

Through Our School Door

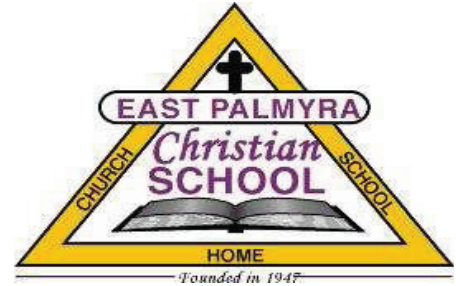
East Palmyra Christian School

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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, November 16, 2009

Spruce Lake Retreat

The 7th and 8th graders along with their chaperones had a wonderful time at Spruce Lake. We thank the Lord for great weather and safety traveling back and forth and while there.

Here are a few comments from our parents/chaperones:

From Brenda Cramer:

Teamwork, endurance and perseverance – sounds like a staff meeting from work. Instead, this is what our 7th and 8th graders tackled on the Spruce Lake Outdoor Education Trip this past week. I am always so impressed with how the students tackle the challenges they have been given. Each class that I have watched, over the past 5 years, has been so different, yet so very much the same. They learn so much about each other, but also something about themselves. The challenges they face many times are choices, or decisions about how much further they want to take this challenge. With classmates looking on and cheering them on, they seem to push themselves to a level they did not know they could. The questions they ask and the answers they give show an insight into spiritual matters that I sometimes would not expect from these young ladies and gentlemen. Zip-line, turkey tail fungus, Jacob's Ladder, rock face paint, Spruce mountain, ecology "Clue", tennis ball golf, and chocolate milk are some of the things they experienced! Ask your student about these and so much more. Overall the best thing I recall about these three days is what a great bunch of kids we have!!!!

From Don Winslow:

Seeing students share and grow in God's word

Praying for one another

Riding down Route 81 with some strange smells...

Unity and prayers for continued unity among classmates

Crazy games of volleyball, dodge ball, and "CLUE"

Encouraging others facing their fears on the exciting high and low-rope challenges

Listening to student led devotions on faith, perseverance, and courage

Awesome chocolate milk... really!

Kickin' back and chatting with students during free time

Enjoying God's creation in the mountains of Pennsylvania

Two EPCS Christmas Programs

Please mark your calendar for these two exciting dates: **EPCS Christmas Program, Friday, December 4, 7:15 pm**, an all-school Christmas program featuring the choirs and bands of East Palmyra Christian School and High School, including Jazz and Concert Band, and EPCS Choir. Also, **EPCS High School—Service of Lessons and Carols, Thursday, December 17**, a tranquil, intimate evening of Scripture reading, carol singing, and quiet reflection.

Both programs will have a free-will offering. Please plan to attend both these wonderful evenings as we offer praise to Christ, the newborn King!

EPCS Calendar

<u>Monday, November 16, 2009, Day F</u>	No VB Practice
<u>Tuesday, November 17, 2009 Day A</u>	Modified and JV VB Practice until 4:45 pm
<u>Wednesday, November 18, 2009, Day B</u>	Hot Lunch <u>Absolute</u> last day to turn in Stevco Orders Staff Meeting until 4pm
<u>Thursday, November 19, 2009 Day C</u>	Operation Christmas Child Assembly – 8:20am Report Cards Distributed Circle Meeting – School Library – 7:30 pm
<u>Friday, November 20, 2009, Day D</u>	Pizza Sale Girls Modified VB team leaves for Tournament – 8:30 am

And Beyond:

Thursday, Nov 19	Report Cards Distributed
Fri-Sat, Nov 20-21	Modified VB Knox Tournament
Friday, Dec 4	EPCS Christmas Program
Friday, Dec 11	JV Volleyball Tournament
Thursday, Dec 17	Service of Lessons and Carol

EPCS BOARD MEETING

After some devotions, presented by Board President, Julie O'Dell, the members settled in to discuss items from the prepared agenda. Not unlike most meetings, much time was taken up with financial discussion. It was noted that information regarding the cost of educating each student should be shared with all of you and then to share what our responsibilities are to come up with the needed dollars and cents. Calculating the EPCS Budget total for the 2009-2010 school year to be around \$330,000 and working with a total of approximately 74 full-time students, the Board estimates the cost to educate each student to be \$4350 at EPCS. \$4350. That amount allows for no multiple-student discounts and no tuition reduction. If you calculate that our present tuition amount for each student averages out to approximately \$2800 after multiple-student discounts, that leaves a gap of about \$1550 per student or, approximately \$114,000, an amount that needs to be made up with fundraisers and donations. Donations, Adopt-a-Bill, NYS Mandated

Services, etc. make up about \$45,000, leaving about \$69,000 to be made up through fundraising. Typically, the Board has adopted several budget-related fundraisers—the Auction (with the Auction Committee), the Lap-a-thon (with the EPCS Circle), the Magazine Sale (Board sponsored), the Golf tournament (Board sponsored), and a 5K Run (Board sponsored). The latter two have been dropped due to lack of interest, either on the organizing side or on the participation side. That leaves the Auction, which was very well attended and supported (**\$22,000** or more, thank you very much!!!!!!), and the Magazine Sale, not so much. (Zap-a-snack/Stevco sales, Dutch/Pork Dinners, etc. are not EPCS School Board fundraisers. They are important, don't get me wrong, but they are not budget related. These are EPCS Circle fundraisers, and money is generally used for needed "extras" for the school, like referee fees, kitchen appliances, field trips, PE equipment, etc. Typically, the Circle also often gives a gift to the EPCS Board for budget deficit reduction.)

