

April 22, 2009

### **WHY A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Your child spends over 16,000 hours in class between the ages of 5 and 18 ~ that breaks down to over **1230 hours in class each year**. At Oostburg Christian your student is under the influence of Christian teachers, whose goal is to teach necessary skills for our students to serve God throughout their lives.

In celebration of ***Christian Education week***, we would like to have you share with us why you have chosen a Christian education for your child. How has Oostburg Christian School been a blessing to your family? Do you have a favorite passage that speaks of Christian Education? Please submit your comments to the office, or share with Mr. Adams (e-mail [bobadams@wi.rr.com](mailto:bobadams@wi.rr.com)) so that we can include these comments in the blue note.

"Love the Lord Your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.  
These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.  
**Impress them upon your children.**" Deut. 6:5-7a.

### **NIGHT OF PRAISE**

Please join me in praising God for the Night of Praise this past Saturday evening. Songs, games, a presentation of the "Friend of Christian School Award" to Vonnie and Duane DuMez, and an offering for our new technology program all were part of the evening. We thank Bonnie VanEss and her helpers for all the work done in setting up this enjoyable evening. We also thank Heather Johnson for her excellent job as emcee. Over \$2,000 has been collected towards our new technology curriculum and two new projectors for the classrooms. However, we still need \$400 to purchase the final projector. If you could not attend Saturday night and would like to contribute to this worthy cause please send your donation to school. Simply designate your gift for "The Night of Praise."

### **INTENT CHANGES?**

Enrollment intent forms for the 2009 – 2010 school year were sent out and returned over one month ago. Since that time some families have had changes in their employment. If your intent has changed since our pre-registration forms were sent out, please send a note to the office. Please let us know if our Tuition Assistance Plan can be of help to you. We do not want to lose any families due to the economic difficulties facing our people. Please request a TAP form and send it in as soon as possible. The Board understands there will be greater tuition assistance needs for our upcoming year and is planning for it.

### **ASSOCIATION MEETING**

Please set aside the evening of Tuesday, May 19, for our Annual Association Meeting. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM, and we will be seeking God's will concerning the future of OCS. The meeting activities will consist of election of school board members, approving the general fund budget and the new tuition scale, and the choosing of GRACE Board members. All families will receive an agenda in the near future. All parents or guardians with children enrolled in OCS are automatically Association members. All supporters who have paid the Association Dues or contributed at least \$100 to the school and filled out an Association Membership application are also members. Only Association members may vote at this meeting. If you need an agenda or an Association Membership application please call the school office, and we will send you one when they become available. Please be in prayer for our school in the days leading up to this important meeting. Thank you.

### **AFTERSCHOOL CARE AND 3K PROGRAM**

Last week a survey was attached to the Blue Note asking for input concerning our Afterschool Care program and our proposed 3K program. Please fill this out and return it as soon as possible. If you do not have a survey and need

one, please pick one up in the school office or send a note with your child requesting the survey. We will send a new survey to you. Thank you.

### **MUSIC NOTES**

The video tapes of the K-5 Musical are ready. If you ordered a copy you may pay for and pick it up in the school office. Thank you, Mr. Sliemers, for making the additional copies!

The Jr. High Mini Music Fest. will take place next Thursday evening, April 30, beginning at 6:30 PM. All Jr. High students will perform their solos and ensembles, and the band and choir will also perform. Schedules will be available next week.

Information and schedules for the Wisconsin Christian Schools Music Festival on Friday, May 8, will be available next week.

### **MAY / JUNE HOT LUNCH ORDER FORM**

This order form was attached to last week's Blue Note and is due back NO LATER THAN next Wednesday, April 29. Thank you.

### **OPEN GYM**

The 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade boy's open gym for this week has been changed to tomorrow, Thursday, April 23.

### **ATTENTION... ALL OOSTBURG CHRISTIAN SCHOOL MOMS!**

Please join us tomorrow in the school library at 10:30 a.m. for a time of prayer for our school and your child. If you have little ones, we have FREE childcare. Infants are cared for in the 1<sup>st</sup> CRC church nursery by Krista Gulke and older ones can run and play in the gym with Anthony Walvoort. We will end promptly at 11:45 a.m. There are only 3 more Mom's In Touch (MIT) meetings left this year! Please come see what it's all about. We meet tomorrow, April 23, May 14, and May 28. Please join us for this encouraging and fulfilling time to draw near to God. Please call Sue Dykstra 564-4212 to sign up your child for FREE childcare. Lamentations 2:19 "Arise, cry out in the night, as the watches of the night begin; pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord. Lift up your hands to him for the lives of your children, who faint from hunger at the head of every street".

