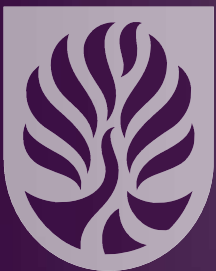


CELEBRATING THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRISTMAS



DECEMBER 2020

GCA LION PRIDE



GRANVILLE
CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY



A NOTE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

It is hard to believe that December is here. We have a great opportunity to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ during this special time of year. This time of the year is normally spent full of family gatherings, activities, and celebrations that highlight the end of another year. Yet this year, while things may be different, the real reason we can celebrate Christmas has not changed. During this season, let us not forget the true meaning of why we can celebrate the “Most Wonderful Time of the Year.”

Though Covid has limited some of our Christmas traditions, we are excited to have you attend our Elementary Christmas Chapel at 2 PM on Friday, December 18. Come join us as we celebrate Christ’s coming to earth during our final day of school in 2020. Our high school is planning a “Christmas Mingle and Jingle” that evening from 6 - 9 PM. We are looking forward to next year when we are able to have a few more celebrations during this time of year.

It is also during December and January that we begin building our outreach campaign for the next school year. The Lord has blessed our school over the last few years and many new families are enjoying our school this year! As we prepare for our Welcome Wednesdays and Open House events, I’d ask for you to consider families that you think would enjoy our school and be a good fit for our school family. Invite them to attend one of the upcoming events. We will have invitation cards in the office after Christmas for you to personally invite them to attend.

As a school, we cherish the opportunity to invest in the lives of your children. Seeing them learn and grow in their knowledge and abilities each day, brings us great enthusiasm. I know many of you feel similarly about our school and as we approach a new year, we would love the opportunity to invest in the lives of other families in our community.

We hope you enjoy the Christmas celebrations this season. Cherish the time with family and friends. We look forward to next year and the blessings our Lord will give to us all.

Josh Sexton,

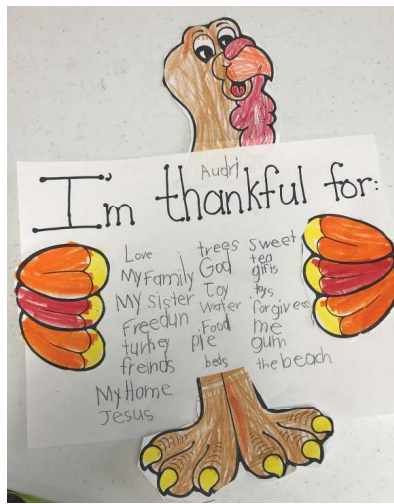
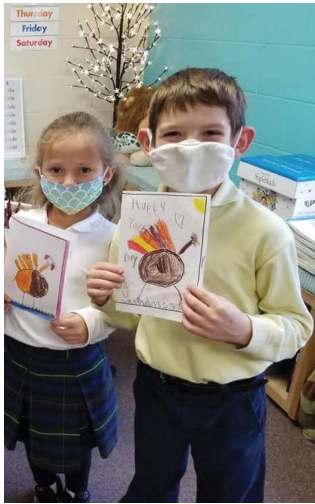
Head of School





Thanksgiving Festivities

IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Mrs. Lowery's turkeys have been learning about the voyage of the pilgrims and their life here in America. They have also been focused on giving thanks to God, our father, who provides everything for us.

Mrs. Waterer's class learned about and compared pumpkins and apples with a hands-on approach!



FIRST GRADE



SECOND GRADE

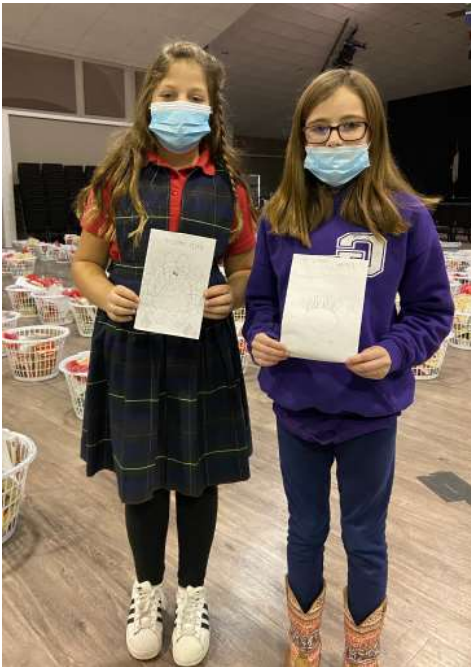




On the last day before Thanksgiving Break, our High School National Honor Society organized the filling of the Thanksgiving Baskets for our joint service project with Spring Hills Baptist Church. All of our high school students filled the 120 baskets that would be delivered to members of our community in need. Thank you so much for supporting those in need through this service opportunity!

