

ENGAGING HEARTS AND EQUIPPING MINDS



SEPTEMBER 2021

GCA LION PRIDE



GRANVILLE
CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY



A NOTE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

We made it. The first few days in August we dipped our toes into the 2021-2022 GCA school year, and now we are fully submersed. We have been oriented, informed, invited to see classrooms, and student art is already up on bulletin boards. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. II Timothy 4:7. Wait a moment...That sounds like a verse we would read at the END of a school year. Have there been monumental challenges to education in the last two years? Have we had challenges in each of our homes? Has our nation had big challenges to wade through? The answer is yes.

Our track teams and cross country teams can tell us that in a race there can be a lot to celebrate. Maybe you came in first, and that is great. Maybe you beat your personal best time, and that is great. Maybe you had the exhilaration of getting a “second wind,” and that is great. Maybe you overcame a big obstacle, injury, or setback to finally finish the race. The goal is to finish and it starts at the starting line not the finish line. As we are well into the September leg of the race, there are great things to celebrate.

We are looking forward to celebrating our education with our Grandfriends on the 20th. We celebrate our freedom and privilege to openly gather for prayer as a school on the 22nd with See You at the Pole. On the 23rd and 27th, we celebrate open communication with Parent/Teacher Conferences (is that like taking half-time in a race? Maybe I’m taking the analogy too far.) On the 30th, we finish the month with a celebration in the High School of the inductees into the National Honor Society.

Isn’t God good? As our Savior, He has made us worthy to run the race. We all have a part to play. We are not in a race to win against someone else. We are running in support of each other. We are encouraging each other as we go along. We want our students to be leading each other on through the race to good goals. One of the best parts of this race is that we experience JOY along the way. Let’s run in a way that we aim to finish, keep the faith, and run with joy toward our Heavenly Father.

Jonathan Priest,

Middle School and High School Principal



GCA ATHLETICS

HS & MS Cross Country

The Cross Country season is in full swing, and the GCA Lions are starting off the year on the right foot. For a back-to-school team bonding activity, the teams met at 6:00 AM for a Flashlight to Sunrise run. After the run, they were rewarded with a team breakfast at IHOP. Runners burn a lot of calories, and although they focus on proper nutrition, they have a treat every now and then such as their annual Run to Whit's. It's not all fun and games, though. The team puts in a lot of miles and practice running on difficult hills and in all types of weather conditions from 95-degree heat to pouring down rain. Their training has brought them success so far. After only three meets, the teams combined have placed in the top 30 of their events over 20 times. These races usually have anywhere from 50-150 runners.

Top Achievers:

- Eliana Jackson - 2nd Place at the Fisher Catholic Invitational
- Noah Tice - 6th Place at Bryn Du Newark Catholic Invitational
- Sierra Petry - 7th Place and 1st girl to finish at the Circleville 6th Grade and Under 1-Mile Fun Run
- Caleb Lilly - 8th Place at the Fisher Catholic Invitational
- Meghan Exline - 12th place at Bryn Du Newark Catholic Invitational

They have had over six runners already achieve career PR's (Personal Records) and the season has just begun. In addition to all the individual success, the Middle School Girls Team even brought home a First Place trophy from the Fisher Catholic Bee Moore Invitational. All five girls placed in the top half of the runners in the race, a few of them running together to push each other along. What teamwork!

Catherine Exline, Head Coach



Varsity Volleyball

The GCA Lions started their season 4-1 within their conference with 5 total wins so far—more wins than their entire last season! The Lions have shown incredible drive and determination, pushing through hard games and scoring points when it matters most. So far this season, they have taken ownership of their new rotation and excelled with consistent serves, strong kills, and frequent blocks. Come on out and support the Lions!

Michelle Staley, Head Coach
Breanna Potts, Assist. Coach

Varsity Soccer

The season so far has been great. The team lost the first game to a great Northridge team, but they managed to stay focused as a team, and are now on a 5-game win streak while also being tied for first place in MOCAL, which is awesome. Three of our five wins have been against D2 schools which is helping to improve our ranking when it comes to playoff seeding. The Varsity Team is playing very well as a team right now and is trying to stay focused and injury free, while keeping the wins coming in.

Shawn Browning, Head Coach
Brad Pilkington, Dan Pound, and Leah Benvie Assist. Coach



A special thank you to Jack Pasco at TSS Photography for taking our team photos and to Cheryl Phillips at Countryside Photography for capturing action shots throughout the season!

MS Golf

On-course performance has been excellent for the Middle School Golf Team. AJ Lear has consistently been scoring in the mid-to-high 40s for nine holes. Jordan Stump has been a steady anchor, shooting low-and-mid 50s for nine holes. Hailey Smith had a career low at the Trout Club with a 53, which was fantastic on a tough course. Zander Ault shot a career low at our home course on September 9 with a 51. He has improved dramatically since last year, and I'm proud of him. Our 5th graders--Ben Brighton, Logan Gosiewski, and Jonathan Schirtzinger--are improving every day, and their enthusiasm is contagious. The best part of the year happened this past week when a visiting coach came up to me and said, "How in the world do you recruit such great kids to play for your team?" His daughter was playing, and one of our players cheered her on the whole match. By the end, they had exchanged phone numbers and started a new friendship. Our players are always cheering and raising up the other teams and their own teammates, and all the other players, parents, coaches see that. Our team lets the light of Jesus shine for all to see, and I'm very proud of them for it.

