



Christian Academy Schools Eagle Vision

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Our Mission is to
“Equip and Inspire Students to be a
New Generation of Christ-Centered Leaders”

Dick Dray, Head of School
Rusty Kirkpatrick, Director of Students

From the Desk of Head of School Dick Dray



Updates on This and That

School Delays or Closures

While most local schools since the beginning of the 20-21 school year prior to this week had already faced school delays or closures for various weather or urgent matters, we had been blessed with no missed days prior to this week. Well, December arrived this week along with some wintry weather and complications which caused us to have a delay and a missed day. Keep in mind these are exceptions and when it involves weather our student's safety is always a priority. Keep in mind that weather and road conditions are the main factor. Also, other public- school decisions that may impact our transportation options are considered as we have a number of students that rely upon busing to get to school. We take into account multiple factors and will try and make those decisions as early as possible, usually prior to 6 a.m. Text alerts, phone calls and mainstream media are our primary means of notification to our families.

Christian Academy Christmas Concert Cancellation and Recording

Due to weather matters related to the school being closed Tuesday December 1st we cancelled our public evening Christmas Concert for our students. Typically, if school is cancelled due to weather then evening events are cancelled as well.

Knowing the schedule is jam packed in these couple of weeks prior to Christmas break we will not be able to reschedule. But knowing the students and staff (along with encouraging parents) have worked so hard for this we will be performing the concert portions this coming **Wednesday December 9th** during what would be the normal chapel periods. At that time, we will be recording the sessions to be placed online for our families and friends to enjoy. There will be no outside guests during these sessions, but we will get the word out when the recordings are ready for viewing enjoyment 😊.

God Bless,
Dick Dray
CAS Head of School

Mission Statement

“To Equip and Inspire a New Generation of Christ-Centered Leaders”



The Blessing of Giving and Receiving

In the last newsletter I had shared about the blessings staff at CAS typically receive each year from so many students and families at Christmas time. Another blessing as well has been when so many families make contributions for a staff offering and gift to be divided among all the staff. This is typically collected at the Christmas Concert. With no concert this year if you would like to give you can simply send your gifts to the school and mark them to the attention of Lisa Miller and note they are for the staff gift. Given that all the staff work so hard but may not have a class of their own this gift is especially appreciated. Mr. Dick Dray

Thanks for the Baskets Abounding

A couple of Saturday's ago we went to the phones for a phone and online auction for the beautiful baskets families and staff had assembled for fundraising purposes that are usually held during the spaghetti dinner. We did not know how this format would be received but prayed and trusted the Lord for the outcome.

Well..... WOW!!! Usually around \$2,000 comes in for this auction and the funds help to meet regular budgeted needs for the school. This year through God's blessing and your generous gifts just over \$6,000 came in....PTL! It did help a little with the extra incentives to see Mr. K in the CAS Eagle suit come to some various auctioned events. Thank you again for your prayers and support of Christian Academy!

Little Shepherds Shoppe Shopping Budget

Gift For...	Amount to Spend...

Make Checks Payable to CAS

Little Shepherd's Shoppe to be held December 10th & 11th

Parents once again it is that time of year where we have an opportunity to teach children the joy of giving. Just like God gave us eternal life through the Christmas gift of Jesus Christ, your kids can give during this season as well. Some students may have money to buy items for themselves. We are asking you to instruct them to shop for others and wait to shop for themselves. This year will be different than the past (Pandemic Policies) as we **will not** be having a 2nd shopping time; however, they may buy up to 2 items for themselves after shopping for others during their regularly scheduled shopping time. Many students only buy for others and that can continue but if they do have any extra money left, they may be able to buy for themselves if that is your wish.

This year we are asking that no student, 4th grade and under, touch any items. They will be assigned a high school helper to pick up any item they wish to look at or purchase. Also, masks must be up over the nose and chin for anyone in the cafeteria and provided rubber gloves. The gloves must be worn by anyone touching items.

Please help us to help your child not to save as much money as possible so they can buy lots of things for themselves. Since giving is very difficult for many younger children it is important that we as adults help to guide them that it is indeed better to give than to receive.

Students in grades K thru 5 will be receiving envelopes where a parent can put the person's name to purchase the gift for and money can be put inside the envelope. Don't forget to send the money with your child on the day of their shopping experience.