Thanksgiving baskets is an annual project for GCA that provides our students and families the opportunity to personally connect with those in need in our community. Our elementary students wrote individual notes to be put into each basket. They came down to the worship center by class where they prayed over the baskets and for the families who would receive them.





Mrs. Rizor and the art classes wrote Scripture around the rims of each basket and created artwork to be put into each one. This year, Pastor Gary took on the task of purchasing the rolls with the money donated by our senior class. As he was loading the rolls into his cart, a man approached him asking if he was a part of a church ministry for Thanksgiving. The man continued, saying that he had prayed for God to bring him an opportunity to help others in need for Thanksgiving. The man then paid for the entire cart of rolls and Pastor Gary was able to use the money raised by the seniors to purchase the remaining items that were still needed to fill the Thanksgiving baskets. It was a beautiful example of the way in which the Lord provides, whether it is for a physical need or a soul's desire to be a servant. We cannot thank you, the GCA community, enough for your donation of items to fill these baskets and greater needs of others for Thanksgiving.



"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."

2 Corinthians 9:11



Each year, GCA students in grades K-12 have the opportunity to help with Operation Christmas Child, a service project through Samaritan's Purse where shoeboxes are packed and shipped to countries across the world for the sole purpose of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The national collection week took place in November where Spring Hills Baptist served as a local collection center for churches, schools, families and organizations throughout Licking County.

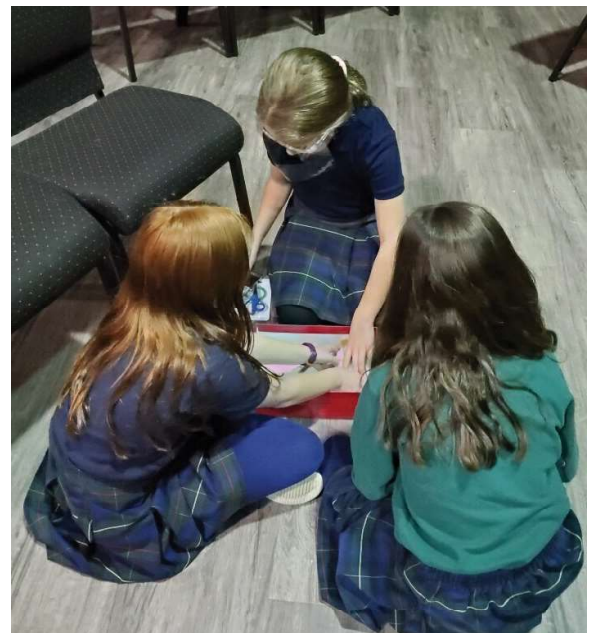
Our classes at GCA set their own goal to provide items to make boxes for a certain gender and age. After the items were brought in, Pastor Gary hosted a "Packing Party" with each class where the students were able to assemble the boxes themselves. They prayed over each box: for the children who will be receiving not only the gifts inside, but the message of Jesus's death and our salvation—that they may accept Him into their hearts as their Lord and Savior. The elementary classes hosted their packing parties right before Thanksgiving Break.



FIFTH GRADE



FOURTH GRADE





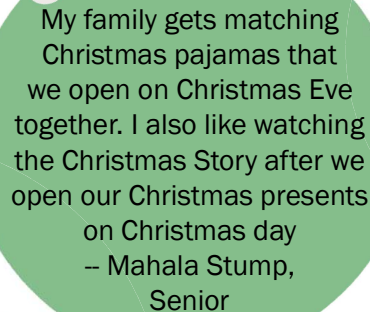
Every box has a divine appointment. We have had special Chapel speakers and guests over the years who were recipients of the shoeboxes in other countries and are now in ministry as missionaries and pastors. Operation Christmas Child partners with the local churches in each of those remote areas, and those local churches are the ones that personally deliver the boxes. As they do so, they share the Gospel with the children in their own villages. The most beautiful part is the relationship this builds between the children and the churches, opening the doors for those children to return to them over and over.

The middle school students helped load all of the completed boxes onto a semi truck that shipped them to Charlotte, North Carolina, the next day. Charlotte is one of six processing centers in the U.S. and it is the largest in both the size and in its production. Our Senior and Junior students annually make the trip to Charlotte to help process the shoeboxes with other volunteers during the first week of December, but, most unfortunately, due to COVID, this trip was not possible this year. Please be in prayer for the processing centers as they work through having significantly fewer volunteers this year.