Robert Lear, Head Coach

MS Volleyball

The Middle School Volleyball team is coached by Kristen Easterday. The team came together on September 9th for a win over Tree of Life. In three tight sets, the girls pulled together as a team, where every player made a significant contribution to the win. These girls showed amazing heart as they battled for this win. In addition to the volleyball skills they have learned this season, they have developed an exceptional level of teamwork and sportsmanship on and off the court.

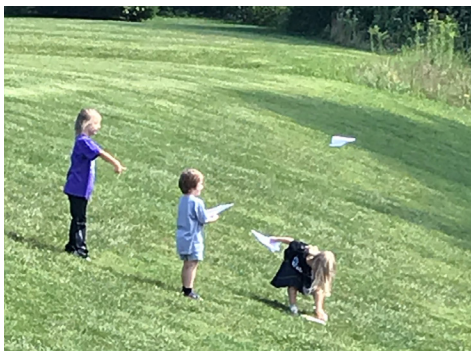
Kristen Easterday, Head Coach
Kristen Jones, Assist. Coach



FALLING INTO OUR CLASSROOM ROUTINES

Kindergarten is a big deal! At first, our newest addition to “big school” is scary for some, but that soon gives way to happy anticipation for each new day! In Mrs. Waterer’s class, we learn to read, write, and do all kinds of math. We learn to work and play together, to share, and to treat each other with compassion and respect. We learn independence AND teamwork! We learn so many important things to help us through life... and most importantly we learn the reason for life - God! Through song, dance, stories (His-stories!), and activities, we come to understand the Bible, prayer, and just how much Jesus Loves Us! Every school day is an adventure, and every school day is a blessing.

We do a lot of Bible crafts as we learn the meaning of the stories and verses. A really fun one is always creating stick puppets of the priest Eli, Hannah, and Samuel and then retelling the story to our friends and family using the puppets. (They are kind of silly and it makes us giggle!) Recently, we learned about the story in Kings where God sent the birds to feed Elijah and how He also takes care of us. We made two kinds of flying things and colored birds on them (a disc and a paper airplane) and then we took them outside and flew them.



It was fun to race and also just to compare which creation flew better.

Throughout the year, we also learn about many different animals, and we make a spider that walks up a string. We explore pumpkins (messy!) and make slime (extra messy!), and those days are extra fun!

– Mrs. Waterer, Kindergarten



Mrs. Chetnik’s **Kindergarten** class is off to a great start as the students are getting to know each other and all the things they need to know about school...being quiet in the hall, taking turns, knowing when to listen, and where to go for lunch and the bathroom! The overall theme for our year is taken from Matthew 10:29-31, “His eye is on the sparrow and He watches over me.” We have talked a lot about how we do not need to be afraid or nervous because God takes care of us. They have already seen some ways that God has taken care of them as they have started this new chapter! God has helped them make new friends, kept them safe, and helped them learn new things. We talked about letting the birds be reminder that God loves us and will always help us.

We are currently finishing a unit on sunflowers where students learned about the life cycle of a sunflower, the parts of a sunflower, and also learned that sunflowers are one of the things God uses to provide food for the birds, “because they can’t go to a grocery store!”



Just like the sunflowers follow the sun everyday to help them grow, we need to follow Jesus (the Son) to help us grow closer to Him. The final thoughts were how pretty the sunflowers were, and how God must have made them for us to make us smile!

– Mrs. Chetnik, Kindergarten



First Grade is off to a great start this year, I could feel all of the excitement and jitters before they even got in the door! We did our usual tour around the building for a refresher course for those who have been at GCA, and for those students who are attending for the first time. We have five new students in our class and that is very exciting!

The kids have loved diving into the Superkids’ reading series. They love catching up with the characters and seeing what adventures they will get into this year. Students are already beginning to take A.R. tests and working with Mrs. Pound and myself to set goals for reading progress.

We have been learning new rules, new surroundings, new curriculum, and the students are learning about their new teacher. The kids have definitely been enjoying being in the classroom with our class pet, Honu the turtle! Each day a student is chosen to be the Supernoodle of the Day! Along with many other jobs, the Supernoodle gets to feed Honu--a huge hit with the kids.

We have been working with addition in math, learning about scientists and what they do in our science class, and in our Social Studies book we have been studying about being a good citizen in our homes and in our classrooms.

One of our favorite things to do all week is our chapel time with Pastor Gary on Friday mornings. In addition to our classroom Bible lessons and Superbook videos, we meet with our HS Bible team on Mondays and the kids are really enjoying time with the "big kids."

I am so grateful for another year of "in school" learning with my kids and I am so glad to have these kiddos in my classroom as our First Grade Family.

-- Mrs. Lowery, First Grade



Second Grade is off and running! We are settling into our schedule, and students are getting used to our class rules and procedures, how centers work, and what it means to be a responsible second grader. The first day, I always share one of my favorite books First Day Jitters. The students are always shocked by the ending! We started our year making About Me posters and having show-and-tell-time of some of our favorite things. We worked on Community Building

puzzles focusing on how important each of us is in making second grade awesome!

We are so excited to have two new students in our class and everyone is helping them to feel right at home. In Bible, we have learned about Abraham and are getting ready to follow Moses on his journey leading the Israelite people. In Language Arts, the students are comfortable using their skills in areas like phonics and spelling tests, but have begun to look at new areas like grammar and writing projects.



