my heart.

As we watch the news, the campaigns, the crazy world, I am so grateful to see young Americans being trained up in the truth of God's Word here at school. Yesterday in Lower School chapel I used the scripture in Amos 7:7: "Thus the Lord shewed me: and, behold, the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand. And the Lord said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, a plumbline. Then said the Lord, Behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel." Today we see people continuously move the line of righteousness. They make up for themselves what is "right" and "wrong" in terms of behavior. They rationalize lying because "everybody lies." They indulge in bitterness and malice because "you have to watch out for yourself, nobody else will." And they put an issue on the ballot to legalize marijuana "because it will be good for the economy." You out there who build know what happens when you do not begin with the plumbline and decide to just "eyeball" the start. That type of construction leads to a crooked mess that will ultimately crash and need to be redone after much wasted effort and expense.

In that same chapel, I built a tower of preschool blocks. As I added the blocks I placed the one on the top a little out of line from the one underneath. As I added the blocks, the stack became wobbly and fell down. When I stacked up each block directly in line with the bottom block (the cornerstone) I could build the tower straight up as high as I wanted it to go and it would stand strong. I told the students that they should not decide whether their actions are right or wrong by their own thinking because we reason and rationalize our behavior to meet our own needs. If we want to lead our lives straight and strong to go as high up as God intends for our lives to go we need to measure every action against His plumbline, which is the Word of God.

Our wonderful fifth graders, as the well as the rest of our JCCS students, are getting the start that they need because they are receiving a solid education built upon the Rock. Thanks to your sacrifice of tuition that education will lead them straight to the abundant life that the Lord has planned for each one if they and we remain true to the "Plumbline."

Continually checking in with His Word,

Diane Hutchison

Adminstrator





OCT 29/30:

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES will be held from 2:45-8:00 p.m. on Thursday and on Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Mrs. Adey has been in touch with all parents to schedule a conference time. It is our intention to meet with EVERY parent at the end of this first grading period to coordinate our efforts and to issue the first report card. **MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT** with your child's homeroom teacher. Students whose parents do not attend conferences **WILL NOT** receive their report cards until the following week. Conferences are an important opportunity for the parent and teacher to "touch base". It is wise not to talk about the child in front of the child, therefore, we ask that you attend the conferences without your children to ensure a productive time. If it is necessary to bring children to the conferences, they may sit in a chair outside the room and **MUST BE UNDER PARENTAL SUPERVISION AT ALL TIMES** while they are in the building. Children are not to be throughout the building or on the playground unsupervised but must remain within eyesight or earshot of the parent. **ELEMENTARY CONFERENCES** will take place in the homeroom classrooms. **PLEASE BE PROMPT FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT.** Conferences are scheduled at 20 minute intervals; when one concludes the next begins.

JUNIOR HIGH and HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCES are being held on Thursday afternoon and evening **ONLY** from 2:45-5:00 and then from 5:30-8:00 p.m. These teachers will be set up in the gym at tables spaced to promote privacy. Parents of these students will go to the gym to wait in the waiting area. When the teacher you need to see becomes available then you may go to that teacher's table and then move on. Parents should pick the student's report card at the designated table before meeting with each teacher.

Please note that the junior high and high school teachers in this joint conference take a dinner break from 5:00 to 5:30 pm. If you are unable to attend the joint conference on Thursday evening, you must schedule an appointment with your child's teachers through the office. You may enter the building for conferences at the front door on Fernwood Road.

OCTOBER 30: NO SCHOOL
Parent/Teacher Conferences

NOVEMBER 11TH : "GRAND DAY"

We are so excited for our special day with our invited grandparents, grandfriends, and veterans. This year's schedule and activity is different from last year's. Please see the enclosed flyer and pray for us as we prepare to welcome our visitors for a "Grand, Old, American Veteran's Day" at JCCS.