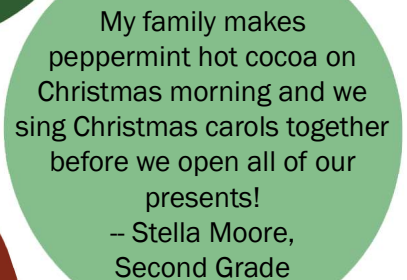
Favorite Christmas Traditions



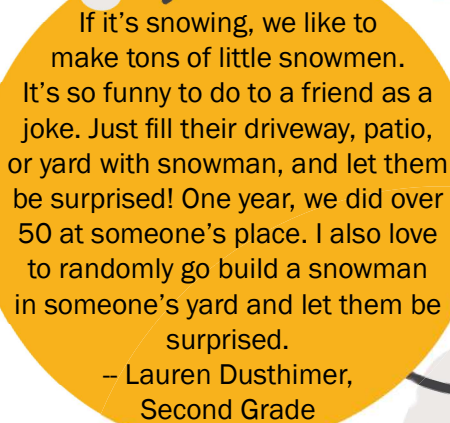
My family gets matching Christmas pajamas that we open on Christmas Eve together. I also like watching the Christmas Story after we open our Christmas presents on Christmas day
– Mahala Stump, Senior



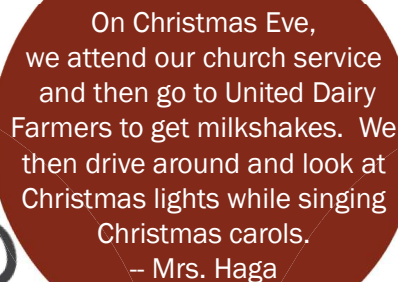
We go to the Christmas Eve service at church, then wake up Christmas morning and go to my sister-in-law's house for Christmas breakfast with the Barton side.
– Chelsa Barton, Kindergarten



My family makes peppermint hot cocoa on Christmas morning and we sing Christmas carols together before we open all of our presents!
– Stella Moore, Second Grade



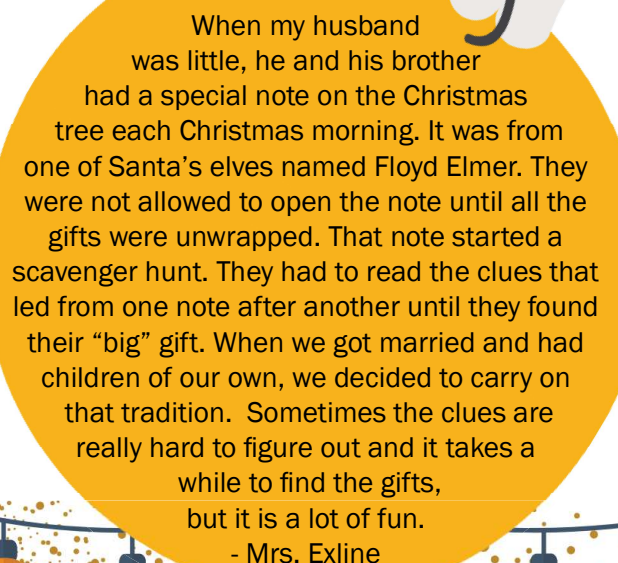
If it's snowing, we like to make tons of little snowmen. It's so funny to do to a friend as a joke. Just fill their driveway, patio, or yard with snowman, and let them be surprised! One year, we did over 50 at someone's place. I also love to randomly go build a snowman in someone's yard and let them be surprised.
– Lauren Dusthimer, Second Grade




On Christmas Eve, we attend our church service and then go to United Dairy Farmers to get milkshakes. We then drive around and look at Christmas lights while singing Christmas carols.
– Mrs. Haga