The class will complete their first writing project this week, a personal narrative, after organizing ideas, drafting, editing, and then on to writing a final project. In math, students are beginning to see the value of the "math mess" as we learn how important it is to show our thinking. Place value, even and odd numbers, and skip counting are nice reviews as we get our brains back in gear after summer!

-- Mrs. Stoolfire, Second Grade



It is great to be back in the classroom! I am so impressed with these awesome **Third Graders!** During the very first week of school, they were managing the new system with our Chromebooks just like professionals! During center rotations, each student is in charge of getting a Chromebook, taking it to the desk, and logging in to the Google Classroom to work on assignments. All students are able to navigate this without my assistance, which then allows me to meet with small groups

of students for guided reading. The setup of Google Classroom has been one of the blessings taken from the days of remote learning. It allows me to individualize learning opportunities for students and also allows students to navigate independently through many different academic programs both at school and at home.

The Third Grade classroom is a busy place! The students in the classroom rotate through several classroom jobs each week. Students may have to clean lunch tables, inspect the room at the end of the day, monitor the charging of the computers, wipe down the white board, keep a list of prayer requests, or help clean student desks at the end of each day. However, three classroom jobs require work outside of the classroom. Our class Mathematician is in charge of filling an estimate jar. Once classmates make a guess on the number of items in the jar, it is the Mathematician's job to read the guesses and find the closest guess. Our class Reader picks a favorite picture book to read to the entire class at the end of the week. Fluency is one of the third grade reading standards, and listening to a classmate read a much-loved book is a wonderful way to help meet that standard!

**Congratulations to our first
Accelerated Reading
100 Point Club Inductee!**





Our class Geographer is in charge of picking a country in the world, completing a fact sheet about the country, and sharing the information with the class at the end of the week. The Geographer can also share pictures, videos, or other cultural items from the country as well. Above, you will see a photo of this past week's Geographer reporting on Tanzania and sharing a traditional song. Every other week a few students will find that they are on "vacation" for the week. It is well earned!

-- Mrs. Rosinski, Third Grade



The first several days in **Fourth Grade** were all about building community. We take quite a bit of time getting to know each other and the expectations for learning in 4th grade. We discussed Classroom Rules and used sticky notes to answer the following questions:

- What will you need to do in order to be successful in 4th Grade?
- What will Mrs. Diener need to do in order to help you be successful this year?
- What do you expect to learn this year?
- What should students be doing to make sure our class runs smoothly?
- School is important because ____.

Students worked in groups to evaluate rules and decide appropriate/inappropriate actions. Then, they created and presented a skit showing how and how not to follow the rules set around school or the classroom. As a class, we decided on five rules to implement in the classroom. When you enter our classroom, you will find our classroom rules poster hanging up with our signatures written on it. This signifies that we are in agreement of these rules, and we know that they will help us to be successful this school year.

-- Mrs. Diener, Fourth Grade

BOOK FAIR & READING WEEK

September 27 - October 1

Book Fair Hours:

Mon - 7:45 AM to 7:00 PM
Tues - 7:45 to 3:30 PM
Wed - 7:45 to 3:30 PM
Thurs - 7:45 AM to 5:30 PM
Fri - 7:45 to 3:30 PM

Join us for our Blast-Off Breakfast on Tuesday, September 28th from 7:30-8:00 AM! K-5 students can shop with a grown up, enjoy astronaut-approved treats and take their photo with our special surprise guest!

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Book Fair/Reading Week Theme Verse

You alone are the Lord. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.
 Nehemiah 9:6.

All K-5 students will receive a "Rocket to Reading Challenge" sheet. Students who complete the challenge and return the completed sheet will receive a reward and be entered into a drawing for prizes.

All K-5 Students may dress up on Friday. In lieu of GCA dress down, they may come to school in a **space themed costume! Costume judging will occur first thing in the morning and one prize will be awarded in each class!**

The **Fifth Grade** students are making new friends and reconnecting with the old. One of the students' favorite things about Fifth grade is having the privilege of being allowed to eat their snack at anytime in the day.

Our new touch-screen TV has finally arrived, and the students (and teacher) are excited to try it out. It will be fun to erase the board with one touch.

In Math, the students are extending their knowledge about place value into the hundred millions place. They also are becoming masters at two-digit by two-digit multiplication problems. In the coming weeks, they will get to perform surgery on a patient while learning the order of operations.

The students are also learning how scientists learn and discover new things. Scientists use many tools, and the fifth graders are getting a chance to explore some of these. Mrs. Exline brought in her lighted microscope, and the students are taking turns looking at everyday things close up. They have been surprised at what a drop of tea and a blade of grass looks like. After looking at very tiny things on earth in this unit, they will move on to very big things that are out of this world when they learn about our solar system.

— Mrs. Exline, Fifth Grade



The students were so excited and ready to get back into the gym this year for physical education class! We had a great start getting to know each other, getting the routines down, and understanding class expectations. The youngest classes have been learning new warm-up games about spatial awareness and locomotor skills (ask them if they know how to gallop or skip!). The older elementary students have been reviewing warm-ups, working on their teambuilding activities, and their first round of fitness testing. Everybody can look forward to working on kicking, throwing, and catching throughout September. We plan to go outside as much as possible before it gets too cold!

