



THE CCS GROWLER

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY COVENANT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



What Does a Covenant Graduate Look Like?

By: Mr. John Weaver, Head Administrator

With the end of the school year fast approaching and enrollment for next year well on the way, I have the opportunity to speak to many people about the benefits of a Christian education. I also get to talk to people about why they choose a public education over CCS. While there are many valid reasons, unfortunately, many times we put short term satisfaction ahead of the long term picture. Reasons such as friendship, sports, or maybe lack of a specific class may lead to short term happiness but miss out when we look down the road at graduation and beyond. Covenant Christian School takes a holistic approach to education and has developed Expected Student Outcomes that we use to tailor our curriculum objectives. They are listed in their entirety on the school website, but I would like to take a moment to share a little bit about what we see a CCS graduate looking like. They contain four main components, Academic Thinking, Spiritual Formation, Skill Development, and Worldview.

Academic Thinking is much more than just acquiring knowledge. Covenant graduates will be proficient in all academic disciplines, including but not limited to reading, writing, listening, speaking, thinking, social studies, sciences, mathematics, Bible, technology, and fine arts. In addition, they will develop and demonstrate effective commu-

nication skills. Finally, they will utilize creative and critical thinking strategies to achieve excellence in all pursuits. They will do all of this in the context of truth, recognizing that all truth is God's truth.

Spiritual formation is a distinctive that is obviously one that sets us apart from our public school counterparts. A Covenant graduate will understand and commit to a personal relationship with Christ and pursue ongoing spiritual development. In addition, they will understand and practice spiritual disciplines such as devotion, personal Bible study, prayer, church involvement, and service evangelism. Finally they will be empowered by the Holy Spirit and pursue a life of faith, goodness, knowledge, self-control, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love.

Skill development is more than just gaining a skill such as learning to add and subtract. First, a Covenant graduate will be able to apply effective study habits, develop organizational skills, and have the skills to question solve problems and make wise decisions. Second, he will be able to demonstrate an ability to utilize resources, including technology, to research, analyze and evaluate information, leading to wise decision-making skills. Third, he will be prepared to be a responsible steward of all God-given resources (finances, time, gifts, and talents). Finally, he will value and participate in appropriate interpersonal relationships, community and civic activities.

I believe one of the most important distinctives of a Christian school graduate is the development of a Christian **Worldview**. It is what sets apart our graduates from the public school graduate more than any other. It is the eyes from which he will view the world he lives in for the rest of his life. A Covenant graduate will understand and respect the worth of every human being at every stage of life as created in the image of God. He will be equipped with apologetic skills and a basic understanding of opposing world views in order to articulate and defend his Christian worldview with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15). He will also possess skills to practice justice, mercy, and peace-making in his family and society. Finally, he will understand that work is an expression of worship to God.

Each year, in each classroom, our teachers are working to build in each student these attributes that will culminate in an individual equipped to do whatever the Lord has called him to do. It is my firm belief that a child who has had the opportunity to experience Christian education from the earliest years right through graduation has the best opportunity for success. We are but one leg of the tripod of church, school, and family. Without this leg, the stool will tip over. This year's class is the largest in Covenant's history, and I pray they have been prepared well to **".....do all to the glory of God."**✿

A Day in the Life

By: Katelyn Holm, Staff Reporter

Sometimes people ask me what it feels like to be a senior. I always hesitate to answer that question merely because I can't describe it. I had no idea just how busy senior year would be. That being said, I don't regret one second of it. It has been a blast! For my editorial, I decided to finally answer that question! What is it like to be a senior? Well, here is just a little glimpse into one day in the life of a twelfth grader.

