



# Elementary School News

Coventry Christian Schools

Vol. 1, Issue 2

October 19, 2009

## Calendar of Events

### October

10/20 McPrincipal Night

10/21 Market Day Pick Up PV

10/24 Coventry Classic Golf Outing

10/26 Red Cross Blood Drive

10/30 Events Center Groundbreak

### November

11/3 Grandparents' Gathering

11/4 Picture Day

11/6 First Marking Period Ends

Campus Clean Sweep

11/13 Open House

11/15 Board of Trustees Mtg. 1:30

11/18 Market Day PU

11/20 Progress Reports Issued

## Sanctuary

**Oh Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary;  
pure and holy, tried and true.**

**With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
sanctuary for you.**

*Chapel Song*

There can be nothing more pure than children singing praises to God. This morning I heard our 125 elementary students sweetly singing out the words to Sanctuary at Chapel. I was reminded what our relationship with these students is all about. As I was gathering the import of those thoughts, I was willing away the welling up tears that had gathered as I was next in line to continue our chapel conversations about letting our lights shine.

We are so blessed to be an environment that is not a shelter, but a cushion. Students come to us with many notions and ideas. As one early childhood theorist, Piaget, said, "Play is children's work." It is through their play that we see that our students are not exclusively hidden from worldly thoughts, deeds, and actions just because they are in a Christian school setting. They try to work out what they have seen and heard socially in any number of venues including their pretend and play-ground play, most often during those less structured times in which we think no learning is occurring. In truth, far too often our mouths drop open as we hear students say things that seem uncharacteristically "old" and precocious coming out of their mouths and even model it in their body language. Almost every television program geared towards children are contain double entendres, pre-adolescents discussing and partaking in kissing, dating, and jealous "love" triangles, as well as cartoon characters drawn and animated to clearly depict sexually nuanced moves and scenarios. Sarcasm abounds.

How do we protect, nurture, and "cushion" our children to know that what we expect is different from the major television networks and cartoon channels? At school it may mean having some of "those" talks, like the "Mrs. Barton says there are no boyfriends and girlfriends in elementary school" talk to a group of students, or it may mean the carefully couched conversation to give encouragement to an individual child. At home it means pulling up a chair to the kitchen counter for our children to cut the cucumbers for the salad instead of trusting that the television is keeping them legitimately occupied. Education at CCS is much more than reading, writing and arithmetic. It is partnering with parents as we guide our children towards God's love and grace, showing them the true meaning of Sanctuary.



*Jill L Barton, Elementary Principal*

## Red Cross Blood Drive

There is a Red Cross Blood Drive to be held on October 26 from 3:00-6:00 p.m. at the Pleasantview Campus. To register go to [www.pleasegiveblood.org](http://www.pleasegiveblood.org) and use sponsor code 13975.

## Grandparents Gathering

Grandparents provide a vital network of love and support here at CCS, and the next meeting will be November 3rd at the Coventry Campus Library. All Grandparents of CCS Kids are welcome.



## Picture Day

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, November 4th for picture day. We will need a few parent volunteers to help with this day. Call to the Coventry Office at 610-326-3366 if you are available.

## Elementary Enrichment Clubs

The fall elementary enrichment clubs began last week. There are over fifty students involved in the programs which include Impact Cheer Club, Geography, Newspaper, and Chess Club. We could still use some extra parents to help monitor the chess players. If you are interested, please call the office or send a note in your child's take home folder.

## Open House November 13

Most families who are at CCS have come because of a referral from another existing CCS family. We are hosting an Open House during the school day on November 13th from 9:00-5:00. The school is open for prospective families to have a guided tour at that time. If you have sung the praises of your CCS experience to a friend, co-worker or family member whose children you think would benefit from a Coventry Christian School education, now is the time to encourage them to visit the school! If you would like some additional print information that we can send home for you to share with a family member, friend or co-worker, please let someone in the office know.

## Ladies Bible Class

We kicked off the first Ladies Bible Class gathering last Thursday with a small group of CCS moms who participated in talking, eating, Bible study about friendship and prayer. It is a blessing to feel connected to other moms in our Coventry Christian School Community! If you are a mom or grandmom of a Coventry Kid you are invited to attend whichever sessions you can. The next gathering is Tuesday, October 27th from 7:00-8:15 p.m. Email to [jillbarton@educatingforlife.com](mailto:jillbarton@educatingforlife.com) for additional details.

## Little Chapel

Next Monday will be the second time that we will divide our normally entire elementary school chapel into two chapel sessions so that we can include our pre-k students. Pre-K students have been invited to attend a "Little Chapel" together with the kindergarten and first grade students every three weeks. The older students, second, third and fourth graders then have a chapel of their own. This has been a fun way to introduce the pre-k students to a "big" kid event! Last month we focused on God's Amazing Rainbow of Colors. Parents are welcome to attend any chapel events. The pre-k through first grade chapel scheduled for next Monday the 26th will be at 9:15, and the second through fourth grade chapel is at 8:30.

## Events Center Groundbreaking

We are excited to announce that the Events Center Groundbreaking will be held on Friday, October 30 at 4:00 p.m. at the Pleasantview Campus. We are looking forward to having a venue to host our own home sports games, as well as programs, assemblies, drama and music events! Look forward to receiving your families invitation this week.