— Mrs. Spangler, Gym

GRANVILLE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

RUMMAGE SALE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1
12:00 PM TO 7:00 PM
5TH STREET GYM



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2
9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM
5TH STREET GYM

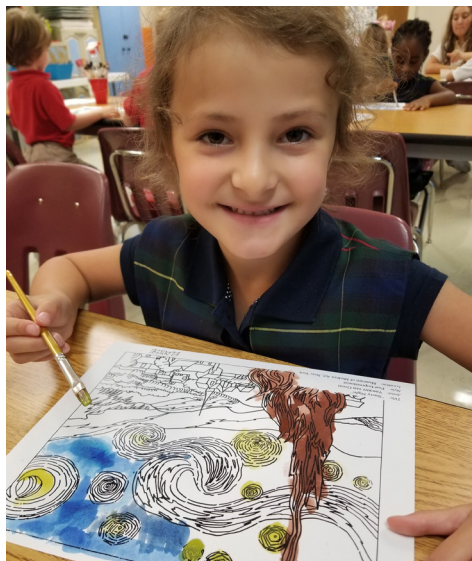
RUMMAGE SALE

WE'RE PURGING OLD EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE FROM BOTH GCA AND THE 5TH STREET GYM AND **THEY JUST MAY BE YOUR NEXT TREASURE!**

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FROM DESKS AND CABINETS TO SCOREBOARDS, CHAIRS, THEATER SEATS AND MORE! NO REASONABLE OFFERS WILL BE REFUSED!

This month in the art room, we will be doing lots of creative projects. My high school art class is working on beautiful Bible verse posters—The colors and various fonts are simply gorgeous! My photography class has been busy taking “summer” outdoor photos and editing these into masterpieces! Seventh graders have been working on “Pop Art” with ketchup and pop bottles, popcorn boxes, and of course soup cans! Look out Andy Warhol, these are great! My elementary kiddos are busy with hydrangea paintings, apple trees, Van Gogh paintings, paper collages, and mosaic paper tile pictures.....absolutely fabulous and fun!!!!

— Mrs. Rizer, Art



The K-5 classes get to spend 35 minutes twice a week in music class. The students have been busy working on songs to perform for our upcoming Grandfriends Day on September 20. In addition, we have also been working on a medley to sing at the Veteran's Day Assembly in November. We've sung some silly songs, moved to some activity songs, and we've played some musical games. It's great to see their smiling faces and hear their sweet voices!

— Mrs. Mason, Music



Elementary Technology is excited to have new equipment and curriculum! The department has developed a long-term technology plan for our students. Our charging cart arrived and has been installed. We are learning about rules and procedures for our technology classroom to further the life of our new equipment and create strong habits of caring for technology. Some students have discovered Pixel Art already. We will be covering internet safety and word processing next.

In sixth grade computer class, students have hit the ground running. We have already completed our first big project--All About Me. Students enjoyed showcasing the computer skills they already have. We are now working through a word processing unit. They love their Word Art creations. We have an Internet Scavenger Hunt coming soon along with our next unit about Google slides.

— Mrs. Dufresne

!Ya Un Gran Empezando! Spanish class is off and running with a great start! Spanish Club will begin later in the Second Quarter. Look for more information about the details coming soon. A new language can be difficult, but it also can be a lot of fun. Keys for success: try to speak it out loud, put forth good effort, and memorize... memorize...memorize! A good foundation of vocabulary, is a great building block!

All of the students are hard working. Los alumnos (the students) in Spanish III are participating in "Viernes Musical" (Music Friday). Hearing a language through song is a great way to immerse in the culture and learn new vocabulary. We are looking forward to some exciting field trips and learning more about Latin culture through projects and delicious food. Spanish I and II students are advancing well with Rosetta Stone. They are striving each school day to accomplish 40 minutes of interaction with the program to listen, pronounce, spell and say. Students are also memorizing the school verse in Spanish. Encourage your "alumno" to say it outloud to you.

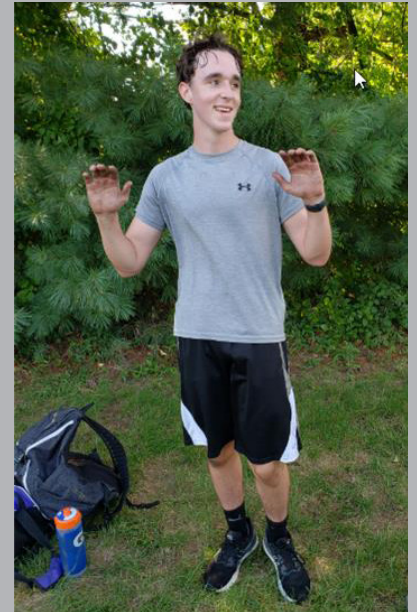
— Senora Priest, Spanish

SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Matthew 5:16 says: "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

According to GCA's mission statement, we desire that our partnership with parents will result "in students who are becoming Christ-like and impacting their culture through servant leadership." We truly want our students to be difference-makers for the Kingdom, and we celebrate when we see this in action.