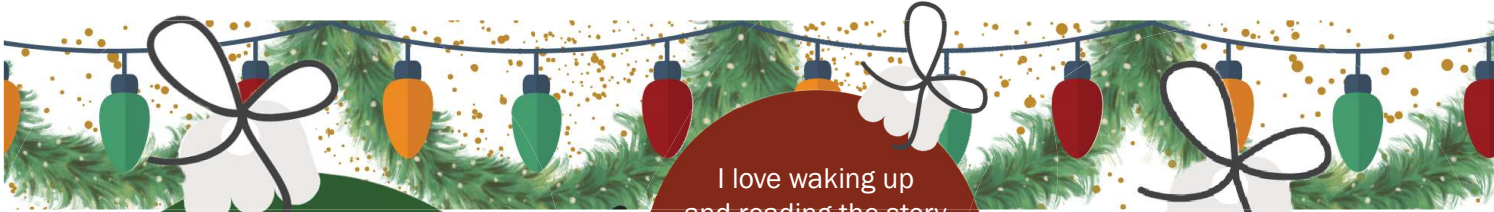


My favorite thing about Christmas is going to Christmas Eve services, lighting our candles and singing "Silent Night". Sometimes my family goes downtown Columbus to St. John's Church where my Grandparents attended. We attend Christmas Eve service where we sing "Silent Night" in German. It is a very emotional time for our family, as my Grandparents are no longer with us. I also love Christmas morning as our family sits around in jammies and reads the Christmas Story from the Bible before the presents begin. Being a Mimi has brought out the most joy in me! I am looking forward to seeing Christmas through the eyes of my 3 year old grandson, Benson and my 6 month old grandson, Bodhi! – Mrs. Lowery



When my husband was little, he and his brother had a special note on the Christmas tree each Christmas morning. It was from one of Santa's elves named Floyd Elmer. They were not allowed to open the note until all the gifts were unwrapped. That note started a scavenger hunt. They had to read the clues that led from one note after another until they found their "big" gift. When we got married and had children of our own, we decided to carry on that tradition. Sometimes the clues are really hard to figure out and it takes a while to find the gifts, but it is a lot of fun.
– Mrs. Exline





My favorite Christmas tradition is gathering with my family on Christmas Eve. We begin with church, then we gather at my parent's house. We all bring our favorite appetizers, and have a Christmas cookie tray. There are a lot of us! We have a white elephant gift and steal extravaganza. We then end the night playing charades. -- Mrs. Rosinski

I love waking up and reading the story of Jesus' birth with my parents.
-- Landon Hegenberger, Junior

When I was a kid, we would gather around the Christmas tree and my dad would read about Jesus' birth from the Bible. He still does it to this day, but now with all of my adult siblings and our families. Another thing we would do growing up is go caroling. It's something that I want to continue with my family now that my kids are a little older.
-- Mrs. Diener

A Christmas tradition that has always made my heart happy is decorating the Christmas tree. As a child I loved the memories tied with every ornament. That tradition has continued into adulthood with my own children. Since my children were very small, we have picked a new ornament each year, to mark something our family did that year. Now, I look forward to pulling those ornaments out and be reminded of some of the special times we have had as a family... from vacations to building a snowman! When my children were little, I loved having a "picnic" in front of the tree to look at the ornaments. Sitting there with only the tree lights on, having conversations about all the ornaments and the memories they hold, was so very special.
-- Mrs. Chetnik

My favorite Christmas tradition is Ice Cream Pie and making Buckeyes.--
Brendon Austin, Junior

My favorite tradition is going out to a tree farm and cutting down the Rizer tree of the year. We usually name our trees and keep part of the trunk with the name and year on it!! Last year was Franklin!!
-- Mrs. Rizer

A favorite memory from my childhood was going to Timbuk Farms as a family to find the perfect tree. My two sisters and I looked forward to seeing Santa Claus and having hot chocolate after we had cut down our tree. Here's a picture of me on Christmas morning in front of one of our special trees.
--Mrs. Mason

Playing some good old pond hockey!
-- Jackson Hood, Junior



First and foremost JESUS is my favorite part of Christmas, and to have a WHITE Christmas is such a joy! I love to re-read the Christmas story every year during the Christ-mas season. My favorite memories of Christ-mas are going to Christ-mas Eve Candle-light services with my family. I am still a kid at heart when we sing the traditional hymns of Christ-mas. I simply cherish these times together worshipping our Savior! One very vivid memory I have of Christ-mas is the colorful lights on our Christ-mas tree, and the fact that I eventually grew taller than our tree. My parents had the same tree for over 20 years and it was a 4-ft-tall tree! As I grew taller, my dad put it on a crate to make it appear taller, but eventually it would just fall off of the crate.

They finally caved after I moved out on my own and bought a 6-ft tree.

– Mrs. Johnson



Christmas always started with focusing on Jesus, reading books and Bible stories about his birth and time on earth. We also spent a lot of time with family. I have wonderful and very vivid memories of going to Lazarus with my mom and grandma for “Breakfast with Santa” and then we would visit Santa for a picture (see above), talk to the “Talking Tree” and I would get to buy gifts for my family in the children’s “Secret Santa Shop.” – Mrs. Hill

My favorite christmas tradition with my family is our baking day where we make all of our Christmas cookies, snowballs and candy canes!

