



Principal's E-News

November 5, 2009 - Volume 2 Issue 3

Aurora Christian Preschool and Elementary School

Hosanna! Event

Thursday, November 5
7:00-8:00 pm

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What is the *Hosanna! Event* and why would I attend?

God has blessed Aurora Christian School with the opportunity to minister to children with Christian education, and we want to be faithful in communicating all aspects of our school with the families that enroll their children. Mr. House, our Superintendent will take the time provided to share all that God is doing to help this ministry to continue and thrive! The finance team will also share how Aurora Christian will be moving forward to make ACS the best that it can be.

I trust a member of the family will be able to attend this special meeting on Thursday, November 5, from 7:00-8:00 pm in the theater at our high school campus! It will be informative, educational, and an uplifting experience, I'm sure! Please plan on attending.

www.goodsearch.com – Just Do It!

Aurora Christian School can earn cash *EVERY TIME* you search the internet! We also can earn a percentage of *EVERY PURCHASE* you make online!

GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

Some people are strictly "Google" fans, or maybe you're a "Yahoo" devotee, but sell them all down the river to help ACS make about a penny per search! Just go to www.goodsearch.com and enter Aurora Christian School in the "WHO DO YOU GOODSEARCH FOR?" Then if you make GoodSearch your home page, every search will be free money to the school. If you don't like that, you can also add GoodSearch to your toolbar so a search can be easily accessed if something else is your preferred home site.

GoodSearch also provides shopping as well, and ACS can benefit from online purchases. At the writing of this e-News, ACS has *only* profited \$104 since beginning in June. If each ACS family changes their search process, this can be dramatically increased!

Nurturing Hearts

You know that what happens here at school affects your life at home. I'm sure you also realize that what goes on at home affects what goes on here too!

As a faculty, we are reading the book, The Inner Wealth Initiative, The Nurtured Heart Approach for Educators by Tom Grove, Howard Glasser, and Melissa Lynn Block. This book is challenging us in many ways as we seek to meet the needs of each child as educators. I thought I'd share some of the points in the book, and encourage you to try some of these things at home.

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- 1) *Promote positivity!*
 - 2) *De-energize negativity.*
 - 3) *Be consistent.*
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1) Promote positivity! When your child is behaving in a way that you desire, make a BIG DEAL out of it! Notice the little things to encourage the right decisions in everyday life. Picking up a sock on the floor, washing hands without being told, snuggling without a motive, anything that is reflective of a your desired behavior deserves praise!

2) De-energize negativity. Administer whatever discipline that is necessary, but seek to keep it from being a big deal. The basic thought is that kids will suck the life out of whatever we, as parents, energize. Big discipline and a long lecture is energy spent negatively. Keep discipline unceremonious.

3) Be consistent. Don't have to say much about that. If we make a big deal about something at one time and nothing out of the same thing another time, we send mixed messages to our kids. Our parental consistency is vital to helping our kids understand desired behaviors and expectations.



Clothing Exchange

The clothing exchange at Aurora Christian is more than just a tradition. It is a treasure! It is such a blessing to give of our overflow and provide necessities to families. I've personally benefitted from the clothing exchange, and I've seen families do the same.

Mrs. Belcastro, Mrs. Pierson, Mrs. Seward, Mrs. Kalinowski, and Mrs. Keierleber and many other volunteers are helping to coordinate this great ministry. If you have clothes to donate, please get it here quickly! If you would like to help, the big push is Thursday night when the tables are all moved from the atrium to the gym, and setting everything up in the gym for the weekend. We are also accepting clothing, toys, and small household item donations through Thursday. Items can be dropped off in the atrium.

You can come to the school for the Fall Clothing Exchange this Friday, November 6 from 10:00 - 6:00 and this Saturday, November 7 from 9:00 until noon. If you know families in need in your church or neighborhood, you might want to pass along this information.

Student of the Week

Further congratulations are due for the most recent students who were recognized as the Student of the Week in elementary! In Mrs. Schien's class, 3rd Grader Jovanny Corral, in Mrs. Behrens' class, 5th Grader David Tennant, in Mrs. Post's class, 1st Grader Janelle Weiberg, and in Mrs. DiCicco's class, 2nd Grader Garrett Bittner have all earned the award! Congratulations!