On September 7, one of our parents was visiting with Coach Exline after MS team had finished training for the day. Soon, members of the high school team began trickling back into GCA's front lot. Eventually, Jayce Heisler showed up covered in dirt. At first they thought he fell and may have been injured, then Jayce told them what happened. While running through downtown Granville, Jayce saw a college-aged man who was visibly upset. Jayce decided to stop midway through his five-mile run to talk to the man. Jayce learned that the man had a flat tire, didn't know how to change it, and was about to call his father to have him come from Mount Vernon to help. Jayce stepped in and changed the man's tire for him, sent the man on his way, and finished his run. Jayce did not think, "I am representing GCA, I need to do the right thing." Instead, in his humility, Jayce was able to take a minute to be the hands of Jesus to impact the man and his father.



ATHLETIC THEME NIGHTS



- **TUESDAY, SEPT 21 VS. TREE OF LIFE - EXTREME PURPLE**
- LITTLE LIONS SOCCER ACADEMY PLAYS AT HALF-TIME
- **FRIDAY, OCT. 1 VS. KIPP COLUMBUS - BLACKOUT**
- LITTLE LIONS SOCCER ACADEMY PLAYS AT HALF-TIME
- **SATURDAY, OCT. 9 VS. GENOA CHRISTIAN - WHITEOUT**
- SENIOR NIGHT AND GCA SOCCER ALUMNI NIGHT

→ **THURSDAY, SEPT 30 VS. LIBERTY CHRISTIAN - EXTREME PURPLE**
- SENIOR NIGHT

→ **THURSDAY, OCT. 14 VS. DELAWARE CHRISTIAN - FLANNEL**



ACADEMICS ARE UNDERWAY

Math...the adventure continues in Mrs. Haga's classroom! We've been busy getting back into the swing of things this year by reviewing essential concepts such as integer operations in middle school math, evaluating expressions in Algebra I, and linear equations in Algebra II. Lots of time has been spent at our large white boards by students, working problems both individually and in small groups.



Math 7 recently began Boot Camp: Fraction and Decimal Operation Training. It's like calisthenics for our math brains, training us for delving into our study of rational numbers. Math 8 (Pre-Algebra) and Algebra I students are ready to embark on one of the best couple of weeks in math: Equation Week(s)! Equations are so much fun, and students will be practicing plenty of problem solving. Daily review of varied skills is important for math retention, which we are practicing with 'minute quizzes' in middle school. Preparing students for the ACT/SAT is one of our objectives for high school students, so students in Algebra I and Algebra II have also begun practicing the types of problems they may encounter on these college readiness and entrance exams.

Weekly "Five for Friday" assignments for the CP Algebra II class practice these core Algebra I and Geometry skills.

— Mrs. Haga

The 2021-2022 school year is off to a great start for Mr. Simpson's high school Bible and CP English 12 classes. First, Mr. Simpson's classroom received all new tables that can sit twenty-eight students total and a new large screen monitor for projecting unit lectures and other class content. These new elements add a collegiate feel to the classroom! Secondly, all of the high school classes are already working through their initial units, setting the foundation for the semester. Mr. Simpson is enjoying getting to know new students as well as continuing to build on relationships with returning students. Mr. Simpson is excited for this year's senior class, as he sees a lot of leadership potential!

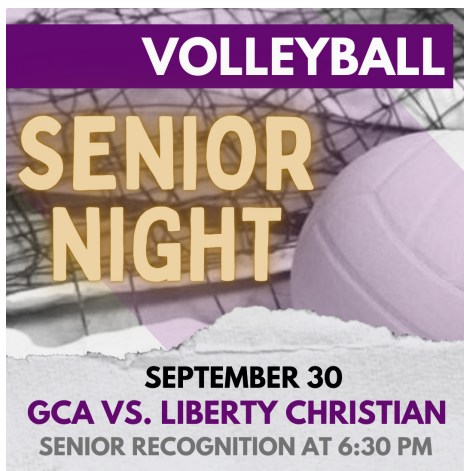
— Mr. Simpson

English is off to a great start this year! We eagerly started reading the first set of novels. The sixth graders are reading Anne of Green Gables and are learning the strategy behind the program Membean, used to enhance their vocabulary skills. The seventh graders are reading Across Five Aprils and have already completed two grammar quizzes over manuscript form and capitalization. The eighth graders are reading The Red Badge of Courage and have spent time discussing what courage means to them; after which many of them shared their writing pieces aloud in class.

The freshmen are enjoying the novel Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austin, and many have perfected their British accents as we read together in class. We discussed pride and tied it into a Biblical talk that was very engaging. The juniors are reading The Great Gatsby, and began work in a new online grammar program called Egumpp. They also began writing their personal essays that will become part of their college entrance and scholarship applications. As we move through the year, we are encouraging all middle and high school students to keep up with their membean minutes by spending fifteen minutes of training for three days of the week. Each student has a full week to complete these forty-five minute sessions. Membean will greatly benefit them with their vocabulary and their writing overall!

— Mrs. Tidball





On the first day of sixth-ninth grade science and sixth grade math, we started with some fun Mad Libs. We also made name tents so that I could learn their names, and on the backside, students helped me to get to know them by talking to me about their favorite things, asking a question, or just sharing a fun fact about themselves. This communication lasted for about a week and half with each day students answering questions I may have had or students giving another fact about themselves. As we dive into science and math content, I did a Checks lab with all the science classes on learning the nature of science. The students were in groups to observe paper checks and make conclusions and stories from what the checks displayed. Students working together helped them with their communication skills as they acted like scientists. Coming up next, students will learn science content, and we will be doing some demonstrations of concepts and some labs to reinforce the content. For math, students have learned about Order of Operations and Greatest Common Factors and will be learning about Least Common Multiples. One fun motivational activity was making a Venn diagram on the floor with string and students acting out the items that are placed in the Venn diagram.

