

# 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, February 22, 2010

### Town Hall-style Meeting

The EPCS Board invites all of you to a Town Hall-style meeting on Tuesday evening at 7:15 p.m. This very important meeting is one to introduce you to the new tuition fee structure the Board hopes to implement for next school year, as well as several other issues pertaining to the 2010-2011 school year.

### EPCS Open House

The East Palmyra Christian School will be holding an **Open House on Thursday, February 25 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.** Invite others to come see the campus, tour the classrooms, meet the teachers, and talk with other parents about the difference a Christian education can make in the life of their child. From preschool through high school, quality academic, fine arts and athletic programs will enrich their child, all within a nurturing, Christ-centered environment.

For more information, call the office or go to [www.eastpalmyrachristianschool.com](http://www.eastpalmyrachristianschool.com),

### EPCHS Questionnaire

Some time ago I sent out a questionnaire asking parents to respond to the question of whether their 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> grade student(s) will be part of the East Palmyra Christian High School in the 2010-2011 school year. I want to answer some of the questions you had on the response sheet regarding your interest in EPCHS next school year:

Your question: Do you offer Regents Exams?

Yes, we offer Regents Exams to those students who wish to take them. In the past 10 years of offering Regents exams in 9th grade math (Algebra) to our students (some advanced 8th graders, some 9th graders), we have an approximate 96% pass rate. Our exams are graded by several Newark High School teachers, and by me, and we all sign off on them. We have also offered the Regents Exam for Earth Science, and this year will offer the Biology (10), Geometry (10), Algebra (9), Global Studies (10), and Spanish III (10-11) exams in June. Some students will opt for a local diploma, rather than a Regents diploma. That option is workable as well, and having heard from other local high schools and NYS Ed., in their experience, this option will allow students to be as competitive for college/university acceptance.

Your question: I have concerns regarding academic competitiveness.

With the very small class sizes, our students get much individual teacher attention, giving them many academic opportunities in-class. The courses are taught by competent teachers and, if I gauge by how our students fare in public high schools after they graduate our 8th grade, I know our high school graduates will do as well. Our 8th grade grads consistently earn honor roll standing and high grades in the high schools they attend. They are very well prepared. I know I will see no difference in our high school graduates. I think we will be very academically competitive if students choose to work hard. 😊

Your question: What about AP courses and sports?

Unfortunately, we cannot compete (nor are we trying to compete) with the public schools in the area of offering AP courses and many sports opportunities. We simply do not have the financial nor physical resources yet to offer those options. Having said that, we hope to offer Girls' Volleyball and (very possibly) Girls' Basketball. There may even be limited opportunities for students to compete in Track and Field. As students' numbers grow, these options will become more possible. We hope to become part of NYS Section V Athletics this spring, and this will allow us to participate with public schools.

Your question: Will EPCHS give out diplomas?

This question was asked outside of the questionnaire, and the answer is a definite YES! We will offer both the NYS Regents or "Local" Diploma and the EPCHS High School Diploma. EPCHS will be registered with NYS Ed after next year, in our seniors-class year, as per NYS Ed requirements, and we will be given the authority to give out diplomas to our graduates.

My added comments:

Don't forget that we are a Christian school. The love of Christ flows in this place! Being a Christian school is why we are here, and being a Christian school makes us different from the public schools. Being a Christian school allows us to teach all subjects in the light, and through the spectacles, of God's Word.

So, small class sizes, excellent Christian education, all under the umbrella of a Christian world-life view! Wow!!

I hope this answers some of your questions. If you have others, please feel free to let me know! kv

Dutch Dinner

**School and community help needed for the Dutch Dinner.** Please call as soon as possible this week to volunteer. Circle was planning the annual Dutch dinner for Friday, April 9th. However, if we do not get help we may have to cancel this wonderfully unique event. We need people to volunteer to cook (recipes will be provided), bake, organize, work, serve and make phone calls in order to go forward with the dinner.

Several of our cooks from last year have told us they won't be able to help this year.

There will be a Circle meeting THIS THURSDAY at 7:30 in the library. ALL are encouraged to attend. We will be discussing whether or not to have the Dutch dinner. Please contact Cheri Winslow at (315) 986-4240 or (315) 576-4693 or email choochwinslow@verizon.net to volunteer for the dinner and also to let us know if you can attend the meeting. The meeting will be cancelled if we do not know people are coming.

