



Secondary School News

Coventry Christian Schools
Vol. 13, Issue 22 March 1, 2010

Calendar of Events

March

- 3/1--Creative Minds Fair, 6:30 p.m. Coventry Challenge 5K Early Registration Deadline (shirts guaranteed)
- 3/2--Grandparents Gathering, CV, 9 a.m.
- 3/4--Golf Team Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 3/8-19--Stanford Achievement Tests
- 3/8--PTO meeting, 6:30 p.m., PV
- 3/12--Events Center Dedication, 4 to 7:30 p.m.
- 3/20--Coventry Challenge 5K
- 3/21--Board of Trustees meeting, 1:30 p.m., PV
- 3/24--Market Day Pick-Up at PV
- 3/25-26--Spring Play, PV Gym
- 3/26--Blood Drive, 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Prospective Family Open House, 9 to 5; Third Marking Period Ends

April

- 4/2--Good Friday--School Closed
- 4/5--No Classes, Extended Care Available
- 4/6--Grandparent Gathering at Coventry Campus, 9 a.m.
- 4/9--Progress Reports Issued
- 4/18-23--Senior Mission Trip-Mexico
- 4/26-4/30--HS Class Trips
- 4/28--Market Day Pick-UP, PV
- SEE www.coventrychristian.com for sports schedules! Go Eagles!

I Have Challenged You!

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Jesus, Matthew 9:37-38

I have challenged the students, and some have responded, but not many. Perhaps you read about the challenge in the packet that was sent home regarding the 6th Annual Coventry Challenge 5K or in the newspaper:

http://www.berksmontnews.com/articles/2010/02/24/community_connection/news/doc4b85247040797679293982.txt.)

If you have not read your packet, now is the time to do so. Do not do anything else until you have read that packet! I have challenged all students and parents to participate in the annual fund effort this spring by signing up for the Coventry Challenge 5K and by garnering sponsors for their participation in the event. To make it easy and effective for you all, we have set up an online giving portal with Firstgiving.com. You can set up your sponsor page so that your friends, family, and acquaintances can read about your effort and donate easily online. It will take you no more than 10 minutes to have it up and running. Of course, old-fashioned cash and checks made out to CCS Annual Fund work just as well. So far, not many of you are participating in this effort. Remember, this is replacing the bowl-a-thon/jog-a-thon effort of previous years, so it is vital that you participate.

Due to all of the shockwaves from the economy, our annual fund needs are about \$150,000 this year. This is the difference between tuition revenue and actual expenses. Please do not look at the new Events Center and think that we already have all of the support we need to maintain and grow programs for 2010-11. The Events Center was fully funded by restricted gifts separate and apart from our operating budget. We still depend on everyone to participate in the annual fund effort. This year the 5K is that effort.

I have expressly challenged the entire school community to outfundraise me this year. I am training for the Boston Marathon, which has been a ten year pursuit for me. In an effort to make that accomplishment about something much more important than my own satisfaction as an athlete, I have committed to supporting the annual fund drive by using the marathon to inspire others to do something inspiring to support our great school community. By April 19, the day of the Boston Marathon, I plan to have outreased the entire CCS community. Your job as a part of that community is to set up your Firstgiving page or to send out letters to get sponsors for your participation in the 5K or 1 mile on March 20 (I recommend the Firstgiving page because it is wildly successful. I garnered

over 2300.00 in support already with very little time invested.)You do not have to run or walk in the Coventry Challenge in order to set up a Firstgiving page or to ask for sponsors for the school's annual fund, but we are strongly encouraging it. It will be a great day of community spirit, and your commitment to walking or running that day will inspire your donors to give. You could also choose to volunteer on race day instead of walking or running. We will need approximately 30 volunteers to make the 6th annual Challenge a first class event again.

The registration form for you and your family to sign up for the Coventry Challenge (it's free and includes t-shirts for all participants!) is attached to this email. It was also in the packet we sent home. We have more at school as well. The early registration date is Monday, March 1, but you can register any time before 8:30 a.m. the day of the event, March 20. If you register now, we can guarantee a shirt for you by race day and it also helps us plan accordingly.

I've been asking the Lord to send out workers into the harvest field at CCS! The Coventry Challenge 5K is only three weeks away! What kind of workers do we need? Well, first and foremost, we need families to set up their sponsorship pages at www.firstgiving.com/coventrychristianschools or to send out a letter to friends, family, and acquaintances asking for sponsorships. We don't need large donations from everyone. Small donations add up! We need you to encourage people you know to come join us at the Coventry Challenge. We draw runners from multiple states and from all over Southeastern PA. They can register at Active.com or get their registration form from our website. Finally, we need volunteers on race day. Then we need you to come out and walk, run, or volunteer on March 20. So turn in those registration forms (yours are free!) and send me an email if you would like to volunteer on race day (paulfisher@educatingforlife.com).

