

Through Our School Door

East Palmyra Christian School

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EPCS School Theme 2009-2010:

"May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer." Psalm 19:14

EPCS Mission statement: To offer a Christian educational alternative that integrates faith and learning through a Biblical worldview. We strive to equip our students to develop their gifts, to become discerning disciples, and to joyfully serve God in their calling in their community and world.

Monday, October 26, 2009

First of all, please let me say **Thank you!!!** to all of you who have remembered my family and me in the passing away of my mother this past week! Your prayers and support have been wonderful! We have felt the love of God's people in so many ways.

I was going to take last week Thursday off anyway to do some housekeeping chores for my mother (Oma). (Many of our students and alumni knew Oma well: we visited her every November on our way to the Knox Volleyball Tournament.) Oma was 98, and she needed me to finalize some items with her Dutch pension as well as with Revenue Canada, the Canadian version of our IRS. But I received a call from the nursing staff early that morning to let me know that my mom had taken a real turn for the worse, and the nurse asked that I get to Shalom Manor as soon as possible. I arrived some time later (it's a two and a half hour drive) and I found Oma fairly unresponsive. I called my children and Eileen and they made their way over as soon as possible. We spent Thursday through Sunday, sitting with Oma, holding her hand and kissing her forehead, agonizing with her when the morphine wore off a bit and pain returned or when her breathing became laboured, singing her favorite hymns and psalms, and reading scripture to her in Dutch, especially her favorite Psalms. Her eyes were generally closed, but while we were singing, her eyes were open, not necessarily focusing anywhere, but open none-the-less, showing she recognized what was happening. She was "singing" with us. Oma passed away in peace on Sunday afternoon at three o'clock.

The funeral was held on Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock, with visiting hours at 10 o'clock, followed by interment and a time of fellowship, and was attended by many members of Oma's church family. In all that happened in those days of Oma's passing, we were embraced by God's people, both here and in Canada. We experienced the body of Christ in action! May Jesus Christ be praised!

My mom was always struck by the words of Psalm 139 and we read the Psalm at the funeral. The minister's sermon was based on the Psalm 121, "I lift my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord God, who made heaven and earth..." The funeral service also included the words from the Heidelberg Catechism, Lords Day I:

"Question 1: What is your only comfort in life and in death?"

Answer: That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death, am not my own, but belong to my faithful Saviour, Jesus Christ; who with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my

salvation, wherefore by God's Holy Spirit also assures me of eternal life, and makes me heartily willing and ready, henceforth to live unto God."

Those words were special to my mom! And my mom *did* belong, with body and soul, both in life *and in death* to her faithful Saviour, Jesus Christ. She is in a better place now!

One minister who visited us at her bedside said, "Soon she will be wearing the crown of life!" It struck me that in death we can speak of life, that in dying we speak of living!! The crown of life!! No more pain, no more struggling with faith issues, no more struggling with memory and dementia, or with sin and doubt; but, instead, wearing the crown of life, singing and dancing before God's throne, healthy, strong, alive!

Thank you again for all your kindness, friends at EPCS, people of God, body of Christ, for your cards, your prayers, and your support for my family, and for giving me the days off that I needed in this battle with death. For my mom it was a battle! Dying is not easy. But now she has discovered those mountains of Psalm 121, and the God, her God, the One of which the Psalmist speaks. Her God. Our God. May God be praised!

Teachers' Conference

Several of the EPCS Faculty members will be heading north of the border for the annual OCSTA (Ontario Christian School Teachers Association) Convention on Thursday and Friday. Our teachers will be attending feature speakers and workshops, inspirational sessions, as well as enjoying fellowship with other Christian teachers. Please pray for safety on the road and a good, positive, Spirit-filled time!

Flu...

Please keep your child(ren) home if they are sick or sneezing/coughing. If there is a question about their health, please play it safe and keep them home. We are already being inundated with flu and illness and we need to be vigilant about being as safe as possible. Also, please reinforce the directions of hand-washing, especially after coughing, sneezing, or nose-blowing. Thank you so much!

EPCS Calendar

Monday, October 26, 2009, Day F

JV Volleyball practice until 4:45 pm

Tuesday, October 27, 2009 Day A

Modified and JV VB Practice until 4:45 pm

Wednesday, October 28, 2009 Day B

Pizza sale

No Hot Lunch

HS All-County Vocal Try-outs

Facilities Expansion Committee Meeting—7:30 pm

Thursday, October 29 2009

Teachers' Conference—No School

Friday, October 30, 2009

Teachers' Conference—No School

And Beyond...