– Maddie Abbati, Senior

My favorite Christmas tradition is waking my 5 siblings (and now siblings-in-laws, nieces, and nephews) up on Christmas morning! Once everyone is finally awake, we all have to sit on the staircase to get a picture together as we wait for Mom and Dad to give the go ahead! Then we all go running around the wall to the living room to see all of the presents under the tree!

– Andrew Cox, Senior

My family gets other people presents who don't have any for Christmas

– Ronny Graham, First Grade

We sing Christmas carols together on Christmas morning and eat birthday cake to celebrate Jesus's birthday! – Audri Geiger, First Grade

I love drinking hot chocolate and watching a Christmas Story with my family

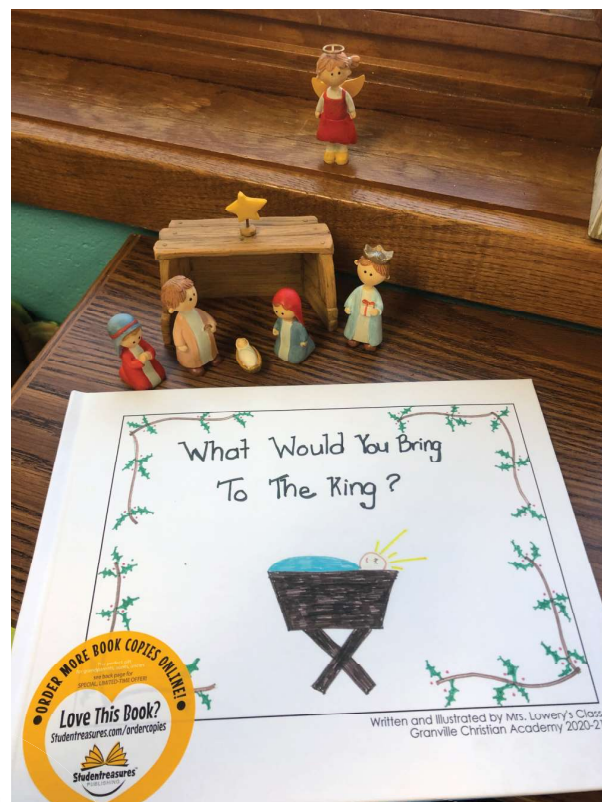
– Megan Gosewski Second Grade

When I was young, our church always had a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. I will always remember being SO excited that I would get to light a candle at the end of service; unfortunately, I would usually fall asleep on my mother's or father's lap before this happened since it was always at the very end after a lot of “adult” talking! As I got older and was able to stay awake, singing the Christmas songs and lighting the candle was something I looked forward to every year, and is still something I enjoy. O’ Holy Night is one of my very favorite songs – year round!

– Mrs. Waterer



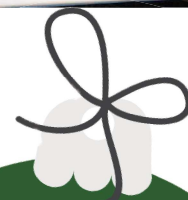
Every year, the first grade class writes a book titled, *What Would You Bring to the King?* The students learn how to write, edit, and illustrate a storybook, and then we send it to the publisher to be printed. We celebrate storytime around the Christmas tree everyday starting December first. We even put up a roaring fireplace in the background!



My favorite Christmas tradition is celebrating our Polish ancestry every year by getting together with my aunts, uncles and cousins and making my Grandmother's recipe of homemade perogies stuffed with sauerkraut. Then we get together on Christmas Eve to share a complete Polish meal with my huge extended family. It is so fun to see everyone and celebrate Christmas together.
-- Mrs. Pound



My mom gets out the a box that has a picture of a stable on it and every day in December we get to add a character to the stable! Baby Jesus is always the last one!
-- Samuel Bartley,
First Grade



My favorite Christmas tradition is right after my birthday (5 days before Christmas) when we spend the day at Grandma's decorating cookies! We have an advent calendar that we open everyday and read the Christmas story together.
-- Alivia Fulk,
First Grade





The theme for the fourth grade classroom is to “Think Differently.” This is inspired by the verse Philippians 4:6 which says, “Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.” From the beginning of the school year, we talk about our attitude and how we can choose to complain and worry about things or try to think differently. We may not like wearing masks but we should be thankful that we are together; homework can be hard but we can ask God to help us use the amazing minds He has given us. Working hard at school is a way to honor Him. If we’re grumpy and



complaining, it is hard for others to see God shining through us. If we’re always negative, those around us may start being grumpy and complaining then none of us shine for Jesus! We should try to encourage each other instead. We try to help each other remember that in every situation, there is always



something to be thankful to our God who is always with us. We must choose to look for it...choose to try to honor Him in all we do, choose to think differently!! Fourth grade wanted to encourage our school to think differently and keep our focus on God who loves us. They brainstormed on what to do which evolved into the bulletin board display at the top of the back stairs. They are very excited that God helped us find a perfect spot where everyone will see the encouraging message since we all have to go up the back stairs!! They are seeing how God can use us to touch the hearts of others. Once we got everything hung up, the students prayed over the boards. They prayed for their boards to be an encouragement to everyone. One student prayed that if someone was having a hard day, that God would help them look at this and smile knowing God loves them. We all prayed that it would inspire all of GCA so we can be a brighter light for our Savior.

