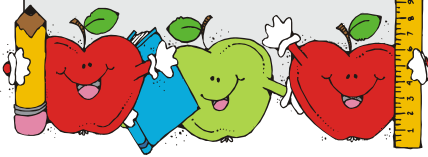




## BACK to SCHOOL

Jesus replied: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.

Matthew 22:37-39



### Welcome from the Principal

Welcome to Christ the Rock Christian Academy and to the 2011-2012 school year - our 19th year as a school ! I have had the privilege of being on staff here since 1997. My goal is to see young people grow in their love and knowledge of Jesus and to provide an outstanding education for our students.

We are committed to excellence in everything we do, and we are honored to have your children attend our school. Our focus is for each student to develop to his highest potential in every area of life...spiritual, academic, emotional, physical, and social.

Our dedicated and caring staff is ready and willing to help you and your child in any area. We are all here to serve you.

Again, welcome to Christ the Rock Christian Academy!

Mrs. Karen Swihart  
Principal



"JUST THINK OF IT AS IF YOU'RE READING A LONG TEXT- MESSAGE."

#### Inside this issue:

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Extra Set of Clothes              | 2 |
| Medication Policy                 | 2 |
| Uniform Policy                    | 2 |
| Extracurricular Activities        | 2 |
| Parent-Teacher Fellowship Meeting | 3 |
| Drop Off/Pick Up Procedure        | 3 |
| Accelerated Reader Program        | 4 |

#### Communicating with our Families

Beginning this week, we will be including "Wednesday Exchange" on our website ([www.ctracademy.org](http://www.ctracademy.org)). When you click on the link, there will be up-to-date information about what's going on at the Academy. We hope you will visit the site frequently and keep in touch with us.

#### Fall Portraits



Fall individual portraits for the yearbook will be taken on **Tuesday, August 30th.** Students may dress in nice casual, and must be modest and appropriate. (Shirts tucked in, belted pants, no tank top).

#### Back-to-School Blast

Welcome back to school. We have completed two weeks of school! Friday, August 26th, will be our Back-to-School Blast. There will be two waterslides for our students to enjoy. Students may wear their swim suits to school with casual dress over the suits. Be sure to send a towel, under clothing to change into, and a zip-loc bag for wet things. Our normal schedule will be in effect except during water slide play. Our K3, K4, & K5 teachers need parental help. If you are available from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. please sign up in the office or let your child's teacher know.



# THINGS TO KNOW

## Extra Set of Clothes

If you have a student in grades K3, K4, & K5, please be sure to send an extra set of clothes. Label the clothes with the student's name and place the items in a Zip-loc bag. Send to the child's teacher.



## Ballet/Taekwondo/Hip Hop Dance/Piano

Extra curricular activities have started. Please see each vendor's brochure for exact times and dates of classes. Forms and additional information are available in the school lobby. Activities include: Ballet, Taekwondo, Hip Hop Dance, and Piano



## Medication

If your child takes medicine and needs to bring the medicine to school, always bring the medicine to the school office and sign a permission slip to administer the medication.

Students should not have medicine in their pockets or backpacks. Then, be certain to let the child's teacher know that the student will need to take medicine.



## Uniform Policy

As you know, we require our students to wear the school uniform every day to school (unless there is a specified casual day). Each morning your child's teacher will be doing a uniform check. If your child is not dressed in uniform, you will be called to bring a uniform or pick your child up from school. We have two vendors from whom you may purchase your child's uniform. (Glory Apparel and The Awards Place).

Please note our full school policy found in our Parent/Student Handbook.



"Relax mom...it's macaroni."

## Parent-Teacher Fellowship (PTF)

Get involved...Be informed... Our first PTF meeting this year will take place on Tuesday, August 30, at 6:00 p.m. in the Lunch Room. Your participation will contribute greatly in supporting our school.

## After School Care

Phone # is:

493-6131

Dear Parents,

*I would like to let you know of our procedure for drop off and pick up of your child.*

*Please do not drive around to the back of the building (the north side) to park and/or drop off your child. We are asking everyone to please cooperate with us and use the car line and*

*West parking lot in the mornings from 7:00-7:55 a.m. and in the afternoons from 2:30-3:15 p.m.*

*This may seem to be an inconvenience but the reason we are requesting this is for our children's safety. There is already quite a bit of traffic in the back parking lot because CTRCA teachers and church staff use the back parking lot. I know you will agree with us that the safety of our children is of utmost importance.*

*Thank you for your understanding in this matter. Please feel free to contact me with any of your concerns.*

*Teachers will not be in their classrooms until 7:55 a.m.*

*Please do not drop off your child in the classroom when the teacher is not there.*

*Serving Him,*

*Mrs. Swihart*

## Drop Off / Pick Up Procedure

### Before Care/Drop Off Procedure

**7:00-7:45** We open at 7:00 a.m. Please do not bring your child to school before 7:00 a.m. If your child is K3-2nd grade, please park in the west parking lot and come into the building through the west canopy entrance (Door H) to sign your child into Before School Care. Students in 3rd-8th grades may be dropped off at the west canopy entrance and sign themselves into Before School Care. **ALL OTHER ENTRANCES WILL REMAIN LOCKED** (this includes Door G).

