



Knightly News

Volume 1, Issue 1

November 17, 2005

FROM THE DIRECTOR Mrs. Rash

It's been a wonderful beginning for Carden Christian Academy! As I think about the past four or five months, I find myself in awe. Many of you were around during the busy summer months and saw the multitude of projects in progress. Thank you to all of you that gave of your time and talents in order to prepare our campus for the start of a new school year. Because of you, our children reap the benefits.

I cannot even begin to thank those of you that were here day in and day out tirelessly providing help and support as we worked, sometimes frantically, in order to provide the best possible campus to our students. I especially want to recognize the following individuals: Wesley Witt, Bob Hass, Kathleen Hass, Chuck Nicholas, Tom Hill, Willie Woo, Rich Rumbaugh, Cristine Reed, Mary Behrendt, Jeremy Hass, and Gary Harris—your gift of service to our school has been a tremendous blessing!

The Harvest Carnival was an

overwhelming success! Getting together as a school community for the sole purpose of having fun is a wonderful way for families to become connected and for our children to build pride in their school. In a very short amount of time, Laura Taylor and MaryAnn d'Avignon managed to put together a fabulous event. Thank you to all the parent and staff volunteers that prepared food, provided supplies and tables, worked carnival booths, and helped with set-up and clean up. What a fun way to spend a Friday evening!

In closing, I would like to remind you that Carden Christian Academy is committed to providing an outstanding Christian and academic education to our students. The best way to reach that goal is for parents, teachers, and administrators to work together as a team. I am available and value your input. Both parents and students are welcome to discuss with me concerns or ideas. Together we can continue to build a school of excellence.

THIRD GRADE Mrs. Owen

It has been a real joy to return to the grade level where I first received my "Carden Roots." in teaching this thoroughly excellent and comprehensive curriculum. I was thrilled to welcome fifteen exuberant, inquisitive, diligent young students to the third grade classroom, and felt blessed to greet our four "newcomers", BridgeAnne d'Avignon, Jacob Madrid, William Poulos, and Kevin Taylor. Our students interact with one another remarkably well and we are learning so much about building relationships as we work, play, and pray together.

We do have an activity-filled schedule as we progress in our "off and running" routine! Our students are focused on mastering new concepts and subject matter while building on the Carden foundation of material learned in earlier years.

In reading, third graders are learning about the bee, the ant, and the beaver; all of whom are almost as busy as our industrious pupils. Spelling lessons are increasingly challenging and now consist of 14 words and controls for next day recall! Math finds the students gaining command of Roman Numerals, weights and measurements, multiplication problems, and coming soon,

long division and fractions! In history the children have studied Christopher Columbus, John Smith, Pocahontas, Jamestown, the Pilgrims, and Squanto. Science has the class delving into studying the human nervous system as well as the world of plants. The class is becoming increasingly adept at taking quizzes and tests.

Our class loves art, and the third graders have expressed themselves creatively through drawing and other mediums. The children have already demonstrated a multitude of talents. Come visit our classroom to view their wonderful creations!

We thoroughly enjoyed our October field trip to the Pumpkin Farm; it made us all aware of fall and harvest time. We also greatly enjoyed our Harvest Party on October 28th. Thanks so much to Mrs. Cassano and the mothers who made these delightful events possible.

The Thanksgiving holiday will soon be upon us, and I wish each of you a very happy and memorable celebration. Our heartfelt thanks go to you for your continual support, your hard work, your kind words, and your prayers. God bless each and every one of you.

Mrs. Owen

Calendar of Events

November 21-25	Thanksgiving Break
December 9	Live Nativity
December 15	Christmas Program
December 15	Minimum Day
December 16—January 2	Christmas Break

2005-2006 is going to be a great year! I am so excited to be spending my fourth year at Carden – especially now that I am in my new room. God has blessed me with the most wonderful class of seventh and eighth grade students, including our new students, Zena Hatchman (8th), and Josiah Finnamore (7th)! I am so proud of the way these students have been so flexible as we found new ways of doing things in our temporary quarters.