New Faucets

Thanks to Ed O'Brien and Arie Benne for their work at purchasing and installing the new faucets in the classrooms! Not only do they look great, they also work wonderfully. Some faucets were purchased with "scrap metal" money, while others were donated. Ed wants me to remind you that if you have any scrap metal items, or notice that your neighbors are throwing some out, that you give him a call at 331-XXXX or call the school at 597-4400. The guys can pick up your scrap metal, bring it to the recycling, and collect cash to be used for school projects. Thanks so much.

Change for Education

Change for Education is underway and the coins/bills are coming in. Classrooms are in competition to see who can raise the most money for their class. We will run this for 2 more weeks due to February being such a "short" month.

Totals: 7/8 - \$346.45—Class purchased Camcorder, bag, tripod this past week. 😊  
5/6 - \$36.45  
3/4 - \$90.87  
1/2 - \$7.32  
PreK/K - \$7.37

## **EPCS Calendar**

### **Monday, February 22, 2010 Day D**

Change For Education—all week...  
Girls VB practice until 4:45 pm

### **Tuesday, February 23, 2010 Day E**

Girls VB practice until 4:45 pm  
**Town Hall Meeting – 7:15pm**

### **Wednesday, February 24, 2010 Day F**

Collection for World Vision Child—Godfrey  
Hearing and Vision Screening—Newark Nurse -11:30  
Hot Lunch—Noon  
Boys VB Practice until 4:45pm

### **Thursday, February 25, 2010 Day A**

Girls VB practice until 4:45 pm  
Circle Mtg. – School Library – 7:30pm  
EPCS/EPCHS Open House 7 – 8:30 pm

### **Friday, February 26, 2010 Day B**

Friday Pizza Sale  
Boys VB Practice until 4:15pm

### **Monday, March 1, 2010, Day C**

Boys VB practice until 4:45 pm

#### **And Beyond:**

Wed. Mar. 3 - Education Com. Mtg - 4:00 pm  
Mon-Fri, March 8-12 -Young Artists' Festival

#### **Volleyball Practices**

**(Please note that this is a change from previous years, and schedules)**

Girls Tuesday, Friday (Mar 2, 5)  
Boys Mon, Thurs (Mar 1,4)

Girls Mon Wed (8,10, )  
Boys Tues, Thurs (9,11 )

Girls Tues Fri (16, 19)  
Boys Mon, Wed, Thurs (15, 17, 18)

#### **Enrollment Packets**

Packets will be handed out tomorrow evening at the Town Hall Meeting.

#### **Young Artists Festival – March 8-12**

Help Wanted© While most workshops have leaders (THANK YOU!!!), we could use extra hands in several areas. Please contact the office or Judy Rachow if you are available. We could use someone who is knowledgeable about photography for that workshop, and someone handy in the kitchen who would lead a baked goods workshop.

Please encourage your student to work on his/her project for the art display. ALL students are welcome to enter artwork, crafts, or creative writing. Projects are due Thursday, Mar. 4.

#### **School Cleaning**

**Mon.** - Beckens Family

**Tues.** – Beckens Family

**Wed.** – Wieber Family

**Thurs.** – **Paid**

**Fri.** – **Paid**

**Mon. 3/1** – Wieber 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!

#### **Boys Volleyball**

Any boys in grades 5-8 are welcome to join the volleyball team! The team will be coached by Mr. Winslow and Mr. Ballesty. Sign up on the signup sheet in the hallway. Any questions, call Don Winslow, 986-4240. First practice Wednesday!

#### **Adopt a Bill**

Budgets are tight right now. Our school is no different. Please look at the list of bills and prayerfully consider if you may be able to help in any way.

Q's Lawn and Landscape (plowing)-**\$ 400.00**

Screen Vision Direct - **\$156.00**

Toshiba Copier - **\$165.75**

Time Warner - **\$126.18**

NYSEG - **\$1,458.14**

E & V Energy - **\$390.00**

Palmers. – **\$108.79** (maintenance supplies)

WFLK Radio - **\$99.00** (advertising from Dec.)

Please specify adopt a bill with your donation and remember that all gifts are tax deductible.

If you have any questions, please call the office.