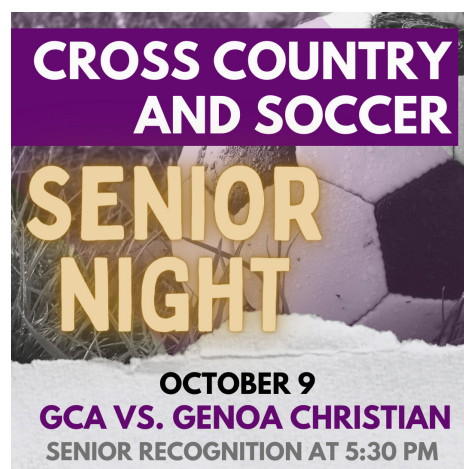
— Miss Potts

The yearbook students are currently engaging in our annual Ad Sales Campaign. Our class of seven is actively reaching out to businesses in our community to ask for financial

support through Advertisements. Each year, our yearbook staff has a goal to keep the price of the yearbook as low as possible for our GCA families. Students have been role playing Ad Sales conversations, writing and proofing emails, and managing a list of businesses for which they are assigned. The Yearbook Staff gets to perform as if they are an office environment and work collaboratively and independently to accomplish their goal of selling \$500 worth of Ad space. Additionally, our students have started learning how to use the yearbook cameras, how to take quality photos, and the art of sorting and managing the pictures taken. They are excited to get out and capture memories at our sports games and school events for our Majesty yearbook.

Our eighth grade history class has begun a voyage: the journey of discovering and colonizing the New World (aka the USA)! Students are currently studying about the original thirteen colonies and are seeing how intended purpose and executed purposes may or may not have lined up when coming to the New World. Students have enjoyed seeing interaction between the Native Indians and the colonists and how they had to learn to live at peace with one another. They have also discovered how each of the original thirteen colonies were settled by different European nations and how each had a goal and purpose. We've briefly discussed and will expound upon the idea of creating a republic that ultimately evolves into the United States Constitution.

— Mrs. Johnson



In seventh grade history, students have settled into a routine, and we began our history studies learning more about creation. We are emphasizing developing good study habits, being responsible for turning items in on time, and being a good student. Our class shared tips with each other about how they studied and prepared for the chapter test. Sharing and gleaning from others is a great way to find the best way for your student to develop great study habits.

We embarked on a year of business math for seniors, but also a year that will include business-related projects and presentations. It is going to be a fun year combining business and math together. We are midway through our first project - Careers. Students selected two careers that interest them, will research them, interview someone working in that field, write a short report, and create a presentation for the class. We are thankful our interactive TV arrived before we were ready to do our presentations. We spread this out over many weeks. We are incorporating real-life scenarios as much as possible and using students' own experiences to relate to the math topics. We have several more projects planned throughout the year. The students are utilizing Khan Academy to review and help prepare for their upcoming ACT. Each student has set a personal goal to improve their overall math scores.

— Mrs. Dufresne

HS English is in full swing. English 10 has already progressed through several units of grammar and writing. Students are currently learning how to craft proper outlines and are learning about the sentence in grammar. In literature, they are reading *Silas Marner* by George Elliott and discussing the themes of honesty and integrity while evaluating what things should be viewed as valuable. They have analyzed the author's style and written from the perspective of one of the characters. Learning vocabulary through our online, self-paced, individualized program called Membean continues this year for our MS and HS students. ACP English 11 is working through an advanced grammar review through a new online program called egumpp (English Grammar Usage Mechanics Punctuation Program). This program is designed to finalize grammar mastery, and students who achieve mastery will receive a certificate that they can include with their college applications. In literature, they are almost done reading *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne. Class discussions include

spiritual topics such as sin – especially sinning by choice and the consequences associated; repentance – partial or full; forgiveness – from God and from ourselves; and how our actions affect our testimony. Additional topics include relationships, boundaries, protecting our hearts, and not giving Satan a foothold, to name a few! Junior students are writing a personal essay that they will polish and have available for scholarship applications and for college entrance requirements. AP English began the year with a quick review of their summer work. They just completed the Mythology unit where they learned how Greek culture and its gods opened doors for people to more readily receive Christ and his gospel. They also learned about the hero's journey and how it appears in almost every story. Currently, they are studying about characterization as they begin to prepare for the three analytical essays they will write for the Exam in May. This small but mighty class is forging new ground in this revamped course.

— Mrs. Goehring

Mr. Snedeker's year began in a whirlwind of organization after the entrance to the Science Lab was relocated to allow for the renovation of the MS/HS Offices. With the help of a few of his students, he reorganized the lab, purging outdated materials and equipment. His Chemistry and Physics classes are progressing well. His AP Calculus students came in so well prepared that they will be taking the AP Calculus BC Exam, equivalent to a full year of college Calculus (most years, students take the AP AB Calculus which is equivalent to 1/2 year of college Calculus). He is also teaching ACP PreCalculus for the first time at GCA. With the logical progression from ACP PreCalculus to AP Calculus, this change will allow him to help students get to the place that best sets them up for success in AP Calc while allowing him to know the class's strengths and weaknesses for more focused teaching.

