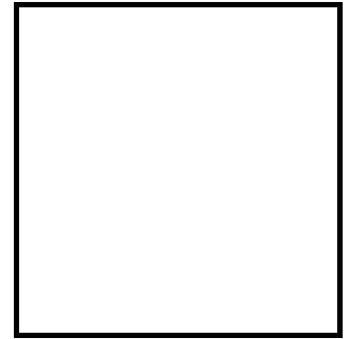




Knightly News



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FROM THE DIRECTOR Mrs. Rash

The February mid-winter blues have no place at Carden Christian Academy! Our children are full of energy and enthusiasm—and that mood is contagious. The eager, smiling, and sometimes mischievous expressions our students bring with them each day give Carden Christian Academy its unique and inviting atmosphere.

As full time director, I have the privilege of interacting with all students, from kindergarten through eighth grade. I love nothing more than walking through the classes and observing students as they are engaged in learning. The looks of pride and accomplishment on their faces are priceless. I had the pleasure the other day of listening to our kindergarteners read sentences out of their books. The first graders were also impressive as they individually recited poetry from memory. On the other end of the spectrum, our Jr. High students are learning algebraic formulas and preparing for their Shakespearean production. It is such a blessing to see the stepping stones of learning as our students progress through their different grade levels. In the spring, it will be time to say good-bye to our eighth graders. It will

be bittersweet to see them go. Although we will miss them, we know with confidence that they will be prepared to move on and be successful in high school.

As you read through the new Carden e-bulletin each week, you can see that, even though CCA is a small school, there are plenty of activities to offer our students. Currently the elementary and Jr. High Basketball season is in full swing, the Blue Crew Spirit Team is active, the Science Fair is in the final planning stages, and the Math Olympics Team is busily preparing for their competition. The dedication of our staff and parents make all of these worthwhile activities possible for our children.

It is amazing to think that we have surpassed the half way mark of this school year. Within the next month, re-registration information for the 2006-2007 school year will be mailed. Please join with us in prayer as we begin planning for the upcoming school year. Our desire is to fill our classrooms with boys and girls who will benefit from the fine academic and Christian education that CCA offers.

Mrs. Rash

THIRD GRADE Mrs. Owen

The weather outside may indeed be frightful, but working with this class is just delightful! Our third graders are learning so much, and it is a joy to see the children making great gains in so many ways. We love to look back at earlier work in September to see the tremendous improvement that has taken place. Third graders are on the move!

Reading skills are continually growing both in terms of comprehension of material, and expertise in oral reading. The third grade reader has presented information on the blue jay and other birds, the mole, the toad, and the cow. Spelling lessons continue to be challenging as students learn new controls as well as the dreaded exceptions (!) to the rule.



Math finds us making more leaps ahead in weights and measurements, multiplication, and (very) long division problems, as well as algebraic equations. Soon to follow is the entrance into the world of fractions and decimals!

History has taken us into the lives of William Penn, Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Boone, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Noah Webster, and many other noteworthy

American heroes. We are all amazed at the contributions of each individual and are grateful for their help in making the United States the country it is today.

Science is a favorite subject in our class and we have studied vertebrates, invertebrates, and the many different communities which make up our world; the desert, the forest, and the pond community. We enjoyed our field trip to the Tsakapolour pond where we could see first hand the many elements which work together for "pond life in action." Our sincere thanks to the Bacchi family for helping arrange this informational and memorable trip. Next science field trip: Griffith Quarry in Penryn.

Our class has been enjoying a variety of literature books lately, including The Hundred Dresses by E. Estes, The Whipping Boy, by S. Fleishman, and Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by E. Coerr. Our next classic: Black Beauty, by A. Sewell.

We are really getting into the "Valentine mode" by focusing our artistic expression into a very "heartful" theme. Please stop by our classroom and view our "heart show."

Mrs. Owen

A pleasant smile cheers the heart.

Greetings from the Junior High! We are working hard and still finding ways to have lots of fun. In 6/7 English we are nearly finished with Tom Sawyer and will be studying 1960's desegregation through the book, The Watsons go to Birmingham, 1963. What an eye opener for students who have never witnessed prejudice. In 7/8 English we are reading My Brother Sam is Dead, which is about the Revolutionary War. This will complement our Eighth grade history as we learn about the birth of our great nation.

But most exciting is our upcoming production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare. Whether they are fairies, elves, townspeople or royalty, everyone has the perfect part! Practices are underway so mark your calendar for March 29th! I am so grateful to all the wonderful parents who help drive and perform all of the behind-the-scenes work of a large theatrical production; we can't do it without you! May God's blessing and guidance be with you as we work together to prepare these incredibly talented students for an amazing future!