When Monday comes around, you wake up far too early in the morning, oftentimes before the sun. Like any other age, you don't want to get up. You debate about not going to school because you don't feel great; in fact, you may have caught that stomach bug from a friend. Then you remember that you can only miss two days of school because you want to be exempt from semester finals. Reluctantly, you drag your diseased self out of bed and proceed to school. It doesn't really matter if you are sick though, because by this time, everyone is already sick from the growing number of contagious illnesses going around. After a long walk from the gravel parking lot, you then trudge through a series of rapid AP classes, a meeting at lunch, physics, and CPG. You get stopped in the hallway frequently for a quick checkup on how this or that activity is going. You are then asked where you are going to college; you smile and run away at least three times a day. Then you stay at school for ensemble practice, run a few laps for being late to basketball practice, and stay a little later for quality time with your team unless you have a game. In that case, you might as well bring a sleeping bag because you will be at school most of the night. (I have always wanted to do that, but I haven't had that opportunity...yet.) Finally, you make the long walk to the gravel parking lot once again. When you get home, there is a stack of letters piled on the counter, asking you to consider this or that college. Emails fill your inbox, reminding you about senior pictures, graduation, and other things to pay for. Do you HAVE to buy a cap and gown? Yes. Yes, you do. At this point in the day, you just want to watch *American Idol* or *The Mentalist*. Instead, your teachers have other plans. Grudgingly, you begin unraveling the

mysteries of integrals, aggregate supply and demand, supercavitation, and juxtapositions (that's calculus, economics, physics, and English). Then you repeat these steps four more times per week. The steps may not be totally accurate if you aren't taking AP or extra-curriculars, but you get the general idea.

I say all of that to answer the question so many of you have asked. But more importantly, I want to say that even with all the craziness, fees, deadlines, and hours of sleep lost doing projects, it has all been priceless. My senior year and the last eight years at Covenant have been life changing. I have been so blessed to be a part of every activity I could! Sure, the schedule has been hectic, but God has used Covenant to mold me into who He wants me to be and given me relationships that will last! It seems like yesterday I started fifth grade in Mrs. Campbell's class as the shy and uncertain one. I leave with several disciplinary notes for talking TOO much, and confident that I am capable of thriving in the "real world". By that, I mean life outside of Covenant. *The CCS Growler* doesn't have enough pages for me to explain just how much this school has meant to me! Thank you to everyone who has had an impact on me these past eight years!☀

Right to Life Oration Contest

By: Tyler Holm, Staff Reporter

The Fifth Annual Montgomery County Right to Life Student Oration Contest was held at Covenant Christian School on February 12, 2011. Nine juniors and seniors prepared a six to ten minute long speech about valuing the right to life. Of these nine participants, Kelsey Fore, a junior at Covenant, was one of them. She gave her speech on the topic of abortion. This is what she had to say about the Montgomery County Right to Life Oration Contest, "It was really cool getting to compete with a lot of smart people. I didn't win, but I went up against a bunch of good speakers. It really took me out of my 'Christian bubble' and opened my eyes to what's really out there. I will definitely be doing it again next year." Good job, Kelsey and all the other competitors who volunteered to research and give a speech about the value of life.☀

Risk and Reward

By: Chuck Rod, School Board Member

When an opportunity presents itself to plant the seed of Christianity in a non-believer, what can you say that will direct that person to pursue a Christ-centered life? I believe that most people view life in terms of "Risk and Reward" and their "Return on Investment". Christians believe that the risk of living a life for Christ is more than worth the reward of eternal life with our heavenly Father. We also believe that our investment of time, energy, and finances to expand the kingdom of God brings us a return that is immeasurable.

An argument can be made to the non-believer that by not accepting Christ as their Lord and Savior they run the bigger risk of eternal damnation. Someone recently sent me an email that clarifies this reasoning. It said, "I would rather live my life as if there is a God and die to find out there isn't. Rather than living my life as if there isn't and die to find out there is."

Convincing non-believers that living their lives according to the teachings of the Bible is the only way to have order and honor in one's life. The Bible is not only a blueprint for how to live life, but it also gives us a master plan for law and order based on respect for authority and our fellow man. In fact, for a non-believer, living a life without biblical guidelines may have his freedom stripped away due to his lawless nature. If the non-believer is already trying to live a life of honor and respect, then the risk of simply accepting the free gift of eternal salvation is certainly worth the reward.☀

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and the He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Hebrews 11:6



The Battle for the Beginning

By: Mr. Andy Penland, Secondary Principal

When reading the Psalms, you will often come across the word “Selah”. The word is inserted to remind the reader to pay special attention and think deeply about what was just read. I have often wondered why “Selah” does not follow these words in the Genesis account of creation, “In the beginning”. Too often I have blazed through those words unaware of how much meaning they are impregnated with.

