



THE COVENANT SCHOOL

# KNIGHTLY NEWS

December 2, 2011

Dear Covenant School Families and Friends,

I can't believe we have just two weeks until our Christmas break! Basketball season has started and our Knights teams both won their games against St. Bernard! Please read all the news and reminders below. I hope you are enjoying our Christmas season!

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

- ◆ **Annual Fund Drive:** Thank you to all the TCS families who have given to the Annual Fund! We are making progress towards our goal of \$95,000 with 100% parent participation. If you have not yet responded with a gift or pledge, you still may do so by turning in a pledge envelope, pledging or donating online, or calling Hillary Rector in the school office. **Gifts received by December 31st will be tax-deductible for this year.** We are so thankful for the many ways you support our school!
- ◆ **Uniform Reminders:** Students are missing sweatshirts, sweaters, jackets that they sometimes take off during the school day. Please check to make sure your child has not brought home another student's clothing by mistake—bring those items to your child's teacher to return. Also, please write your child's name in jackets or sweatshirts to help avoid mix ups. **In January we will implement the new dress code as listed in the school handbook.** Students may continue to wear navy Covenant sweatshirts, fleece, and jackets. Items that have been deleted from the dress code and should not be worn include the following: turtle-neck shirts, navy or light blue shirts, navy pants/shorts, navy vests/ sweaters, and navy leggings/tights.
- ◆ **School Closings/Delays Due to Snow/Ice:** In the event of snow or icy conditions, please check your email and cell phones for updates about school closings, delayed openings, or early dismissals. Messages will be sent through our Parent Alerts, an announcement will appear on the school website homepage, a message may be heard by calling the school, and information will be communicated to the local TV stations—Channels 2, 4, and 5. Decisions will be announced the night before if possible or by 6:00am of that day.
- ◆ **Christmas Special Events:** Tomorrow students may wear their Covenant sweatshirts and join Mrs. Berthiaume for the Jingle Bell fun run in Franklin for the Arthritis Foundation (contact Mrs. B for more details). The school will sponsor a Covenant School booth at the Dickens Christmas Festival in Franklin on Saturday, Dec. 10. **Our wonderful Christmas program performed by our Jr-K and kindergarten students will be Friday, Dec. 16, with early dismissal at 11:30am.** Finally, please participate in our Christmas collection for our terrific building and cafeteria staff who make our school so beautiful and prepare our delicious lunches—students and parents may place those donations in the Christmas box at the school reception desk.

## WE WILL MISS YOU, MRS. AHLBIN!

Dear The Covenant School family,

I am writing this letter with a heavy heart to inform you that I will not return as the Quest Coordinator after Christmas Break for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year. My husband, Jon, is completing his Ph.D. work at Vanderbilt University this semester, and he has accepted a position in Arlington, Virginia working with The University of Southern California as a research engineer. This is a very exciting time for my family, but also very sad as I have to move away to Virginia and say good bye to this special school on the hill that I love so very much!

The Covenant School has meant so much to me and my family these past four plus years, and I am so thankful to God for my time here with you. God is doing amazing things through the work of the faculty, staff, administration, parents, and children here, and I am so excited to see how TCS continues to spread God's truth and love by teaching the next generation to know Him with their "Minds to learn, hands to serve, and hearts to love." This school truly is a wonderful ministry to the Lord, and I have loved sharing my gifts as well as receiving spiritual blessings myself. The Quest program will continue at TCS, and I know God has a special person in mind to work with our children to provide learning services for His glory.

Please know that my heart and prayers will always be with this school, and I will enjoy times visiting in the future (including meeting up with the 6<sup>th</sup> grade class in Washington, D.C.).

Sincerely,  
Holly W. Ahlbin

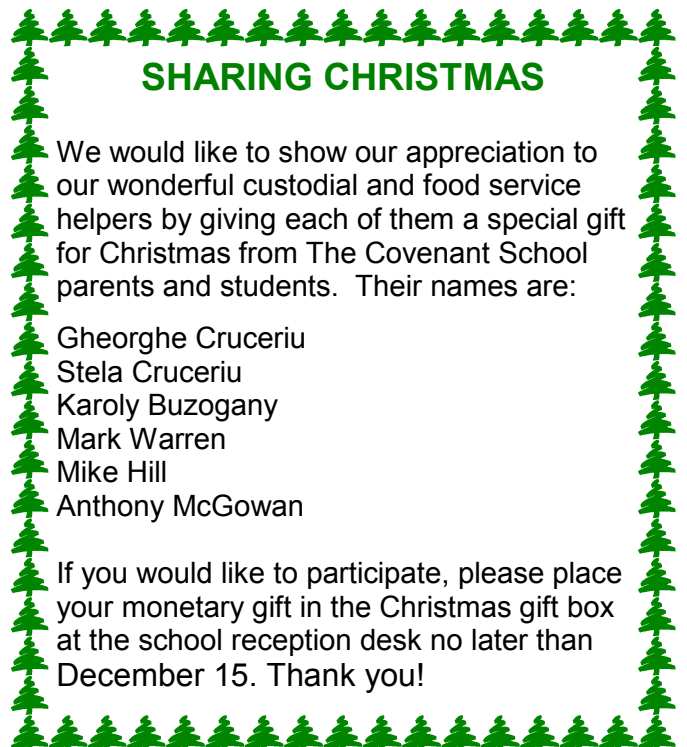
**Registration is Now Open for the ING KiDS Rock Nashville: Fri., April 27, 2012.** Kids can be part of the Country Music Marathon & 1/2 Marathon excitement by participating in the 11th annual ING KiDS ROCK Nashville. ING KiDS ROCK is a non-timed, non-competitive event for children in grades K – 7! Questions can be directed to Pastor Sullivan at [msullivan@thecovenantschool.com](mailto:msullivan@thecovenantschool.com). For more information and to register, click <http://ingkidsrock.competitor.com/event-info/nashville/>.