#### **Kindergarten & Preschool**

**Math** – Coins: penny, nickel, and dime

**ELA** – We will be illustrating books on Shadows, and we will continue to focus on pre-decodable books and sight words.

**Bible** – Moses and the Israelites: the Golden Calf, the Tabernacle, and Rebellion

**Social Studies** – Needs: Clothing and Shelter

**This week** we will be celebrating the 100th Day of School! On Wednesday, our math, writing, reading, art, and other activities will all have some connection to 100. Remember to bring in 100 of the same item for Wednesday as well. These should be able to fit in a small bag. In your child's Home Folder there will also be a "100 Handout." Please work with your child to complete this and return it to school on Wednesday. Also, in order to give us

more time for our 100 day activities, we will have show and tell on FRIDAY instead of Wednesday.

### First & Second Grade

**Bible:** We are finishing our unit on the early ministry of Jesus. There will be no memory verse this week.

**Reading:** We are starting a new way of using our reading time. We will be talking some time away from our reading books to learn the Daily 5 and how to pick just right books.

**Spelling:** There will be spelling work for all of the groups. Be on the look out for the homework and help your student to do the daily assignments each night. Homework is due on the day after the assignment is assigned. So 3x's each is due on Tuesday, sentences are due on Wednesday and the ABC order is due on Thursday. The assignment is considered late if it does not come in on the due day.

**Math:** The second graders are completing their unit on adding with and without regrouping. They will be taking a test on Wednesday. The first graders are continuing their work on geometry and learning about shapes.

**Science:** We are going to be learning about simple machines in science this week. There will be a couple of homework assignments to go along with this unit so please be looking for them.

**Visitor:** We are having a visitor this week. Mrs. Kellogg is going to come in and teach us how to keep our smiles healthy.

### Third & Fourth Grade

I hope everyone had a restful break. It is great to be back and see all the smiling faces.

**Spelling:** Lesson 17 lists will be sent home today.

**Reading:** We will be continuing to read in our groups.

**Social Studies:** We will be discussing the census.

I am sending book orders home and they will be due this Thursday.

Look in the Gallery on the school website and check out some pictures from the recent trip to see Phil in Punxsutawney, PA!

**Math: Grade 3:** We have started a new unit over the concept of multiplication. This week, we will continue looking at multiplying by 2, 5, and 10 and will learn about multiple-step problems. We are also memorizing the first ten multiples of 3.

**Grade 4:** We are doing a unit about time and graphing. This week we look at ordered pairs, line graphs, and using graphic sources. Our next unit, which we will start next week, is over multiplying one digit by two and three digit numbers.

Since it would be VERY helpful to have most multiplication facts memorized, please encourage your child to work with flash cards every night.

### Fifth and Sixth Grade

**Change for Education:** Thanks to all who have been sending in their "spare change" for us. Our goal is purchase a DVD/VHS player for our room. A TV and a stand have already been donated, and we have about \$35 toward the player. While I don't show many videos, this system would allow me to show short video "clips" that would enhance lessons without having to waste valuable teaching/learning time getting and setting up the one portable system (including an often frustrating hunt for the remote!). Thanks for your help.

**Math: Grade 5:** We are working on dividing numbers by two digit divisors, including dividing decimals and money.

**Grade 6:** Our topic is adding and subtracting with mixed numbers. Hopefully, we will be ready for a test on Friday.

**Bible:** Our new unit is Prophecy and the Prophets. The memory work is Isaiah 53:1-7.

**Reading:** We will start literature circle books this week. We will also start working on our book reports. Some parts will be worked on at school, but students are expected to put the report together at home. Our style for this report is a Box Report. Your student should bring home a paper describing the requirements tonight. The report will be due Mar. 19, but may be turned in earlier.

**History:** Test on Friday over Greece. Review sheets should come home tomorrow.

**Spelling:** Regular tests this week.

**Spanish 5/6:** We meet Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. We will spend one more week practicing the latest ten nouns. On Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, there will be a quiz on those ten nouns. Students should bring their folders and a writing instrument to class.

### Seventh and Eighth Grade

**Pasta Dinner: Thank you!** About \$1200 was raised at the 7th/8th grade pasta dinner before vacation. Thanks to everyone who came to support this project and to Mrs. Beckens who coordinated the event. Proceeds to go to future Spruce Lake Outdoor Education trips, class donations, graduation expenses, etc. Look in the Gallery on the school website and check out some pictures!