Financial hopes for the Magazine Sale this fall were around \$10,000 had everyone participated only moderately. However, a disappointing **\$2,500** was raised instead, with very few of us participating. Research has it that other schools barely blinked, and they raised a relatively easy \$10K without digging into their own pockets at all. Lets really push this one in the fall next year!! ☺

The Lap-a-thon will be the next major budget item to be held in May 2010. Hopes are that this fundraiser will generate some **\$18,000**. So, calculating those three fundraisers for the 2009-2010 budget year (Auction, Magazine Sale, Lap-a-thon), we are looking at raising **\$42,500** this year, far short of the \$69,000 needed.

We really need to do our best in giving our all for these Board/budget fundraisers, so that we can continue to keep tuition at an affordable level. In a future *School Door* I can share and compare our tuition costs with those of other schools in our area. I think that may be an enlightening exercise.

In the meantime, the EPCS Board will be faced with presenting a 2010-2011 budget to the membership in May of next year. As you can see, Board members are already grappling with numbers at this early stage, looking to come to the May meeting with a balanced, or near-balanced budget. There could be tuition increases, or more fundraising events, or whatever it takes to meet the challenges of the budget. Please pray for the Board members as they/we do our best to offer the most quality Christian education at the most affordable tuition. If you have any input, please let Julie O'Dell know.

EPCS Website

Especially middle and high school students/families, feel free to check out the EPCS website, and click on "Teachers"!

Directory Update

Please change the Parmele's home number to the following: 315-906-4226.

Also, please change Mrs. Admiraal's e-mail address to padmiraal@rochester.rr.com Thank you!

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 **Wednesday, November 18th**.

Our assembly will be Thursday. (Nov. 19, at 8:20)

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 24 from 3:30pm – 8:30pm and Wednesday, Nov. 25 from 9:00am – 11:40am. Conference sign up sheets went home over a week ago. Your conferences will be schedule on a first come/first served basis. Please return your conference slips to the office ASAP so we can accommodate you with the times you want and the teachers you need to see.

World Vision Child

We, as a school, sponsor a child through World Vision. The offerings taken during our assemblies are solely for this purpose. Please remember to bring in your monies to help sponsor Dudi Odiwuor Godfrey in Kenya. We will try to post assembly days in the School Door, as they are not always the same day (like it has been in the past). Thank You!

Mark Your Calendars

The date for the **Progressive Dinner** is Saturday, January 23rd. Appetizers at the Morgan's, Soup and Salad at the VanCamp's, Main Entree' at the school hosted by the Butterfield's and Julie O'Dell and Dessert at the Priem's. Please call Julie O'Dell (1-315-548-2483) to make reservations. Thanks!

School Cleaning

M - Collom Family

T- Terry Family

W&Th – Ballesty Family

F – Winslow Family

Mon. 11/23 – Kellogg Family

If you need keys to clean after hours, please let the office know so that we can make arrangements for you to get keys. Thank you!

Kindergarten & Preschool

Math – Comparing, ordering, and using ordinal numbers for numbers 6-10

ELA – Letters S and T. We will also introduce the high frequency words "here," "is," "a," and "an," and review the concepts of print.

Health – Dental Health

Bible – Abraham and Isaac

Reminders:

- Gym Wednesday
- S & T Show and Tell Wednesday
- Report Cards Thursday
- Kindergarten Assembly Thursday

First & Second Grade

Bible: We are learning about Ezekiel this week and the Israelites journey back to Jerusalem. Our memory verse is Jeremiah 29: 11-13. We are going to have a test on this verse next Monday.

Spelling: Both grades are having spelling tests and homework this week. Be on the lookout for homework this week.

Math: The first graders are going to be taking a math test this week on Thursday. Be on the lookout for homework on Wednesday.

The second graders are going to continue to work with money.

Science: We are continuing to learn about healthy habits to keep our bodies healthy and strong.

Social Studies: We are talking about Thanksgiving and how to be thankful.

Report cards go home this week. There will be no progress report this week due to report cards. Please make sure to return your child's report card before Thanksgiving.

Third & Fourth Grade

Spelling: Spelling List 8 will be coming home today. I also am going to try to post the spelling list on my web page.

Bible: We will be discussing the tower of Babel this week.

Social Studies: We will be discussing moving into a new community and learning new customs.

Book Orders: I will be giving out book orders. They will be due this Friday 11/20.

Have a great week! ☺

Math: Grade 3: We are continuing a unit over adding with two-four digit numbers.