In Literature the 7/8 class is reading *The Giver* while the 6/7 students are studying the antics of *Tom Sawyer*. A traditional favorite, *Tom Sawyer* keeps us laughing out loud and makes us realize that hyperactivity is not a modern concept. *The Giver* lets our students grapple intellectually with the idea of a utopian society and the Christian study material leads them gently to the conclusion that only God can create a perfect world

For the eighth grade elective, the students are studying and practicing photography while beginning to work on a DVD and power point video yearbook. Of course, the Junior High trip to Wolf Mountain was the highlight of our year so far. With leadership development, VERY high ropes course, trust activities and chapel, every minute of our day was filled with challenges.

We are excited to be moving into our new building and enjoy having the younger students on our campus. It will be an exciting year!

Mrs. Reed

What a great start to the year! I am thrilled to be spending my first year as a teacher with a group of students that always seem to bless me in new ways every day. Science has been an enlightening challenge, as my sixth and seventh graders have embarked on a journey through botany that often leaves them with dirt all over their faces, but no worse for the wear. The eighth graders have been on a scientific space voyage that has taken them from the sun to the ends of the galaxy. We have discussed the increasing role of intelligent design in society, and how the theory of evolution is taking a major hit by savvy, dedicated men of faith, who have a very strong basis in the sciences. Only when we have a number of scientists who are Christians will we be able to truly influence American science and the “intellectual” culture.

Our science projects have gotten off into full swing, as students have chosen fascinating topics, including the effect of acid rain on plant life, the effectiveness of different types of cheating in baseball, and the respiration of goldfish. Though we are just in the preliminary stages, we are already looking forward to our Carden Science Fair on March 10th. We will also be participating in the Math Olympics, where Carden students had a very good showing in 2004. In the following weeks, the sixth graders will be making a trek through the human body, learning about the uniqueness of those created in God’s image. The eighth graders are delving into physics, where they’re grappling with gravity, speed, and velocity.

In Bible we have focused on Christian leadership, as the sixth and seventh grade have focused on the exciting, much neglected book of Judges. So far, we have braved the adventures of Othniel, the first judge to be used by God to deliver Israel, and Ehud, the left-handed man who saved God’s chosen people from the tyrannical rule of the Moabite king, Eglon. Eighth grade, on a different course, has gone the introspective route, as we have analyzed the roles that different Christian character traits play in our lives. So far, we have looked at how love colors everything we do, and should be the foundational trait for all Christians. We have also looked at obedience (a favorite of the teacher, but not the students) and courage.

Math has gone very well thus far. The students are very dedicated to success and try very hard to grasp a number of abstract concepts. From algebra to surface area, and fractions to exponents, math is a new language, and all are studying very hard to master it.

I am thankful for all of the humor, dedication and smiling faces I witness every day with the junior high students. We are all learning a lot about faith, hope, and love each day as we struggle to have faith in ourselves and each other., hope for a better understanding of God’s world and Word, and love in spite of all of the challenges of adolescence.

Mr. Chase

FOURTH/FIFTH GRADES Mrs. Nezhura

Our first two months of school are nearly over. The children appear to be settling in nicely. This class is fabulous about getting right to work. We are managing class time better and better at completing more during class hours.

We have already completed our first literature book, Bud, Not Buddy, which the students enjoyed immensely. Also under our belts are two units of grammar, 30 lessons of math, a geology unit and part of our oceanography unit in science.

In history fourth grade is learning about explorers of the 15th and 16th centuries while the fifth grade is studying the colonization of our eastern shores.

Our first book report is due soon and our mission (4th) and state (5th) reports have already been started. We love to write!