Before Care students will be in the cafeteria and room 138.

**7:45-7:55** All students may be dropped off in the car line at the west canopy entrance (Door H). Teachers and older students will be there to assist in the parking lot and the halls. **ALL OTHER ENTRANCES WILL REMAIN LOCKED.**

**If you choose not to drop students off in the car line, please park at the west parking lot and come in the west canopy entrance (Door H).**

**7:55-8:05** Drive to the back of the building and enter through Door F. (The west entrance, Door H, is locked at 7:55 a.m.)

**8:05** Students are tardy. Drive to the main school entrance (Door F). Students sign in at the office and get a tardy slip to give to the teacher.

### Pick Up Procedure

**2:30-3:15** Parents, do not come into the building during this time. Because we have a large number of students in the hall during this time period, we are requesting parents to wait in the car line for their child.

**2:30-2:45** K3 & K4 students are being dismissed at the west canopy (Door H). If your K3/K4 child has an older sibling, the exception is that they can be picked up from 3:00 - 3:15 p.m. with their older sibling. Students will be signed into After School Care at 3:16 p.m.

**2:45-2:55** K5 students are being dismissed at the west canopy entrance (Door H). If your K5 child has an older sibling, the exception is that they can be picked up from 3:00-3:15 p.m. with their older sibling.

**3:00-3:15** 1st - 8th grades are being dismissed at the west canopy entrance (Door H).

**After 3:00** K5 students will be signed into After School Care by 3:16 p.m. in the cafeteria.

**After 3:15** 1st-8th grade students will be signed into After School Care by 3:16 p.m. in the Cafeteria

### After School Care

After Care charges do not begin until 3:16 p.m. for all ages. If you do not want your child to go to After School Care, your child must be picked up between:

**2:30-2:45 K3 & K4    2:45-2:55 K5    3:00 - 3:15 1st - 8th Grade**

Please enter through Door G from 3:16 - 6:00 to pick up your child in After School Care. Mrs. Medlin is the adult in charge of After Care. If you have an emergency and need to contact us

# Accelerated Reader Program

Accelerated Reader is a program that allows students to read books on their independent reading level. When the student completes the book, he or she is directed by the teachers to take a book comprehension test on the computer. The student will earn a certain amount of points based on the number of questions answered correctly. A score of 60% is considered passing. However, we are striving to have students score at a much higher percentage. This indicates to us a greater understanding of the material read. As the student progresses with books, tests and points, he or she will receive tickets to purchase prizes at the AR store.

Accelerated Reader Program will begin August 29, 2011 and will end May 11, 2012. Students in Kindergarten and First Grade will begin the program when they have proficiently learned to read words. This will allow for greater independence during the testing process. Students in K3 and K4 will be tested on their comprehension of stories read to them by their teacher.

## Our Goals for the Students Using AR

- To help our students become proficient independent readers
- To help our students develop an appreciation of literature
- To help our students become life-long readers



## Basic Four Steps for AR

- Students will select a book with the approval and assistance of teacher and school librarian
- Students will have 20 minutes a day to read the book
- Students will take a multiple choice comprehension test on the computer after reading the book
- Students will earn points, receive recognition on the Wall of Fame, and earn tickets to purchase prizes in our AR store

## Where Do the Students Take the Tests

The AR tests will be taken in the school computer lab. Teachers will assist and monitor the students during this time.

## How Do We Hold Students Accountable

Teachers will allow 20 minutes of classroom time each day for AR. Students must have read the book in order to correctly answer the questions given on each quiz. The books are assigned points related to difficulty and all points are cumulative for the school year. Our computer will track each student's performance. Students will not receive grades on their report card for AR; however, we will inform the parents of their achievements.

## How Do We Motivate Students to Read

Each student will receive tickets for points earned. They may use these tickets to purchase small items from our AR store. We will also post students achievements on our Wall of Fame in the hallway for everyone to see. At the end of each semester, the class with the most points will get to keep the AR trophy and earn a casual day. Other incentives will be put in place throughout the year. We will set a goal for our school. If the students reach this goal by the end of the school year, we will have a special assembly with fun activities for the students!

## How is the Student's Independent Reading Level Determined

Students are constantly monitored through the computer system for their reading level each and every time they take an AR test. A determination of reading level is based on how well a student does on the comprehension test. Every teacher will have a printout of his or her students' reading levels.

