



# **GRACEFUL WINGS** *December 3, 2010*

**Grace Christian Academy's Bi-Weekly Newsletter**

[www.gracechristianacademybc.org](http://www.gracechristianacademybc.org)  
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**This newsletter is your official notification of school information and important dates. It is the parents/guardians responsibility to know the information contained herein.**

## **KINDERGARTEN**

The Advent season is a time of waiting and preparing to celebrate Jesus' birth. Each morning during Bible time we light the first of the four candles on our Advent wreath. Together we think and share a way to change our hearts during this holy season. During math we are learning how to compute addition story problems. The children are beginning to use the words plus, equal and equation when working on these problems. This week I am sending home "I Learn To Read Books". The books need to be returned each day as we use them during class. I hope you're pleased with their progress. Thank you for your continued enthusiasm and support of the Kindergarten program at Grace. **Love, Mrs. Zapolski**

## **1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> GRADE**

Calling all flat students- If you haven't found your way back to the school, please call your host and ask them to send them ASAP. We have international trips coming up. If you know someone internationally, please watch for form and return. We will be sending 2-3 flat people together to each continent. In case you are looking for a yearend tax deduction, GCA has a great way to take a write off and support your child's school. Watch for the flyer coming home. After the holiday overload, unload physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually with a 21 day fast starting in January. Watch for flyer coming home. **God Bless, Mrs. Albin**

## **3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> GRADE**

Don't forget to bring in your toys for the "Toy Drive"! So far, we only have 8 and our goal is 50. Parents, please check with your child regarding what supplies they need at school. A lot of students are out of pencils, paper and crayons. We had to say goodbye to Emily Rinella this week. We'll miss you a lot Emily, come back and see us. God bless you! The Spelling Bee is next Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to study. Everyone participates in the "Bee". This is a busy, exciting time of year. Please try to keep up with work daily. Have a wonderful weekend! **Love, Mrs. Deen**

## **5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE**

Festive Greetings from 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>! We hope that everyone had a great Thanksgiving. Now we are anxiously looking forward to the Christmas season. We can't wait to go Christmas caroling on Friday to spread the good news of the birth of Jesus. Afterwards, our class will be providing the hot chocolate and goodies. For our Christmas outreach this year, we have raised money for a girl in Africa named Eyerusalem. We are excited to provide her family with 5 ducks, a fishing kit, clean water and even school supplies. We hope to see you all at our Christmas program that we have been working hard on. Don't forget that the Spelling Bee is coming up next week. We pray that everyone will study for it and do their best. Our book report is also due next week on December 8<sup>th</sup>. **God Bless, the Fifth and Sixth Graders and Mrs. Sullins**

**NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL** Each year our sales representative from the A Beka book company stops in and visits us in order to let us know what new materials will be available for the next school year. This year, we have a new representative who stopped in this week. He arrived in the parking lot near the beginning of the school day and decided to wait a few minutes before coming into the office because he knew how hectic things can be at the beginning of the day. When he and I met, he shared with me how much he enjoyed just observing our school. He noticed the genuine camaraderie among our students and their enjoyment with greeting one another in the yard. However, the observation which made the biggest impression on him was not only the children pledging the American and Christian flags, but also how many parents stayed in order to join the students and staff in the opening ritual of our school day. I had never really thought about it, but I also appreciate that you parents take time out of your busy schedule in order to participate with us. You all do help to make our school a very special place in ways that sometimes we don't even realize until someone points it out to us. **Love, Mrs. Harhay-Principal**

## **PRAYER FAMILIES**

Our prayer family this week is the Ferrence family. We extend our condolences to the Ferrence family on the passing of Will's father, Bill Ferrence. Mr. Ferrence was a long time supporter of GCA through the

Credit Union, and we are thankful for his many acts of kindness.

## **SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK**

Joshua 2:11 "The Lord your God is God in heaven above and on earth below."