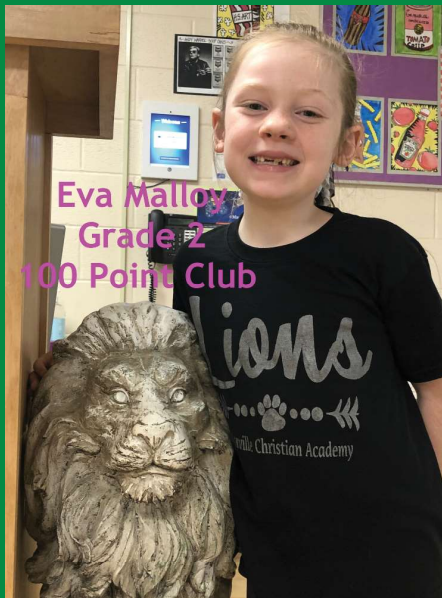
Gym Class



We have been busy learning new skills in the gym working on kicking/trapping, striking off a tee, and with hands and rackets, and rolling! We have practiced these skills with fun games such as NASCAR, pin soccer, balloons and using the new tees and nets from our Jump Rope for Heart money! I wanted to make sure to send a picture of the great new equipment we were able to buy with the money our school earned from the money raised with the Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser last year! We received \$400 for new equipment, and have had a blast using the new equipment! So thank you for your hard work last year earning that! The kids have been working hard and I love seeing them play! On days where the weather is not favorable, we use our creativity with indoor gym activities such as cup stacking to work on dexterity! We will be finishing up this month with basketball skills and some Christmas games!



Congratulations to our fall Accelerated Reading 100 Point Club Inductees!



Why Christian Education?

THE CENTRALITY OF JESUS AND THE BIBLE

(FROM THE GCA PHILOSOPHY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, 8.11.19)

"For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything."

Colossians 1:16-18 NASB

Granville Christian Academy functions on the belief that Jesus and the Bible are to be at the center of all learning and expects the student to evaluate all he or she studies through the lens of God's Word. Our philosophy is rooted in biblical truth reflected in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6) and "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth" (John 17:17), and Who gave His life to pay for our sins because of His great love for us (John 3:16; Romans 5:8). Based on these beliefs we intend that every aspect of academic study, spiritual formation, and all school activity is to be based upon biblical truth.



**GRANVILLE
CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY**



*Early Bird
Application
Discount*



Now through January 31st

**APPLY ONLINE FOR ONLY \$50!
WWW.GRANVILLECA.ORG**

By putting your application in now, you are able to reserve your student's place in line for open seats available in each of our classes Kindergarten-12th Grade!

JANUARY

A LOOK AT THE MONTH AHEAD

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1 New Year's Day - NO SCHOOL	2 6:00 VGBB (Senior Night)
3	4 Teacher In-service -- NO SCHOOL	5 5:00 MSGBB 6:00 MSBBB 6:00 VBBB 7:00 VGBB	6	7 February Lunch Ordering Opens 6:00 MSGBB 7:15 MSBBB	8 Report Cards are available	9
10	11 6:00 MSGBB 7:15 MSBBB 6:30 Board Meeting	12 6:30 VBBB	13	14 5:00 MSGBB 6:00 MSBBB 6:00 VGBB	15	16 7:30 VBBB
17	18 Martin Luther King Day -- NO SCHOOL	19 4:30 MSGBB 5:30 MSBBB 7:30 VGBB	20	21 February Lunch Ordering Closes 6:00 MSGBB 7:15 MSBBB 7:30 VBBB	22 6:00 VGBB	23 7:30 VBBB
24	25 Town Hall 6:00 Staff 7:00 Parents	26 6:00 VGBB 6:30 MSGBB 7:30 MSBBB 7:30 VBBB	27	28 7:30 VGBB	29 7:30VBBB	30 2:00 VGBB 3:30 MSGBB 7:30 VBBB
31	Through the month of December, OHSAA has limited attendance at athletic events to only coaches, athletes, and their families. We will communicate any changes to this as we are informed by OHSAA.			**VGBB - Varsity Girls Basketball VBBB - Varsity Boys Basketball MSGBB - Middle School Girls Basketball MSBBB - Middle School Boys Basketball		

