



KNIGHTLY NEWS

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From the Director

Mrs. Hass

Dear Carden Families,

God has abundantly blessed us with many new exceptional students and staff members this year. I am in awe at the magnitude of the Lord's answer to our prayers. ("Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven." Matthew 18:19) I am enjoying the pleasure of spending time with your children, and as I do, I realize that the students at Carden Christian Academy are very special. They are growing into children of strong Christian character and integrity.

Did you have the chance to attend the Pasta Feed? It was absolutely wonderful. As I watched our

families laughing and enjoying their pasta, I was again reminded what a special place Carden Christian Academy truly is. This enjoyable event could not have happened without the many hours of planning and preparation of our parents. Thank you, especially to Kathleen Leone, Kim Harvey and Leslie Mabbutt, who worked tirelessly on this event.

Team ExSL is off to a great start. They recently spent an entire day at the ACSI Student Leadership Conference. They had the opportunity to share ideas with other schools as well as listen to a motivational speaker. Also, they organized our recent chapel. Our speaker was Rob Maxey, who has a local ministry for middle school students.

The elementary soccer season just ended and our Carden Soccer Team is the league Champion! The Blue Crew Spirit Team is participating in their first competition of the school year on Saturday, November 17th. They would love your support, come on out and cheer them on.

The Christmas musical cast is rehearsing for what promises to be another inspiring program. The dedication of our staff and parents make all of these worthwhile activities possible for our children.

Thank you to all who have participated in the fall fundraisers for DC Dreaming. The money raised goes directly to our junior high students for their trip to Washington DC in the spring.

Many Blessings to all!

Third and Fourth Grade

Mrs. Owen

The school year is well underway, and the third and fourth graders are off and running! Our class has been busy mastering the daily routine, learning new material, and developing important study skills which will build the foundation for future academic success.

What a bright and exuberant group of third and fourth graders I am teaching this year! It has been a joy getting to know our six new students, Kaelan Gomes, Jackson Raffety, Kate Vaughn, Marcella Bandala, Dillon Eversole, and Nitalia Wilson. All of our students interact remarkably well with one another, and we are learning so much about building relationships as we work, play, and pray together.

We begin each day with Bible study and are reminded continually that God always has a plan for us, and about God's ability to do anything for His people.

It is a blessing to share this time with your children, to talk about our love for the Lord, and to relate to one another how He is working in our daily lives.

Third graders have been studying units in bees, ants, squirrels, and beavers, all creatures which are almost as hard-working as our students themselves! The third grade spelling list has increased to fourteen words twice a week.

Math lessons find the children learning about Roman numerals, weights and measures, three digit multiplication, and long division. *The Little Lame Prince* is the literature study for the fourth graders, and this classic tale has provided the children with many life lessons and challenging thoughts. Math is a favorite subject in our class, as the students learn about fractions, factoring, and three-digit and four-digit multiplication and division problems. Science, history, and geography studies are other areas where our fourth graders demonstrate excellence.

Our class has already participated in two field trips: the first to the Pumpkin Farm, where we celebrated the joy of the autumn harvest, and Griffith Quarry in Penryn, where we learned about early settlers in our area. Our next field trip will be in November when we will enjoy a production by The Magic Circle Theatre, with our own Dillon Eversole as part of the cast!

The Thanksgiving holiday will be upon us, and I wish each of our families a very happy and memorable celebration.

My heartfelt appreciation goes to all for your continual support, your hard work, your kind words, and your prayers. God bless each and every one of you.



Fifth and Sixth

Mrs. Roberts

I have been having so much fun with the fifth and sixth grade class, from academics to the field trips!

In science, we have dissected flowers, grown bean seeds, and tried to feed a Venus fly trap (thanks to the Mabbutt family for the plant!).

In history the sixth graders have been learning about ancient civilizations: Mesopotamia, the Fertile Crescent, and the ancient Middle East. Did you know that the alphabet was developed by the ancient Phoenicians?

In Bible, we have a new book, *The Life of Christ*, which we are really enjoying. We started the year out learning about the authors of the four gospels and are

now starting *The Early Days of Jesus' Life*. We learned that Matthew was a former tax collector, who changed his ways when he met Jesus; Mark was a young child when Jesus was on earth; Luke was a physician and wrote like a reporter; and John was "the disciple Jesus loved."

In literature, the fifth graders are reading *Where the Red Fern Grows* and the sixth graders are reading *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*. We have also nearly completed our first book reports on the Newberry Award books, and I'm so impressed with them! The Pumpkin Farm was a fun walking field trip with hayrides, scarecrows, and corn mazes.

We each took a pumpkin home too. We also enjoyed Da Vinci's amazing inventions as well as reproductions of his art during our Da Vinci Experience field trip in September. Since the exhibit was at the McClellan Aeronautical Museum, we were able to explore historic military aircraft as well. We even got to see inside a few!