Schedule for Events Center Dedication, March 1

The schedule for the Events Center Dedication has been finalized. See you there!

4 p.m. Middle School Girls Basketball v. Middle School Boys Basketball

5 p.m. Faculty Women v. High School Girls Basketball

6 p.m. Events Center Dedication

7 p.m. Faculty Men v. High School Boys Basketball

Dorney Park Trip, 2010!

Has your child told you about the new way to earn a trip to Dorney Park on our annual Dorney Park day this spring? We sent home packets two weeks ago outlining the annual fund drive effort being conducted in conjunction with the Coventry Challenge 5K/1 Mile Fun Run/Walk. Students can earn a trip to Dorney by participating in this important event that promotes both a healthy lifestyle and supports the annual fund drive for the school, which in the current economy is more important than ever. Your family will need to set up your fundraising page and should also register for the 5K/1 Mile by March 1. If you have any questions or did not receive a packet regarding this event, please let Mr. Fisher know ASAP. Dorney Park Day is a reward for those who reach the award goals outlined in the packet. No participation=No Dorney!

High School Baseball Comes to CCS

A big thank you to Coaches Tom Lawrence and Jared Nyce for stepping up to coach our first ever high school baseball squad. Practices will begin this week. Parents, look for an email to come home over the next couple of days from Coach Lawrence.

Golf Team Meeting March 4

Coach Rock Emery has scheduled a meeting for Thursday evening, March 4, 5 p.m., for all students interested in the golf program. CCS has a very successful golf program. It is available to the rookie and the experienced golfer, grades 5-12. It is a coed program. This is a great opportunity to learn the game of golf, even if you have never picked up a club. Rock and his assistants are great players and teachers of the sport and are eager to have as many new players as they can get. If your child has any interest at all, please plan to attend the meeting. If you cannot attend but are interested, please let Mr. Fisher know.

Senior Portraits and Graduation Announcements

This year we attempted to get a more affordable senior portrait option for parents by leveraging our numbers and getting a group rate for senior portraits. Due to lack of interest on the part of several photographers we have contacted, at this point, we have decided to once again let parents simply choose their own photographer if they wish to have formal senior portraits taken. We were very excited about the photographers we had found because they were willing to simply provide parents with a CD of eight poses for only \$15. However, you get what you pay for, and these photographers have not been responsive in moving our plans forward. Every senior has had a school picture taken, but no formal pictures have been taken at this time. If you desire to have formal portraits, you should go ahead and schedule those with the photographer or studio of your choice since you will want to send out the portrait with graduation announcements in late April or the first part of May. You can order your announcements/invitations for graduation at <http://www.jostens.com/graduation/HS/announcements/index.asp>. You can personalize your announcements and order them directly there. You are not required to use Jostens. You may shop elsewhere if you like, but Jostens is easy to use and provides high quality products at an affordable price. If you have a good photographer you would recommend to our families to use on an individual basis, please forward to me. Some of you have already done so, and we pursued those to no avail. They were not interested in our business.

Physical Science and Chemistry Field Trip to Generating Station

The 8th grade physical science and 10th grade chemistry classes will be going to the Limerick generating station on Monday, March 8. Please be sure to look for a permission slip to come home soon.

Blood Drive March 26

We are hosting another Keystone/Miller Blood Drive at the Pleasantview Campus on Friday, March 26, noon to 7 p.m. Call the PV office to sign up, 610-326-3320.

High School Girls' Soccer Starts This Week--Concessions Help Needed

Coach P will begin indoor practices this week with the girls. Parents, a game and practice schedule was given to your daughters. Be sure to ask to see it. Coach P will also be sending out emails periodically to update everyone on the schedule and team news as the season progresses. If you are interested in helping with concessions at the games this spring, please send an email to Tina McIntyre at sports@educatingforlife.com.

Invite Families to Our Open House, March 26

All CCS families are encouraged to share their enthusiasm for CCS with their friends, coworkers, neighbors, and family in anticipation of our prospective family open house on Friday, March 26, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Guests can even give blood while here as we have our blood drive that day! Open House days are for welcoming families who might some day be interested in enrolling their children in our program. Most families enroll because of word of mouth. You can help us let more families know about the tri-county area's best kept secret in education.