Additional Information

1/1 - New Year's Day -- NO SCHOOL

1/4 - Teacher In-Service -- NO SCHOOL

1/7 - Lunch Ordering for February Opens

1/8 - Report Cards are available to view on your parent RenWeb account

1/14 - Lunch Ordering for February Closes

1/18 - Martin Luther King Day -- NO SCHOOL

1/25 - Town Hall - 6:00 PM Staff, 7:00 PM GCA Parents

*****Many of our athletic game dates in December were changed due to COVID. The following dates are current as of this moment, but may change. All games are updated live on arbiter. Please see the weekly email announcements for the Arbiter link.**

Varsity Boys Basketball

1/5 6:00 PM--@ Fredericktown High School -- 111 Stadium Drive, Fredericktown, OH 43019

1/12 6:30 PM--vs. Northside Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

1/16 7:30 PM--vs. Utica High School -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

1/21 7:30 PM--@ Madison Christian -- 3565 Bixby Rd, Groveport, OH 43125

1/23 7:30 PM--@ Crooksville High School -- 4075 Ceramic Way, Crooksville, OH 43731

1/26 7:30 PM--@ Tree of Life -- 935 Northridge Rd, Columbus, OH 43224

1/29 7:30 PM--@ Delaware Christian -- 45 Belle Ave, Delaware, OH 43015

1/30 7:30 PM--@ Danville High School -- 10 W. Rambo St, Danville, OH 43014

Varsity Girls Basketball

1/2 6:00 PM---vs. Gilead Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055 (Senior Night)

1/5 7:00 PM--vs. Grove City Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

1/14 6:00 PM--@ Madison Christian -- 3565 Bixby Rd, Groveport, OH 43125

1/19 7:30 PM--vs. Tree of Life -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

1/22 6:00 PM--@ Delaware Christian -- 45 Belle Ave, Delaware, OH 43015

1/26 6:00 PM--@ Fredericktown High School -- 111 Stadium Drive, Fredericktown, OH 43019

1/28 7:30 PM--vs. Northside Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

1/30 2:00 PM--vs. Harvest Prep -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

Middle School Boys Basketball

1/5 6:00 PM--@ Northside Christian -- 2655 W. Shrock Rd, Westerville, OH 43081

1/7 7:15 PM--vs. Holy Trinity -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

1/11 7:15 PM--@ Tree of Life -- 935 Northridge Rd, Columbus, OH 43224

1/14 6:00 PM--vs. Delaware Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

1/19 5:30 PM--vs. Liberty Christian Academy -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

1/21 7:15 PM--vs. Madison Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

1/26 7:30 PM--@ Holy Trinity -- 225 S. Columbus St, Somerset, OH 43783

Middle School Girls Basketball

1/5 5:00 PM--@ Northside Christian -- 2655 W. Shrock Rd, Westerville, OH 43081

1/7 6:00 PM--vs. Holy Trinity -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

1/11 6:00 PM--@ Tree of Life -- 935 Northridge Rd, Columbus, OH 43224

1/14 5:00 PM--vs. Delaware Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

1/19 4:30 PM--vs. Liberty Christian Academy -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

1/21 6:00 PM--vs. Madison Christian -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

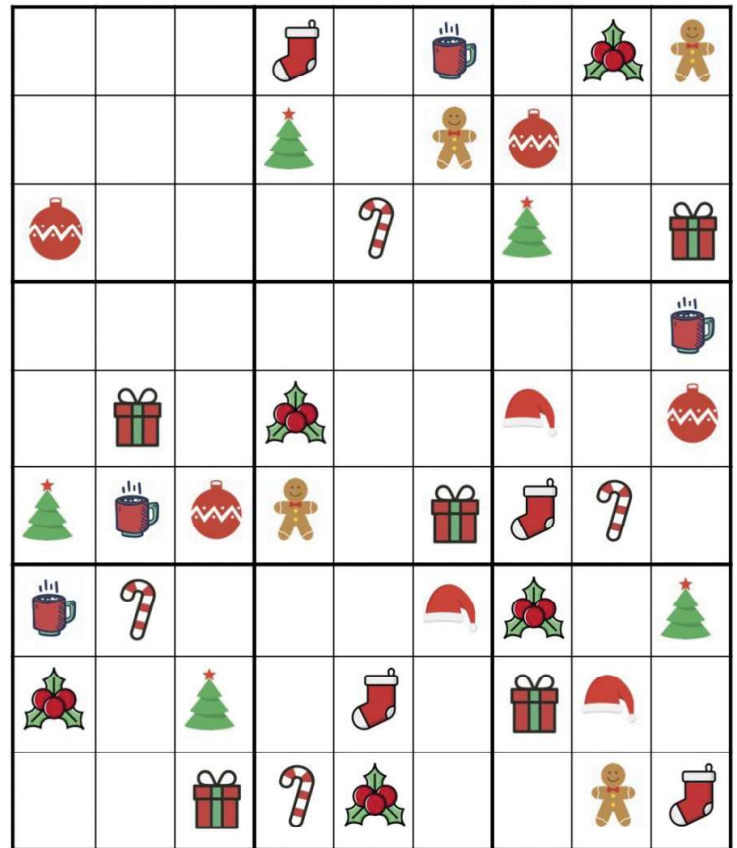
1/26 6:30 PM--@ Holy Trinity -- 225 S. Columbus St, Somerset, OH 43783

