

Cougar Connections

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH FRIENDS OF CONESTOGA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Leadership Opportunities Abound

Nine high school students recently attended the **ACSI Northeast Student Leadership Conference** held at Black Rock Retreat. This year's conference theme was "Life on Life Leadership." Student leaders from Student Council, National Honor Society and Class Chaplains learned how to strengthen their school through the development of caring mentorships. They worked together on a mentoring leadership transition plan to implement upon their return to campus. In addition to learning biblical principles for leadership, CCS students also enjoyed interaction with students in leadership roles at other Christian schools.

Six members of Mr.

Boyer's high school Civics class were privileged to participate in the annual **Senator for a Day** program at the state capitol in Harrisburg. The program, designed for students with an interest in government, gave attendees a close-up look at the complexities of preparing and passing legislation.

Every Tuesday afternoon finds senior Chris Royer meeting with his classmates on the high school **Worship Team** preparing for upcoming chapels. Under the guidance of music teacher Carrie Warner, Chris brings leadership to his peers in providing meaningful, varied worship experiences.

Similarly the **Chapel Planning Team** col-

laborates with High School Supervisor Randy Hepler in arranging chapel themes, programs and speakers.

Class chaplains

give leadership to a small group ministry among high school students. Each Thursday during home-room high school students meet together under peer leadership to share concerns and to pray for one another.

The **fall drama production** *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* offered Student



CCS students with Senator Mike Folmer

Director Stephen Betz the opportunity to inspire and encourage his fellow performers. In addition to supporting the production behind the scenes, Stephen took center stage to welcome the audience and introduce the school.



Conestoga Christian School Inside ...

- 2 Guest Visits
India Experience
Artist of the Month
- 3 Survey
Alumni News
- 4 Golf Team
Sports Highlights

Little Conestoga Preschool Coming Soon

The CCS Board of Trustees and leadership of Conestoga Mennonite Church (CMC) have agreed to partner on Little Conestoga Preschool. The plan is to open the preschool in the fall of 2010 using the CMC facility. The preschool will offer morning classes for 3 and 4 year olds. Little Conestoga Preschool is the first step in establishing a CCS preschool program. More information will be available shortly.

Contact the Development Office for details.

Students Enjoy Special Visits



Don McNeal

In November 2009 former **Miami Dolphins defensive back Don McNeal** presented chapel programs to students in grades 3-8 and 9-12. McNeal shared the ups and downs of his life and career, including two trips to the Super Bowl and his decision to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. He encouraged students to make thoughtful, deliberate choices. The

assembly was made possible through funding to Sports World Inc. from two local businessmen: Noah Kreider of Kreider's Dairy in Manheim and Mike Stillman, a former Penn State football player from Lancaster.

Members of the 6th grade attended a special assembly presented by the **National Energy Foundation: Think! Energy with e-power!** The assembly was made possible by a grant from PP&L awarded to middle school teacher Shannon Bernard. Students learned about the responsible and economic use of electric energy. Each student received a **Think! Energy** kit with energy saving devices and educational materials for the family.

Middle school and high school chapters of **Technology Student Association (TSA)** were established this fall and students are already beginning projects for the Region 2 competition in February. Dennis Gold, TSA Facilitator for the Pennsylvania Depart-

ment of Education Bureau of Career and Technical Education, has begun to make regular visits to CCS to offer support and advice to student chapter members and leaders.

Elementary students enjoyed a visit from the "**Llama Lady**" **Carol Reigh**. Students learned about llama habitat and llama wool. Reigh also described the impact of llamas in cultures around the world. In addition, students had an opportunity to pet the animals and have pictures taken with them.



First & Second Graders "Travel" to India with Technology

When second-grade student Krish Nair travelled to India, elementary teachers Susan Brenner and Janet Caley saw an exciting learning opportunity. With the help of technology coordinator Ginnie Lodge, first- and second-grade students talked with Krish via Skype.

Some highlights were seeing inside the home where the Nairs were staying. Mrs. Nair was great at describing what she was seeing out the window, including the donkeys on the streets eating the garbage. Students took turns coming up to the web cam and asking questions about what Krish was doing and where

he was. Mrs. Brenner included several books about India during social studies. One book was learning to count to ten in Hindi and the students were able to share that with Krish via Skype.

When Krish returned he shared pictures, souvenirs and food. His mother made several Indian dishes and helped the students roll balls of dough into the flat Indian bread called *chapatis*. Students saw a banyan tree in the counting book and then Krish was able to show the students a photograph of an actual tree. The Indian experience also included some stories set in India. The

students talked about Indian animals and watched a cobra-mongoose fight on YouTube to go along with the "Rikki Tikki Tavi" story.

It was a great example of expanding on a real life teaching experience. A big thanks to the Nair family for their effort in sharing this wonderful experience!

It was a very successful team effort on the part of CCS staff to integrate today's technology with learning about the world around us.

*Janet Caley
2nd Grade teacher*



Artist of the Month

Art teacher Leah Hess recently announced that seventh grader Hannah Mansell has been named the first CCS Artist of the Month. A different student will be named each month and a sample of the student's art work will be hung in the lobby of the high school building. The effort is designed to celebrate the artistic accomplishments and skill of the student body and will recognize both excellence and progress.

We are delighted to share CCS news and events with our alumni and friends around the world.

