



THE COVENANT SCHOOL

KNIGHTLY NEWS

December 16, 2011

Dear Covenant School Families and Friends,

The school has been filled with the sights and sounds of Christmas as we have celebrated Advent every morning in chapel and enjoyed Christmas projects and parties in our classrooms. I wanted to share with you about the Junior Kindergarten students' service project, which is a wonderful example of living our school mission.

The Jr-K children collected over 100 pairs of new socks of all sizes for the children at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital and decorated their classroom Christmas Tree with the socks. Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. Buntain, and the students delivered the socks to the hospital last Friday and got an amazing tour of the places children could go at the hospital. They got to see the trains, the Butterfly Garden, the outside playgrounds, the water pool, and the sibling playroom. There was also a movie machine where parents could come and check-out movies to watch with their children during hospital stays. The students rode the elevators and along the way passed children with casts on an arm or leg, a child in a wheelchair, a child pulling an IV stand, and other children who were patients. The Jr-K students learned that the people who work at the hospital try to create fun so that the children do not think too much about being sick.

After leaving the Children's Hospital, the children visited The Blakeford residential care facility, where they passed out the Christmas cards they had made for the residents and sang Christmas songs for them. Mrs. Georgia Edgeworth accompanied the children on her guitar. The Jr-K students had practiced how to talk with the older people and give hugs and smiles. After they sang, the children went up and down the rows of residents, hugging them and wishing them a Merry Christmas!

On behalf of all the faculty and staff, I wish you a joyful Christmas and many blessings in the New Year!

"We're lovin' it at Covenant!"
--Dr. Graham

IN APPRECIATION

Thank you to our students, parents and faculty for your generosity in "Sharing Christmas" with the school's maintenance and kitchen helpers. The gifts were most appreciated.

We are grateful for the kindness and hospitality of Dawn and Evans Looney who hosted the Christmas dinner for our faculty and staff. Thank you also to members of the Parents Association who helped provide the hospitality.

UPPER SCHOOL REPORT

By Taylor Clement

Our upper school students have had a great second quarter. From athletics to academics, these students are participating in numerous activities and are learning what it means to display the love of Christ to all. Here are several things we can celebrate as we enter into the Christmas break.

First, we have seen wonderful academic achievement from both fifth and sixth grades. Our sixth graders have been reading and studying Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* and both fifth and sixth grades experienced a wonderful exhibit on Egypt at the Frist Museum.

Secondly, the behavior of our students has been tremendous this quarter. We, as teachers, could not be prouder of the increasing self-awareness of students and the growing accountability between peers. This growth manifested earlier this month when several students stayed late one night to serve the men who participate in the Room in the Inn ministry. Our students served the men and treated them with great respect and dignity.

As part of their spiritual development, the students have been discussing the coming of Christ from Passover to the birth of Christ—seeing God's plan throughout history to establish peace between God and man.

Finally, many of our students have actively been participating in extra-curricular activities. Both our boys and girls basketball seasons have begun. With the majority of the schedule in the spring semester, we have a lot of basketball to look forward to when we come back from break. Aside from athletics, several students have continued to participate in chess club, music lessons, and an array of activities outside of TCS. We are proud of the many talents of our students!

BOX TOPS

Please continue to collect Box Tops over the holiday break! Students, if you get bored, ask your relatives and neighbors to give you their General Mills boxes before they throw them away so you can clip the Box Tops. (Besides cereal, find them on Kleenex boxes, Chex Mix bags, Hefty trash bag boxes, etc.). The spring class contest will start in January, so the holiday break is the perfect opportunity to get a jump on your collection! Our school is doing so well—let's keep the momentum going!!

—Allison Musso



SAVE THE DATE!

An Evening To Cherish

FEBRUARY 11, 2012

Just before Valentine's Day, this promises to be an incredible evening for all the girls at The Covenant School. It will be a time for daughters and dads (or a father figure if the dad cannot participate) to spend time together over dinner and a dance.

Fathers, please go to http://www.thecovenantschool.com/FatherDaughterDance_%28AllenArnold%29.m4a

(it's on the website under "announcements") for an important audio message about the purpose of this evening...as well as your essential role.

The goal isn't simply a fun party – but rather for every girl to know just how special and cherished she is. Each girl will be invited by her dad or father figure to a special dinner of the dad's choosing and then a dance in the fellowship hall at TCS with DJ, party pictures, and more. Additional information will follow, but please save the date for an Evening to Cherish on February 11.