



In This Issue:

- Board News
- Elem. Music Programs
- Forensic Team
- Elem. Science Fair Kick-Off
- Author visits Classroom
- Alumni Spotlight
- Star Student
- DAR Good Citizen

From the Headmaster

I hope everyone is refreshed and back into it as we approach the second semester. From now until the end of the year will fly by, but there is so much to get done.

For our students, especially our seniors, it is very important that they finish the year strong. Spring fever will soon hit and minds seem to find more interesting things to think about. I hope we can impress upon our students that school lasts until the end of May and doesn't stop at spring break.

Parents are also a big part of this equation. I know that each of you will help to re-enforce that school comes first, before baseball, soccer, gymnastics, cheerleading, and the various activities in which so many of our students are involved in the spring.

As a school, we have a very busy spring. Of course, the preparations for the new elementary campus are moving along. (More on this in the "Board News.")

But, the first week of March is a very important time for PCS. We will have a visiting team of educators on campus representing the Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS). They will be examining our school and checking to see if we are meeting their standards and making recommendations for improvement and commendations for what we are doing well. The committee is composed of members from all across the southeast. (2 from Georgia, 1 from Alabama, and 4 from Mississippi) This is also a joint visit with Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools (MAIS). School improvement is the reason for their visit and we look forward to hearing from them.

In this process we are required to examine ourselves by collecting information from students, faculty, and parents. I want to thank the 220 families who responded to our survey on RenWeb. Your input is very valuable. We have used these survey results and a number of other indicators to put together an action plan for improvement in areas identified by these results. We would be happy to share this study with you after the visit if you want to see it.

Accreditation is very important for the school to keep focus on moving forward. As I know you have heard me say, "Education has no status quo, you are either moving forward or backwards." Therefore, we want to always look ahead to improve each day.

Upcoming Events: (Elementary)

- Feb. 5- Elem Science Fair
- Feb. 8- Elem. Science Fair Awards Ceremony at 1:00
- Feb. 10- Valentine Parties
- Feb. 16-Forrest Co. Spelling Bee at PCS
- Feb. 18-MAIS District Spelling Bee at Laurel Christian
- Feb. 23-3rd Grade JA puppet show at 9:00
- Feb. 24- Kindergarten field trip to Veterinarian

As we look at all this, I hope we don't lose the perspective that our Lord has given PCS an awesome task, to mold young people academically, yes, but also to plant and nurture spiritual seeds. Our children are special gifts that God gives to us, and I pray that we will continue to glorify Him through everything we do at PCS.

Please continue to pray for us!

In His Service,
Allen O. Smithers, Ph. D.

Board News

The PCS Board of Directors has been hard at work making plans for the upcoming year. They have approved a budget that will provide opportunities for our students to grow mentally, physically, and spiritually. The modest tuition increase will almost totally go to improve teacher salaries so that we can continue to attract quality teachers for our students. No amount of technology or frills can replace a great classroom teacher.

The Board is also continuing its work on plans for the new elementary campus. There are site plans as well as floor plans for the new campus and fund raising is in the early stages. We hope that you will be involved in this very important milestone in the history of PCS. Parents and patrons who have gone before us left a "Legacy" for our children. And now it is time to leave a "Legacy" for the generations to come. Please prayerfully consider what you can do in this ministry of our Lord.

We have been very prayerful in our approach to providing a new elementary campus. We feel that the Lord has led us to this point and we pray He would continue to guide us as we seek His will for PCS in the future.

Elementary Music Programs

Mark your calendars for the following PCS elementary music programs to be presented this spring.

2 nd Grade	God's Top Ten	Friday, March 5	9:00 a.m.
T1	Bubbling Joy	Friday, March 26	9:00 a.m.
1 st Grade	Singing the Proverbs	Thursday, April 1	10:00 a.m.
K5	Graduation	Tuesday, May 25	7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events: (Secondary)

- Feb .4- FBLA District Conference at JCJC
- Feb. 5-6- Hub City Debate Tourney at HHC
- Feb. 20- MFL Congress at USM

5th and 6th Grade Honor Rolls

The following 5th grade students are listed on the "A" Honor Roll for the second nine weeks. Those 5th graders making the "A" Honor Roll are Beau Azar, Keighly Beall, Austin Courtney, Sasha DiGiovanni, Daniel Easley, Emily Grace Edwards, Nicholas Gagliano, Josh Ingram, Will Ingram, Lori Lee Kilgore, Caroline Kuyrkendall, Marty Lewis, Ben Majors, Mimi Martens, Halle Morrissette, Samantha Murray, Emily Nichols, Maggie Nichols, Madison Norton, Sims Patterson, Mack Pickering, Leah Prins, Ainsley Richardson, Katherine Robbins, Tanner Rogers, Katie Schilling, Grace Stevens, Justin Stewart, Rush Stewart, Noah Thornton, Claudia Vial, Hadley Voss, Haley Watts, and Grace Mozingo Wilkes.

