



# The Eagle Express

Coventry Christian Schools

Vol. 15, Issue 17

January 16, 2012

## Calendar of Events

### January

- 1/15 Board Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
- 1/16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day-No Classes, EC available; Teacher In-Service
- 1/17 Moms' Prayer Meeting, 8 a.m.
- 1/23-1/27 High School Midterm Exams
- 1/25 Market Day Pickup
- 1/27 2nd Marking Period ends  
Preschool progress reports issued

### February

- 2/1-3 Kindergarten Interviews
- 2/6 PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 2/7 MS Spelling Bee; Grandparent Gathering
- 2/10 Re-Enrollment Deadline; Report Cards Issued
- 2/14 Dads' Prayer Meeting, 8 a.m.
- 2/19 Board Meeting
- 2/20 President's Day, No School
- 2/21 Moms' Prayer Meeting, 8 a.m.
- 2/21 Boosters' Event, O'Grady's Restaurant, Phoenixville
- 2/22 Market Day
- 2/24 Elementary Creative Minds Fair, 6:30 p.m.

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

## Some Observations from One of Our Newest Substitute Teachers

It is not often that I share testimonials with you. I should do it more than I do. Joanne Hartman, one of our newest substitute teachers, wrote this letter to Mr. Niehls just before Christmas break. It is good to reflect upon objective evaluations of our school community when we have opportunity to do so. Sometimes it is challenging, and sometimes it is simply affirming. This is the latter. Mrs. Hartman shares this point of view as an accomplished veteran teacher of both public and Christian schools. While we certainly continue to hunger and strive for excellence beyond our current successes, it is good to hear such positive feedback from qualified observers on campus.

Dear Mr. Niehls,

I had the privilege of subbing for Mrs. Geeza's Math classes the past four days. That gave me an opportunity to have a bird's eye view of the great things happening at your school. I would just like to share a few things I noticed.

There is a distinctively different, wonderfully evident Christ-like atmosphere at CCS! Please allow me to give you some examples to support this statement. Students displayed a very respectful attitude, not only of me as a substitute (kids usually have subs for lunch), but also of their teachers and most notably of their peers (which, from my observations in many other schools, is way out of the norm!) Here's a prime example: One student was having a very difficult time transitioning with all the changes taking place the week before Christmas break. His off-track behavior was such that many would have had a field day ridiculing, bullying and mocking him. Much to my amazement, not one student at CCS displayed any kind of unkindness toward him at all. Instead they showed the love of the Lord to him! The response of these middle-schoolers was incredibly mature!

When given assignments, students diligently got to work, without needing to be prompted twenty-five times to stay on task! When administering quizzes and tests, I was very impressed with their honorable integrity as they worked without talking, cheating or messing around!

The "house" system in the secondary school is ingenious! It is evident that this program is being purposefully designed and masterfully imple

mented by the teaching staff. It is working to promote a wonderful sense of brotherly love and unity alongside healthy, sportsmanlike competition among the young people. The integration of students from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade provides great opportunity for students to mentor and encourage one another. Studying various giants of our faith like C.S. Lewis, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and Elisabeth Elliot is replacing pop icons in giving students much-needed heroes to emulate! Additionally, this system is making great use of student leadership. The degree of responsibility being assumed by the upperclassmen and the observable way are modeling exemplary behavior is awesome! All of this gives me great hope because these young people will be our leaders of tomorrow!

I would like to encourage you, your teachers and student body to keep on doing what is right and good! Trust me when I say that your school is operating at a level that is leaps and bounds above many public schools and Christian schools. CCS is impacting young lives for Jesus in remarkable ways that will reach very far into the future. You are teaching The Truth and how to implement Christ's ways into everyday living. And there is nothing more important than that!

May God bless you for your faithful commitment to Him!

Sincerely,

*Joanne M. Hartman*  
+♥☺

Joanne M. Hartman

Joanne, thank you for taking the time to encourage us and to remind us in the midst of our daily challenges that we do indeed have a very special community here in which Christ is making a profound difference.

*Paul Q. Fisher, Director of Advancement*

## Moms' Prayer Meeting Tuesday, 8 a.m.

The monthly Moms' and Grandmoms' Prayer Meeting is this Tuesday, January 17, at 8 a.m. Meet in the conference room for a brief and encouraging time of prayer for our school community. We will wrap up by 8:30 a.m.

## Mark Your Calendars for the Great PTO Auction

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual CCS Auction is coming! Our auction will be held on April 14, 2012, at the French Creek Golf Club in Elverson. Please add this date to your calendars and start putting aside a little cash at a time now so you do not miss out on the biggest social event of the year for CCS parents and supporters. CCS has an incredible PTO, and this event is the key fundraiser that makes all of its work possible. Look for more information to follow in the next couple of weeks.