Financial Aid Applications Due April 15, Get Started Now

If you want to re-enroll your child but know that you will need financial aid for the 2010-11 school year, you must go to www.ffna1.com to complete a financial aid application. Financial aid decisions will be made in May. Aid is limited, so late applications may not be accepted. You must still complete your re-enrollment form and pay the re-enrollment fee in order to reserve a spot for your child. Financial aid applications are not considered unless re-enrollment has been completed.

PTO Meeting Monday, March 8

As the school year flies by, we can sometimes forget about the work that PTO is doing. PTO has another meeting Monday, March 8. Since we are just two months away from the annual PTO auction, it is more important than ever that we have high participation in our PTO meetings. Why not come out the the next meeting, Monday, March 8, 6:30 p.m., Pleasantview chapel.

Creative Minds Fair Rescheduled for Monday, March 1

The fair will take place from 6:30 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. at the Pleasantview campus. All students are expected to attend the fair.

Senior Parent and Student Meeting Tuesday, March 2

There is a mandatory meeting for seniors and their parents on Tuesday evening, March 2, 6:30 p.m. in the Pleasantview Chapel. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss, plan, and answer questions about the senior mission trip to fund and build a house for a needy family in Mexico. It is vital that as many senior families attend as is possible. If you cannot make this meeting, please let Mr. Fisher know before Tuesday night so that he can be sure to pass on information to you. Everyone needs to be fully educated and accurately informed about this important part of our mission at CCS before making final decisions regarding whether or not to commit to the trip.

Spring Play, *Our Town*, March 25-26

The spring drama production, *Our Town*, is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, March 25 and 26, 7 p.m., in the Pleasantview gym. Reserve the date on your calendar now for an enjoyable evening with our talented actors and actresses. Be sure to invite family and friends to join us as well.

College Funding Seminar

There will be a college funding seminar on Tuesday, March 30, in the Pleasantview chapel. The seminar is for parents of children of any age. It will provide a cursory view of the college funding challenge and will provide follow-up opportunities with a consultant, Mr. Pete Dewalt, should attendees be interested. If you attended the fall session, this will be a repeat of that information. The seminar is free, but the follow-up consulting is not. Parents who simply wish to meet with Mr. Fisher to get help with the FAFSA (college financial aid) or college application process can simply make an appointment with Mr. Fisher.

Stanford Testing, March 8-12

The Stanford Achievement Test (SAT) and Otis-Lenon Scholastic Aptitude Test (OLSAT) will be administered to grades 5, 7, and 9, the week of March 8. Make-up tests will be given the following week. The SAT provides a comparative assessment of your child's academic knowledge and useful feedback to us for evaluation of curriculum and instruction at CCS. The OLSAT is a school ability test, similar to an IQ assessment. When taken in conjunction with the SAT, we can determine whether your child may be under or overachieving. Please be sure that your child gets plenty of sleep that week and that he or she eats a nutritious breakfast every day, preferably including protein and not too many simple sugars. Studies have shown that we all perform better when those physiological needs are met. While these are not high stakes tests, it is important that your child's efforts represent their best work, or the validity of the tests is compromised.

Annual PTO Auction, April 17

Be sure to mark your calendars! The annual PTO auction is a great evening of fun and celebration of the CCS community. Look for more details to come home from PTO soon, but go ahead and mark your calendars so that you have the evening free. This year's auction will be held at the French Creek Golf Club. If you have not been before, why not make this your first auction? It won't be your last!

Free YMCA Memberships for 7th Graders

Beginning February 1, 2010 **ALL** 7th grade students are entitled to a **FREE** full privilege YMCA membership at all of the Freedom Valley YMCA branches. This membership will last until August 31, 2010. On September 1, 2010, the new 7th grade class will have the same benefit until August 31, 2011. This is a fantastic opportunity. This membership is good at Audubon, Phoenixville, Pottstown, Spring Valley (Royersford/Limerick), and Upper Perkiomen YMCA locations. Simply go to any of these YMCA locations with a parent and a proof of 7th grade status/school membership such as a school ID and/or report card or class schedule and complete a membership application and you can immediately enjoy the YMCA and its programs, including summer swimming in the outdoor pool at the Spring Valley YMCA. Parents, this is a great way to get your kids active or to keep them active!

Test and Project Calendar for This Week

About the only thing we can say with certainty is that the high school Worldviews class will have a psychology test on Monday and that the Chemistry II test will also be on Monday. Due to missing the last two days of school, the schedule generated on Wednesday for this newsletter is now obsolete. Hopefully by next week we can get back into our routine around here.