

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, March 29, 2010

Holy Week

This is the part of the Christian calendar in which many churches observe Holy Week. Yesterday many of us celebrated Palm Sunday, a day of mixed messages in my opinion, one in which we sing Hosanna with the masses of Jesus' time, knowing these same masses would cry "Crucify him," some 4 or 5 days later. I guess, in reality, we are part of those masses... Each time we display our arrogance, or a variety of egoism, or gossip, or one-upmanship, or any sin of any kind, we echo with the crowd, "Crucify him." But the good news of the Gospel is that Christ asks us, as he did Peter, "Do you love me?" Christ asks for reconciliation. Christ's love for us is immeasurable, unfathomable, amazing. I pray we may ask for forgiveness often, to answer him "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you," because we need God's extravagant grace and forgiveness on a daily basis.

Anyway, this is Holy Week. I pray that, each day, each moment, we may live deep inside of that extravagant grace extended to us through Jesus' suffering, crucifixion, death, and ultimate resurrection. May we have the God-given willingness to joyfully accept that forgiving grace in all its fullness, along with all its hope. May we be touched by the lavishness of God's mercy. May we be moved by the abundance of God's benevolence. And may we be stretched by the inclusiveness of God's goodness. May we be covered by God's shalom.

This is Holy Week. And, as part of the commemoration of Holy Week, our high school students and others will present a Tenebrae Service on Wednesday evening at 7:15 pm in the EPCS gymnasium. Please join us in an evening of scripture reading, singing, poetry and short story reading, quiet meditation, and prayer. A free-will offering will be taken, and refreshments will be available.

EPCS Calendar

Monday, March 29, 2010 Day D

Girls VB at Greece—4 pm
Boys VB practice until 4:45 pm

Tuesday, March 30, 2010 Day E

**Girls/Boys VB HOME vs. Roch. Christian—4 pm

Wednesday, March 31, 2010 Day F

Collection for World Vision Child—Godfrey
Hot Lunch—Noon
Tenebrae Practice after school
Tenebrae Service 7:15 pm EPCS Gymnasium

Thursday, April 1, 2010 Day A

Pizza Sale for Lunch
Boys VB and Girls VB at Roch Christian—4 pm

Friday, April 2, 2010

Good Friday—No School

Monday, April 5, 2010, Day B

Boys VB HOME vs. St. Paul—4 pm

And Beyond:

April 9 – AM – 8th grade skills competition (see 7/8 grade news)

April 9 – Dutch Dinner

April 15 & 16—Parent/Teacher Conferences—Noon Dismissals both days

Enrollment Packets

Thank you to all who turned in your transportation forms. **PLEASE READ THE IMPORTANT LETTER FROM OUR BOARD TREASURER INSERTED IN THIS SCHOOL DOOR!**

Dutch Dinner – Friday, April 9th

Flyers advertising the dinner are available in the School Office if you want one to post.

There are still a few places we need help for the dinner. We need:

1 cashier

A few people to set up (3-5)

LOTS of people to clean up afterwards (7:15---??) many hands make light work :)

Please call the Winslow's to sign up to help. 986-4240. Thank you.

Future HS Field Trip Invitation

The EPCS High School students are planning a trip to visit Stratford, Ontario, Canada, on June 5th and see the Shakespeare play "As You Like It," after which the students will spend the weekend in Toronto. Their invitation to you is to join them in Stratford at the play, after which we will have supper at a local Amish Restaurant. More information on this exciting trip will be forthcoming. Mark your calendar.

2009-2010 Volleyball Schedule (Boys & Girls)

PLEASE NOTICE CHANGES IN HIGHLIGHTED AREAS! THANKS!!!!

All games begin at 4pm unless otherwise noted.

** Double Header – girls play first, then boys.

Tues, April 6 – Girls HOME vs. Greece Chr.

VB Practices Boys: April 7 **Girls:** April 8

Mon, April 12 - EPCS AWAY @ Roch. Christian**

Tues, April 13 – Boys HOME vs. St. Paul – 3:45pm

Tues, April 13 – Girl HOME vs. Greece – 5pm

School Cleaning

M – Furdey Family

T- Boss Family

W – Paid

Th – Fisher

F – No School

Mon. 4/5 – Furdey 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!

Committee Members Needed

The Promotion & Enrollment committee is looking for new members. If you can help out in ANY capacity, please contact the school at 597-4400.

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.