Every day the battle lines are drawn between two opposing worldviews, evolution and creation, on the account of creation. In order to understand the standing debate between creation and evolution, one must concede to the fact that science has limitations. There are questions that science can answer, but some it definitively cannot answer. In areas where science has no answers, it can only espouse unproven theories mixed with presuppositions. Such is the case with the origins of life. As Christians, we need to understand this weakness inherent in the body of science. In addition we must embrace the truth of the account of the origin of life in the book of Genesis. If we as believers stand idly by and allow the Genesis account to be ignored or dismantled, then the consequences will be tragic.

Inherent in the Genesis narrative is the idea that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit created this world and life as we know it. As a result, we the created are subject to the will of our Creator. He alone is the law-giver and His law is a reflection of his holy character. He has given us His law for our own good (and of course His glory!). The laws are a framework from which He intends for us to build society and think about every area of life.

By placing such boundaries around us we can know God places great value on human life and thought. Thus, the basis of a Christian worldview originates in the account of Genesis.

A worldview devoid of the Genesis account basically replaces God with chance and random processes. Evolution is now the framework from which a man operates, thus regarding himself as the standard upon which to view the world and establish society. Right and

wrong no longer come from an absolute standard, but rather a relativistic standard. Human life is no longer valued, but seen as a means to a personal end. God is essentially made impersonal, and then defined as nonexistent. The Bible becomes a collection of mystical stories from which only the fool-hearted draws inspiration.

So now we are left with questions on divisive issues such as marriage, abortion, and increasing lawlessness, just to name a few. Which side is right? Which side is wrong? Both worldviews claim to be right, but two opposing views that contradict each other cannot both stand. God cannot both exist and not exist. Therefore, we must wisely look at the results of these two opposing views to see which has more merit.

If evolution is to be the foundation for dealing with day to day societal issues, then the result will be the devaluing of life when compared to individual needs. Hitler applied natural selection to justify the murder of 6 million Jews. Thousands of lives are lost each year as babies are aborted simply because they are an inconvenience. The value of self-control is also lost with evolution. Survival of the fittest means take what you think you need to survive, and thus almost any crime against another individual could be justified.

Now, if Genesis is to be used as the foundation for dealing with societal issues, then the value of life increases significantly as God seeks to bring us prosperity over harm. For example, in Genesis God defined marriage as one man and one woman for life, a covenantal relationship, which provides stability. Once Adam and Eve sinned, God then clothed them as He knew that sin would distort nakedness. Thus, the concept of modesty was introduced to man to protect us all. Even self control is championed early in the account as God warns Cain not to let his sinful attitude take control. If Cain had shown self control, he would not have murdered his brother!

In conclusion, it does not take one long to realize that without the foundation of Genesis, man has no real hope. Evolution mocks the idea that man needs a Savior. It promises prosperity, but only provides death and struggle. It lays a foundation that can be used to justify immoral behavior by defining sin not as man’s rebellion against God, but rather as a genetic defect which will eventually be selected against and will allow man

to reach perfection. However, as Christians we know this not to be true and must stand united against this false and destructive worldview. Genesis is the only truth that makes sense of the world we live in and gives genuine hope! 🌟

Round Up Recap

By: Kerri Lanier, Round Up Coordinator

A great big THANKS to all those who attended the annual Round Up Auction fundraiser. Everyone who attended had a wonderful evening filled with good food, fun fellowship and active bidding. Ray Burgess, the auctioneer, made the evening competitive, yet comical. Our emcees, Jay and Patti Lewis were a new addition treat this year. The decadent dessert table, also new, was a big hit.

