

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6



TRI-STATE

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

*"Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another."
Romans 12:10*

Calendar of Events

March	17	End of 3 rd Quarter
	20-24	NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
	28	School Prayer Meeting
April	7	Open House
	14-17	NO SCHOOL - Easter Break
	25	Annual Parent Association Meeting
	25-28	Achievement Testing
May	1	Achievement Testing Make-up Day
	19	Spring Concert
	25	End of 2 nd Semester / 4 th Quarter
	25	Senior Dinner
	24-25	High School Exams
	26	Graduation

A Word from the Principal by Dr. Nuce

A parent recently mentioned to me that it seems that a number of Tri-State families are discouraged as they face challenging situations in their homes, at their jobs, or in the classroom. My first thought was how can we help? What can we do as Christians to *"encourage one another and build each other up"* (1 Thessalonians 5:11, NIV)? For the Tri-State faculty, we start every day with prayer and time in the Bible, either collectively or in smaller groups. I believe that all the teachers would agree that this time does serve as a great encouragement to the teachers as we *"bear one another's burdens"* (Galatians 6:2, NKJV). We often share our burdens as prayer requests with the group and are encouraged to have others praying on our behalf. I have also witnessed this ministry of encouragement and prayer in both the classroom and front office as teachers and secretaries stop to pray in response to a concern expressed by a student or parent.

As a group of believers, it is important for us to remember that we are engaged in a spiritual war, and we face a spiritual enemy. In response to the Devil's attacks, it is critically important that we pray for one another and encourage each other with God's promises. For example, Paul tells the Thessalonian church in 1 Thessalonians 5:8-9,11 to *"be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope"*

of salvation. For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ . . . Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing" (NKJV). Both the breastplate and helmet were worn for defense against the enemy's weapons. Faith in God's promises, love for our Savior, and hope in our salvation are the best defenses against Satan's attacks, which are designed to discourage our hearts by shifting the focus from God's promises to our own circumstances. As believers, by reminding one another to view our trials through an eternal perspective, we can bring great encouragement to each another.

I recently found similar encouragement while visiting a grade school classroom. As I was listening to the teacher, I was thinking about some challenging situations when I noticed a familiar passage on the wall: "*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.*" (Joshua 1:9, NKJV). At the heart of the word "discourage" is the word "courage," so when people feel discouraged, they are essentially losing courage. As we interact with other families in the TSCS community, we need to help them turn their discouragement into courage by bearing one another's burdens and giving them hope by reminding them of God's promises.

The 20th Annual Dinner/Auction Fundraiser Update by Anna Fernandes

The Annual Dinner/Auction event is one of the social highlights of our TSCS calendar each year. Those who attend enjoy a delicious meal, great fellowship, and entertainment from our wonderful auctioneers, who donate their time, energy, and talent. Thank you to the long list of other volunteers who poured hours into making the 2017 Auction a success. Barb, Jay and I are thankful for each and every one of you and your dedication and commitment to the school. We were excited to have multiple new volunteers who stepped up to help this year. At this point, auction will net around \$23K for the school. To God be all the glory!

An Update on Our Potential Move by Jon Glock, Board Chairman

TSCS Families,

Greetings to each of you! On behalf of the TSCS Board, I want to take the opportunity to bring you an update regarding our relocation plans.

While the Board is committed to relocating the school to Dubuque, we are also committed to doing so as the Lord opens doors. This fall, it seemed that He was opening the door to a location at the St. Mary's Catholic School property in East Dubuque. However, that door of opportunity closed in January, which has forced us to reconsider old options and explore new possibilities in Dubuque. With no obvious long-term options available by this fall, we were also considering the short-term use of temporary facilities in Dubuque. To gain the input of families about this idea, the school sent out a survey to our current families and a separate survey through area churches to potential families. While many current families are willing to move with

the school to permanent and even temporary facilities in Dubuque, they were not, generally speaking, opposed to staying in Galena one more year. Conversely, the potential new family survey showed that the vast majority of potential families will not send their children to a Galena location. At the same time, they were, as a group, unwilling to commit to sending their children to a temporary location in Dubuque.

Since the Lord has not opened the doors to a permanent Dubuque location, and given the lack of parental support for utilizing short-term options, the TSCS Board has voted to keep the school in Galena for one more year. Of course, if the Lord were to miraculously open the door to a long-term Dubuque option that could be ready by this fall, this decision could be reversed, but this seems unlikely at this time.

Because the TSCS Board is committed to the power of prayer, we are planning another time of prayer for our school families on Tuesday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. The TSCS Board would like to provide additional updates and answer questions at that time.

We count it privilege to partner with each of you and we ask that you would continue to SEEK, TRUST sand PRAY with us. We hope you will plan to join us on the 28th.

Many Blessings,
Jon Glock, TSCS Board President

5th Grade News from Mrs. Kreiss

As a culminating activity to our unit study on the Civil War, the fifth grade visited several historic sites in Galena. The first stop was Grant Park, where we saw the fine-looking statue of President Grant, the monument dedicated to all Jo Daviess residents who fought in the “War of the Rebellion,” and finally the cannon that was fired at the Battle of Fort Sumter.

Next, the students were given a tour of the 18th



President’s home. The class learned that the average man and woman of those times were considerably smaller than they are today. This accounts for the seemingly small furniture in the home. Most of the artifacts and furniture were original to the home with a few reproductions.