1/30 3:30 PM--vs. Tree of Life -- 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055



LIONS FUN PAGE!

Solve the sudoku puzzle to the right by filling in the blank spaces with the missing Christmas icons. Make sure no pictures appear more than once in the same row, column or 3x3 square. Happy Puzzling!



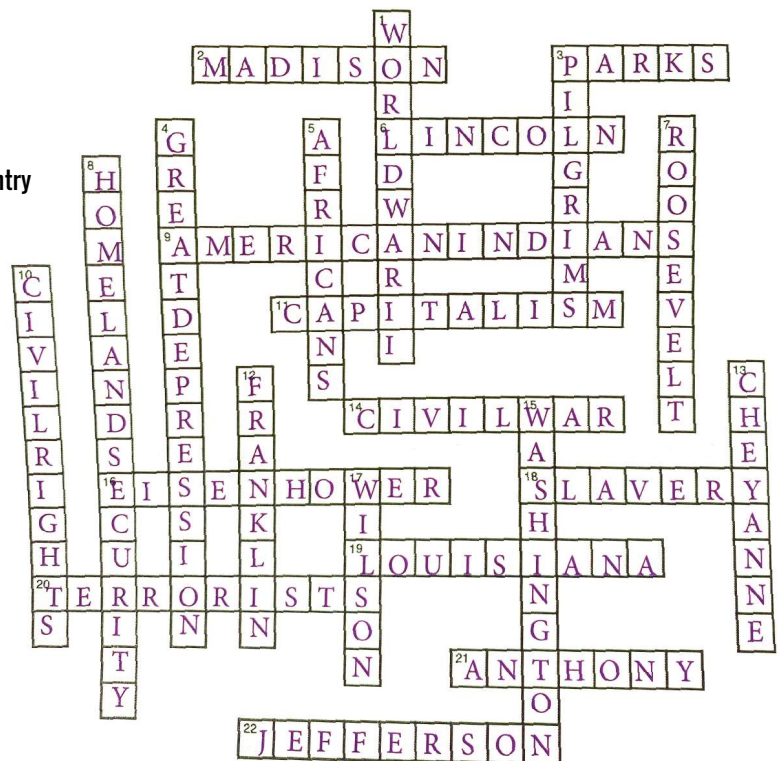
Answer Key for the crossword puzzle found in the November edition

ACROSS

2. One of the authors of the Federalist Papers
3. Refused to give up her bus seat to a white man
6. President who freed the slaves and held the U.S. together as one country
9. People who already lived in this land when the Europeans arrived.
11. Economic system in the U.S.
14. War between the North and the South
16. General during World War II who later became president of the U.S.
18. Buying and selling people and making them work for no pay
19. Territory bought from France in 1803
20. People who attacked the U.S. on September 11, 2001
21. Fought for women's rights including the right to vote
22. Wrote the Declaration of Independence

DOWN

1. U.S. fought Germany, Japan, and Italy during this war
3. Early colonists in the U.S. who celebrated the first Thanksgiving with the Native Americans
4. Period of economic hardship in the U.S. during the 1930s
5. People taken to the U.S. and sold as slaves
7. President during the Great Depression and World War II
8. Department created to protect the U.S. from terrorist attacks
10. The movement that tried to end racial discrimination
12. U.S. diplomat who helped write the Constitution, created the first free library, and became the first Postmaster General



13. American Indian tribe who lived in the area which became southern Wyoming and northern Colorado
15. First U.S. president known as "the father of our country"
17. President during World War I