## **Dates at a Glance:**

**Dec. 7- School Spelling Bee**

**Dec. 14- Christmas Shoppe in Church Basement**

**Dec. 15- Christmas Program 7:00 pm Fox Hall**

**Dec. 17- Progress Reports Grades 1-6**

**Dec. 17- School dismisses at 12:00 NOON for grades 1-6**

**Jan. 3- Classes resume**

**Jan. 7- District Spelling Bee at Lake Mead Christian Academy**

**Jan. 10- PTF Meeting 6:30 pm**

**Jan. 11- Tentative Date for the next School Board Meeting**

**Jan. 11- 4<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to the Las Vegas Philharmonic**

**Jan. 17- NO SCHOOL- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

**Jan. 18- School Speech Meet**

## **PTF MEETING:**

The next PTF Meeting is January 10 at 6:30 pm. We will be electing our new parent representatives. If you are interested, please see Mrs. Harhay for more information. Each family has one vote and you must attend to vote.

## **SPANISH NEWS (1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>):**

We have 2 classes before Christmas break. During this time, we are going to learn the names of the family (madre, padre, hermano/a, abuelo/a, tío/a), sing Christmas songs, and recite the Golden Rule in Spanish, of course! I am giving the children an opportunity to earn another “Responsibility Buck” by returning the family work page that was sent home on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please have your child draw their family on the back of this page and return it to me. Love came down at Christmas. El amor bajo en la Navidad.

**Con amor,  
Mrs. Douglass**

## **P.E. NEWS:**

We just started our leadership and teamwork unit this week and we will continue until the end of the year. Students will have an opportunity to be team captains and step into a leadership role.

**Love, Mrs. Melendez**

## **MUSIC NEWS:**

Time is short! Please memorize lines and songs by Monday. Dress rehearsal is Wednesday at 9:00 am. Please bring costumes to change into. Program is Wednesday at 7:00 pm. **God Bless, Mrs. Deen**

## **WANTED!!!!**

We are looking for a park bench and a free standing light pole to borrow for the Christmas play. If you can help, please see Mrs. Deen. Thanks!

## **ART NEWS:**

For the months of December and January, we welcome Mrs. Tiffany Patton as our substitute art teacher. Mrs. Kariam will return in February. Assignments from Mrs. Kariam for December and January are as follows: December- Design and draw a vertical cross in your Art Journal. Be sure to use your imagination and color the cross.

January- In your Art Journal, draw in ink (no color) a New Year wish horizontally.

## **ART SUPPLIES NEEDED:**

Just a reminder that Mrs. Patton sent home a note with your child requesting that they bring an old cereal or cracker box to school with them by Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup> for an upcoming project. The box needs to be a minimum 8x8.

## **THE HOLLY WREATH:**

The holly wreath symbolizes the crown of thorns worn by Jesus at Calvary. Its red berries represent the blood He shed for the forgiveness of our sins. The endless circle is eternal life obtained through Him.

## **CHAPEL:**

On Monday, December 6, Mrs. Jana Douglass will be our Chapel speaker. She and her puppet Rosie, will be sharing with us the Christmas story through the eyes of some of the animals who may have been at the stable that first Christmas.

## **ACSI SPELLING BEE WORD**

### **LIST:**

The ACSI Spelling Bee list for grades 1/6 is available at [www.acsi.org/Students/StudentActivities/tabid/591/itemid/159/language/en-US/Default.aspx](http://www.acsi.org/Students/StudentActivities/tabid/591/itemid/159/language/en-US/Default.aspx)

The password is SPELL1011\*wds.

We will not be distributing printed word lists to each student. If you need a copy, please let your child's teacher know. The Spelling Bee in Las Vegas will be January 7. Our school Spelling Bee will be in December.

## **HANDBOOK HIGHLIGHTS:**

Party invitations: Unless a child is inviting his or her entire class to a party, invitations should not be brought to school.