— Mr. Snedeker

SOCKTOBER

It's a sock-drive, it's a crazy sock contest, it's both! The HS Student Council will once again be collecting **NEW pairs of socks & hand/feet warmers** during the entire month of October. All socks & warmers will be donated to local ministries that we partner with such the Look Up Center and Salvation Army in Licking County. The goal is to collect **1500 pairs of socks & hand warmers**.

K-12 students will be competing by grade division (K-5, 6-8, 9-12). **The class with the most pairs of socks & warmers (over 75 pairs) will be awarded an ICE CREAM PARTY!** Socks & warmer donation baskets will be available in the K-5 classrooms. MS/HS students should bring their socks & warmers to the great room and place them in their grade-level basket.



K-5 students may also choose to wear crazy socks (light-up, tasseled, pom-pom, distracting, odd colors) for a **\$5 donation**. K-5 students will have the opportunity during lunch to show off their bedazzled socks for a chance to win a sweet treat once a week! The \$5 participation fee should be placed in an envelope clearly marked with your name and SOCKTOBER and placed in the Finance Office Drop Box.

The sixth grade has begun their middle school years on the right foot. They have gotten off to a great start in both History and Life Skills. The 6th grade lockers are neat and organized, and their planners are up to date and organized. We are working on study skills in History, and they are catching on quickly. Also, in History, the class has been learning about the Creation Mandate from a Biblical perspective.

Speech Class is writing their first speech of the year. In order to get them prepared to be inspiring, they just finished reciting a poem to the Elementary students. The goal was to be animated and fun. They all did a fantastic job.

Overall, the students are so excited to be back at school and their energy and enthusiasm is contagious!

— Miz Parker

Biology 10 has started off the year strongly. We are hopeful and excited to be able to have more hands-on activities this year than we were able to last year. Anatomy Class is also going well. We are partnering with a doctorate student at The Ohio State University as he works towards his dissertation. He is going to give four different ZOOM lectures to our class this year to serve as in-house field trips. He is even going to use real organs and specimens in those videos where he will speak about the importance of anatomy and physiology in the world today and career choices.

— Mrs. Laing

This year the history room has a fresh look in a fresh space, with new tables, new technology, and a new view with our corner room! The freshmen in World History are wrapping up a unit on absolute rulers in Europe. It has been interesting for the students to compare the ruling styles of the various monarchs—from Louis XIV claiming, “I am the state” to Frederick the Great seeing his role as the first servant of the state, to English kings whose attempts at taking over absolute power were curbed by Parliament. The juniors in U.S. History are learning about Reconstruction, and we are starting to have some thought-provoking discussions on how it was possible for African Americans to be denied their

rights for so many years after slavery was abolished despite the passage of legislation and even Constitutional Amendments to protect those rights. The juniors in AP U.S. History are learning about colonial American history, and through reading different primary sources, they are gaining a deeper understanding of what really motivated the early colonists to make that voyage across the ocean. The seniors in government are learning about the Constitution, why it was necessary (they can explain the Federalist vs. Anti-Federalist debates), and how this document created a government strong, yet flexible enough to last for over 200 years.

— Mrs. Marzulli

HIGH SCHOOL FALL BONFIRE

**Friday, October 8
6:30 to 9:30 PM**

IN THE LOWER-LEVEL BEHIND GCA BY THE SOFTBALL FIELD

This is a FREE event and all High School students are encouraged to attend! Please RSVP (confirm that you will be attending) on the bulletin board outside of Mrs. Johnson's room to let us know how much food to prepare. Parent Chaperones & food donations will be needed. Stay tuned to our weekly email announcements on Monday for the Sign-Up link and more information about those needs.



ALL SOPHOMORES WILL BE TAKING THE PSAT ON **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26 DURING THE SCHOOL DAY. JUNIORS WHO WISH TO TAKE THE TEST TO ATTEMPT TO QUALIFY FOR THE NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM WILL BE ABLE TO SIGN UP TO TAKE THE PSAT AT THEIR EXPENSE.**

GCA ATHLETICS

Varsity Soccer

- 10/1** 7:00 PM – vs. KIPP Columbus – Evans Athletic Facility - 948 Sharon Valley Rd, Newark, OH 43055
10/5 6:30 PM – vs. Madison Christian – Evans Athletic Facility - 948 Sharon Valley Rd, Newark, OH 43055
10/9 6:00 PM – vs. Genoa Christian – Evans Athletic Facility - 948 Sharon Valley Rd, Newark, OH 43055
10/12 5:15 PM – @ Liberty Christian – 10447 Refugee Road Etna, OH 43062
10/18 TBA - Sectional Tournaments Begin

Varsity Volleyball

- 10/2** 9:00 AM – @ Harvest Prep – 4595 Gender Rd, Canal Winchester, OH 43110
10/5 6:00 PM – vs. Tree of Life – 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055
10/7 6:15 PM – @ Northside Christian – 2655 W Schrock Rd, Westerville, OH 43081
10/12 6:00 PM – @ Genoa Christian – 7562 Lewis Center Rd, Westerville, OH 43082
10/14 6:15 PM – vs. Delaware Christian – 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055
10/18 TBA - Sectional Tournaments Begin