I feel very blessed to have such an enthusiastic class, full of life and personality. It's going to be a great year!



Junior High Bible/Math/Science

Mr. Chase

It has been another wild and wacky (and educational) trimester at Carden Christian Academy. God has blessed our class in so many ways. I am very thankful for the opportunity to teach these students, and to have the privilege to see the eighth graders through these final months.

U.S. History has offered us the opportunity to study many interesting topics, including John Wilkes Booth's striking resemblance to a former Sacramento Kings coach. I find that history becomes more relevant when you relate it to modern day happenings. Many fascinating discussions have started from the issues of slavery and race, and many tangential (but educa-

tional) ideas have led us in all sorts of directions, from the 2007 federal income tax bracket to the powers of the supreme court.

Science has been very hands-on this semester with mass and energy, simple machines, and how to drop things off of a ladder without hitting anybody. Seventh grade is learning all about plants: the difference between monocots and dicots, and how to dissect a flower without sneezing. We are looking forward to starting our science projects in the coming months. The Carden Science Fair will be on April 26, 2008, so mark your calendars!

Bible has been quite an adventure. We

have been exploring different elements of personal character, and how they relate to the Bible and God's plan for our lives. The eighth graders have been seeking ways to improve their "initiative" by doing good deeds without being prompted. The seventh graders finished "obedience" with a wonderful project (wonderful for the parents, that is). The students had the opportunity to be graded on their obedience to their parents. Needless, to say, this was the most popular project of the year (for the parents). The eighth graders laughed at the fact that the seventh grade had to complete such a stringent project, so I did what any fair-minded teacher would do: I gave it to the eighth graders as well.

Junior High Math/Language/Literature

Mrs.

2007-2008 is going to be a great year! I am so excited to be spending my sixth year at Carden. God has blessed me with the most wonderful classes of seventh and eighth grade students, including our new students, Alexa (eighth grade) and Savannah (seventh grade). Because all of our students are so motivated to learn, we can explore many interesting educational activities.

In literature, the seventh grade has finished *The Outsiders*, a book about adolescent issues in the 60's. The students loved the book and gained an excellent perspective on gangs, peer pressure and the consequences of poor choices.

The eighth grade students are studying

The Giver. This Christian-based literature unit does a fabulous job of gently leading our students to the conclusion that only God can create a perfect world. Stop by our classroom and read all about the Utopian Societies the eighth grade students created.

This year I have the privilege of teaching language to fifth and sixth grade students. They are such enthusiastic learners and have mastered subjects, verbs, adverbs and prepositional phrases. Check out their complicated sentence diagrams!

For our elective, the students are studying and practicing photography while beginning to work on a DVD yearbook.

We were fortunate to have Mr. Santee give us a lecture on the twelve elements of a good picture. I expect top-notch entries into our annual photography contest.

Finally, I am thrilled to be teaching *Saxon Math 87*. This is an important year because the students are making the transition into pre-algebra. The Saxon curriculum forces them to think hard about each problem and uses real-life examples to cement concepts.

I feel so fortunate to be able to teach a Christian curriculum and hope that our students will take these values with them as they graduate and move on to high school.

Pre-School

Mrs. Maurer & Mrs. Wilson

Who took the cookies from the cookie jar?
“Who me? Yes, you! Couldn’t be! Then who?”

Pre-school started the new school year learning all about Me: How am I special? How much have I grown? My favorite things and getting to know all my new friends.

We’ve enjoyed Bible stories as well, starting at the beginning with Genesis, learning about God’s creations and the promise in the rainbow.

We are participating in a “Listening Ear Contest,” working on positive attitudes, and learning how to show respect. We are having a lot of fun listening to books and memorizing *Brown Bear, Brown Bear* and *Chicka, Chicka, Boom Boom*.

Pre-school’s first field trip consisted of a walk across the street to the Pumpkin Farm. We had several handsome crossing guards that helped us get there safely—Thank you parents. We enjoyed our pumpkin project too: first we cut open the class pumpkin and scooped all of the seeds out. The seeds and pumpkin were then cooked and everyone helped peel and mash them. What a fun mess! The best part of that project was baking our pumpkin cookies and decorating them—yummy!

The four year old class is doing a wonderful job with their lessons: *Learning to Listen, Learning the Blocks* and *Learning the Letters and Numbers*. Happy Thanksgiving!

Mrs. Wilson—

The three year old class has enjoyed the review of basic shapes with our shape characters. They’re also having a lot of fun building up hand coordination, memorization and are working on their counting skills through finger rhymes and puppet song stories. *Five Little Ducks* and *Five Little Speckled Frogs* seem to be their favorites. We are working on our coloring and cutting skills to help us with our lessons. They are doing wonderfully and have begun new Carden lessons. Many Blessings!