I would personally like to thank all of the ladies on the committee who helped make Round Up a huge success. And last, but not least, do not forget all the CCS families and friends who donated \$46,000 to help make our event financially beneficial to our school. 🌟

YOU+1 Jump Rope = A BIG Difference

By: Missy Banks, Elementary P.E. teacher

Our third annual Jump Rope for Heart event was held on Wednesday, February 16 and Thursday, February 17. All elementary students participated in the activities during their scheduled P.E. class time. Thanks to everyone’s efforts, we raised **\$4,728.00!** I am so proud of all the students!

The top producing classroom was Mrs. Weaver’s kindergarten class, with third grade coming in a close second. Madison Gless single-handedly raised an incredible \$550! Way to go, Madison! A life-size congratulation is in order for our “cyber” heart heroes, too. These individuals raised money online to aide in research and new medicines for those dealing with heart problems.

Additionally, a huge “heart-felt” thanks go out to my incredible volunteers who made the event go smoothly: Angela Bundy, Mandi Butler, Stacy Everett, LeeAnne Griffith, Cindy Moon, Sherrie Owens, Tish Ream, and Delanie Reynolds. Thanks, ladies, for a job well done. Have a heart healthy day! 🌟

Congratulations, Scientists!

These students will represent CCS at the ACSI Science Fair.

Physical Science

Winners:

3rd: Joshua Snider

5th: Bryant Dockray

7th: Nic Hatcher

9th: Lauren Lanier
Lydia Watson

Life Science

Winners:

3rd: Avery Causey

5th: Ty Bachmann

7th: Jeremy Lockwood

9th: Hannah Ramey

Spanish Club

By: Marissa Nanos, Staff Reporter

The Covenant Spanish Club is going strong! They are continuing with their goal to help Sam Houston Elementary pre-kindergarten class as the club members practice their bilingual skills. The club is helping with crafts and reading the children stories in both English and Spanish. In addition to working with the children of Sam Houston Elementary, the club will be going out to eat at a local Mexican restaurant on April 13. The club members are very excited to be able to order in Spanish!

"I used to hate Spanish and wanted nothing to do with it. God changed my heart and showed me how relevant Spanish is in our lives. One of my favorite quotes is from Billy Sunday, 'I have to learn how to speak the people's language so I can witness to them.' That quote holds truth more than people realize. Spanish Club has been a blessing, and I'm so happy I have been a part of it for the past two years," said Pam Pavelka, President of Spanish Club. Indeed learning different languages can play a big part in being a witness for Christ which is exactly what these children are doing. As they continue through the year, they stay excited and optimistic while they learn to perfect their Spanish skills. ¡Buena suerte! 🌟

It's a Doggie Dog World

By: Rebecca Stanley, Staff Reporter

On March 10, 2011, students not participating in the High School Choir Festival in League City had the chance to assist man's best friend. Working with our local Operation Life Pet chapter, students walked and bathed their new canine pals for free at a shopping center in the Woodlands. Any donations were given directly to Operation Life Pet, whose mission is to have every



stray adopted and never be euthanized. Operation Life Pet brought around 10 dogs, and other passers by brought more to the fun outing by bringing their dogs to be washed. Rebecca Jenkins comments, "It was fun, and I am glad I could help the dogs and contribute to the organization." Thanks to an amazing group of Covenant students and staff, the dogs had a doggone good time! 🌟

Beauty and the Bible

By: Becca Lewis, Staff Reporter

In 1 Peter 3:3-4 it says, "Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear— but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious." Physical beauty alone, without God's purpose, is perishable. God intended for one's beauty to be revealed through the righteous desires of the heart. For the month of April, the Girls' Bible Study is analyzing the delicate theme of beauty. The study is not centered on outer beauty but inward beauty. The leaders going over this subject will be Kelsey Fore and Pam Pavelka. The high school girls have been meeting every Monday during lunch time. Any girl in secondary is more than welcome to join the Girls' Bible Study as it continues to dig into God's word and discuss His will and plan for our lives as young women in Christ. 🌟

CCS Sports Banquet

May 9

6:30 p.m.

Covenant Christian
School
Gymnasium

This banquet honors
all CCS coaches
and athletes.

Ready, Set, GO!

