

Here's the latest news and information from Grace Academy!

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**Celebrating the Blue and Green.**

## The Principal Observes

### Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday, but it is rooted in a deep understanding of the Bible. The original settlers, the Pilgrims, made a long journey to arrive on the shores of what we now know as America and immediately faced the prospect of death from the harsh weather, starvation, sickness, attack, or countless other dangers (i.e., William Bradford's wife fell into the water and drowned while disembarking from the Mayflower). The original group that sailed from England in September 1620 had been reduced by half by March of the following year. Farming and fishing began slowly and would not have been successful without the assistance of the Native Americans who taught the settlers techniques that they needed to survive in the new land. Despite all the obstacles, by 1621, the settlers were established enough to produce sufficient crops and store enough food to make it through another harsh New England winter. After this first fruitful harvest, the colonists and 90 of the local Native Americans celebrated with a feast that we know as Thanksgiving. They did not view this success as a reason to boast, but as a reason to praise Almighty God who had allowed them to survive.

The Pilgrims had a God-centered view of life that led them to credit God with their survival. Certainly, there were many different means that God had used to ensure their safety from one day to the next, yet behind them was the providence of an all-powerful God. We have much for which to give thanks and we should join with the Psalmist,

“Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!  
 Serve the Lord with gladness!  
 Come into His presence with singing!  
 Know that the Lord, He is God!  
 It is He who made us, and we are His;  
 we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.  
 Enter His gates with thanksgiving,  
 and His courts with praise!  
 Give thanks to Him; bless His name!  
 For the Lord is good;  
 His steadfast love endures forever,  
 and His faithfulness to all generations.”  
 (Psalm 100)

## Calendar

**Green: Elementary Events**

**Red: Secondary Events**

**Blue: All Other Events**

Scholastic Book Fair, **November 12-20**, [Read more...](#)

No School [Elementary](#), Parent/Teacher Conferences, **November 15-16**, [Read more...](#)

**Secondary Conferences, November 16, 5-7**, [Read more...](#)

Grandparents' Day, **November 22**, [Read more...](#)

11:45 Dismissal, **November 22**

No School, **November 23-24**, Happy Thanksgiving

K-3rd Grade Concert, **December 4**, [Read more...](#)

**Secondary Concert, December 5**, [Read more...](#)

PK Concert, **December 6**, [Read more...](#)

4th-6th Grade Concert, **December 12**, [Read more...](#)

11:45 Dismissal, **December 15**, **Merry Christmas!**

School Resumes, **Tuesday, January 2**

For the entire calendar, including events for 2017-18, see the Grace Academy Events [calendar](#) and Grace Academy Athletics [calendar](#).

## Impact Student of the Month

Every month our elementary teachers honor one student from each class and our secondary teachers choose one boy and one girl in junior high and in high school as Impact Students of the Month. These students are chosen after demonstrating one or more of the distinctives including Integrity, Ministry, Purity, Accountability, Conformity to God's Word, and Teachability. Click [here](#) to see our Secondary Impact Students of the Month.

## Volunteer of the Month

## Academics

### Grading and GPA

It is the philosophy of Grace Academy that grades generally reflect the amount of knowledge acquired, not the amount of effort a student has put forth. [Read more...](#)

### Honor Roll

Congratulations to our students who made the [Honor Roll](#) for the first quarter!

## Student Activities

### Spelling Bee Finalists

The Spelling Bee was a tremendous event! Our top two finalists from each grade will now advance to the ACSI District Spelling Bee on February 9. Click [here](#) to see who our finalists are!

### High School Snow Retreat

A not-to-be-missed event, the Grace Academy Snow Retreat 2018 is an opportunity to create memories to last a lifetime. [Read more...](#)

## Athletics

### Free Admission to Home HS Basketball Games for Grace Academy Students with Student ID

We are excited to announce that beginning this year all Grace Academy Students can attend any high school home basketball game at no cost! [Read more...](#)

### Basketball Season is Here!

Junior high and high school basketball practices began November 13. Practice times have changed from previous years so please note the practice times listed. [Read more...](#)

### Basketball Volunteers Needed

Do you want to see some basketball games for free? A variety of volunteer positions are open to help staff our basketball games this winter. [Read more...](#)

## Christmas Shopping!

How does your Christmas list look? Do you want an easy way to send gifts long distance? Try shopping for SCRIP at Grace Academy. [Read more...](#)

## Yearbook Advertising

The yearbook class is selling ad space to parents that will include whatever photograph you would like and a brief message to your child. [Read more...](#)