## Concession Stand Help Needed at Basketball Games

Email Dave Snyder ([patribefan@gmail.com](mailto:patribefan@gmail.com)) if you are interested in helping serve in the concession stand at home basketball games. The concession stand proceeds support our student athletes. Additionally, it's just a whole lot of fun serving and visiting with our Coventry Christian family.

## International Club "Cheap Skate" Night, January 21

On Saturday, Jan. 21st, the International Club would like to invite their host families to a \$6 cheap skate night at Oaks Ice Rink, 7 pm. Transportation is to be provided by host families; however, if anyone needs help, they should contact Pauline or Manny Ribau at [paulineribau@ptd.net](mailto:paulineribau@ptd.net).

## Biblical Parenting Seminar in Lancaster, February 25

**Cooperation, Consequences, and Keeping Your Sanity**, presented by Jon Brady and George May will be held on Saturday, February 25, 9:00 am to 2:30 pm, at Calvary Church, 1051 Landis Valley Road, Lancaster, PA 17601. The cost is \$20 per adult. Light breakfast and lunch are included. Sign up online at [biblicalparenting.org](http://biblicalparenting.org) or call (717) 560-2341. Registration and breakfast begin at 8:30 am. You will learn practical ways to move from a behavior modification approach to a heart-based approach to parenting. It's amazing how children change the way they live when parents adjust the way they work with them. This seminar is provided by the National Center for Biblical Parenting and is a practical, biblical approach to parenting. You'll be so grateful you attended because you'll be able to use the material right away.

## Phillies Fans Get Ready

Reading Phillies mascot "Screwball" heard about CCS Sports Day at O'Grady's and plans on being there that evening.

## Houses and Elementary Classes, Get Ready to Compete at CCS Sports Day

The elementary grade and secondary house with the highest participation in the CCS Sports Day at O'Grady's will enjoy an ice cream party, compliments of Mr. Ray Coffey.

## Mark Your Calendars--CCS Sports Day at O'Grady's

Join us on Tuesday, February 21, for CCS Boosters' Night at O'Grady's Restaurant in Phoenixville. This will be an evening of celebrating CCS and our sports teams. CCS Sports Day will be the biggest fundraiser the Boosters will conduct this year. Great gift baskets will be raffled, there will be face painting for the young and young at heart, and Talon, the CCS eagle, will be there in person--or bird. O'Grady's is giving back 10% of the entire day's proceeds to CCS athletes! Thank you, O'Grady's!

Boosters has been actively supporting CCS athletes for two years, providing basketballs, soccer balls, first aid kits, senior recognition gifts, trophies, and new uniforms. They are also planning a new concession facility for the Events Center. You can help Boosters by planning to enjoy a meal with your family and the CCS family at O'Grady's on February 21. You can contribute to the fundraising baskets by contacting Traci Hoffman. Teachers and house leaders can rally the other students. Athletes can meet and greet customers at O'Grady's on CCS Sports Day. Regular customers enjoy meeting CCS athletes at this very special event.

If you have any school spirit at all, plan to be at O'Grady's. What a wonderful way to celebrate each other and to express our love for our student athletes and their dedicated coaches.

## Project Purpose Needs EVEN MORE Tutors

Project Purpose, CCS's outreach program for underserved youth in Pottstown, needs tutors on Wednesday and Sunday afternoons, 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. We have tutoring and mentoring needs for children ages 7 to 18. Whatever your talents, willingness, or availability, we have a place for you! Email assistant director, Rachel Kratz, at [rachelkratz@educatingforlife.com](mailto:rachelkratz@educatingforlife.com).

## Shop at GIANT and support CCS PTO--Here's How!!

Did you know that shopping at GIANT can earn money for CCS every time you swipe your Bonus Card at the cash register? Currently we have 69 Bonus Cards registered, and as of the end of December our YTD total that we have earned is \$456.92. So as you can see, this program has quite a potential to earn us a large amount of money. The link to the home page for the program is <http://www.giantfood.com/aplus>. Simply visit the website to learn more and to sign up.

## Elementary Musical Opportunity for All Elementary Students

Mr. Minor is very excited to announce that our elementary musical for the spring, *The Amazing Grace Race*, will begin preparations soon. All of the details aren't worked out completely yet, but since he is already receiving questions from some parents here are the answers to those questions.

There will be three levels of participation in this show:

Group A - By Audition Only (Solos and Acting Roles which will rehearse after school. Stay tuned for the dates and times of the parent meeting and the audition.)