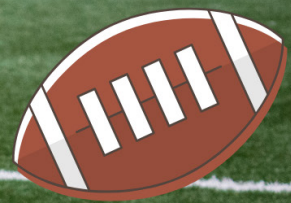
MS/HS Cross Country

- 10/2** 10:00 AM – @ Cambridge – 1401 Deer Path Dr, Cambridge, OH 43725
10/6 5:30 PM – @ Sheridan – Backwoods Fest, 8572 High Point Rd, Thornville, OH 43076
10/9 10:00 AM – @ Liberty Union – 994 S. Main St. Baltimore, OH 43105
10/16 9:00 AM – MOCAL Invitational @ Madison Christian - 3565 Bixby Road Groveport, OH 43125
10/23 TBA – Districts (High School Only)

MS Volleyball

- 10/5** 5:00 PM – vs. Tree of Life – 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055
10/7 5:00 PM – @ Northside Christian – 2655 W Schrock Rd, Westerville, OH 43081
10/14 5:00 PM – vs. Delaware Christian – 5th Street Gym, Newark, OH 43055

FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

4:30 PM TOURNAMENT KICK-OFF

**EVANS ATHLETIC
COMPLEX**

**MINI BOWL (ELEMENTARY GAME) WILL TAKE
PLACE BEFORE THE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME**

**TEAM COST: \$5 PER PLAYER WITH A MINIMUM OF
5 PLAYERS ON A TEAM (1 ADULT ALLOWED)**

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS OCTOBER 20

Make it a family outing! Admission is Free! Donations and concessions profits will go to support our Athletic Program. Join us in the stands to cheer on the flag football teams or on the field as a team member!

OCTOBER

A LOOK AT THE MONTH AHEAD

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	Book Fair 3:30 LLSA 4:30 GOLF 7:00 VVB Parent/Teacher Conferences	7:30 AM Blast-off Breakfast 5:15 SOC 5:30 MSVB 6:45 VVB		4:30 GOLF 5:00 MSVB 7:00 VVB Volleyball Senior Night	1 Pastor Apprec. Breakfast Socktober Begins Rummage Sale	2 9:00 VVB 10:00 CC
3	4	5 5:00 MSVB 6:00 VVB 6:30 SOC	6 5:30 CC	7 5:00 MSVB 6:15 VVB New Parent Coffee	8 New Parent Coffee HS Bonfire	9 10:00 CC 6:00 SOC CC and Soccer Senior Night
10	11 3:30 LLSA	12 5:15 SOC 6:00 VVB	13 Picture Retakes & Groups 3:30 LLSA	14 End of First Quarter 5:00 MSVB 6:15 VVB Lunch Ordering Opens	15 Teacher Exchange Day - NO SCHOOL	16 9:00 CC - MOCAL
17	18 Teacher In-service - NO STUDENTS 3:30 LLSA SOC and VVB Tournaments Begin	19	20 3:30 LLSA	21 Lunch Ordering Closes	22 Student Ambassador Training	23 TBA CC - Districts (HS Only)
24	25 7:00 PM Town Hall	26 PSAT Testing	27	28	29 4:30 PM Flag Football Tournament	30
31	SOC - Varsity Soccer VVB - Varsity Volleyball CC - MS/HS Cross Country			MSVB - Middle School Volleyball GOLF - Middle School Golf LLSA - Little Lions Soccer Academy		

Additional Information

9/27 - 10/1 - Book Fair and Reading Week

9/28 - Blast-Off Breakfast - Grades K-5 can shop with a grown-up while enjoying astronaut-approved treats!

9/30 - Volleyball Senior Night - Senior Recognition begins at 6:30 PM, game begins at 7:00 PM

10/1 - Socktober Begins

Pastor Appreciation Breakfast

Rummage Sale at 5th Street Gym - 12:00-7:00 PM

Little Lions Soccer Academy plays at half-time of Varsity Soccer game - Varsity game begins at 7:00 PM

10/2 - Rummage Sale at 5th Street Gym - 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

10/7 - New Parent Coffee - 6:00-8:00 PM

10/8 - New Parent Coffee - 9:00-11:00 AM

High School Bonfire - 6:30-9:30 PM in the lower level of GCA by the Softball Field

10/9 - Soccer and Cross Country Senior Night - Senior Recognition begins at 5:30 PM, game begins at 6:00 PM

10/13 - Picture Day Retakes and Group Photos

10/14 - End of the First Quarter

Lunch Ordering Opens for November

10/15 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Exchange Day

10/18 - NO STUDENTS - Teacher In-Service Day

10/21 - Lunch Ordering Closes for November

10/22 - Student Ambassador Training - During the school day

10/25 - Town Hall - 7:00 PM in the Worship Center

10/26 - PSAT - All sophomores will take the PSAT during the school day.

10/29 - Flag Football Tournament - 4:30 PM Kick-off at Evans Athletic Complex.

Mini-Bowl (Elementary game) will take place right before the championship game.

Pastor Appreciation Breakfast

Friday, October 1 | 8:30-9:30 AM

We are hosting a Pastor Appreciation Breakfast and we would love for your child to invite their pastor! Invitations were sent home with all students last week. Your student(s) will have the opportunity to share in that morning's breakfast and fellowship with the pastor if their pastor attends! Please be sure to hand your pastor the actual invitation and turn in the student form to your classroom teacher (grades K-5) or to Mrs. Malone in the MS/HS Office.