By: Kaitlyn Weir, Staff Reporter

Junior high track has had a wonderful season so far! On February 22, the track team went to Northland Christian School. The girls placed in several different events. Seventh grader, Jean-Marie de Jager placed third in shot put. Eighth graders, Kailee Fore placed third in the 100 meter hurdles, and Danielle Wilds placed third in 100 meter hurdles. The eighth grade girls came in third overall in their relay. The boys followed with seventh graders, Kevin Cunningham placed first in the 100 meter hurdles and Nic Hatcher placed third in the 1200 meters and second in the 800 meters. Matthew Higgins placed third in the 300 meter hurdles and John Taylor placed third in the triple jump. Eighth graders, McLane Zaitz placed first in the 100 meter hurdles, Sterling Smith placed second in the 100 meter hurdles, Garrett Mayes placed first in the 300 meter hurdles, and Matt Day placed third in the 300 meter hurdles.

On March 1, the junior high track team went to Northland Christian again and did very well in that meet as well. Seventh graders, Jean-Marie de Jager placed second in the 100 meter and second in the 200 meter, Petri-Louise placed second in the 100 meters and second in the 200 meter, and Paige Terry placed second in the 400 meter.



The seventh grade girls' relay was successful and they ended up placing third overall. Seventh grader, Nic Hatcher placed second in the 1200 meter and third in the 800 meter. Eighth graders, McLane Zaitz placed first in the long jump and Sterling Smith placed first in the 800 meter and first in the 100 meter. The seventh grade boys took third place in their relay and the eighth grade boys took second place in their relay.

The junior high track team has had very successful meets, and they are looking forward to improving their times and places in the meets to come. McLane Zaitz said, "Track is a fun experience. It keeps you in shape and creates special bonds with your friends." Keep working hard, Cougars, and always give all the glory to God! 🌟

It's a Hit!

By: Marissa Nanos, Staff Reporter

It's that time of year again! Covenant's varsity girls' softball team is getting ready for the upcoming season. They have a few new players, and the team has already improved immensely since last year. Their first game was March 11, and the girls did very well. Though they lost, they were able to come together as a team and put up a great fight. With their first game behind them, they are ready to take on this new season with strength and courage!



"The season is going well. It's already better than last year! We are getting to know each other better as friends and athletes," said the team's pitcher, Maddie Henry. The ladies are coming together to hit this season out of the park! 🌟

A Small Team with Big Determination

By: Becca Lewis, Staff Reporter

Track is beginning, and the varsity runners are in training as they get in shape for the 2011 track season. The runners include John Paul Bledsoe and Josh Hayes for the varsity boys, and Rowan Harris, Hannah Ramey, Lu-Cheree de Jager, and Kelsey Fore running for the varsity girls team. Despite their small size, Coach Heldmann has currently scheduled two meets for his team along with the TAPPS district meet coming up on April 16. The district meet will take place at Houston Christian School.

When asked if he was looking forward to the 2011 track season, Coach Heldmann responded, "I am. But, I need more people." If anyone is interested in running varsity track, Coach Heldmann and the varsity track team would gladly accept your willingness to participate. Josh Hayes, a senior on the varsity track team, says, "The team is displaying a lot of enthusiasm for the upcoming season. John Paul and I are shooting for the challenging five minute mile mark as we train under Coach Heldmann and Coach Bleyl." Give it your all, Cougars! 🌟

Varsity Baseball

By: Zach Ramey, Staff Reporter

Baseball is up and running and the players are psyched! The Covenant Cougars varsity baseball team has played two games already, but unfortunately they came out with a 0-2 start to the season and still have 11 games to go. It wasn't the best turn out hoped for by the head coach Wayne Allen but he said, "We are going to cut down on mistakes and work hard to build up our batting and pitching game." The team consists of 14 players, six of whom are seniors. District play started the week before spring break, and Coach Allen has big plans for making the varsity baseball team stronger and tougher as the season goes on. Hit it outta' the park, Cougs! 🌟

