



BLESSING BLAST

"You are the God who works wonders; You have made known Your strength among the peoples." Psalm 77:14

February 1, 2019

This Week:

-Hoop-a-Thon

Feb. 7th @ 9:00 am

Coming Up:

-NO SCHOOL

Feb. 15 & 18

-ACSI Creative Writing Festival

Feb 15

-Society Meeting

Feb. 25 @ 6:00

One of the things I enjoy the most about my job is being able to visit classrooms unannounced from time to time and observe teachers engaging with students in that wonderful journey of discovery and learning. My work day is usually pretty hectic, and sometimes I feel like a circus performer spinning multiple plates all at once while riding a unicycle blindfolded. Getting out of my office and into a classroom is definitely far more relaxing and enjoyable.

For the most part, my visits are informal and unannounced. They get me out of my office, but also provide useful information for teacher feedback, and in some cases, a final evaluation. My staff are used to this and usually very welcoming. They are proud of the work they do and rarely give me a glance as I try to slide unobtrusively into an empty chair near the back of their classroom. If students are working independently or in small groups, I'll sometimes walk quietly around to look over their shoulders, or blend into whatever activity is underway. It's a good way to learn first-hand what's going on in their learning.

On occasion I find myself being drawn into a lesson and end up putting away my little notepad to simply watch and listen in fascination. Such was the case today when I wandered into Mrs. Warner's 9th grade Algebra class. To be honest, I was never a great math student myself, being far more interested in sports and the social element in high school rather than academics. I did manage to get B's and C's my senior year, but only because I was blessed with a teacher who was also my basketball coach.

Today in Mrs. Warner's class, however, I was completely absorbed in a math lesson about multiplying monomials by polynomials (or something like that), by a teacher who is both inspiring and in sync with her students. What might have put me sound asleep as a 16-year-old, now seemed like one of the most engaging experiences of my life.

What made the difference? Part of it, I suppose, is that I'm older and more mature (although my wife would have a second opinion on that). But the reality is that this particular teacher has a special connection with her students, and strives to make each lesson engaging and useful. Like all NCCS teachers, she is loving, nurturing, knowledgeable and dedicated to meeting the needs of each and every student. We are family, and like most families, there is a bond that sticks and stays. The students in Mrs. Warner's classroom today (including myself) were completely engaged in learning, and actually enjoying the process.

I praise God for all our teachers and what they provide for our learning community. Perhaps if I had been at NCCS when I was a high school student, I wouldn't have needed my basketball coach to get me through.

Parent's Night Out

Valentines special...Want a night out? Need someone to watch your children? NCCS is offering a "Parents Night Out" on February 13th, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Several hard-working and responsible adults and high school students will watch your children for a date night or just time to relax. The children must be in grades K-6 (7th and 8th graders will be accepted if accompanied by a younger sibling). Activities include crafts, sports, and a movie (either *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* or *Incredibles 2*). Cost is \$10 per kid (\$8 if three or more). All proceeds will be donated to our NCCS students attending the NOE Missions Trip in June 2019.



NCCS Open House– SAVE THE DATE!

NCCS will be hosting their first ever K-12 Open House on Thursday, March 7th, between 4:00-7:00 PM. We're excited to spend time showcasing our Christ-centered learning environment. It will be an opportunity to meet and talk with teachers and students, as well as hear about our college preparatory and biblically based curriculum.



This event will be open to current, as well as perspective NCCS parents, so please join us as we discuss next steps for your child, meet teachers, and find out more about what makes North Clackamas Christian one of the top 20 private schools in the entire state of Oregon.

Grandparent's Day– SAVE THE DATE!

It is that time of year again – GRANDPARENTS DAY! Please save the date of March 15th for the celebration of those people we love so much. Along with the celebration of Grandparents Day comes our Scholastic Book Fair, which will be March 11-15. Ann Davis, our librarian, is looking for volunteers for Wish List Day, which will be Monday, March 11th from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Come join the fun, and hang out with our wonderful kids in the new library building.

Change in Society Meeting Date

There's been a change in the February Society meeting date. The new date is **Monday, February 25th, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** The Parent Teacher Fellowship is introducing a new Fellowship Night as part of our Society meeting and will be hosting a potluck dinner starting at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Society meeting itself. We're excited to see everyone there.

Thank you, ACSI Volunteers!

A HUGE thank you to Denise Thornton and Annette Humphrey for volunteering at the ACSI Spelling Bee on Monday! We truly could not have participated without their help.

3rd Graders Raise Money for Newborns

Mrs. Kelley's third grade class raised a total of \$231 on Thursday by selling Rice Krispies Treats. This money will go towards making blankets for newborn babies at The Birth Place in the Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center. Students will make the blankets and deliver them to The Birth Place once they are completed. They had so much fun with this project, and while they are not finished with our social studies unit, it was great to be able to create real world connections with their curriculum.



Hoop-A-Thon Next Week!

On February 7th NCCS is holding its annual Hoop-A-Thon fundraiser throughout the day. At designated times, students in pre-school through 3rd grade will be throwing a ball at a target, while 4th through 12th graders will be shooting baskets from varying distances.

Fundraising packets must be turned in soon. If we reach our fundraising goal of \$10,000, students will get to throw a pie in the face of Mr. Tutty, Mr. Rice, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Falatico.

Prizes will also be awarded for each age bracket, and the class with the highest earning percentage will receive either a root beer float or pizza party. Let's get those pledges in!

Mission Statement

"North Clackamas Christian School **partners** with Christian parents in providing our students with a biblically-based education that **pursues excellence** in spiritual, academic, artistic, & athletic programs, training them **to serve Christ** daily."