Mrs. Reed

Time is flying, both literally and figuratively! As the 8th graders learn about fluids, and how they relate to flight, they now have an excuse to create paper airplanes. They're actually assigned! 6th and 7th graders are exploring the intricate art of God's greatest creation: the human body. This next week, we will be introducing the microscope.

Carden Christian Academy's First Annual Science Fair is vastly approaching, and all of the students are rigorously working to ensure that their projects meet the Carden standard. On March 10th, each student will be able to showcase their work. On March 11th, parents and friends will be able to see each project and participate in class projects!

On March 3rd, 25 representatives from 3rd through 8th grade will represent our school in the ACSI Math Olympics, held at Forest Lake High School. Last year our students had a great showing, and we are excited to see what this year might bring. Regardless of the outcome, each of our participants is a blessing.

We have just completed a short unit on Gideon in 6th and 7th grade Bible. An amazing story of God's power and grace in the face of tyranny, the students are coming to realize that God can use any of us at any time; the only prerequisite is that we are willing to follow Him. The 8th grade students are putting together Bible skits that display character traits that they are studying.

There is a lot of work to do. A lot of challenges lie ahead, but we're having a lot of fun!

Mr. Chase

Children are grateful to those who have cared enough for their future to make them rise to the best that is within them

Mae Carden

FOURTH/FIFTH GRADES Mrs. Nezhura

Is it February already? That short month full of presidents' birthdays and Valentine's?! The month before Science Fair and two months before Open House??!!

I'm not worried. These fourth and fifth graders are doing everything I put in front of them with insight and finesse. I asked the fifth grade for a one-page mammal report in science and you should see the beautiful writing they turned in about jerboas, echidnas, anteaters, etc.

The fourth grade had to do a report on the California missions; I wish I

knew a publisher, because these should be on the shelf at Barnes and Noble.

Fifth grade pushed through units on sentence structure and pronouns in Language; now they are moving on to adjectives which they tell me are "fun." Fourth grade completed a unit in punctuation; next is capitalization (seasons are not capitalized ☺).

Both classes read Peter Pan (challenging vocabulary, not like Disney at all); now fifth is reading Fever 1793 about the yellow fever epidemic

in Philadelphia in the aforementioned year. They are diving into concepts like foreshadowing and analysis. Fourth is reading Patty Reed's Doll about the Donner Party journey of 1846. They will write a journal for their own imaginary journey across the Oregon/California Trail.

As you can see, we are having fun and learning a lot. Many thanks are due to dedicated room moms and supportive parents. May God's blessing be on you all.

Mrs. Nezhura

SECOND GRADE Mrs. Hake

The second graders have completed the Junior reading book and are excited about the new Bluebird book. It tells the endearing story of a bluebird family, comprised of a brother, sister, mom and dad, who deal with many challenges, successes, and a lot of hard work. The children love to discuss and identify with each segment of the story.

Math time finds us working on addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts, trying our best to improve our time and score on those Friday tests! It is so reward-

ing to get them all correct!!

Comprehension Technique has taught us that sometimes when changing a verb from present to past tense, we have to do more than just drop the second vowel. We have to add "T" as in creep—crept and keep—kept.

Our next field trip is scheduled for March 21 when we go to the Raptor Center in Davis. I'm sure it will be a favorite!

Mrs. Hake

FRENCH Madame Merz

Bonjour! The annual Mardi Gras celebration is near. Don't forget to reserve a place at the Carden Café for your child(ren) to have a crepe and hot chocolate prepared and served by the 8th graders...all in French, bien sur!

I have been asked why we celebrate Mardi Gras, a not so nice celebration in the US but the historical celebration is quite fun and festive with Christian roots. The idea behind Mardi Gras is to celebrate on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday when Lenten season begins. The idea is to celebrate the coming season with fun festivities like parades and good food. When I discuss Mardi Gras in class it is always with this intent in mind.

Don't forget the date: February 28, 2006.

Any helping hands would be appreciated!

Merci,
Mrs. Merz

FIRST GRADE Mrs. Van Winkle

Blossoming! That is just what we are doing in 1st grade. I am so proud of each boy and girl. The students are all reading with good fluency and comprehension. They are learning new vocabulary in our reading, poetry and formal vocabulary lessons. They have advanced to spelling entire sentences from dictation, along with words and sounds.

In math we review telling time and will throughout the remainder of the year. However, we have moved on to a focus on measurement and money. We enjoy measuring and banking (\$) activities. We are adding and subtracting double digits, identifying greater or lesser numbers and discovering what multiplication means. We are also taking timed addition and subtraction tests now that number concept is solid.