Grade 4: We should have a test on either Wednesday or Thursday over adding and subtracting, number expressions and solving equations with variables. The new unit will be over multiplication facts. We will move very quickly over this review, so if your child does not already know most of his/her multiplication facts, please do some flash card practice at night. If you need flashcards, please let me know.

Fifth & Sixth Grade

Bible: We will have a test over the Books of the Bible in order. This week we will finish our look at the history books of the Bible and will start a unit over the poetry books (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Song of Solomon, and Ecclesiastes.)

Reading: We continue with literature circles this week. **Book Reports are due on Wednesday.**

History: Our unit is Egypt. Students are doing a poster/report on some aspect of life in ancient Egypt. Much of this will be completed at

school, but it would be helpful if parents obtained materials from their local libraries and/or the Internet to supplement what we have at school. I have already checked out most of the books from the Williamson library.

Spelling: Regular spelling tests this week. We are doing Unit Eight this week. It may be viewed on my page on the school's website.

Math. Grade 5: This week we will look at multiplying with decimals and will start working with variables.

Grade 6: We will learn about multiplying and dividing by powers of 10, scientific notation, and solving equations.

Spanish 5/6: We meet today, Monday, November 16th. We will begin learning common nouns used in the classroom. Students should bring their folders and a writing instrument to class.

Seventh & Eighth Grades

Life Science: We are finishing up the section on Protocists. There is homework or studying for a quiz/test almost every night. Please check with your student on this and encourage them to spend more time studying, if needed, to keep those grades up.

History: We will be discussing growing cities in the early 1900's.

Spanish 7/8: There are plans being finalized for a visit to the Beckenses' apple orchards to talk with the Hispanic workers there. More details as they become available.

Spanish 1A (7th) We will be talking about the weather and the seasons. This is the last lesson in Unidad Uno. We will then review for a unit test.

Spanish 1B (8th) We are reviewing and taking a unit test on unit five this week. We will review vocabulary, for example, and then take the vocabulary section of the test the following day.

Bible: We will start a unit over Jacob. The memory work is Psalm 34:12-14.

Ninth Grade

Biology: 9/10: We are starting GENETICS. Please encourage your student to take extra time to read and review EACH day to help learn the material and improve grades.

Geometry 9/10: We are getting into properties of lines and angles along with proofs. This REQUIRES memorizing many theorems and laws. Please encourage your student to take time to do this memorization and practice it, as it will help the class as a whole move forward faster.

Spanish 2 (9th) There will be a quiz on Lesson 4 on Tuesday, and we will then review Unidad 1 in preparation for a unit test.

Global Studies: We will be starting the age of Absolutism.

Bible: We will start a study of the Toledoth of Terah.

Tenth Grade

Bible: We will start a study of the Toledoth of Terah.

Spanish 3 (10th) We will be reviewing and taking a unit test on unit one this week. We will review vocabulary, for example, and then take the vocabulary section of the test the following day.

Global Studies: We will be starting the age of Absolutism.

Band/Chorus

Would you like to join the choir and/or band in our Dec. 4th Christmas Concert? Instrumentalists who would like to join us for "I'll Be Home for Christmas" and singers who would like to be a part of our gospel-style "Joyful, joyful," should let Mrs. Cornwell know. All family, extended family, and alumni are welcome!

Band lessons this week:

Tues. 8:30 Kayla 9:00 Claire 9:30 Karen
10:00 Jessica 12:40 Garrett

Wed. 8:30 Genesis 9:00 Jonah 9:30 Caitlin,
Carolyn 10:00 Michelle 10:30 Katie 2:00 Jaelyn

Thurs. 8:30 Devin 9:00 Amanda 9:30 Amelia
10:00 Hannah St.

Fri. 9:00 Will 9:30 Alyssa, Amber
10:00 Hunter 10:30 Ben 2:00 Brian

Next Mon. 11/23 8:30 Amelia 9:00 Emilee
9:30 Josiah 10:00 Jonah 10:30 Drew 12:40 **Jazz
band**

Circle News

Hot Lunch this week will be chili dogs, chips and cheese, salad and dessert. Workers will be Maggie Cosh, Esther Hutt and WE NEED ONE MORE WORKER. Please call Maggie if you can help.

Circle Meeting will be held this Thursday, November 19 at 7:30m in the school library. Please join us as we plan the next several months of fundraising and fellowship events.

Reminder: The Stevco frozen food orders sale continues through Wednesday November 18th. **This is the absolute latest you can turn in an order.**

Auction News

Over 300 Thank you letters are available just outside of the office. They are broken down by town. These are to be handed out to businesses that helped make this event a success. Handwritten student notes are also available and should be included with the thank you letters. We'd like to

hand deliver as many as possible, not only to save money, but businesses really enjoy receiving these notes in person!!!!!!!. Please help!!!! You don't need to have been the go-getter for the business to deliver the thank you note.

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 eroteacher@verizon.net. We would like to see more parents on this committee. The majority of our committee doesn't have or will not have students in the school next year.

EPCS Logo Items

EPCS Logo items that were available at the auction are still available. T-shirts, hats, mouse pads, window stickers, car door magnets, tote bags, etc. Please see Erica VanCamp for details. She can be reached at 926-0119.