Here's the latest news and information from Grace Academy!   View this email in your browser

High School Snow Retreat is always a highlight of the year!

Pictured: Blaire, Aeris, John, and Kevin

The Principal Observes

Prayer

Christians pray. From the first moments of their new birth, Christians are praying. They pray to express their dependence on their Heavenly Father and their absolute need for Him, first for their salvation, and then for their daily needs. Sometimes people are not sure how to pray, so here is some help.

The best and simplest way to guide people into prayer is the acronym ACTS. The A stands for adoration and refers to our words that express our adoration of God (1 Timothy 1:17). He is far above our understanding and provides so much for us that He deserves our constant worship. Though our words are feeble in comparison to God's greatness, we must praise Him.

The C refers to confession. Christians know that sin is part of their lives and hate it. The proper response to sin is not to hide it or try to make ourselves better, it is to confess it to God by agreeing with Him in regards to its evil. Of course Christians try to avoid sin, but the first step is to confess it and to ask God for forgiveness (1 John 1:8-9). In order for our prayers to be effective with God, we need to agree with Him regarding our sin and then pray in confession from a pure heart.

The T calls Christians to thank God for all the benefits He gives us (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Thanks is distinctive from the A, adoration, though people often confuse the two. We adore God just because He exists, for His incomparable attributes and His being. We adore Him for the things that were true even before He created humans and the world. In contrast, the T, or thanksgiving, urges us to thank Him for everything He does that relates to humanity. It is focused not so much on His attributes, but rather on His deeds, especially those that benefit man in general and our lives specifically.

Finally, the S stands for supplication (1 Timothy 2:1-2; Philippians 4:6-7). It is the first thing people think about when they think of prayer because it is petitioning God, the only One capable of fixing the problems we face, for His intervention in our affairs. Supplication is last because before we make requests of God, we need to ensure that our heart is pure (Psalm 15:1-2). We are supplicants, asking God regarding our personal concerns and needs, making requests for others in our family or wider community.

Regarding prayer, I ask that you pray for our school and for Christian education on February 18. When you do, you will be joining with thousands of other ACSI schools on this day set aside as a day to pray for Christian schools. Your prayers may begin with Grace Academy, and then expand to all Christian schools worldwide. We should ask God to advance the Kingdom of God through Christian education, to provide opportunities to transform the hearts and minds of children, and to use teachers to provide education grounded in biblical truth. There are thousands of schools just like ours, and all of them need God's blessing. For more information you can follow #schoolsthatpray.

Calendar

Green: Elementary Events

Red: Secondary Events
Blue: All Other Events

Elementary Red, White, Pink Dress-up, **February 13**
No School, Presidents' Day Observed, **February 14-17**
School Speech Meet, **February 18, 6 p.m.**
HS Track/Golf Practice Begins, **March 2**
ACSI District Speech Meet, **March 13**
JH Track Practice Begins, **March 30**
11:40 Dismissal, End of Quarter, **March 27**
JH Lock-in, **March 27, 12-6 p.m.**
NO School Spring Break, **April 6-10**

For the entire calendar, including events for 2019-20, see the Grace Academy Events **calendar** and Grace Academy Athletics calendar.

Elementary IMPACT Student of the Month

Kinsley Lockwood
Cadance Hall
Anderson Albro
Sophia Lopez
Ezekiel Hume
Nolah Sainfils
Elizabeth Nysether
Nicholas Christiansen
Adrian Jorgenson
Lorien Ashby

Secondary IMPACT Student of the Month

Gavin George
Emily Hegnes
Heidi Impola
Rj Ustaris

ACSI District Spelling Bee Champions

Congratulations to all of our ACSI District Spelling Bee contestants! There was stiff competition as we competed with students from over 10 schools. Grace Academy placed in two of the grade-level competitions and these two went on to compete in the championship round!

Caitlin Zyskowski - Second place for 6th Grade
Elijah Brent - Second place for 7th Grade

Well done, everyone!

Grace Cafe Online Valentine's Special

Want a way to say "I love you" with a surprise each day up until Valentine's Day? Grace Café is once again offering an online-only special Valentine cookie for $1.50, February 3-13, for all grades. Students will receive their cookie at lunch.

Golf Season Coming Up

$175 Re-Enrollment Fee Until May 1

Beginning February 1, the enrollment fee is $175 with a $525 family maximum until May 1, when it will increase to $225 with no family maximum. The Student Fees and Tuition for 2020-21 can be found on ParentsWeb by selecting the Resource Documents Tab.

If your child's class fills up before enrolling, your name will be put in a wait pool, and names will be taken from there to fill any spots that open. Enrollment for grades 1-12 opened to the community on February 1. Classes are already filling so we strongly encourage you to enroll now.

SCRIP

Make a date with your children to celebrate the end of the quarter and a job well done. Buy SCRIP for Cold Stone Creamery, Burger King or Dairy Queen and make the date count double! You can buy SCRIP on Tuesdays in the school office before and after school. To order online at www.shopwithscrip.com call Terri Lucero for the enrollment code.

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