We are so excited to learn about space that the children *cheer* when I say "It's time for science." We are reading books and being exposed to the concept of our place in the universe. From our bed in our home, in our town, in our state in our country, on our continent, on our planet, in our solar system,

in our galaxy, to our universe we praise God for it all! We will revisit these concepts again and again over the next several weeks. We are also touching on habitats, groundhogs and hibernation.

In history we are learning about slavery in America, Martin Luther King Jr., Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, President Washington and President Lincoln.

We continue our journey through the Bible learning of the prophets such as Samuel, Elijah and Jonah; the kings such as Saul, David, Solomon, and Josiah; as well as other devoted followers of God such as Daniel and Ester—learning about choices/consequences.

We are looking forward to Valentine's Day celebrations, hoping to cheer the elderly with a visit. Thanks to all the parents for their support in our activities and special events. A special thank you to Mrs. Madrid and Mrs. Harvey for all their help in the classroom during our Thanksgiving & Christmas festivities, and to Mrs. Merz for heading up our class Science Fair project. I think it's going to be out of this world!

Mrs. Van Winkle

Praying Moms!

Interested in praying with other Carden Moms?

Currently moms are meeting on Friday morning at 8:00 am.

Contact Rose Flodin at 797-3013 for more information.

MUSIC Mrs. Nary

Passing by the music room these days, one is likely to hear the sound(s) of music. Yes indeed, we are singing songs from the musical by the same name and, in addition, we are learning songs from other musicals, all of them written by the team of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. Some of the songs include: "I Whistle a Happy Tune," "Climb Every Mountain," "Getting to Know You," and everyone's favorite to date, "Happy Talk." Several students have commented that the lyrics and lilting tunes actually do make them happy. The songs selected, all from famous musicals, will be sung at our Spring/Graduation program. Our program will be dedicated to our graduating eighth graders and will, hopefully, be an inspiring send-off as they leave Carden Christian Academy and continue on life's journey.

We are also learning about the composers, Richard Rodgers 1902-1979 and Oscar Hammerstein II 1895-1960, who gave us such wonderful music. These two men are really quite modern, compared to other composers we have studied: Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Mozart and Chopin. However, to our young

students it seems they are all lumped together as ancient history.



Children have brought in pictures of musical instruments (including voice) that they would like to study. So far, drums have received the most votes, followed by guitar and piano. Other instruments represented are flute, recorder, harmonica, violin, clarinet, banjo and bagpipes. I was delighted to see such an array of musical interest. The pictures submitted and signed by the students are displayed in the music room under a large banner that reads, "Happy Musical New Year."

In response to the interest in piano, private lessons are now being offered on Monday and Wednesday afternoons at school. Please call me if you are interested in further details about piano lessons.

Mrs. Nary

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COMPUTERS Mrs. Wells

Have you been on a class field trip? Have you been to a class party? Have you been to a CCA athletic event? (soccer, basketball, cheer). Did you attend the Christmas program?

Do you have pictures of any of these events? Please! We need photos, or CD's or photo cards for the yearbook. We have only a few weeks left to finish the paste up and mail it for printing.

Thank you for your help!

Mrs. Wells

KINDERGARTEN Ms. Lorance

See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come . . ." (Song of Songs 2:11-12). Although we have a few more weeks of winter ahead of us still, new growth is springing up everywhere in the kindergarten class.

The kindergarteners are growing daily in their reading skills. We are finishing up our second reader, Joan, and are getting ready to spring into our third reader, Red Book, which is a **first grade reader!** Good job, kindergarteners!

In Bible time, as we study the ministry of Jesus, we are witnessing the growth of belief and unbelief in members of Jesus' audience. Our love for Jesus is growing as we see Him refusing to react to insults and accusations, choosing instead to stay focused on His mission. We are praying that God will help us to "copy" Jesus in choosing to please God and to serve others instead of caring only about ourselves. (Ms. Lorance smiles a lot as she sees kindergarteners offering to help each other without being asked. Nearly every day students display generous, selfless attitudes in our kindergarten class and on the playground. Thank you, parents, for cultivating godly character traits in your children before they ever attended Carden Christian Academy. I think God is smiling at you!)

Reading and Bible are not the only subjects in which the kindergarteners are growing. We are growing in spelling, math, and writing as well. We have begun spelling dictation. (Ms. Lorance dictates words sound by sound for students to write down.) In math, we are having fun learning to add. Our printing skills are expanding as we learn to print capital letters to go along with the lowercase letters we have already learned.

Our daily lessons keep us occupied, but we are not too busy to enjoy growing outside the classroom. We are looking forward to a field trip to a local dentist's office and to participating in Family Science Day. (Thank you, parents, for volunteering to help with our class project.) Grow on, kindergarteners, grow on!

Ms. Lorance