## **GRACE GEEK NEEDED:**

We are looking for a parent to be our resident “Grace Geek” that we can call upon when we have technology questions or problems. Please let our office know if you are interested.

## **CHRISTMAS SHOPPE:**

Christmas Shoppe will be December 14. Each year, our students (all grades) have an opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts for their family members. Each item is priced \$1.00. The items for the Christmas Shoppe are from the generous donations of gently used items by our families. Donations can be brought to our office. If you would like to help that day, please contact Holly Jeffries.

## **SPELLING BEE:**

Our school Spelling Bee will be the morning of December 7. The Las Vegas District Spelling Bee at Lake Mead Christian Academy will be January 7.

## **THANK YOU!!!**

Thank you to all of those who made our Thanksgiving feast a success. A special thank you to our students for providing the wonderful entertainment. The food was delicious and the help with set-up and clean-up was very much appreciated. Thank you also to the parents of our fifth-sixth graders who provided hot chocolate and cookies for our after Caroling party.

### **THANK YOU, CONT.:**

Thank you to Lois Bush and Chris Ward. These two ladies are leaving our School Board at the end of this year. We appreciate their faithfulness, guidance, and wisdom as they have served as Church representatives. Lois Bush is an original Board member as she has served since our school began in 2000. We wish them well.

### **SPINACH AND BOW TIE PASTA**

#### **SALAD RECIPE:**

Several people have asked for this recipe from the Thanksgiving Feast:

- 1- 16 oz. pkg. bow tie pasta
- 1- 5 oz. bag fresh spinach
- 1- Carton cherry tomatoes
- 1 small red onion, diced
- 1 cucumber, peeled and sliced
- 2 avocados, cut into bite size chunks
- 1- 16 oz. carton crumbled feta cheese
- 1 bottle Girards Greek Feta salad dressing or comparable salad dressing of your choice

Cook bow tie pasta according to directions on package. Combine cooled pasta, cucumber, red onion, cherry tomatoes and toss with half of the salad dressing. Add feta cheese, spinach and avocado with the remainder of the dressing to the pasta bowl and serve.

### **MERRY CHRISTMAS:**

School dismisses at 12:00 NOON on Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup> for Grades 1-6.

### **TIME TO SAY GOODBYE:**

We have enjoyed having the Rinella family as part of the Grace Christian Academy family for the past several years. We pray that God continues to bless them and we hope that Emily is happy at her new school.

### **HOOKED ON PHONICS:**

We have some materials from the Hooked on Phonics curriculum which has been donated to our school. The materials range from kindergarten through the fifth grade. If you are interested in borrowing any of these, please stop in our office.

### **DRESS CODE:**

We are asking for your input concerning our dress code. If you would like to let us know what you like or what you would like to see changed, please contact Marcia Harhay with that information.

### **ALL "A" HONOR ROLL:**

Jack Ferrence  
Isabel Patton  
Ian McConnachie  
Tori Spinkelink  
Landon Key  
Jeremiah Roach  
Tara Spinkelink  
Justice Tilman

### **"A-B" HONOR ROLL:**

Harley Walker  
Keifer Reinhart  
Abbi Matthews  
Joy Hatch  
Lola Mendoza  
Behrnt Schultz  
Sydney Whitman  
Joel Mendoza  
Zaine Buettner  
Mikey Percival  
Joe McConnachie  
Hannah Hanson

### **DRIVERS NEEDED:**

Drivers are needed to transport children in grades 1-6 to the Long Term Care facility at BC Hospital to sing Christmas carols at 9:45 on Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. We will be there approximately an hour. Please contact the school office if you are able to assist.

### **CLASSROOM CHRISTMAS**

#### **PARTIES:**

On Friday, December 17, grades 1-6 will be having their class Christmas parties. Students will be having a gift exchange that day and will soon be drawing names. Gifts should cost about \$10. Gifts should be wrapped and have the name tag on them. They should be brought to class by Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.