Screen Vision Direct - **\$156.00** (monthly item)

Toshiba Copier - **\$165.75** (monthly item)

Time Warner - **\$126.18** (monthly item)

E & V Energy - **\$585.00** (\$190.00 monthly item)

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

Paid – Thank you! New total: \$750.00

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

Paid – Thank You! New total: \$166.05

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.

Athletes

Please check your closets and drawers for your uniforms from past seasons. I am missing quite a few, especially from soccer. I NEED them returned this week!!! Those that don't turn in their uniforms will be given a bill to purchase a new uniform. Thank you for your cooperation.

Kindergarten & Preschool

On Wednesday, we will have our class party that the students earned together for good behavior. If you're unable to provide the item your child signed up for, just let me know and I will make a stop Tuesday evening to get anything we need.

Math – We begin the week learning about symmetry, and then the students will be introduced to fractions – halves and fourths.

Reading –Reading groups; syllables

Writing –Writing letters correctly on lined paper. The students will also be taking an informal assessment to determine how many upper and lower case letters they can write correctly from memory.

Bible – Jesus' Ascension and Pentecost

First & Second Grade

Bible: We are continuing to learn about Passion Week. Our memory verse is the same as last week, John 13:34-35.

Spelling: All groups will have a new spelling unit this week. Be on the look out for homework.

Math: The second graders are working on geometry. They will be learning about the different

ways a shape can move. They will also learn how to figure out riddles about shapes.

Social Studies: We will be starting out project on countries around the world. Most of this will be done in class. I will send an information sheet home later in the week.

Reminder: There is no school on Friday.

Third & Fourth Grade

Science: On Wednesday, April 28th we are going to Tinsel Town's IMAX Theater to see Disney's "Oceans". I will need \$5 from each student by This Thursday, April 1st. I also need a few more chaperones. If you are interested, please let me know as soon as possible. I only have a limited amount of tickets.

Spelling: Lesson 22 lists will be sent home today. Spelling test will be on Thursday

Reading: We will be continuing with our literature circle books.

Social Studies: We will be continuing to learn about different regions of the United States.

Bible: We will be looking at Jacob and Esau.

Have a great week and a very happy Easter. ☺

Devotions: Devotions promptly start at 8:15. If your child comes into school during devotions I ask that they wait in the office and I will come get them at the end of devotions.

Have a great week. ☺

Math Grade 3: We will finish our unit about multiplication this week. We will learn about finding a rule for a set of number pairs, deciding on which operation to use, and will have a practice test on Thursday.

Grade 4: We continue with multiplication of larger numbers. This week we look at multiplying money and multiplying with three factors.

Fifth and Sixth Grade

Science: On Wednesday, April 28th we are going to Tinsel Town's IMAX Theater to see Disney's "Oceans". I will need \$5 from each student by This Thursday, April 1st. I also need a few more chaperones. If you are interested, please let me know as soon as possible. I only have a limited amount of tickets.

Math Grade 5: Our topics this week are determining outcomes, listing outcomes, and expressing probability as a fraction.

Grade 6: We will learn to write and evaluate expressions with fractions.

Bible: Our current unit is Prophecy and the Prophets. The memory work is Isaiah 53:1-7. This week we will work on designing and completing a mural depicting the Peaceable Kingdom.

Reading: Book Reports are due on Wednesday.

History: Our current unit is over early Rome and the Roman Empire. Students will be making a diorama, so we could use any shoe boxes that you might be able to donate.

Spelling: Test on Thursday.

Spanish 5/6 We meet Wednesday, March 31st. We will use the flash cards that the students made. Students should also bring their folders and a writing instrument to class.

We will work on learning the current list of nouns. There will be a quiz the next time we meet.

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Attention 8th Graders and 8th grade parents: Sign up now with Mr. V. for the skills competition which will be held on April 9, 2010 over at the WTCC BOCES center in Williamson. Mr. V. has the sign up sheets in his room. Depending on the category, you will sign up as an individual or as a team of two. This will be a great event, and hopefully East Pal will come home with some awards! Any questions, contact Mr. Winslow at 986-4240 or reroteacher@verizon.net Parents: We have one driver, and we need one more. We'll leave around 8:30 AM and get back around 1:30PM.

Bible: Our current unit is about Solomon. We will also look at the Easter story this week.

Spanish 1A (7th) Students are learning to describe themselves and others in Spanish. We are adding the verb tener and names of things to our vocabulary this week.

Spanish 1B (8th) We are beginning series of lesson on reflexive verbs. We are working on reflexive verbs. Students should be able to conjugate a reflexive verb, put the verbs in sequence, and be able to describe their morning or evening routine using reflexive verbs.

Ninth and Tenth Grade

Bible: We have started Exodus. We are also working on a puppet show.