Our final stop was the Galena-Jo Daviess Historical Museum. The students were



excited to discover the many treasures held in their own town: a flag presented to Galenian Hezekiah Gear from the War of 1812; the original masterpiece, “Peace in the Union;” and a boot worn by General Grant. Ask any 5th grader about the story behind that mysterious artifact.

The visit ended with a scavenger hunt inside the museum where the students collected information throughout the two floors. It was a wonderful field trip. And as an added bonus we were blessed with sunshine and warm temperatures. God is good!



6th Grade News from Mrs. MacKay

We’ve had a fun and busy quarter, and it’s been a delight to see the students working together on a variety of projects. Students brought in their old clothes, which were cut and sewn together to make this year’s auction project. Each student created three squares for our up-cycled pillow. Everyone cut, ironed, and sewed. Some even got to use a sewing machine for the first time. We were delighted to see how the final product turned out. I was so pleased with their creativity, enthusiasm, and cooperation.



This same spirit of enthusiasm and cooperation has carried over into our class fund-raising project. This year the class has been selling ice cream and friendship bracelets to raise money for our outdoor education trip to Living Waters Bible Camp in May. In addition to being excited about the upcoming trip, the class is motivated to sell the bracelets to raise money for the ministry of Threads of Hope. Each bracelet sold helps to provide an income for poor families in the Philippines, as well as support for a Filipino pastor and a growing ministry center.



Students have been challenged to share their faith with others. Two tools that they have learned to use this year are the Romans Road and Gospel bracelets. The Romans Road is a collection of verses in the book of Romans that helps show the path to salvation in Jesus Christ. Gospel bracelets are special Threads of Hope bracelets that tell the Gospel story through five colors: yellow, black, red, white, and green.



Our class is characterized by kindness, laughter, helpfulness, and hard work. We have been encouraged to see God answer our prayers and to see Him give us strength to do hard things as we work together toward a common goal.

Secondary Bible News from Mr. Dodge

This quarter my 11&12th graders are doing a Survey of the New Testament. Currently, we are working our way through the epistles. Students are learning to do a lot more than just read the epistles and notice things that jump out at them. First, we take some time to go over the historical context of the book. Then we identify problems that need to be addressed in the church. It is at this point that we begin to work our way through the book and discover how issues were addressed. Lastly, we focus on applying the Word of God to our lives. This semester it has been a blessing to see the Word of God having a real impact on student lives. Students have begun to notice that the Bible speaks to every aspect of their lives. I cannot even count how many times students have come to me this semester and asked how a particular Scripture should be applied to their lives, personally.

In 9th and 10th grade, we have been going through Bible doctrine. This semester some of the truths that we have been covering have really hit home. We recently looked at the ordinances of the church and the different roles found in the church. This led to the question—“What is our role in the church as young men and women?” We looked at the book of Titus and discovered as a class that young men and women are supposed to be learning from those that are older than we are. A few students have

already come to me and asked if I knew of older people who could mentor them! What a blessing it is to see young men and women responding to God's Word!

My junior-high students come to Bible class full of energy, excitement, and questions! This quarter we are going through the Old Testament. We are focusing on the overarching story that can be found throughout all of Scripture. We are focusing on the fact that the Bible is the true story of what God is doing to glorify Himself by redeeming His fallen creation. I have been impressed at how many applications my students have been making as we look at God's Word. Recently we covered the Ten Commandments. We noted that the Ten Commandments are full of *Thou shalt not's*. I was surprised at how quickly students began coming up with the positive side of Ten Commandments! For example, "Don't have any other gods before the Lord" also communicates that we ought to **put God first**. Overall I have been quite pleased to see students' interactions with biblical truth this quarter. There is no doubt—they are a class that is eager to learn and engage in the material!

Athletic News from Coach Fransman

Boys Volleyball:

Tri-State is entering its third season with a boys' volleyball team. The team is returning six players from last year's team, which is very encouraging. Last year the boys finished with a 6-5 record and played really well. I expect this season to be even better! We will have four home games and a home tournament this spring so please come out, watch some exciting volleyball, and support the boys. Check out the athletics page on the school website to see when the boys have games or email Mr. Fransman for a schedule.

NICC Tournament:

The TSCS Huskies went into the tournament as a #4 seed and played Galesburg, the #5 seed, on Friday, February 3rd. TSCS was down at half but came out strong, starting the quarter off with 4 three pointers which got them back in the game. TSCS was able to get the lead late in the fourth quarter and hold off a surging Lions team to win 41-40. Galesburg had two opportunities to win but the Huskies prevailed. On Saturday morning the Huskies played the #1 seeded Unity Knights. TSCS faced a huge deficit going into half-time but was able to fight back and trail by only 6 points with about a minute left. TSCS lost to Unity and ended up playing Morningstar for third place. TSCS played a great game against Morningstar and probably their best game of the tournament. TSCS led most of the game until the last few minutes of the fourth quarter. TSCS ended up losing a great game 39-36 to finish in fourth place. The boys fought hard and played well. We also had four young men receive all-conference recognition. James Fernandes, Jared Block, and Elim Medina received All-Conference Honorable Mention, and Alex Chung made the Second Team All-Conference.

At this year's tournament we held the first ever 3-point contest. There were sixteen boys that participated from the conference, with James Fernandes and Jared Block representing Tri-State. Both James and Jared made 7 of 15 3-pointers but missed the finals by one shot. The boys shot well and represented Tri-State well all weekend.