# Sharing SPree

## The Covenant School Partners with SharingSpree.com

Our school can now benefit from great deals on SharingSpree.com! SharingSpree.com offers a main deal (just like Groupon) and two side deals that are emailed to members every day. What sets SharingSpree.com apart from other online daily deals is that they give 10% of the sales to non-profit partners. When The Covenant School is the non-profit partner of the day, 10% of all sales will go to TCS! Also, when you register, please indicate that TCS is your preferred non-profit organization. This will ensure that TCS receives credit for every purchase that you make. On days that TCS is not the featured non-profit, we will still receive 5% of the sales from every purchase made by someone who has selected TCS in their profile.

To sign up for SharingSpree.com so you can start receiving great deals and earning money for Covenant, go to <http://sharingspree.com/Registration/?nid=c75c39ef-99bf-4f47-9b7c-87d41b46b67d>



**SHARING CHRISTMAS**

We would like to show our appreciation to our wonderful custodial and food service helpers by giving each of them a special gift for Christmas from The Covenant School parents and students. Their names are:

- Gheorghe Cruceriu
- Stela Cruceriu
- Karoly Buzogany
- Mark Warren
- Mike Hill
- Anthony McGowan

If you would like to participate, please place your monetary gift in the Christmas gift box at the school reception desk no later than December 15. Thank you!

## THANK YOU!

We are grateful to Stacy Johnson, Chair, for organizing and leading the highly successful Classic Cookie fundraiser.

Congratulations to the third and fourth grade classes who were awarded a pizza party for 100% participation.

## BOX TOPS UPDATE

- \* Class contest ended December 1
- \* The winning class will be announced next week
- \* The prize for the winning class is a movie-watching party (teacher-approved)
- \* Proceeds for this 2011-12 school year to be used for new gym equipment to benefit ALL students

Thanks to all of you for your participation!

## FRANKLIN CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

We are doing something brand new this year as part of our on-going marketing efforts to promote our great school! **We will have a booth at the annual Dickens of a Christmas festival in downtown Franklin on Saturday, December 10 from 10am - 5pm.** Please go to this link to read about all of the activities:

<http://www.historicfranklin.com/events/dickens-of-a-christmas>.

We will have a 10x10 tent in the sponsorship area around the square close to Mellow Mushroom. We will also be offering complimentary hot chocolate and Victorian-themed cookies or biscuits, as they say. And, of course, we will be providing lots of information about TCS. Each year over 50,000 people attend this event so it's a great way to reach a lot of people. In addition to our booth, some of our 4th grade students will be singing Christmas carols between 11am - 1pm, and helping us offer hot chocolate and hand out balloons.

So, please feel free to stop by our booth and support the school! I will be there most of the day, along with Taylor, Diana and Dr. Graham joining me at different times during the day. This is a really fun event with different vendors, lots of Victorian costumes and entertainment.

—Tara Silvestri

Spread your wings!



## ENRICHMENT ACADEMY NEWS for Spring Semester

TCS DANCE on Monday afternoons with Mrs. Becky Sullivan

January 30 through April 30 for Grades 1-3 at 3:00 p.m. Fee, \$120 (2 openings)

**NEW 8-week Class for Grades 4-6 @ 4:00 p.m.**  
February 27 through April 30 - Fee, \$80

KNIGHT WRITERS for Grades 2-6 on Monday afternoons, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

January 9 through March 12 – Fee, \$50

DRAMA KNIGHTS for Grades 2-6 on Tuesday afternoons, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

January 10 through February 12 – Fee, \$40

MUSIC FUN! Class for 2-4 yr. olds and parent on Wednesday mornings @ 8:30 a.m.

**12-weeks, February 1 through April 25, \$150 fee includes tuition & home kit**

MUSIC STUDY: INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE & MUSIC THEORY in Piano, Violin, Cello **will expand to Monday afternoons, 3:00-5:30**

***Please let Mrs. Magyar know if your child will be continuing their INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC STUDY in piano, violin or guitar for Spring Semester.***

*For Spring Semester, we are open to sponsoring a 60-minute PERCUSSION CLASS on Tuesday afternoons with Mr. Michael Boris, who taught a four-week percussion workshop for our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade class this fall.*

***This “pilot class” would be for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> Graders. 3 student minimum/6 student maximum needed for the class to be offered.***

*Cost would be set based on number of students participating. If interested, please contact [mmagyar@thecovenantschool.com](mailto:mmagyar@thecovenantschool.com)*

**You may pick up a list of all ENRICHMENT ACADEMY activities for Spring Semester from the circle desk.**