The 5th graders making the "A" and "B" Honor roll include Ethan Alexander, Alex Borganelli, Austin Braswell, Lindsy Case, Kaitlyn Gory, Laken Holliman, Luke Hudson, Jesse Jarrell, Grace Jennings, Rylee Johnson, Della Jones, Rebecca Lewis, Benjamin Martin, Meredith McDonald, Karsen Motter, Christy Nguyen, Sarah-Jordan Ogden, Anna Claire Pecunia, Austin Peden, Chandler Phillips, Mary Grace Prine, Macy Ryland, Peyton Scoggin, Charlie Shattles, Erin Smith, India Smith, Victoria Strickland, and Oliver Widemire.

The following 6th grade students are listed on the "A" Honor Roll for the second nine weeks. Those 6th graders making the "A" Honor Roll are Madison Baylis, Jackson Benton, Kyle Boleware, Alicia Brown, Hannah Buie, Rebecca Buteau, Hannah Cox, Colby Curtis, Zoe Fokakis, Zachary Ford, Aaron Griffin, Karlie Hall, Sadie Henderson, Anna Hinton, Helen Le, Luke Logan, Ryan Lunceford, Taylor McCarter, Elizabeth McIntosh, Olivia Murtagh, Kate Neal, Win Nelson, Andrew Newman, Dylan Owen, Maggie Phillips, Kristen Pickering, Caroline Rhett, Will James Robinson, Ashleigh Schrader, Erin Scoggin, , Kelli Shoemake, Ramsay Stayer, Shaye Sullivan, Allyn Tice, Hunter Wade, Anna Claire Walker, Alli Watts, Rachel Winstead, and Trenton Yawn.

The 6th graders making the "A" and "B" Honor Roll include Charli Adams, Caroline Alston, Juliann Aultman, Madison Barnes, Becca Barrett, Samantha Catt, Megan Cothorn, Patrick Davis, Brie Dyess, Claire Eubanks, Peyton Fedora, Andrew Hutchinson, Alese James, Reagan Jefcoat, Patrick McGee, Meredith Mitchell, Clay Murray, Landon Nail, Eden Pace, Sierra Parker, Drake Patterson, Rachael Perkins, Peyton Petro, Merritt Price, Lyn-Holli Severson, John Robert Sherman, Kallie Smith, Spencer St. Louis, Carrington Strickland, Casey Wade, David Walker, Trace Walters, Rook Welch, and Abby York.

PCS Family Directories

PCS Family Directories are available in both offices for a cost of \$8.00. Please check in either office if you are interested in purchasing one of these directories.

Visit our website

at

www.pcsk12.org

for additional info.

FIND INFO SUCH
AS:

Upcoming Events

School Lunch Menus

Latest News

Elementary Handbook

Secondary Handbook

A R Book List

2010 Spring Sports
Schedules

Forensic Team Earns Charter Membership

Presbyterian Christian School has been granted charter membership in the National Forensic League (NFL). This significant distinction is the highest school membership honor in the NFL. As a charter member, Presbyterian Christian School has demonstrated excellence in attaining new members and degrees. The forensics team is coached by Mrs. Jennifer Rayburn and Mrs. Dorcas Hawkins.

5th and 6th Grade Samaritan's Purse Project

Thank you so much for your support in reaching out to those less fortunate this Christmas. Our 5th and 6th grade students brought in over \$4,600 for the Samaritan's Purse Project! That's more than twice the amount they raised last year. It was encouraging to see their passion for the needs of others and their willingness to give.

Elementary Science Fair Kick-Off

Nathan Wilson, also known as "Mr. Wizard", recently visited PCS grades 1-6 for the annual science fair kickoff. Nathan wowed the crowd with his amazing scientific feats as he encouraged students to participate in the PCS science fair on Feb. 5th.