Sat. Nov. 7

Progressive Dinner

Wed- Fri, Nov 11–13 7th/8th Grade to Spruce Lake

Friday, Dec 4 EPCS Christmas Program

Friday, Dec 11 JV Volleyball Tournament

AUCTION TOTAL: The total, after expenses, of this years Harvest Fest and Auction is:

\$22,130.28.

Thank you to everyone who made this possible. Praise the Lord!

Attendance Policy and Procedures

Just a reminder that if your child is taken out of school early, or brought in later due to an

appointment, they need to be signed in and out through the office, and a note should be sent to let us know of their early dismissal/late arrival. If your student is sick, and stays home, please send in an excuse the next day they return to school. Lastly...for every three days that your student is tardy to school, it counts as an absence. Please try to get your students to school on time.

Operation Christmas Child

EPCS will once again be participating in the shoebox project. If you would like to join us in providing a shoe-box full of gifts and hope to children living in poverty around the world, please pick up a brochure in the office. Students who normally bring home the School Door should have brought home brochures already. The boxes should be returned to EPCS by November 6.

Progressive Dinner

Our Annual Progressive Dinner is set for Saturday, November 7 at 6pm. Please join us for a night of food, fun and fellowship. We are looking for families to host in the following areas: Appetizers, Soup & Salad, Entrée and finally....Dessert. If you can help out, or team up with someone to host, please call Julie O'Dell. Please call the office to sign up to attend the dinner. Thank you.

School Cleaning

Remember...there is no school on Thursday or Friday of this week.

M – Kellogg Family

T- Butterfield Family

W – Lamar Family

Monday, November 2 – Kellogg Family

Preschool & Kindergarten

Here is an overview of our topics this week:

Math – Ordering numbers 0-5 and ordinal numbers 1st-5th

ELA – Letters M & N; we'll also practice identifying letters of the alphabet (in non-ABC order) and their sounds, particularly the letters we've studied so far.

Health – So far we have focused mostly on eating healthy foods, as well as dressing right (for the weather). This week we will learn about the Food Pyramid, germs, and the importance of rest.

Bible – We will finish our mini unit on F.R.O.G. ~ Fully Rely on God!

Reminder - gym Wednesday

First & Second Grade

Bible: We are continuing to learn about the Isaiah and the kings of Judah. Look at the homework sheet from last week for the memory verses.

Math: First graders are continuing to learn about addition. Second graders are continuing to learn about number order.

Spelling: There will be no homework for this week.

Reading: Continue to read 15 minutes each night with your child.

Thank You: Thank you to all the drivers and parents who went with us to the apple farm on Friday. A big thanks to the Morgans for letting us visit their farm. If you would like to see picture from our adventure go to eastpalmyrachristianschool.com and look under the teacher's link, then click on my name and you will see a few pictures from our trip

Third & Fourth Grade

Math: Grade 3: This week we will start subtracting with mental math.

Grade 4: Our topics this week are subtraction with checking and finding patterns.

Spelling: There will be no spelling test this week. Tests from last week will be coming home today. Some tests will need to be signed and returned, so please check for that. Retests will be on Wednesday.

Bible: We will be finishing Adam and Eve and starting Cain and Abel.

Social Studies: We will be looking at the differences between rural, suburban, and urban communities this week.

We will be doing **assembly** on November 2nd. It will begin at 8:30 am in the music room. Please join us.

Have a great week! ☺

Fifth & Sixth Grade

Spanish 5/6: We will be studying the pronunciation of the Spanish alphabet, We will meet today, October 26th, then on Thursday, November 5th. Students should bring their folders and a writing instrument to class.

Computer Lab: Students are creating a PowerPoint presentation about themselves. They will need pictures of their family members, friends and themselves. The easiest way to do this would be for them to save picture files on their memory sticks, but digital pictures may also be emailed to me (jrachow@eastpalmyrachristianschool.com) or saved to a DVD. Prints of pictures may also be sent in and I will scan them on the copier.

Bible: Our new memory work is the Books of the Bible in order.

Reading: Students will have a vocabulary test on Wednesday. They should have brought home a study sheet a couple of weeks ago, but will bring home a new copy tonight. They will also bring home the directions for their next book report, which will be due Nov. 18.

History: We will have a test over the early civilizations tomorrow. Students should bring home their books and end of chapter review tonight.