We would like to send special thank yous to the Haynes family, the Nicholas family, the Kelley family, the Nielsen family and the Strong family for donating

dictionaries and thesauri to our classroom. We are so blessed . We would also like to thank Mrs. Gladstone, Mrs. Stachniuk, and the McClains for joining us at the pumpkin farm as chaperones. Thank you as well to those who accompanied the 5th grade to the IMAX Theater for a showing of “Walking on the Moon” and 4th grade’s sailing trip on the Sacramento River. Happy Thanksgiving and God bless you all!

Mrs. Nezhura

SECOND GRADE Mrs. Hake

Second grade is delighted to welcome three new students—Madison Haynes, Elisabeth Taylor and Nicole Turner. However, Ryan Galbraith remains our only, but very special, boy.

In science we have been learning many facts about air and the sun and just how very important they are to our planet.

Our language book combines the elements of grammar into a story which begins with Johnny Appleseed and his travels. The children are given information about fruits and then look at a map so they can identify the state where different varieties

are grown. They are also learning about singular, plural, and proper nouns.

Our next field trip is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6 at 12:15. We will be seeing “A Christmas Carol” by Charles Dickens at the Crest Theater. Thank you in advance for your time to transport us for this delightful play.

Mrs. Hake

COMPUTERS Mrs. Wells

The fourth through eighth students are working on their typing skills. This is a new skill for most of the fourth graders so we are working on using the proper typing form and keeping their fingers on home position. The fifth through eighth graders are working on improving the skills they have learned in past years.

The first graders are working on their reading skills. They are completing the Reader Rabbit I program now and are starting Reader Rabbit II. After the first of the year they will move onto a logic reading and math skills program called Treasure Cove.

The second graders are using the Treasure MathStorm program to improve their math skills, telling time skills and their thinking skills.

The third graders are using the Treasure Mountain program to enhance their reading comprehension, math and logic skills.

Starting soon the eighth graders will start working on the yearbook. Therefore we need to have pictures (or CD or memory cards) of any class or school event. We can return the CD or memory cards the same day so you won't be without them. Please, we depend on you for taking photos to have a great yearbook, so please help us. Also, please don't wait too long; I must mail the yearbook to be printed around the end of February.

Mrs. Wells

7723 Old Auburn Road
Citrus Heights, CA 95610
Phone: 916-722-8668
Fax: 916-722-7698
Email: cardenchristianacademy@comcast.net

KINDERGARTEN Ms. Lorance

The kindergarteners have experienced many “firsts” since school began in September. The children arrived on the first day of school (and the first day of Carden Christian Academy itself) wearing their Carden uniforms for the first time. During the first few weeks of school, the children learned how to do things “the Carden way,” quickly learning line-order, the French greeting and Carden arms. The children also willingly joined the Germ Patrol and committed themselves to eradicating germs on their hands the first thing in the morning and before snack and lunch.

Our kindergarten Bible lessons began in Genesis, the first book in the Bible. We have met many interesting Bible characters so far as we have learned about God's love for His people and His amazing ability to do ANYTHING. The children have eagerly participated in dramatizing and retelling Bible stories, and have been quick to ask questions and offer comments about the lessons.

All of us in the kindergarten class were thrilled to begin the first read-

ing lessons. After learning the Carden “playnames” of the letters, we learned the real names of the letters along with their sounds. Our first reader, “I See”, was truly an eye-opening experience. How exciting it was to see the sparkle in the eyes of the children as each one read a word for the first time! After reading solitary words, the kindergarteners moved on to reading complete sentences comprised of words with two vowels. The kindergarteners completed their first reader by the end of October!

Our kindergarten class was so happy to have several parents join us on our first field trip. We had fun visiting the Pumpkin Farm across the street from our school. Thank you, parents, for helping us cross the street and for making sure we were safe as we enjoyed the hayride, petted animals, braved the corn and hay mazes, slid down slides and picked out first-rate pumpkins.

