



# KnightlyNews

WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 25, 2009

## YEARBOOK PHOTOS WILL BE TAKEN WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30!

Tiffany Dupree will be taking photos for the school yearbook next Wednesday morning immediately after Chapel. Formal uniforms are required. If your child is sick or absent that day, there will be another opportunity on Wednesday, October 7. Parents will receive a photo proof and order form within two weeks after the photos are taken.

## Top Ten Reasons to Give to the Annual Fund

- ◆ Reason #8: A gift to the Annual Fund is a visible demonstration of your commitment to the mission of the school.
- ◆ Reason #7: You get a free car decal with the new school logo!

Make your gift or pledge online at  
[www.thecovenantschool.com/giving](http://www.thecovenantschool.com/giving)

## SAVE THE DATE!

**October 11** is "Covenant School Sunday" at Covenant Presbyterian Church. Plan now to attend this special event!

## SCHOOL SPIRIT ITEMS AVAILABLE

The Covenant School Booster Store will be open next Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 8-9 a.m. in the church parlor. New Covenant water bottles will be available for only \$5! Don't forget to pick up your hoodies and jackets for fall weather!!

TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

## ADMISSION OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, November 12  
9:30 a.m.

Tours every Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

For more information, contact  
Diana Apple at  
[dapple@thecovenantschool.com](mailto:dapple@thecovenantschool.com)

## SCHOOL DRESS CODE REMINDER

Please be mindful of school uniform requirements. We will be monitoring more closely for dress code violations.

# GET READY!

Our Fall Fundraiser sale dates are

Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> - Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>!

Here's just an idea of all the great things in store...

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## **SALLY FOSTER...UP TO 50% OF EVERY PURCHASE GOES DIRECTLY TO OUR SCHOOLS!**

Sally Foster offers premium giftwrap and gifts for everyone! And EVERYTHING is \$20 or less! They also offer convenient online ordering, so be sure to email your friends and family. Detailed information for online ordering is included in the sales packet. [www.sallyfoster.com](http://www.sallyfoster.com)

## **ENTERTAINMENT BOOK...SAVE UP TO 50% ON THE THINGS YOU DO EVERY DAY AND**

HELP YOUR SCHOOL – Most of us already buy the Entertainment book each year, so help TCS with your purchase of just \$20 a book...and save hundreds of dollars for yourself, friends and family. Additional books can be ordered by using the order form in the back of the Entertainment Book. [www.sellersection.entertainment.com](http://www.sellersection.entertainment.com)

**UGLY MUG COFFEE...40% OF SALES GOES BACK TO TCS!** Ugly Mug Coffee is a fair-trade company whose goal is to help coffee farmers feed and clothe their families, as well as receive adequate healthcare and educational opportunities for their kids. This is definitely a program you can feel good about supporting...all the while helping your school at the same time!

[www.uglymugcoffee.com](http://www.uglymugcoffee.com)

## **GOAL FOR 2009 - \$12,800**

By purchasing products from any of the three (3) fundraisers above, you'll be helping the Covenant School acquire...

- Professional development for teachers
  - Cutting-edge technology
  - Student enrichment programs
  - New curriculum offerings

**NOTE: Please feel free to write one combined check if you have orders from more than one fundraiser.**

## **Report from SAIS/SACS Accreditation Committee**

### **JoAnn Young, Chair**

During the month of September, Michelle Cochran and JoAnn Young conducted focus groups (assisted by Katie Welch and Diana Apple) comprised of PreK-Grade 2 parents, Grades 3-6 parents, parents of alumni and alumni. The parents that were invited to attend the focus groups of current parents were picked randomly from a list of Covenant School families. We made sure that the list of parents included not only church members, but a sample of the various denominations represented in our school community. We invited all of the alumni parents and students. The individuals attending the focus groups were given the opportunity to answer the same SWOC ANALYSIS questions as those presented to the SAIS/SACS committee members, Covenant Board members, a former head of school, and one church pastor. JoAnn recorded the information as it was obtained and sent a copy to each participant for verification and validation. Each individual was given an opportunity to include any additional information after receiving a copy of the data. The information provided by all of the individuals involved in the focus groups meeting will be given to the committees and will be used to develop a narrative assessment that will help our group create the goals for our five year strategic plan.

Here's what stands out from parent conversations-per JoAnn Young's perspective: Overall, parents have been very supportive of our mission and of our program. There is overwhelming support for the continuance of daily chapel. Alumni parents are pleased with their child's understanding of and application of Biblical worldview as well as their child's ongoing intentional acts focused on becoming an image bearer of Christ. Current parents appreciate the way teachers incorporate the mission into the daily classroom activities that are planned. But parents also voice an appreciation of the opportunities that teachers capture that occur spontaneously for the students to extend the values stated in the mission. Some parents voice a need to put more emphasis on academics in the mission statement. Some are satisfied with the way the mission stands and understand that the Biblical worldview includes excellence in academics. Current parents and the alumni students suggest developing more opportunities for the students at the upper level such as development of a leadership program, mentoring programs, clubs, athletics, and service programs. Parents voice their appreciation for the emphasis on fine and performing arts and want that area to continue to grow. Alumni report that they are doing well academically in school-many are in honors classes and continue to make the honor roll at their new schools. The alumni are eager participants in extra-curricular activities.

We want to thank all of the participants for providing this important evaluation of our school. Please continue to keep our efforts in your prayers throughout the year.