

The Growing Edge

Your Midland Christian School Weekly News Source
Friday, February 8, 2008

⇒ **NOTA BENE -- "TAKE NOTE":** An investment in the classical Christian education of a student will create a lifetime of benefit. Victorian author and Oxford professor, John Ruskin, said, "The entire object of true education is to make people not merely to do the right things, but to enjoy them; not merely industrious, but to love industry; not merely learned, but to love knowledge; not merely pure, but to love purity; not merely just, but to hunger and thirst after justice." A classically trained student will possess the invaluable qualities of leadership, discernment, resourcefulness, eloquence, honor, and a Christian worldview. A classical Christian education is a worthwhile investment; and, indeed, it is an investment. Time and money are necessities to continue the implementation of this goal at MCS. After reading the synopsis below on what a classical Christian education provides, "take note" of the upcoming opportunities (i.e. Celebration Banquet and Golf/Walk Event) that will allow you to secure a classical Christian education for your family and future generations.

A classical, Christian education provides:

1. Structure that rewards self-control and personal diligence:

- a. Students thrive as they meet a higher standard of classroom behavior and academic rigor
- b. Project work emphasizes self-reliance and a love of discovery and learning
- c. A lifelong work ethic is encouraged at a young age

2. Content and method that develop thinking, articulate students:

- a. Time-tested methods that have been staples in Western culture and the Church since the second century
- b. Socratic teaching, debate, subject integration, and written and oral defense all provide the mental exercise to cultivate powerful minds
- c. Students see the big picture by studying history, philosophy, literature, art, theology, Latin, Greek, math, science, logic and rhetoric
- d. An emphasis on cultivating wisdom rather than just teaching facts and skills

3. An environment that challenges students and creates a love of learning:

- a. A tone of inspiration, fulfillment, joy, and respect are visible throughout
- b. Students cultivate an interest in first principles and ultimate purposes

⇒ **ANNUAL CELEBRATION BANQUET:** It is time now to begin planning for our MCS Celebration Banquet which will be held on Friday, March 14th, at 7:00 p.m. It will be very important to the success of this evening to have plenty of volunteers who can help with things like:

1. REGISTRATION TABLE

2. GREETERS

3. SET-UP

4. TEAR-DOWN

5. CHILD CARE

6. CHOIR CARE

7. HEAD SERVER

8. CLERICAL ASSISTANCE

More information and a Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet is available in the school office, so please stop by or call us at 835-9881 and let us know how you would like to be involved. Thank you!

- ⇒ **GOLF/WALK EVENT:** The spring fundraiser will take on a new look this year. In an effort to involve more MCS families in the event, there will be a fundraising campaign that will culminate with a day of celebration including golfing, walking, games, and prizes. It is an opportunity for the entire family to be involved in a fun and exciting experience while investing in the future of MCS. Best of all, your family can participate with little or no out-of-pocket expense. Watch for upcoming announcements so you can stay up-to-date with this thrilling event and decide how your family can get involved. FORE!!
- ⇒ **FEBRUARY FOOD DRIVE:** The Student Council is sponsoring a food drive during the month of February. We are collecting non-perishable foods to be donated to the Caregiving Network food pantry, a local Christian outreach center. Each Homeroom: Preschool through 12th grade, will have a box in which to collect their donations. There will be a contest to see which grade or homeroom gathers the largest number of donations. Suggested food items that are needed are: canned fruits, vegetables, soup, and meat; boxed meals, cereal and pasta; peanut butter, jelly/jam, flour, sugar, personal care items such as toothpaste, laundry soap, etc. Your donation will provide help to those in crisis situations in Midland County. Please be generous and thank you in advance!
- ⇒ **BATTLE OF THE BOOKS:** Midland Christian School will be participating in the Battle of the Books again this year. Our team members are: Rebecca Krohn, Timothy Johnson, Janelle Cammenga, Ciera Allen, Emily Gold, Jack Hill, Ethan Knake, and Makenzie Martin. Our first battle is on Wednesday, Feb. 13th, at 4:00 p.m. at Cook Elementary in Midland.
- ⇒ **JR. STRENGTH TYLENOL NEEDED:** If anyone can donate Junior Strength Tylenol (chewable please) to the school office, we would appreciate having a few boxes to get through the rest of the school year. Thank you so much.
- ⇒ **UPCOMING EVENTS:**
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| Mon., Feb. 11 | Staff Prayer Mtg. at 2:45 p.m.; Staff Meeting at 3:00 p.m. in Room 11 |
| Tue., Feb. 12 | MCS BB vs. MMCHE at MCS (6:00 JV boys; 7:15 Var boys) |
| Wed., Feb. 13 | Publicity and Retention Committee at 1:30 p.m. in Room 8 |
| " | Preparation and Response Committee at 2:45 p.m. in Room 8 |
| " | Battle of the Books First Battle at 4:00 p.m. at Cook Elementary |
| Thu., Feb. 14 | Strategic Planning Committee at 12:00 noon in Room 8 |
| Sat., Feb. 16 | CMAC Boy's BB Tournament at MCS (tentative) |
| " | Facilities Committee Workday at 9:30 a.m. |
| Mon., Feb. 18 | President's Day – NO SCHOOL |
| | MCA and MCSA Joint Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Room 11 |
| Tue., Feb. 19 | MCS BB at Calvary Baptist Academy (5:00 JV boys; 6:15 Var girls; 7:45 Var boys) |
| Feb. 22-23 | ACSI Girl's BB Tournament at Barry County Christian School in Hastings Township |
| Mon., Feb. 25 | Staff Prayer Mtg. at 2:45 p.m.; Elementary and Secondary Teacher Meetings at 3:00 p.m. |
| Wed., Feb. 27 | Midterm for 3rd Marking Period |
| " | Education Committee Meeting at 2:45 p.m. in Room 11 |
| Feb. 28-29 | AuSable Institute Overnight Field Trip for Fifth and Sixth Grades |
| Feb. 29-Mar. 1 | ACSI Boy's BB Tournament at New Covenant Christian School in Lansing |