

# The Growing Edge

Your Midland Christian School Weekly News Source  
Friday, May 30, 2008

## NOTA BENE – HISTORY: PURSUE MORE THAN TRIVIA

In 390 AD, the Roman Emperor Theodosius attacked a village called Salonica for rebelling against the local Roman garrison. Historical facts like this seem to be of little consequence today. Why study them? Even if you learn the facts in grade school, you'll probably never use them, right? Wouldn't it make more sense to study recent history, science, or math? The study of history is central to classical education. As with many great accomplishments, the link between *what* we study and *why* it makes better thinkers is not always obvious. Western history, art, and literature provide a unique window into the formative cultures of our own. If you simply learn the who, what, when, and where of history, you probably won't get much out of it. When a student immerses himself in the mind of historical people, he develops a sense of perspective. He slowly comes to realize the limits of his own worldview and how those limits affect his thinking. This is the great power of the classical approach – it permits us to act with reason rather than presumption. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, threatened Theodosius with excommunication for his role at Salonica, which reshaped the role Christianity would play in government to the present day. The student develops a clear understanding of church-state separation without taking anything for granted because he understands the principles at work. Wisdom depends on knowledge in the proper context. History is that context. "Take Note" that the study of history will continue to become more central in the MCS curriculum next year with the introduction of *Omnibus I* as students read the great works of history to develop a clear understanding of the historical, philosophical, and theological issues that have shaped Western Civilization.

**AWARDS CEREMONIES:** Parents, you are invited to join Midland Christian staff and students for our end-of-year Awards Ceremonies to be held during the last chapel of the year. Elementary (Grades 1-6) will meet on Friday, June 6th, from 10:15-11:00 a.m. in the cafeteria (chapel end). Secondary will meet on Monday, June 9th, from 12:08-2:00 p.m. in the cafeteria (chapel end). See you there!

## **EXAM WEEK INFORMATION:**

- ◆ June 10-12 (Tuesday-Thursday) will be final exam days for students in grades 7-11.
- ◆ School Day will start at 8:00 and end at 12:30 for students in grades 1-11.
- ◆ Preschool and Kindergartners will dismiss at 11:30 a.m.; however, if they have older siblings they may stay in the Preschool room for the hour from 11:30-12:30 without an extra charge. Please let Mrs. Bourdon or Mrs. Robbins know if your child will be staying until 12:30 p.m.
- ◆ No afternoon buses will run on exam days.
- ◆ Elementary students will have a lunch break at 11:20 a.m. and should bring a lunch during exam days. **NACHOS AND PIZZA WILL NOT BE SERVED DURING EXAM WEEK!**

**RE-ENROLLMENT REMINDER:** Please turn in your 2008-2009 enrollment paperwork by **MONDAY, JUNE 2** to take advantage of the reduced curriculum fee (\$110 instead of \$150). Forms and payment should be given to Mrs. Hazen in the school office.

**AFTER SCHOOL CAMPS:** The school board will be discussing after school camps at the board meeting on Monday, June 2, at 6:00 p.m. We are looking at reinstating some after school options for students ages 3-10. We would love to have Parent Input on types of programs in which you would be interested. Please complete and return the attached survey to the school office by Monday.

**KIDS BAZAAR:** The Parent Auxiliary would like to receive more donations to the Kids Bazaar collection box outside the school office. Please look for craft items, holiday ornaments, wrapping paper, etc. ... anything that would make a good gift for Christmas that children can give to their parents and other family members. Thanks!

**PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR SALE!** The Early Childhood playground will receive a facelift for the 2008-2009 school year due to changing licensing requirements. To help offset the cost of the new equipment, we are now accepting offers on the current playsets. Offers will be accepted through June 1<sup>st</sup> for the swing set and tire swing set. The person with the highest offer can haul the equipment after June 12<sup>th</sup>. See Carianne Robbins for more details.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

June 2-8	Senior Trip to Chicago
Mon., June 9	Pre-K Graduation at 6:30 p.m. in the Gym and Cafeteria
June 10-12	Final Exams: Gr. 1-12 dismiss at 12:30 p.m.; Pre-3, Pre-K & K dismiss at 11:30 a.m.
Wed., June 11	Kindergarten Graduation at 10:00 a.m. in the Kindergarten classroom
Thu., June 12	Last Day of School! Graduation at 7:00 p.m. at Midland Reformed Church

# Midland Christian School

# Crusader Camps

## Survey



We are looking at reinstating some after school options for our students ages 3-10. The following activities are a sampling of the special after school camps your child could attend. Please check the ones of most interest to you and your family.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4 week camps (Would meet one day per week for 4 weeks from 2:30-4:00)  
Sample ideas include tae kwon do, sports camps, cheerleading, creative writing, cooking (from appetizer to dessert), art exploration (paint, pottery, oil crayons, etc).

\_\_\_\_\_ 8 week clubs (Would meet one day per week for 4 weeks from 2:30-4:00)  
Sample ideas include dance class (ballet or jazz), tae kwon do, Bible quiz

\_\_\_\_\_ Day camps (Would meet 1 day from 2:30-4:00)  
Sample ideas include Lego-builders, tumblekids, wood workshop, board game tournaments, gardening/school beautification.

\_\_\_\_\_ Extended Care (Would meet from 2:30-6:00 on all regular school days)  
Daily flat rate or yearly rate would cover cost of camps/clubs (2:30-4:00) and Extended Care (until 6:00).

\_\_\_\_\_ My suggestion is.....

Please return this form to Carianne Robbins in the MCS school office by **Monday, May 19, 2008.**

