



The Eagle Express

Coventry Christian Schools

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January 2, 2012

Calendar of Events

December

12/26-12/30 Christmas Break; No Classes, EC Available

12/29 Alumni Gathering at Hoffmans, 6 p.m.

January

1/3 Grandparents Gathering, 9 a.m.

1/10 Dads' Prayer Meeting, 8 a.m.

1/13 Open House for Prospective Families, 9 to 11 a.m.

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

2/2 Elementary Creative Minds Fair

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

SEE www.coventrychristian.com for sports schedules! Go Eagles!

Checking our Motives: Why Do We Value the Arts?

"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our own image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'

Genesis 1:26"

My college art history professor subscribed to the idea that God is the father of all artists. Of course, he also believed that God is the father of all mankind, regardless of trade or talent. He meant to communicate that we are artists because God is an artist. As a theological statement, this is absolutely true. The scripture above references God's intent in creating human beings. He desired to endow us with traits that beforehand were unique to him. What an honor for us!

The story continues, however, with our decision to make ourselves in our own likeness--or at least in the likeness of a different god. Excellence in creative pursuits is rare. In our fallen, sinful state, we have chosen to be consumers more than creators. When we do create, we often create out of selfish gain. Creative and artistic pursuits can often be accurately characterized as hedonistic. Simply lend a critical eye to the film industry, the stage, museums of modern art, and the music industry. Even the word industry belies the motive behind much of what we call art.

When God created the earth and everything in it, he declared, "It is good." (About man he said, "It is *very* good.") The scriptures also declare, "Every good and perfect gift is from above." God creates as a gift to us, and he is glorified as we see him for who he truly is, a just, righteous, and holy giver of good things. Unfortunately, we have not sought to be creators for the same reason. His creation is a selfless giving of himself to create beauty for our sake. Life on earth is remarkably suited for the human experience.

The scriptures are full of music, poetry, invention, and story-telling. These are inspired of God, and properly used by us are redemptive tools in his hands. They hold great power for good and for evil. Such is the fine edge upon which we are placed as image-bearers of God himself, with the free will and sinful nature to corrupt what is beautiful for our own empty, debilitating, selfish objectives. How, then, should we approach the arts? With a mind toward bringing beauty and redemption to people. When we create selflessly in an effort to reflect truth and to impart beauty to our audience, with no desire for acclaim and praise, we are his image bearers, acting in his likeness. Whether writing prose or music, screenplays or scripts; Whether performing songs or plays; the disciple creates and performs to make the gospel of new creation and abundant life, of creation, fall, and redemption, real in the lives of those who experience his or her art.

Paul Q. Fisher, Director of Advancement

Prospective Family Open House, January 13

Invite family and friends with school age children to join us for our Open House from 9 to 11 a.m. on Friday, January 13. We have a very special program planned to help them learn more about why CCS is school as it should be! If you have any questions, let us know. Attendees should RSVP to Melissa Gelwicks at melissagelwicks@educatingforlife.com or should call the front office.

Mark Your Calendars--Boosters Event 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. Stay tuned for special announcements regarding this very special event. O'Grady's is generously donating proceeds from the event to our student athletes.

Project Purpose Needs 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.

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	
Tuesday	8th Grammar - Quiz
Wednesday	7th Science Test
Thursday	8th Grammar - Essay due
Friday	8th Science Test

Day	Assessments/Projects Due
Monday, 1/9	8th Science Test