### **ATTN 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENTS**

The WIAA requires all high school athletes to have a physical every other year. Physicals received after April 1, 2008 are good for the 2009-10 school year. Current physicals are required before an athlete may begin practice for any sport. The St. Nicholas Hospital Athletic Health Center will again be conducting WIAA pre-season physicals for those planning to participate in athletics at SCCHS during the 2009-10 school year. Each Sheboygan high school receives a limited number of physical times, so athletes planning to attend SCCHS who need a physical should call Sheboygan County Christian HS (458-9981) before Thursday, April 24 (TOMORROW). The physicals will be done on May 11 and May 18 from 5:40 p.m. - 8:20 p.m. and cost \$20/athlete. This money is returned to the school for use in its athletic program. Once you have secured a physical day and time, an information packet will be given to the athlete. This packet will contain forms to complete and information about the physical. If you have any questions, please call Deb at 458-9981.

### **PROMOTION**

The best promotional tool Oostburg Christian School has is the good words of parents who send their children to our school. Parents, keep up the great work! We are currently in contact with new families who are considering OCS for their children. Remember, if you promote our school

and a family decides to enroll their child because of the contact they have had with you; you will receive a \$750 credit towards your tuition. You may designate this credit to the new family, share it with the new family, or use it totally towards your own tuition. Please join the school board in praying and working so new families can receive Christ-centered, quality education for their children.

#### **IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

Students currently in grades 5 & 6 should have brought an information sheet home recently regarding immunization requirements and clinics for the upcoming school year. Parents, please ask them for this sheet so you can have your child's immunizations up-to-date for the 2009/2010 school year. If you did not receive this information from your child, please call the school office.

#### **PART-TIME STUDENTS AT O.C.S.**

Do you know parents who home-school their children? Are these parents aware of the fact that OCS accepts part-time students in grades 6-8? Please let your home-school friends know that OCS accepts part-time students in all middle school classes. We currently have two part-time students in our middle school. Both students take part in our science program. With small class sizes this is an ideal opportunity for home-school parents to have their children receive distinctively Christian, quality education outside the home.

#### **4K REGISTRATION**

Although final registration for grades K – 8 takes place in early August, registration for our 4K class has already begun. Please come in and pick up the information needed to register your child. We will decide on the number of sessions to open based on the number of children enrolled. Those registering first will have the first opportunity to choose the session they want if we do have more than one session. Please call the school office for more information (564-2664). Thank you.

#### **TUITION ASSISTANCE**

Oostburg Christian School is partnering with the Christian School Tuition Service of Fulton, Illinois, to determine how best to distribute the school's tuition assistance to those seeking help paying tuition expenses for 2009 – 2010. This "outside" service can impartially evaluate family needs. The only charge is \$15 per family payable to Christian School Tuition Service and sent in with the application. Please call the school office and ask for an application if you so desire. All applications should be sent in by April 30, 2009. Please remember that families currently receiving aid through the TAP fund must fill out an application and use this service if they wish to continue that assistance in 2009 – 2010.

# **The GRACE Place**

#### **NIGHT OF PRAISE – APRIL 18, 2009**

Our Night of Praise was a wonderful success. Duane and Vonnie DuMez received the Friend of Christian Education award, students participated in a rousing question and answer time, students were featured on a power point, there was great singing, and our offering was just a little over \$2,000 for technology here at school. Thanks to all of you who participated, worked, and supported this event!

## **SCRIP**

May and June mean Mother's Day and Father's Day are coming! Check out the gift cards for those fathers, mothers, and grandparents that you find hard to buy for sometime, AND help your tuition account—payouts on accounts are in June!!

## **RUN – JOG –WALKATHON –May 15, 2009**

**Congrats to the Third Grade students for bringing in the most per participant so far and were the winners of the pizza party last Friday! The Second Grade was not far behind. Keep up the good work—Blue Harbor looms!!**

## **Spaghetti Supper – May 15, 2009**

This delightful meal will be served from 4:00-6:30 following the Run-Jog-Walkathon. Pasta gives you great energy for some easy riding the next day!!

## **Unity Bike Ride—May 16, 2009**

We encourage our Junior High students to participate in both the RJW and the Unity Bike Ride: All 6-8 students who raise \$35 or more in the Run-Jog-Walkathon will be able to go on the Unity Bike Ride. You must fill out a registration form and turn that in before the ride, but we encourage your participation.