Spelling: No test this week. If parents would like a copy of the words for this year, please email me or send in a note.

Math: Grade 5: Our next unit is multiplying three digit numbers.

Grade 6: Our next unit will be working with decimals and scientific notation.

Wish List: Curtains for the classroom (please see/call me first)

Paint and/or painters to touch up the student's desks

Seventh & Eighth Grades

Bible: Our new unit is over Jonah. The memory work is Psalm 15. In place of the unit test, students will do a project showing the story of Jonah. Most of it will be done in class. Students will have a test over Psalm 15 next week, Thursday.

Spanish: Spanish 1A (7th) There will be a quiz on telling time on Tuesday. Then we will move on to talking about the weather and the seasons.

Spanish 1B (8th) There will be a quiz on Wednesday on direct objects and indirect objects

pronouns. This is review of material covered last year. Students have been assigned a project to illustrate the vocabulary that deals with rooms in a house and some common items found in those rooms. This is a major project, and is due on Monday, November 2. Students may make their 'blueprints' as simple or as ornate as they choose. They have the choice of giving an oral description of their blueprint (in Spanish) or writing twenty sentences describing their blueprint.

Spanish 7/8: There are plans being finalized for a visit to the Beckenses' apple orchards to talk with the Hispanic workers there. Any parent who is available in the afternoon and can help out with transportation, please let me know by emailing me at maestra@eastpalmyrachristianschool.com. At least one or two parents with a van would be very helpful! More details as they become available.

History: We will be finishing the "Wild West" and doing a project. Look for details to come home tomorrow.

Ninth Grade

Spanish 2 (9th) There will be a quiz on Tuesday on the verb endings and the verb *estar*. We are finishing up Lección 4, and will then review Unidad 1 in preparation for a unit test.

Bible: *This week Wednesday we will look at the account of the Tower of Babel.*
Global Studies

Global Studies: *We will be looking at the early exploration and battle for North America.*

Tenth Grade

Spanish 3 (10th) There will be a quiz on Wednesday on the verb endings and the verb *estar*. We are finishing up Lección 4, and will then review Unidad 1 in preparation for a unit test.

Bible: This week Wednesday we will look at the account of the Tower of Babel.

Global Studies: We will be looking at the early exploration and battle for North America.

Band

Lessons: Due to the days off this week, Friday students are having their lessons on Tuesday. Tuesday and Thursday students will not have lessons this week.

Tues. 8:30 Hunter 9:00 Will 9:30 Ben 10:00 Amanda 12:40 Brian

Wed. 8:30 Michelle 9:00 Katie 9:30 Jaelyn 10:00 Amelia 10:30 Claire

Next Mon. (10/2): 8:30 Josiah 9:00 Drew 9:30 Noah 10:00 Emilee

Updated music request: Thanks to the generosity of many, two pieces of music are still available to donate in honor or memory of a loved one:

Jazz Band Swingle All the Way.....\$40
Rock on Merry Gents.....\$36

Guitar: One more guitar should be all we need for our 7/8 guitar unit, beginning after the Christmas Concert, as many of the students have acoustic guitars at home. Thank you to all who have offered to bring guitars in!

Circle News

Hot Lunch: There will be **NO** hot lunch due to a short week.

Ladies Night Out has been **cancelled** for tonight. Look for another date to be coming out soon.

Frozen Food Sale: Please look for Stevco frozen food sale packets to come home next Monday, 11/2/09

Auction News

1. Over 300 **thank you letters will be available soon** to hand out to businesses that helped make this event a success. Handwritten kids' notes will hopefully be included. We'd like to hand deliver as many of these as possible to save money, so if you can help, **stop in the office when they are available**. You don't need to have been the go-getter for the business to deliver the thank you note! Businesses really enjoy receiving these notes in person!!!!

2. We have **more certificates to sell!**

- (2) Steps of Faith dance studio yearly tuition certificates – please call us at 986-4240 for details/offers if interested. (4) Guerin-Teed Archery 3hrs. of range time. \$25 Value. The highest offer given to us by October 31, 2009 will win them. \$260 wooden swing set to be disassembled in Phelps, NY Call 548-2483.

3. If you have any suggestions for improvement for the auction committee concerning ideas for next year, please call Don or Cheri Winslow at 986-4240 or email us at reroteacher@verizon.net. We would like to see more parents on this committee. The majority of our committee doesn't have or won't have kids in this school next year.

Yours in Christ -
Don and Cheri