THE PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK FOR 2015-2016 is finally here and is enclosed in this packet. Please read it and sign both sides and then return the last page so that we know you have received and read the Handbook. The Handbook serves as a "type" of contract where you will know what to expect from us and what we will expect from you. There are significant changes to the Elementary discipline code that you will want to read and understand thoroughly.

THIRD GRADE BUCKET FILLERS: A special thank you to our third grade and their parents for the **BEAUTIFUL** landscaping that they provided to the school through their fall service project. They worked very hard digging, carrying, loading, unloading, and planting to beautify the area around the building. Thanks to all the parent helpers and to the donors who contributed material!



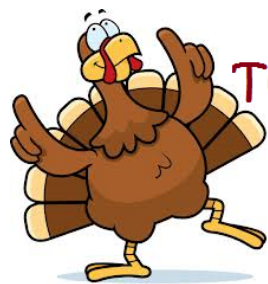


NOV. 20: IN SCHOOL SPELLING BEE

The Spelling Bee will begin promptly at 8:30 AM with each grade competing consecutively, beginning with first grade. All students in grades 1-8 are encouraged to participate by returning the permission slip and receiving a practice list.



DEC. 18: Christmas Program: A look ahead to December places the Christmas Musical Program on Thursday 12/18. The December packet will contain all the details but please take note of the date.



Thanksgiving Break No School

NOV 25-27

NOV 30: SCHOOL RESUMES

DEC. 4: CHRISTMAS SHOP

Also looking ahead, the JCCS Christmas Shop will be held on Friday, December 4th. This is a sweet traditional event where students can do their own Christmas shopping by purchasing lovely things for very little money. More details will come home in the December packet.



We will need parents, from 8:15-2:20, to help wrap gifts and assist young children with gift selection. Lunch will be provided for all workers. If you are able to help, please call Jill Shoemaker at (724) 678-3313.

We also need donations of Hershey kisses in Christmas color wrappers, Hershey candy, puff mints and candy canes to make up candy bags to sell at the shop. Please **NO Peanut butter items**. Please mark donations "Christmas Shop" and drop them off at the office by Nov. 16th. We also need donations of gift wrap, tissue paper, and lunch sized gift bags, scotch tape and ribbon to be turned in by November 23rd. Thank you!

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

For security reasons, please remember that ALL students must be dropped off or brought in through the south end doors at the parking lot side.

This is the only door that is open before 8:10 AM. Thank you!



ROYAL WEAR FOR SALE: See the enclosed order form. This sale must be successful to keep the cost of our yearbook reasonable. Please purchase Christmas gifts and support this sale.

THANKS TO ALL THE COACHES AND PLAYERS who made the JCCS Fall Sports program possible: Coach Dan Sells and Mr. Sells for Varsity Soccer; Coaches Miravalle, Grabits, and Purks for Varsity Volleyball; Coach Caldwell and Coach McGurn for JV Volleyball; and Coach McMasters for Junior High Soccer. Our Varsity Volleyball team was able to advance to the second round of the play-offs this year and we are so proud of their accomplishment! Congratulations to ALL of our players for their commitment and thanks to our Coaches, for your gifts of time and training. It is a blessing to be able to grow in a good sports program and we are grateful.





Winter Carnival Fundraiser and “Frozen” coin bags: I had to chuckle over this one. I guess some parents received their coin bags for the Winter Carnival Mortgage Buster fundraiser last month and asked exasperatedly: “Do they expect us to fill this whole thing up with coins?!” I smiled to myself and thought, “Well, the short answer is ‘Sure!’” But the truthful answer is- no. We just want your family to have fun with it and to do your very best between now and February 26th. The funny part is that we carefully selected containers that were opaque to guard against anyone knowing how much was contained in each person’s bag. Bless your best efforts and thank you. We have such fun games and booths planned for everyone in the whole school family!



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

God’s protection for our school physically and spiritually.
Sweet fruit from all of this month’s activities.



PLEASE PRAISE GOD FOR:

His Power and His Plumbline available to us in Jesus
All His good gifts.