Junior High Baseball

By: Seth Fox, Staff Reporter

This year we are very excited about our junior high baseball team led by Coach Wes Pratt. The hopes and goals of this season are to play well in the leagues that they are in, get the young lads ready for their varsity years, and to humbly win the championship. There are six eighth graders and five seventh graders on the team. The team is excited to have stalwart pitching with veterans Brooks Jackson and Hayden Pratt on the mound. Also, the new recruits Connor Bolleter and the south pawed Nic Hatcher are adding their abilities to the roster. The team doesn't have any major rivals this year but really wants to beat the Woodlands Christian team and play well in the post season games. We expect great things from our junior high. The honorable Coach Pratt would say "every day is like baseball. Some days, you strike out. Other days, you hit a home run. Most days are singles and doubles. Every now and then, you get the ball and know what to do with it when it is your turn. Make every pitch count, but remember who you are playing for (Col. 3:17). Remember, it's just a game, you get nine new innings tomorrow." With high hopes, the team embarks on their season with a tenacious motto, "Have fun! Play hard! Make your momma proud!" 🌟

Birthday Book Club

Student	Grade	Title	Birthday
Maleah Moses	2	<i>Emma's Question</i>	Mar. 18
Matthew Moses	2	<i>Nic Bishop Lizards</i>	Mar. 18

Student Council Updates

By: Kaitlyn Weir, Staff Reporter

Student Council has a busy spring ahead of them! Each year, it is Student Council's responsibility to make the arrangements for Spiritual Emphasis week. This year, Jon Harper, an evangelist, spoke to the seventh through twelfth grade students the week of March 21 through March 25. At the time of print, six secondary students gave their lives to Christ. Many other students went forward for prayer and counseling to strengthen their spiritual walk with the Lord.

On March 24, the Student Council hosted Cystic Fibrosis Day. On this day, students were able to pay \$3.00 in order to wear their favorite college shirts and hats. Students wore attire from colleges all across the U.S. From Gonzaga to Kansas State to Liberty University and, of course, all of the Texas teams, team spirit was definitely seen. A grand total of \$654.00 was collected for this special dress code privilege. All proceeds were sent to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation as they research for ways to "make CF stand for Cure Found."

Just like in the fall, Student Council will host a Spring Social for all secondary students! The students are invited to participate in an intense afternoon of dodge ball, on April 30. The tournament will begin at 1:00 p.m. and last until 3:00 p.m. The winners of the tournament will receive gift cards to a variety of fast food restaurants. If you have any questions regarding the Spring Social, talk to Katelyn Holm or Mrs. Allen. 🌟



My Coke Rewards

By: Missy Banks, Fundraising Coordinator

Covenant has joined the My Coke Rewards for Schools program. That means by drinking the Coca-Cola products your family already enjoys, you can get My Coke Rewards points and donate them to our school. Your donations will go towards rewards like physical education equipment, art supplies, and educational resources that help our students learn, play, and have fun.



It's easy to donate:

Purchase your favorite Coca-Cola products to get codes (they're on hundreds of different packages, including DASANI, Sprite, Minute Maid, POWERADE, etc.).

Go to mycokerewards.com (register if you are not a member).

Enter codes to collect points – choose "Donate to a School" under School tab.

Find Covenant Christian School by Zip Code. When our school's page comes up, enter the amount of points you'd like to give, then click "donate".

Or, you can drop off your Coke Rewards points at the school and our school coordinator will enter the codes. 🌟

Easter says you can put truth
in a grave,
but it won't stay there.

~Clarence W. Hall

Library News

By: Tyler Holm, Staff Reporter

The Library Media Center will host a Used Book Fair, May 3 to May 6, 2011. The "Used Book Fair" is a great opportunity for you to donate books that need another home, as well as find some "new" books to read for the summer, and the Library Media Center benefits from the proceeds of this sale. Please start saving the books that you are ready to discard. We will take one book or a whole box of books. All you need to do is make sure the books are **gently-used, clean** and certainly **appropriate** reading material for a general audience. The books for this event may be brought to the LMC beginning the week of April 26. The Used Book Fair will be held during regular school hours. If you have any questions, please call the librarians, Mrs. Tatko or Mrs. Cullum.

