

*“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

### Calendar of Events

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<b>April</b>	2-16	Online Auction
	19	No School – Easter Break
	23-26	Achievement Testing
	30	Parent Association Meeting
<b>May</b>	1	Progress Reports
	11	High School Banquet
	17	Spring Concert
	27	No School – Memorial Day
	30	Last Day of School for JH/HS
	30	Senior Dinner
	31	Last Day of School for Elementary
	31	Graduation - 7:00 pm

### Principal Prose

This morning, I awoke early and looking out the window while it was still very dark, I studied the stars that were still shining brightly and remembered that our God spoke them into existence by the power of His word. Looking out my office window today, I see all the signs of spring and the new life that comes at this time of year, and I am reminded of God's creativity and control over nature. I have been reminded throughout the day that the God who created the stars, planned the seasons, and designed the plants and trees is the same God who reigns supreme over the world today.

It was just over twelve months ago that the Tri-State Board made the decision to move forward with relocating the school to Dubuque for the 2018/2019 school year. This decision required the remodeling of the Asbury Community Church building over the summer with work being completed in time for the grade school to start on September 10. Modular classrooms were brought onto the property for the secondary program but could not be prepared for use before December, so the secondary program used space at Dubuque Community Church for over three months. In conjunction with all of this work, the school supplies and furniture in the Galena property had to be moved to the Dubuque campus in two moves - the grade school and office in September and the secondary, music, and art programs in December with the help of our secondary students. We also had to sell our Galena property to pay for the new Dubuque property. While the sale was delayed, the Lord worked in miraculous ways to bring about the sale by November. New students



joined the school throughout the year including a number of new international students. On top of all of this, Tri-State successfully completed its initial accreditation visit with ACSI and received full accreditation in December.

As I reflect on all that God has accomplished at Tri-State since last spring, I am truly amazed. But then again, as I consider the glory of the stars and the beauty of spring, is it really that surprising? As we look to the future, Tri-State continues to face challenges, but God knows our needs, He cares, and He has the power to act on our behalf. I am reminded of Proverbs 3:5-6 *Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.* My encouragement to the Tri-State community is to continue seeking the Lord's direction through prayer and to look expectantly for Him to answer our prayers as He has during the past twelve months!

## Annual Auction Fundraiser

Tri-State Christian School (TSCS) will be conducting its **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Auction Fundraiser**. This year, we will be holding our auction online instead of in the gym! No worries about a snow storm cancelling it! It will run April 2 - April 16. Many wonderful items have been donated, and we are busy getting the site ready for you by April 2. When on the internet, go to <http://www.acelevents.com/e/tscsauction> and click on the AUCTION button. You will see the items listed by category! Please support the school by participating in this auction and promoting it among your family and friends. Thank you!

## Matching Grant

We have a \$12,500 matching grant opportunity this year. So far, we have raised \$11,800! If you are interested in donating to help us reach our goal, you may mail a check to the school, drop off your donation at the front desk, or give via our website. Thank you!

## 6<sup>th</sup> Graders Exhibit Christ-like Character

When the MinnTex fruit fundraiser arrived on Friday morning, the sixth graders were eager to help. They carried in 84 boxes and organized them neatly, all the while thanking the driver for every box he handed them. The driver turned out to be Bud Johnson, the owner of MinnTex. "I've never had anyone thank me for handing them a box to carry. **These are the best group of kids I've ever met.**" He was so impressed by this class, he donated \$500 to the school!! Way to go 6<sup>th</sup> graders!!



## Mrs. Redmond's Poets



It is hard to believe we are heading into the last quarter of the year! One of the highlights in fifth grade this quarter was our poetry unit. We were blessed to have Mrs. Kreiss, the former fifth grade teacher, visit and introduce the unit as well as share some of her favorite poems. Her enthusiasm excited and inspired us to start learning more about poetry and begin writing our own poems.

The students spent the next few weeks studying a variety of literary devices, such as alliteration, metaphors, and personification and began incorporating them into their own poems. They wrote and

illustrated over ten different types of poems including cinquains, haikus, acrostics, and rhyming couplets. After all their hard work, the students compiled their poems to create their very own poetry books. They are excited to share them at the upcoming open house!

Our poetry unit also provided the students the opportunity to read a range of published poems and poetry books. Then they chose a couple of their favorite poems and orally read them to their classmates to practice using expression, emotion, and rhythm. Presenting poems with a partner was one of our favorite activities.

Throughout this unit, we reflected on how God designed us with the ability and desire to create and use language to express ourselves and share truth with others. We read examples of poetry from the Bible, especially the Psalms of David, and discussed how we can praise and glorify God with our poetry. We are thankful for all we have learned and the fun we have had so far this year and are looking forward to all God has in store for the next quarter!