Group B - The entire "Children's Chorus" (Smaller group numbers rehearsing Tues and Thurs mornings)

Group C - Every elementary student from grades K-5 (The BIG songs. These will be rehearsed during general music classes.)

The performance dates are April 19-21.

All students are free to audition for a featured role in the musical even if they are not currently enrolled in the Children's Chorus. However, if they are cast in a role, they will be required to pay the activity fee, thus enrolling them in the Children's Chorus as well. Any students not currently enrolled in the Children's Chorus may also choose to join now whether they want a role or not. Doing so will automatically include them in Group B. New students will need to pay the Activity fee of \$50, which pays for all materials. [Contact Mr. Minor](mailto:scottminor@educatingforlife.com) directly for enrollment information at [scottminor@educatingforlife.com](mailto:scottminor@educatingforlife.com)

Stay tuned for more dates and details. We are waiting for all the material to arrive before we schedule the informational parent meeting. The books and CDs are currently back-ordered with the publisher, but they should not be delayed too much longer.

## Russian Choral Group to Perform in Secondary Chapel, Friday, February 3

This fine musical ensemble grew out of Konstantin Zhigulin's efforts to share his spiritual music with churches of Christ in Russia. Throughout 1995-96, Konstantin and Leena Zhigulin developed a small group of singers into a choir to perform new hymns for the body of Christ in Russia. Their first recording of hymns was made, and this recording was shared with churches throughout the former Soviet Union. As Konstantin composed more music, the group began to perform for various congregations and evangelistic outreach efforts in Barnaul, Rubtsovsk, Tomsk and Irkutsk. They sang at the annual Siberian Winter Retreat, and were later invited to sing at the Western Russia Seminars of the churches of Christ in Moscow. Konstantin has also participated in and shared his music at the annual song-leaders workshop in Donetsk, Ukraine.

When the Zhigulins moved from Siberia to St. Petersburg a new ensemble was created, and they re-recorded his now extensive collection of hymns and spiritual songs. As a result of this work, Konstantin's hymns are being sung in churches throughout Russia, the Ukraine and the former Soviet Union. The music was so beautiful and spiritually uplifting that two American brothers – Mark Shipp of Austin Graduate School of Theology and Jeff Matteson, former missionary to Siberia – began translating several of Konstantin's hymns into English to share them with American churches. Through the efforts of Joel Petty (Institute of Theology and Christian Ministry) the ensemble - Konstantin, Leena, Luka, Sasha and Jeff, and others – have been able to travel extensively in the United States introducing Konstantin's music to American churches. During their time in the states they have made 3 recordings of their hymns in English and have had the honor of performing for various congregations and seminars at Pepperdine University, Lipscomb University, Abilene Christian University, Calvin College, and others. Their latest contribution has been working with Professor Mark Shipp of Austin Graduate School of Theology. They have collaborated with Dr. Shipp in producing his new Psalter, "Timeless: Ancient Psalms for the Church Today."

## Secondary Test/Project Schedule

Below you will find *projected* quizzes, test, and assignments for Secondary Students (grades 6-12). We often change due dates to adjust to student needs. Please check or contact your teacher for more details.

Day	Assessments/Projects Due
Monday	Teacher In-Service
Tuesday	A&P essay 8th grade balloon car lab - bring supplies 6th & 7th Spelling tests Spanish 1 Reports due Spanish 2 Quiz Physics Unit 4 Test chapters 21-24 6th grade Math Test 3 Algebra 1-8th grade 10 grade Health/PE Test Chapter 7 Lessons 1-4
Wednesday	American Government Test
Thursday	12th Bible--James Quiz
Friday	6th grade science test 6th grade Grammar test (Unit 12) 8th grade science test Spanish 1 Test Algebra 2 Test chapter 6 Geometry Test chapter 5
Monday, 1/23	8th grade balloon cars due

# BOOSTER DAY AT O'GRADY'S FAMILY RESTAURANT



On **FEBRUARY 21, 2012**

the O'Grady's Family Restaurant in Phoenixville, will donate a portion of the profits for the **entire day**, to Coventry Christian Schools Booster Association. Join us for great food, *basket raffles*, face painting (during the dinner hours) and fun. Joining our fun will be Talon (the CCS Eagle) and **Screwball from the Reading Phillies** (appearance time tba).

The CCS Booster Association greatly appreciates the **continuous** generosity of the Ray Coffey and his family that make great events like this possible.

300 Schuylkill Rd, Phoenixville, PA 19460-1879, (610) 933-9335 (hours 7am - 9 pm)