If your child has somehow missed out on getting a Birthday Book Club book during his actual birth month, now is the time to enroll! The deadline to sign your child up for the Birthday Book Club is Friday, May 6. The Birthday Book Club party is scheduled for May 11. Please include the child's birth date on your \$15.00 check. Feel free to call Mrs. Tatko to answer any questions about this optional program.

Important Library/Media Center dates:

April 26-29: Bring books for the Used Book Fair

April 29: Last day to check out books and materials

May 3-6: Used Book Fair

May 13: All books and materials must be returned, and accounts cleared.

May 16-20: Library closed for inventory

The LMC has purchased a number of great, new books. The next time you're on campus, please stop in and browse the shelves. We'd love to see you. 🌟

Easy as Pi

By: Tyler Holm, Staff Reporter

The 2011 Math Olympics were held at Humble Christian School on February 25. A total of 19 schools and 237 students participated in the 2011 mathematical Olympics. Covenant took sixteen 3rd to 8th graders who participated in either the computation or reasoning category. The little Einsteins of Covenant did very well to just get this far in the Math Olympic completion and continued to succeed.



The results of the computation competition:

4th Grade:

Angelie Aggarwal-superior ribbon

Zach Wall-superior ribbon and 4th place

5th Grade:

Christian Miller-excellent ribbon

7th Grade:

Connor Bolleter-excellent ribbon

8th Grade:

Emily Clark-good ribbon

Gentry Smith-good ribbon

The results of the reasoning competition:

3rd Grade:

Caleb Dieckhoff-superior ribbon and 3rd place

4th Grade:

Ethan Reynolds-superior ribbon and 2nd place

Madeline Williams-excellent ribbon

Georgia Zepeda-superior ribbon

5th Grade:

Banks Jackson-excellent ribbon-5th place

Maggie Martin-superior ribbon-1st place and gold medal

7th Grade:

Ross Ohendalski-good ribbon

8th Grade:

Luke Fox-good ribbon

Garrett Mayes-excellent ribbon and 4th place

Hayden Pratt-good ribbon

The math Olympics was a great success for the students participating as all took home ribbons, and some even took home a medal. Great job, mathematicians. 🌟

ACSI Choir Festival

By: Rebecca Stanley, Staff Reporter

On March 3, 2011, schools within the ACSI school district converged on Covenant Christian School for the ACSI Choir Festival. Large ensembles sang various songs and were judged by three judges according to a standard of excellence. Each was rated either superior, excellent, or good. Calvary Baptist, Covenant Christian School, Oakridge Christian Academy, Christ Community School, Vistas Christian Academy, First Baptist Christian Academy of Pasadena, Community Christian School of Orange, and Round Rock Christian Academy all attended with one or more choral group representing each. Performing on behalf of Covenant was the 4th—6th grade Young Believers Choir, and the Junior High Choir. They had an amazing time and did a remarkable job, both receiving superior. When asked about the choir festival experience McKenzie Milstead said, “The judge seemed to like it.” And they sure did. Great job, Cougars! 🌟

Regional CPG

By: Seth Fox, Staff Reporter

Covenant Praise Group’s regional competition was an intense and yet exciting experience for the high school choir. These young singers made it a point to bring some bulk to the state competition receiving twelve small and large ensembles and seventeen soloists to the state level. This is the ninth year for CPG to go to state and they are the present defending state champs. To achieve this feat, many singers overcame sickness and nerves to sing their way to state. CPG not only turned heads with amazing singing abilities, but also had the opportunity to bond with each other in between their performances. The director of this group, Mrs. Smith, said, “I am blessed to work with such a wonderful group. They have worked hard all year and deserve to go to state. Our goal is ‘and whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus...’ Col. 3:17.” Covenant is very proud to support our state-competing choir and its hard work. This next step for our singers is on April 8. Make a joyful noise! 🌟

A Word Aptly Spoken

By: Becca Lewis, Staff Reporter

On March 4, Covenant’s elementary students participated in the 2011 ACSI Speech Meet at Alpha Omega Academy in Huntsville. Each class held an in house speech meet to determine who would go further in the competition. The following list denotes the students who advanced including the awards they received: 🌟