Some of you may not know, but I was a kindergarten at Carden Christian Academy twenty-three years ago. I vividly remember my first day of school. I remember arriving on campus for the very first time and meeting my teacher, Mrs. Badgley, and my classmates. I recall diving into the curriculum early in the year and feeling the joy and excitement of learning the tools to read and write words.

I am so proud and excited to be on the other side, watching my students create their own memories. I enjoy watching them smile and be proud of their achievements. I see them improve and master new skills everyday. It warms my heart to no end to see the look in their eyes when they read a new word or write a new letter.

The children are progressing with the Carden method and I cannot wait to see the progress we will make by the end of the year!

Fall is definitely in the air and the classroom is buzzing with excitement for the holidays. We had a wonderful field trip to the Pumpkin Farm with Mrs. Petrissans’ first grade class in October. Thank you for the help with the field trip and all of our class needs.

First Grade

Mrs. Petrissans

It is hard to believe we are less than two months into the new school year! We had such a great time at the Pumpkin Farm recently. Thank you Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. Hewitt, Mr. Gomes, Mrs. Bryant, Mr. and Mrs. (and Grandma) Black and Mrs. Mabbutt, for a fun and adventurous day!

The children have been working hard to learn cursive and are improving every day with their reading skills. It’s so fun to see the “light bulbs” go off when they understand and comprehend what they read. We have really enjoyed art on Fridays with Mr. Panek. Thank you to the

PTA and all of the parent support.

Another highlight of this fall was making our class project for the Pasta Feed in October. The children worked very hard on their picture for our beautiful class quilt. Thanks to Mrs. Mabbutt and Mrs. Harvey, our quilt turned out perfect and was a great contribution to the live auction! Many thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Petralia too. I have really enjoyed getting to know my first graders this year. Their sweet demeanors, along with their eagerness

to learn and help each other, have made my first months at Carden feel like such a blessing.

As the holidays approach, my wish for everyone is for us to remember to be thankful for every day and for all the memories we make.

Second Grade

Mrs. Hake

It is a pleasure to welcome twelve students to second grade. Four are “old” students and eight are new. What a delightful blend!

Learning the Carden chart, finding the key words in a sentence and reading with rhythm have been somewhat challenging, but we are making great progress!

Sentence analysis is a new approach for many of the students to find the who, doing, what, when, or where in a sentence and then writing out each question and answer. The children are fast learners!

I’m looking forward to our conference to share with you your child’s progress and

to become better acquainted.

With the support already shown from the parents, this year promises to be busy, exciting and successful!



French & History

Mrs. Merz

Bonjour!

As we begin another exciting school year, we embark yet again on our French escapades. Teaching French at every grade level is a pleasure. However, the younger grades are often the most comical. For instance Bryan Bickford informed his mother that he knew his French teacher's name, "Je m' appelle," (which means "My name is...").

All the classes are working hard and practicing their songs, stories and skits for the French Follies. Please join us: National French Week is November 27 through November 30, 2007. Merci Beaucoup.

Music

Mrs.

Musically, the school year began with a salute to patriotic songs. First, we discussed the meaning of the word patriotism. We then followed up with how patriotism can be expressed musically. The children enjoyed sharing that we often begin important events, like the school day and the Super Bowl with patriotic songs. We also discussed protocol and respectful behavior during patriotic and sacred music.

So quickly, the first few days of school evolved into preparations for our Christmas Musical. The title of this year's program is "Christmas on Gloria Street." The story has some entertaining twists and turns, but the main point is also the title of the songs, "The One True Meaning of Christmas."

Our story takes place in present-day California. The California characters (all children in the chorus, grades kindergarten through sixth) will be depicted as seen through the eyes of Gloria and her parents who are moving from Vermont to California. They find their new address of New Angel, California to be all sunny and "beachy." In keeping with this image, costumes for the chorus should be casual and summery.

Our children are doing a wonderful job of learning the songs from our program, as well as some of the traditional and classical Christmas carols they will hear and sing year after year.

Please mark your calendars for this special musical Christmas gift from your children:

"Christmas on Gloria Street"

Thursday, December 6, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

(Children to arrive at the church by 6:00 p.m.)

Sylvan Oaks Christian Church

6540 Sylvan Road

Citrus Heights, CA 95610



Team ExSL

Savannah Jones, Secretary

Team ExSL recently attended a leadership conference which was a lot of fun. When we first arrived, we received nametags and were able to sit down and talk about issues at our schools. One by one, we narrowed them down to our top issues and how we could correct or accomplish something new. After our break, we came back into the building and listened to a very inspiring speaker. He read verses out of the Bible to us that explained what a good leader consists of. After that, we split up and went to special "reaction" classes of our choice. I went to one on fundraising. For example, a car wash, auctions, dinners and more. Then we came back to the original building, where we had time to converse with other schools. We sat down and listened to one more speech from the original speaker before leaving. Overall, it was a great experience.