PCS Forensics Team

CONGRATULATIONS to the PCS Forensics Team who participated in their first out-of-state tournament at the University of Alabama on January 15th and 16th. Their public forum novice team of John Brahan and Josh von Herrmann placed first in their event. This was a big win, and we are proud of these young men. Also, congratulations to the following:

Public Forum Novice Debate speaker awards -- Semi-finalists: Griffin St. Louis and Morgan Sumner

Public Forum Novice Debate: Semi-Finalists: Britton Strickland and Evan Cole; Quarter-finalists: Morgan Sumner and Griffin St. Louis

Lincoln Douglas Novice Debate: Semi-Finalist and 3rd speaker award -- Jackson White

Impromptu speaking: 6th place -- Ethan Goggans

Valentine Parties

The elementary Valentine Parties will be held on Wednesday, February 10th, which is a half day of school. Fifth and sixth grades will exchange valentines. Fifth and sixth grade students may do one of the following:

- Bring a valentine for each student in the homeroom only.
- Bring a valentine for each student in the grade.

5th and 6th grade parties will be Wednesday, Feb. 10th @ 11:30 in the homeroom classroom.

K-4th grade parties will be on February 10th at 11:00.

TOP 20 CHRISTIAN LEADERS

Congratulations to Kelly Henderson and Alex Doleac for being selected in this year's Top 20 Christian Leaders of the Future!

Author Visits Third Grade Classroom

Ms. Dean Smith, author of *The Advent Jesse Tree*, visited Mrs. Maria Smith's third grade classroom on Thursday, December 3. The third grade classes use her devotional book each year as they prepare for the coming of Christmas. The devotions are read by the children and an ornament is placed on the "Jesse Tree" each day. The advent Jesse Tree seeks to tell the story of God's redemptive plan for the world through 25 symbols from the Old and New Testament. This is a special time for the classes as they prepare their hearts for the Christmas season.



Alumni Spotlight

Elizabeth Porter Todd, JD, Class of 1999, graduated from Mississippi College School of Law in May, 2006 and was married to Adam Todd in June, 2007. She has served as an Assistant District Attorney in south Mississippi and recently opened her own law practice in Hattiesburg.



Tai Curry-Fox, DVM, Class of 2000, graduated from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State in April, 2008. She married John Paul Fox, III in September, 2008 and is Veterinarian/Owner of Mississippi Equine Sports Medicine in Brandon.

Jessica Gullung, MD, Class of 2001, graduated with honors from University of Mississippi Medical School in 2008 and is completing her Residency in ENT Surgery at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.



Jessica Gullung (R) with her sister Candace

Amelia Steadman, Class of 2002, graduated from USM in 2006 with degrees in International Studies and Spanish. In December, she completed her studies at Tulane University Law School and received joint degrees in Law and Latin American Studies.

Schaeffer Smith, Class of 2003, received his degree in Accounting from USM in 2007. He married Allison Hearn in January, 2008 and works as a Senior Associate with the Healthcare Services Division of Horne, LLP in Hattiesburg. Schaeffer is also enrolled in the Master's program in Public Health at USM.

Ben Griffith, Class of 2004, graduated from USM in December, 2007 and married Rebecca Ozier in March, 2008. Ben and Rebecca welcomed their first child, Margaret, in January, 2009. Ben is Youth Director at First Presbyterian Church of Hattiesburg and recently began his theological training at Reformed Seminary in Clinton.



PCS STAR STUDENT

The Mississippi Economic Council and its M.B. Swayze Educational Foundation sponsor the Student-Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR) Program in an effort to encourage scholastic achievement among the state's high school students. The STAR Program has two specific purposes:

- Emphasize scholastic excellence and encourage greater scholastic effort among Mississippi students.
- Recognition of the teaching profession.

Dan Rust, with an ACT score of 33, has been named Star Student for the Class of 2010. He was asked to choose, in his opinion, the teacher who

made the greatest contribution to his scholastic achievement. He chose Mrs. Betty Sugg as his Star Teacher. Each STAR Student and STAR Teacher will be honored at the Mississippi Economic Council's Education Celebration. MEC will provide certificates to the STAR Student and STAR Teacher from each school, and monetary awards will be given to the top STAR students.



DAR GOOD CITIZEN

The DAR Good Citizen Program and Scholarship Contest is intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship. The student selected as the school's DAR Good Citizen must have the qualities of dependability, leadership, and patriotism. The DAR Good Citizen from PCS is Alex Doleac. Alex has been selected as one of the top five winners in the State DAR Good Citizen Scholarship Contest. These top five winners were selected from 43 DAR chapters across the state. The scholarship winners, along with two honorable mentions, will be announced at the National Defense Luncheon at State Conference in Jackson on Friday, February 19, 2010. Congratulations, Alex!

Johnathan Rey Signs Soccer Scholarship

Johnathan Rey recently signed a scholarship to play soccer at William Carey University. Congratulations, Johnathan!!



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The mission of PCS is to provide a comprehensive college preparatory education distinguished by a biblical worldview to equip students with the moral integrity, intellectual capacity, and social conscience to impact the world for Christ.