1st Grade:

Excellent – Macey Conatser, Emily Adams, Kylie Santore

Good – Lexi McCann

2nd Grade:

Superior – Becky Van Roekel, Laura Watson, Caitlyn Dudley, Theresa Bolt, Bay Hutchins

Excellent – Piper Delcamp

Bronze Medal – Laura Watson

3rd Grade:

Superior – Savannah Beene

Excellent – Joshua Lowe

4th Grade:

Excellent – Madeline Williams, Madison Adams, Alexis Harper, Cori Eckert, KayLee Pratt

Good – Brandte Ream

5th Grade:

Superior – Katie Boudreaux

Excellent – Christian Miller

Good – Kellen Hogan, Lexi Johnson

Bronze Medal – Katie Boudreaux

6th Grade:

Excellent – Hannah Snider, Evangeline Schneider

Good – MacKenzie Milstead

Honorable Mention – Jillian Weaver



April

8 ACSI Science Fair at Northeast Christian School

11-15 SAT testing

18-20 Accreditation

22-25 Easter holiday

29 Talent show in the gym at 6:00 p.m.

May

9 Sports Banquet at 6:30 p.m.

17 Walk of Honor

18-20 Secondary exams

20 Field day/last day of school

Noon dismissal

21 Graduation at West Conroe Baptist at 2:00 p.m.

Memory Lane

By: Patty Lewis, PTF President

This school year is almost over. As the parent of a senior, a junior, and a second grade student at Covenant, the next few weeks will be jam packed. Over spring break, my daughter Sarah had her senior pictures taken. Thirteen years at Covenant will culminate in this family's first graduate! We will have the junior play, *Alice in Wonderland*, at the Crighton Theater. Becca, my junior, is looking forward to her first acting role on a live stage. CPG will compete at the TAPPS State Competition at Mary Hardin Baylor in Belton, Texas. The Talent Show will be held on April 29 in the gym. We are sure to be surprised by many hidden talents. Somewhere within these dates a team from ACSI will examine our school and renew our certification, Covenant's first AP classes will take final exams, science fair will take place, projects will be turned in, Bible verses memorized, tests will be taken, softball and baseball will be played, track team will compete, elementary camps will be attended and field trips will be taken. Life will have been lived

and memories made.

My family has 13 years of life and memories at Covenant. If it is God's will, by the time our "Little Man", David, graduates, we will have been at the school for 23 years. Having three children at Covenant has at times been busier than I thought I could handle and more rewarding than I could have ever dreamed. Our children have experienced every opportunity Covenant has had to offer: Science fairs, spelling bees, art fairs, choir festivals, chimes, camps, cross country, volleyball, soccer, basketball, track, two junior plays, CPG concerts, ensembles, solos and competitions, Key Club/STOP, National Honor Society, and Student Council, to name a few, and David is just getting started. My point to all this is: Yes, we parents are busy with our children and their school activities, but what an honor and privilege we are afforded by attending Covenant.

Becca's best friend had a birthday recently, and Becca wanted to do something special for her. She decided to put together a DVD containing pictures and homemade videos of them as they grew up. (She obviously learned how to do this at Covenant!) Watching the DVD

reminded me of the richness of our lives because of our school. Jay and I will be called upon at graduation to go to the front of the church and pray over our graduate. The prayer will be one of the most emotional because we will be releasing her from the familiarity of classmates, caring teachers and staff she has always known at Covenant. Their watchful eye and godly influence has made our job as parents so much easier.

Covenant has helped teach Sarah the most important lessons in life: hiding God's Word in her heart by scripture memorization, examination of their meanings and application which leads to a deeper desire for Christ. Sarah has received an excellent academic education, but her father and I are most grateful for her spiritual education. Graduation marks the time for Sarah to begin the journey to find the "Promised Land" God has for her. Application of scripture hidden in her heart will no doubt serve as a light along the path and encourage Sarah throughout her journey. Her father and I look forward to seeing and sharing in Sarah's "Promised Land". Thank you, Covenant, for teaching Sarah to find God's way. 🌸