Families: You'll be interested in the Soccer Ride. Several parents asked about a Soccer Ride last year in connection with the Unity Ride—this would involve parents whose students were playing soccer during the morning, but wanted to get in on some of the fun of this event and take a short ride. We will offer the opportunity to have a Soccer Ride—families are encouraged to be at school, eat some lunch, and be ready to ride between 12:00 and 1:00. We will keep the rest stop at Smies Beach open if you choose the 10 or 15-mile ride and the rest stop at Belgium open if you choose the 35-mile ride (straight down the trail) until 2:00. Pre-registration for this later start would be most helpful as we plan the day. Registration forms are on the website.

## **Spring Fry—May 16, 2009**

We are serving brats and hamburgers straight off the grill on Saturday, May 16, during the Bike Ride! Attached is a donation list of groceries that will help tremendously in keeping costs down for this event. Call Teresa VerVelde today: 254-1335.

## **REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST/CARWASH**

Show mom how much you love her! The high school Youth Group at Oostburg First Christian Reformed Church will be hosting a Mother's Day breakfast and car wash on Saturday, May 9, from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. at First CRC. Treat your mom to a delicious breakfast while our eager young people freshen up the shine on her car. All donations will be used to support our Youth Group's 2010 mission trip to help Dave and Jan Veldhorst in Bangkok, Thailand.

### **CAKE FUNDRAISER FOR THAILAND MISSION TEAM**

The Thailand mission trip team of the Oostburg First Christian Reformed Church Youth Group is selling party cakes for any occasion. Looking for a Mother's Day cake, birthday cake, graduation

cake, or Father's Day cake? Call Doris Hendrikse at 564-2460 to order the cake of your choosing for \$20.00. Thank you for supporting the on-going work of Dave and Jan Veldhorst in Thailand.

#### OOSTBURG PUBLIC SCHOOL FAMILY FUN NIGHT

This event is being held this Friday, April 24, from 6:00 – 7:30 PM at the Oostburg Elementary School Gym. Cost is \$5 per family.

#### COACHES NEEDED

Sheboygan County Christian High School is seeking coaches for its fall sports. Girls' varsity and JV volleyball coaches and boys' varsity and JV soccer coaches are needed. Please request more information and/or an application by calling Deb at 458-9981 or e-mailing [dvandrunen@scchs.com](mailto:dvandrunen@scchs.com).

#### OOSTBURG YOUTH FOOTBALL

Mandatory registration and parent/coaches meeting for this program will take place on Monday, April 27, at 7:00 PM at the Oostburg High School auditorium. All youth in grades 5, 6, 7 or 8 next fall who are interested should attend this meeting with a parent or guardian. For more information, visit [www.oostburgfootball.org](http://www.oostburgfootball.org) or contact Bob Launer at 920-207-9387 or [rlaunder@wi/rr.com](mailto:rlaunder@wi/rr.com).

#### BIBLE BEE

There are information flyers in the school office regarding the Shelby Kennedy Foundation very first National Bible Bee ([www.biblebee.org](http://www.biblebee.org)), a Bible memory competition for children and youth from ages 7 to 18.

#### SUMMER SCHOOL

A class listing and registration form is available in the O.C.S. office for the Cedar Grove/Belgium School's summer school program. The deadline to register is April 24.

There is also a brochure available in the school office for summer courses offered at the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh.

#### CAMP CALVIN

An informational/registration brochure for Camp Calvin (June 22-27, 2009) is available in the O.C.S. office.

#### DORDT DISCOVERY DAYS

Dordt Discovery Days, our summer camp for students who have completed 6th, 7th or 8th grades, is set for **June 22-26, 2009**. The week offers some exciting new classes like How do They do That?, Radio Drama, and Beginning Knitting. Returning favorites include War and Soldiering, Design on a Dime, and Digital Scrapbooking. More than 30 courses will be posted in early March at [www.dordt.edu/events/ddd](http://www.dordt.edu/events/ddd) with registration opening at 12:00:01 a.m. on March 25. Registration fees are \$300 and three attendance options remain: Day Campers (9 a.m.-4 p.m.), Commuters (9 a.m.-9 p.m.) and Residents (students stay in a residence hall Mon-Thurs. evenings). If you have questions, call 712-722-6029 and ask to speak with Dianne DeWitt.

#### GREEN BAY PACKERS YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMP

Please check out [www.packerscamps.com](http://www.packerscamps.com) for information on community-based non-contact football camps for kids ages 6 to 14 featuring Green Bay Packers heroes and professional educators.

#### GREEN BAY PREVEA TITLETOWN 3-ON-3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Registration for this event which will be held on May 30 is available in the school office. Mail-in registration deadline is May 6, online registration deadline is May 11.

**CALENDAR**

April 23

7<sup>th</sup> Grade to Mead Library

Mom's In Touch 10:30

April 29

Hamburger Lunch

April 30

OCS Mini Music Festival