Spanish 2: The preterit tense has been introduced.

Spanish 3: Sarah will use Studyspanish.com to hone her skills with the preterit, imperfect and future tenses. She will also practice her reading and writing skills.

Music

Choir: Our spring musical is "Cinderella's Glass Slipper." The performance date is May 21st, and the whole school is included in this fun production. Please mark the date on your calendar, and invite your friends!

Help is needed with costumes, set and refreshments. Please contact Mrs. Cornwell if you are willing to help. Thank you!

Lessons: Tues. 8:30 Caitlin 9:00 Karen 9:30 Amber, Alyssa, 10:00 Claire 10:30 Garrett

Wed. 8:30 Jaelyn 9:00 Brianna 9:30 Jessica 10:00 Michelle 10:30 Katie 11:00 Kayla 11:30 Ben

Thurs. 8:30 Genesis 9:00 Devin 9:30 Amanda 10:00 Amelia

Next Mon. 4/5 8:30 Drew 9:00 Garrett 9:30 Noah 10:00 Josiah 10:30 Kaitlyn

Band Music: 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

4th & 5th grade band

Eye of the Tiger \$45

Jazz Band

Come Sail Away \$40

Jericho \$45

Circle News

Hot Lunch this week will be Spaghetti, bread, salad & dessert. Workers will be Maggie Cosh, and **two** more volunteers are needed. Please call Maggie ASAP if you can help. Thank you.

Produce Sale: Thank you to those who participated in the produce sale. Please pick up your orders between 2 and 4 pm **THIS Wednesday, March 31st.** Any questions call Cheri 986-4240.

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!

A Note from Ned Morgan, EPCS Board Treasurer

3/29/2010

Our deadline for registration has come and gone with many families not registering but also not asking any questions. The financial climate at school remains difficult as it is in many homes in our county. The one factor that remains the most critical to keeping tuition under control at EPCS is keeping the seats full in the classroom! Nothing pays the bills like lots of students! I realize that the board made many changes to tuition and procedures for the coming year so let me just re-iterate a few points to hopefully clarify again what each family needs to do. First, decide if you want to make a Christian Education a priority for your student(s). I say Christian Education deliberately here. EPCS is not simply an alternative to public school, it is a Christian School where students are free and able to learn the truth; that God created and designed our world, that He ordered all things, and that He remains in control today despite what our society decides is the current version of right and wrong. I also use the term priority here deliberately. Money, time, talent, all three are limited resources that you are committing to EPCS if you enroll students here. All three. Money alone? We might as well close up shop. We need many hands to make the workload easy. We cannot afford for anyone to adopt the attitude that they are buying a service and that's it. Everyone has talents; each must use them for the greater good. Now to money...

The tuition has increased and with it some questions are being asked over and over. Why so much at once? The simple answer is that it needed to be higher in years past. At past levels we have not paid all of our bills and have therefore accumulated debt. Are expenses being kept in check? Yes! Our budget is and spending and income forecast a plan. The spending or expense portion of our budgets are pondered carefully and are adhered to. Frankly, on a personal note, I believe we underspend, as I see us needing to put more into the upkeep and improvement of the physical plant. Our budgets fail because we routinely fail to bring in as many tuition dollars as we project.

This brings me to the next point: multi-student discounts and financial aid. We can call it whatever we want but some families, due to either income levels or number of students, cannot afford to pay the full price we are recommending. Each family who needs to have their tuition amount adjusted for whatever reason must apply to FFNA. FFNA is a third party agency that will analyze each applicant professionally, with the same set of parameters, to determine how much of a decrease in tuition each family should get when measured in the same fashion. This is fair and private, and it allows the school to measure ahead of time what the impact will be on the bottom line. FFNA applications can be requested in the school office. There are no income restrictions, all can apply.

Busing!! Fill forms out now! Change your mind later but at least you will have this covered if everything else works out. The 25% up front tuition; it is hard. We know, and yet it must be done. We cannot borrow to run the school. It will not work.

In closing, thank you for your patience. Change is difficult and we are attempting many changes at once. So, what is the best thing you can do right now? Find another student for the school. If one student in five brought in a new student we would be on our way! Also, a class of fifteen kindergarteners would bring in \$45,000 of income to the school. If we try and don't make it, okay we tried. If we don't try, shame on us. My parting comment, the \$800 increase for a 1st through 8th grade student is \$2.20 a day or \$15.40 a week. Please respond soon, planning is difficult until we hear from each family.

Thank You,
Ned Morgan, Board Treasurer