Our learning experiences so far have been wonderful, but they are only the first of many. The best is yet to come! Stay tuned for more news about the magnificent kindergarteners.

MUSIC Mrs. Nary

The students in music classes at Carden have been busy singing, learning some basic music theory, composing and listening to some compositions by Frederic Chopin. It remains to be seen if we have a Chopin in our midst, but we definitely have some enthusiastic composers.

So far this year, it has been a challenge to conduct music classes without a room and piano. However, as is often the case, challenges make way for opportunities. Students have learned about and experienced singing a cappella. Also, it has been a joy to make music with the students in their classrooms.

We are currently working on the music for our Christmas program. The production this year will be "A Christmas Carol in Bethlehem," an adaptation of Charles Dickens' famous story. Many of the songs from the program are traditional carols. The story is familiar with a few interesting new twists.

The program will be on Thursday evening, December 15, 2005, at Valley Springs Presbyterian Church in Rose-

ville. Please put the date on your calendar and invite friends and relatives to attend. The program will be a wonderful gift from the children.

We are off to a wonderful musical start to the school year. I look forward to the remaining months of making music with our Carden children.

In the words of Charles Dickens -
"May God bless us, everyone."

Mrs. Nary

Praying Moms!

Interested in praying with other Carden Moms?

Currently in the planning phase, weekly prayer meetings will begin in the near future.

Contact Rose Flodin at 797-3013 for more information.

FRENCH Madame Merz

Bonjour! Another great year has begun with so many exciting lessons and fun classroom moments. I am still so excited to be a part of this school and love teaching your children.

We just celebrated another National French Week with the following fun activities. But first, how about our Eiffel Tower—Oo La La! Thank you Mrs. Hake for finding it and to Mr. Kelley and Mr. Merz for installing it. We kicked off the week on Friday, November 4, with the FABULOUS FRENCH FOLLIES! All the classes have rehearsed and performed their songs, skits, poems and story telling to other classes as well as the parents.

In the spirit of culture and globalization our week included pen pals in Switzerland, Sport Day, art projects, cuisine and of course the Carden Café. The 8th graders sold coffee; croissants and hot chocolate to raise funds for a school affected by Hurricane Katrina to rebuild their French curriculum in the classrooms.

I hope you noticed the posters, flyers and of course the excitement from the students. We had a fabulously fun-filled week.

Merci!
Madame Merz

FIRST GRADE Mrs. Van Winkle

We have fallen in love with learning in first grade!

We begin each day with a continuing journey through the Bible. As the stories unfold we talk about the choices the biblical characters made and about the fact that we have choices too. We recognize God's awesome power and love woven throughout human history.

In Reading/Language Arts we feel like detectives; we readily identify blends, key words in sentences and give verbal summaries of what we have read. (Imagine the concentration and comprehension skills involved with that!) We apply our phonics skills and spelling rules to become confident spellers. We know about subjects, verbs, possessives and pronouns. We recite our poems, enjoying rhyme and acquiring new vocabulary. We are practicing penmanship to be proud of. (Cursive!)

Moving on to math we are building mental images: number concept, number lines, computation skills, exploring all number combinations for a given sum, addition short-cuts; writing out thinking patterns when solving story problems, place value, even and odd numbers and telling time...

Survey our Science: Tree parts, how forests begin and then mature through 3 stages of growth; coniferous vs. deciduous trees; changes that occur to an apple tree/deciduous trees through the seasons; how apples grow; how pumpkins grow; the major bones of the human skeleton, (Simon says touch your clavicle!). God's wonderful design of the body!

We toured Early American History from Columbus to Pocahontas, Squanto, the Pilgrims and Johnny Appleseed. We enlivened this time period study with a Thanksgiving feast complete with Pilgrim/Indian attire. Thank you especially to Mrs. Harvey for organizing parent help and to all parents who helped with the feast (prep work, cooking and craft activities). We had such a wonderful time!

Mrs. Van Winkle