Student of the Week

Jovanny Corral

David Tennant

Janelle Weiberg

Garrett Bittner

Recommend a Good Book?

This summer I came up with an idea, but didn't run with it. I thought I'd ask for your input. I'm not a huge reader, but when I read a book, I usually want to pass it along to someone else. I've only read a couple of books more than once. Anyway, I'd like to provide a bookshelf in the atrium for parents. On this bookshelf, we could bring in a book that we've read, and we'd like to encourage others to read, and share it for free with other parents here at school. This book exchange would encourage all of us to read, would give a place to go to get something to read, and would provide free reading material, based upon our interest.

Do you have to share a book? No! Can you get your book back? Probably not. But I know I have a bunch of books on my shelf that I've read (completely or partially) that I probably won't pick up again. They are good, just ones I won't read again.

Anyway, what do you think? Would you like a resource like this, or is it just another of my silly ideas? Email me your thoughts at scott.etchison@aurorachristian.org so I can decide what to do. Thanks!



Book Exchange????

Jingle Bell Christmas

Jingle Bell Christmas is an annual tradition here at Aurora Christian School! It is a celebration of Christmas hosted by the entire school, and each member can play a vital role in this outreach ministry. Preschool and Elementary families can be involved by taking a tag from the Christmas Tree in the atrium and purchasing a gift for a boy or girl of elementary age. Middle School and High School students then serve and host elementary age children at the High School building for a night of Christmas festivities. This includes a dinner, music and singing together, fun games and activities, the sharing of the story of the birth of Christ, and opening a present too!

ACS works with some local ministries to locate children that need to hear about the message of Christmas and may not be able to celebrate Christmas because of financial concerns or family circumstances, and then we have a great night with those kids! ACS seeks to make it a most memorable and fun celebration.

I hope that you will stop by the Christmas tree in the atrium and pick up a tag, purchase a gift for the boy or girl listed on the tag, return the gift to the school with the tag attached to the gift, and pray that God will bless that child with a Christmas he or she will remember forever!

Gifts are due Monday, November 23rd!

Christmas Fine Arts Festival – Saturday, December 12

A reminder about the tentative schedule for the Christmas Festival. These are the *revised* planned times now...

10:00 P/S 3 Day 4's
 10:20 P/S 2's & 3's
 10:40 P/S 5 Day 4's
 11:00 Combined P/S
 11:40 Kindergarten

12:00 1st Grade
 12:30 2nd Grade
 1:00 3rd Grade
 1:45 5th Band
 2:25 4th Grade

2:55 5th Grade
 3:20 4th & 5th Combined

We've "tweaked" the times because of a new music teacher in the elementary, a change in performances, and we believe there will be more time needed to get the preschoolers and their audience out and the kindergartners and their audience into the gym. We are seeking to finalize all of these details and will be sending information about this Christmas celebration home soon.

Healthy Kids

Please do all that you can to keep everyone healthy here at school. If your child has flu-like symptoms, don't medicate him and send him to school (☺), keep him home so that he is symptom free without the aid of medication for 24 hours. I know, you gotta work or you had plans, but the health of everyone here at school is my reason for this gentle reminder. Thanks for your cooperation.

Calendar Dates to Remember...

Nov 6 - Market Day Order Due

Nov 6-7 - Clothing Exchange

Nov 10 - Market Day Delivery

Nov 11 - Picture Re-Takes

Nov 19 - 7:00 Illinois Campus Movie Night

Nov 23 - Preschool Pilgrim Parties

Nov 23 - Jingle Bell Christmas Gifts Due

Nov 25 - No School Kindergarten - 5th Grade -
Faculty Inservice Date

Nov 26-27 - No School, Thanksgiving Vacation

Nov 30 - Jingle Bell Christmas

Dec 3 - 7:00 pm Middle School/High School
Christmas Choir Concert @ Sullivan Campus

Dec 4 - Market Day Order Due

Dec 8 - Market Day Delivery

Dec 10 - 7:00 pm Middle School/High School
Christmas Band Concert @ Sullivan Campus

Dec 10 - Preschool & Elementary Christmas Fine
Arts Festival

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