**Life Science:** We are having an EXAM next week on all of Unit 4 - Animals. Please have your student start getting ready now so they are well prepared. The next unit is on The Human Body.

**Bible:** Our new unit is over the account of Othniel. The memory work is Jer. 29:11-13. The journal entry will be due next week, Tuesday.

**Spanish 1A (7<sup>th</sup>)** This week, we will be reviewing material from Unit 2 and taking the unit test. We will review vocabulary one day, then take the vocabulary portion of the test the following day. Then we will review grammar concepts and take the grammar portion of the test the following day. There will also be a listening, speaking, and writing portion of the test. Students have all the review materials included in their handouts.

**Spanish 1B (8<sup>th</sup>)** We will continue the unit test on unit 6. The listening, writing and speaking parts are coming up.

**Music:** The 7/8 music class will be finishing the guitar unit this week. If you lent us a guitar, please come and pick it up anytime after Tuesday. Thank you!

**Cross-Country Skiing:** On Friday afternoon, last period of the day, Mrs. Deb Stoep will be here to take our 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> graders on a "cross-country" skiing venture. She has 6 sets of skis and we have several here (not enough for everyone...). If you could bring in your cross-country skis for this project, that would be great. Let me know if you can. 597-4400 kv

### Ninth and Tenth Grade

**Bible:** We will be writing the script for a puppet play over the patriarchs this week.

**Spanish 2:** We will continue the unit test on unit 2. The listening, writing and speaking parts are coming up.

**Spanish 3:** Sarah will have a test on the use of the preterit and imperfect forms used together.

**Biology:** Research papers on specific parts of the human body are due next week Monday. Please see Mr. Chamberlain with any questions.

### Band

#### **Lessons**

**Tues.** 8:30 Emilee 9:00 Amelia 9:30 Alyssa  
10:00 Claire 10:30 Amber 12:40 Cathryn

**Wed.** 8:00 Josiah/Rebekah 8:30 Kayla.  
9:00 Jonah 9:30 Hannah St. 10:00 Michelle  
12:40 4/5 BAND 1:20 5<sup>th</sup> grade All county practice  
2:00 Katie

**Thurs.** 8:30 Karen 9:00 Amanda  
9:30 Genesis 10:00 Brianna

**Fri.** 8:30 Caitlin, Carolyn 9:00 Hunter,  
9:30 Garrett 10:00 Ben 10:30 Will 2:00 Brian

**Next Mon. 3/1** 8:30 Drew 9:00 Emilee,  
9:30 Noah 10:00 Jessica

**Music donations:** Earlier in the fall, the 7/8 music class surveyed their parents and

grandparents, and themselves, about their favorite pieces of music. When the results were compiled, we were able to see many repeats on the list of favorites. I have chosen band music for the next concert based on these top favorites. If you would like to donate a piece of music in honor or memory of a loved one, please let the office know. Thank you!

### Concert band

King of Rock and Roll... \$50

#### 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade band

Beethoven for Band \$45

What a Wonderful World \$45

Hallelujah Chorus \$40

Eye of the Tiger \$45

### Jazz Band

Come Sail Away \$40

Jericho \$45

**Congratulations** to Drew Winslow, Ben Cosh, Carolyn Lamar and Caitlin Cramer for being chosen for the Jr. High All county Band. Their solo festival scores earned them a place at the All county band festival, taking place on March 19 & 20 at Newark High School.

### Circle News

**Hot lunch** this week will be pasta with meat sauce, bread, salad and dessert. Workers will be Cheri Winslow, Kit DePerna, Holly Gardner and Anne Snelling.

**Candy Bar sale.** Please continue to sell your candy bars and return your money to the office as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Circle Meeting** will be on Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the School Library.

### Auction News

Look in the Gallery on the school website and check out some pictures from our recent Harvest Festival & Auction 2009.

### EPCS Logo Items

EPCS Logo items are still available. T-shirts, hats, mouse pads, window stickers, car door magnets, tote bags, etc. Ask about them in the office.

### Donations Wanted

Do you have scrap metal, old auto, motorcycle or lawnmower batteries or old appliances lying around just looking for a place to call home? EPCS will take them off of your hands, as we can recycle these items for cash. This cash will go towards the school. Please call Edison O'Brien at 331-4622 if you can help out. Thank you!