To be certain we are sharing information of interest to our readers, please check those areas you most enjoy:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recent events | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising reports |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Upcoming events | <input type="checkbox"/> Giving opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletics | <input type="checkbox"/> Alumni updates |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Worldview reflections | <input type="checkbox"/> More of... _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty & staff reports | <input type="checkbox"/> Less of... _____ |

Suggested topics or articles:

- We no longer wish to receive the Cougar Connections. Please remove us from the mailing list.

Tear off this portion and mail it to:

***Development Office; Conestoga Christian School; 2760 Main Street; Morgantown, PA 19543
or visit the CCS homepage and click "Cougar Connections Feedback Survey"***



Don't miss the
Spring Musical

Seussical The Musical

Performance dates: May 20-22

Join the Cat in the Hat, Horton, the Whos and a host of other Seuss characters for a fun-filled and wacky tale.

Support Conestoga Christian School with every on-line purchase you make.

Simply establish an account at **iGive.com** and begin every on-line purchase from that site. When you use iGive, major retailers will donate a percentage of your total purchase to CCS.

Check it out...all your favorites: Amazon, Staples, LLBean, Avon, Home Depot, Barnes & Noble, QVC, Harry & David, Lands End, Brookstone...hundreds more! Contact the Development Office if you have questions.

2010 Quilting Bee dates are set!



This year you have two opportunities to stitch a quilt that will be sold at the 2010 CCS benefit auction in October.

Monday through Thursday, February 8-11
Monday through Thursday, May 10-13

Daytime and evening hours will be available. Watch the website for details.

Alumni Profile: Dr. Inez Stoltzfus, MD



The years since CCS have been busy for Dr. Stoltzfus: undergraduate studies at Houghton College, medical school at Drexel University College of Medicine and a three-year residency at In His Image Family Medicine in Tulsa, OK. After her time in Tulsa, she prayerfully considered overseas work or missions. In the end, she believes that God led her to Ingleside Medical Associates in Thorndale where she works with other CCS friends/patrons, Doctors William Brown and Christopher Schreier.

At the practice she is able to touch the emotional and spiritual places in patients, not just identify physical symptoms and assign dosages. She is delighted to be working with other believers and finds freedom to address underlying spiritual conditions in her patients.

In a recent telephone interview Dr. Stoltzfus reflected on her years at CCS: "I am grateful for the quality of education I received. I had expected college to be a huge leap and I just didn't experience that. I also had excellent teachers – some of the best I've ever had. They not only had quality teaching skills, but they really cared about the students. At CCS I also learned how to study the Bible for my own ongoing spiritual nourishment and growth."

When asked what advice or encouragement she would give to CCS students, Dr. Stoltzfus replied: "It wasn't easy to go through all my schooling but God gives us the grace to allow us to do the things He calls us to do. Don't be intimidated! Walk in God's grace and strength."

Dr. Inez Stoltzfus recently reconnected with CCS in middle school and high school chapel programs. We appreciate her sharing observations and experiences regarding the global family of God and challenging CCS students to examine their responsibility within this global family.



Conestoga Christian School

2760 Main Street
Morgantown, PA 19543

Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ELVERSON, PA
PERMIT NO. 90

Golf Team Wins CCAC Title



The high school golf team had a very successful season. They were undefeated during the season, even when playing public schools on courses they had never played before. They also won the CCAC league match where senior David

Yenser medaled for achieving the low score. The team also sent their top two players to districts, where David Yenser shot an eagle.

Coach Jim Yenser was proud of the way the team worked together, both on and off the course. He says everyone contributed to the

team. In fact, in a close match against Christian School of York, it was the two weakest golfers who shaved several strokes off their scores to win the day. "The team showed great character when they won,

they didn't gloat. And they put in extra effort, often practicing on their own."

Coach Yenser tried to keep practices fun. "I would play the course with only one club and challenge the boys to beat me, or I would have them keep track of the score in unusual ways. I wanted them to focus on playing the hole, not sweating the score."

They just worked a little harder and maybe had more fun, too.

Coach
Jim Yenser



MS boys soccer



Upcoming Events

- February 4**
Winter Open House
- March 24**
Grandparents' Day
- March 25**
4th/5th Grade Musical
- April 25**
Spring Open House
- April 30**
Race for Education
- May 20-22**
School Musical

Alumni News

- **Jonathan '98 and Kendra (Esh) Gascho '99** welcomed the arrival of son Bryce Aaron on May 2.
- **R. J. Saunders '01** married Robyn Burkholder in August
- **Arlen '02** and Jetta Stoltzfus proudly welcomed daughter Anna-Sophie Natalie on December 25, 2009 in Perth, Australia.
- **Holly Souden '04** married Bryan Oxendale this past August
- **David Rowe '05** and **Stephanie Miller '06** wed this past August.

Share your good news with the CCS family. Contact the Development Office at 610-286-0353 ext 402 or conestogachristian.net

Sports Highlights

- The middle school boys' soccer team, coached by Bruce Bernard, were division champions. They were undefeated in CCAC play.
- The high school girls' volleyball team, coached by Laura Longacre and Liz Peterseim made it to the playoffs in both CCAC and districts.

Conestoga Christian School, in harmony with the home and church, provides a quality educational program for K-12th grade students in an environment that nurtures Christ-like character and equips students for a life of discipleship.