## Secondary English Tidbits and Such:

Spring is in the air— my students can sense it, and as Mark Twain so aptly put it, “It’s spring fever. That is what the name of it is. And when you’ve got it, you want—oh, you don’t quite know what it is you do want, but it just fairly makes your heart ache, you want it so!” In English, we are trying to fight the urge to bask in the glow of spring and keep our noses to the grindstone as we finish out quarter three and round the corner to the home stretch of the school year.

Students in British Literature are nearing the completion of *Animal Farm* by George Orwell. It has been fascinating to see the



connection between the social and political issues of the Russian Revolution (Stalin and Lenin), *Animal Farm*, and even our current time. Thinking through the implications of socialism and communism has produced much discussion as we seek to see these ideologies through Biblical lenses. Students will be working on writing an argumentative response to the novel in the coming weeks.

Students in 9/10 grade English have been reading the classic *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. This book is riddled with opportunities to discuss how our faith as Christians can inform our opinions about others. Atticus Finch provides an excellent role model to dissect throughout the novel. We are all looking forward to seeing the movie version of *To Kill A Mockingbird* on the large screen at the AMC over spring break! The AMC is showing some of the old classics each month and happen to be showing *To Kill A Mockingbird* this month

My 7th and 8th graders have been faithfully delving deeper into the depths of grammar. We are just finishing our chapter on phrases and clauses, and the students have become increasingly more confident in diagramming complicated sentence constructions. Students recently finished researching and writing a character profile on a Biblical character. The students wrote engaging papers on David, Moses, Noah, Ruth, Esther and Jael, to name a few. I was impressed at their organization and thoughtful insights. In Literature class, students just finished a unit on heroes. We mainly read a novel called *The Road to the Bastille* highlighting a character's search for true fulfillment, peace, and reconciliation during the French Revolution. Beginning this week, students will be focusing on a missionary biography of their choice, culminating in a creative shutterfold book report.

Thank you for entrusting your students to me for English class! I count it a privilege to teach them. For His glory, Londie Grothjan



### Mrs. Corfman's History Class

One of the most rewarding parts of teaching at a Christian school has been the opportunity to teach Geography from a Christian perspective. To the Christian scholar, Geography is so much more than simply locating places on a map. As these bright young people know, Geography can give us a glimpse of God's heart for people from all nations, languages, and cultures. Rather than simply locating



countries, these students have been learning about the culture, the language, and most importantly, missions to that nation. We have been looking at the percentages of evangelical Christians, the persecution of Christians, and the best way to reach each particular culture. My prayer is that these students catch a little bit of God's heart for all people and know that God wants to use them to reach people. Students have recently

given presentations on specific countries and regions. Each presentation included important information about the number of Christians and the best way to reach each culture. I am so encouraged with their interest in God’s heart for all people. While the world may see evangelists as people who destroy cultures, we have the opportunity to explore evangelism with a New Heaven and New Earth in mind, knowing that God’s heart is for all people from all nations and tongues and ethnicities, and that one day we will worship together with believers from all over the world.



## Basketball Season Recap



The high school girls co-oped with Unity Christian School again this season. The team was composed of five Unity and five Tri-State players. Laura and Maya Fernandes earned All-Conference Honorable Mention recognition and Jillian Fisher earned Second Team All-Conference. Blessings, Chris Fransman TSCS AD

The junior high boys’ team this year was coached by Mr. Rasmussen. The team lost some really close games and improved in their skills from last season.



## Make a Joyful noise

*“My heart, O God, is steadfast; I will sing and make music with all my soul.” Ps. 108:1*

Music is a gift from God, and I have been so blessed to share my love of music with others my whole life. I graduated with a degree in Music Education from Bob Jones University, where I worked in the music library for several years until my husband became the librarian at Emmaus Bible College. I was principal violist with the Dubuque Symphony for almost 20 years and served as their Education Coordinator and librarian for many years. When my children were older, I earned my masters in music education from UNI and taught music at several area colleges. In 2001, the Lord paved the way for me to found the Northeast Iowa School of Music, the same year I began teaching instrumental music in the Dubuque Community School District. My husband and I were among the founding families of what is now Arbor Oaks Bible Chapel, where I have worked with VBS, Christmas programs, and the music ministry off and on for the last 35 years. As a published composer, I am thankful to have had the opportunity to conduct one of my own compositions at Carnegie Hall. Now I am excited to be a part of the Tri-State Christian School family and look forward to teaching music in a Christian atmosphere and helping all the students (including my own grandchildren!) to make a joyful noise unto the Lord! Tracy Rush



### Auction Highlights



Kindergarten



1st Grade



2<sup>nd</sup> Grade



3<sup>rd</sup> Grade



4<sup>th</sup> Grade



5<sup>th</sup> Grade



6<sup>th</sup> Grade



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