Middle School & High School Christmas Celebration Meal on Friday, December 18th

We are asking middle school & high school students to bring in \$4 each to cover a special meal of pizza, veggies, desserts, & pop. We will have gluten free options for those who need them. **Please pay Mrs. Miller by Wednesday, December 16th.**

CAS Holiday Celebration Policy

Christian Academy School treats the Christmas holiday as a joyous time of the year to celebrate and emphasize the birth of Jesus Christ. Activities and symbols that complement this emphasis is prominent in our classrooms. Myths and symbols, such as Santa Claus, elves, etc. which compete with these are de-emphasized. In the lower elementary grades, especially, Santa Claus will not be discussed so as not to interfere with your family traditions.

Need Christmas Gifts? – Try Scrip “Gift Cards”

Do you need gift cards for Christmas? Then, **NEXT Wednesday, December 9th** is your last chance to order scrip (gift cards) before Christmas. Remember, a percentage of your gift card orders goes towards your tuition and this is a good time to order. The gift cards can also be used for birthdays, anniversary’s, and much more! Order forms can be obtained in the informational rack. Contact Mrs. Miller if you have questions about scrip

Verse of the Week

“So, people from all the towns of Judah came to Jerusalem to seek the LORD’S help.” 2 Chronicles 20:4

Often, we forget that when we face something scary and overwhelming, we can go to God for His help. We can ask for wisdom when we need it. God wants to give us everything we need to win the battle we’re up against in our lives. Our job is simply to go to God. We have to seek His help. The answers we look for aren’t found on social media or by googling. Rather we find them as we get into the Word. So today, choose to say no to fear and to seek God. As you do, you’ll find that the help you need to face your enemy is there, given by God.

Copied from: studentdevos.com

8 Tips for Kids Wearing Masks

- ✓ **Be Consistent:** Remind kids to wear their masks, just like you. Encourage them to avoid touching the mask and keep it over their mouth and nose.
- ✓ **Personalize:** Try masks with characters or cool designs. Encourage kids can decorate their own with tie-dye or fabric markers.
- ✓ **Practice at Home:** As a family, practice wearing your masks for a few hours at home to get the hang of it.
- ✓ **Explain Why:** Tell your kids that masks help keep all of us safe and healthy.
- ✓ **Use Masks in Play:** For younger kids, put masks on stuffed animals or dolls during play time.
- ✓ **Take a Picture:** Snap a photo of your child in a mask and reinforce how awesome they look. Drawing a self-portrait also works.
- ✓ **Identify Good Behavior:** Point out others who are doing a good job wearing masks.
- ✓ **See Masks in Action:** Check out a safe space where people are wearing masks.





Kindergarten and First Grade Thanksgiving Celebration

On Tuesday, November 24th the kindergarten and first grade classes learned about the Pilgrims and the Indians. They reenacted the first Thanksgiving with costumes and props. The kindergarteners played the part of the Pilgrims and the first graders played the Indians. The reenactment was videoed and can be viewed on Facebook.

Upcoming Events

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| Wednesday, December 9 th | Little Shepherds Shoppe Set up |
| Thursday, December 10 th | Little Shepherds Shoppe |
| Friday, December 11 th | Little Shepherds Shoppe |
| Friday, December 18 th | Christmas Parties |
| Friday, December 18 th | 1:30 p.m. Dismissal |
| December 21 st – January 1 st | Christmas Break |
| Monday, January 4 th | Return to School |
| Friday, January 15 th | End of 2nd Quarter |
| Friday, January 15 th | 1:30 p.m. Dismissal |
| Monday, January 18 th | Martin Luther King Day (School Closed) |



Canned Food Drive a Huge Success!

Students from K-12 were encouraged to participate and bring in canned foods. Food needs are more prevalent this year due to the pandemic. The elementary, middle, and high school competed and the class with the most cans per person won an ice cream party. All the items collected will go to the First Presbyterian Church and will be distributed throughout Shelby County.

The total cans collected was: 1,035. Isn't that great?
 Classes who won an Ice Cream Party are 1st grade & 7th grade!

“All the Christmas presents in the world are worth nothing without the presence of Christ”
 David Jeremiah
