

# Legacy Link



## General Announcements

- **Please Note**—School will be closed this coming Monday, Jan. 18, for Records Day. School will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 19. Report Cards will go home on Friday, Jan. 22.
- **School Board Nominees**—our school's executive committee is collecting suggestions for school board nominees. Would you like to suggest any names for consideration? The committee welcomes input from parents and staff members. If you have suggestions, please submit them to Mr. Bonnema or any of the school board officers.
- **The LCS spelling bee** will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 20, in the west campus music room after school, beginning at about 3:15. The spelling bee is open to students in grades 4-8. Spelling lists are available in both offices.
- **Plans are again being** made for the 9th Annual Caberfae Ski outing sponsored by Legacy Christian School. The date is Feb. 19, 2010, the Friday of Winter Break. The cost to ski from 10 am to 5 pm is \$25 per person, which includes all equipment, lift ticket, food for the day and bus ride if desired. All are welcome whether Legacy families or friends! Mark your calendars now, ski packets will soon be available in the west campus office.
- **Tuition Statements** are being distributed this week to your newsletter carrier (PS-4<sup>th</sup>) or by mail (5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>). Since it is now the end of the first semester, tuition accounts should be at least 50% paid. You are reminded that it is your responsibility to keep in contact with a Finance Committee member or contact Karen Brinks at the west campus (455-3860) if your family financial situation has changed or if you need to adjust your payment schedule. We do appreciate and would like to thank all those who work hard to keep up with their payment schedule. **The Finance Committee**
- **ALL School Skating Party**, Tuesday, February 2, 6:30 to 9:00 pm at Woodland Skating. Elementary families are encouraged to come from 6:30 to 8:30 and middle school families are encouraged to attend from 7:00 to 9:00. We had one last October and had a great time. Please come out for a night of Legacy Family Fun!! PLEASE note: The class with the best attendance will win a FREE Pizza Lunch.

### **UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS**

#### **January**

- 14 7th/8th grade exams—**dismiss at 12:05**
- 14 Kdgn Dads & Kids gym night (6:30-7:30 pm)
- 15 7th/8th grade exams—**dismiss at 12:05**
- 15 End of 2nd qtr
- 18 **NO SCHOOL**—Records Day
- 21 6-8th Grade Band/Choir/Orch at WC (7 pm)
- 22 Report Cards go home
- 26 Culver's Night for Relay for Life
- 29 "Read With Me" for Jan. Reading Month

### **CARE AND CONNECTIONS**

The Legacy Christian School Care and Connections Committee has some exciting events planned for the next couple of months. Write the dates on your calendar now and look for more details later. We hope you can join us and get to know some fellow Legacy Christian families.

- **Developmental Kindergarten and Kindergarten** students and dads gym night – Thursday, Jan. 14, 6:30-7:30 pm at the elementary school gym.
- **Bunco Night for families** – Friday, Feb. 5, 6:45 pm, at the elementary school gym.
- **Dine with Seven to Nine** – Saturday, Feb. 27, 6:00 pm.

## ELEMENTARY NEWS AND NOTES

- **Weekly Worship:** Friday (8:20) All School—Speaker
- **Mark your calendars...“Read With Me” Friday, January 29 @ 7:45 am.** Come into your child’s classroom and read together before the school day starts. If you are not able to make it, have a grandparent or other loved one come in and read with your child! Mrs. Nitz will be reading a book in the library to all students who do not have a loved one present. Coffee, hot chocolate and doughnuts will be served!
- **All kindergartners and dads!** Plan on attending a gym night just for you on Tuesday, Jan. 14, from 6:30-7:30 pm. See the flyer sent home with the students yesterday for more information.

### Mrs. Ellens’ Tidbits

Last week I was at a meeting at our church and the comment was made that unless we tell people why we are serving them or “doing good deeds” we are not any different than a neighbor who wants to do it to be nice or to “feel good.” It got me thinking. How often do we use the opportunity to tell people the “why” behind Christian education? Do we tell them that we want to boldly proclaim that we love Jesus and we want our children to hear about Him in all their life, including their education, day in and day out? I don’t think we do this enough. Often it is a privilege we take for granted. Let’s resolve to not be bashful when it comes to talking about our love for Jesus Christ!

### Preschool, DK & Kindergarten Registration Information 2010-2011

Registration for Preschool and Kindergarten for the 2010-2011 school year has begun. Forms are available online or in the elementary office. Registrations will be accepted in the order in which they are received along with a \$50 deposit. The classes we will be offering are:

- **A preschool class** for three year olds that meets on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:45-11:15. Students must be 3 years old by December 1, 2010, to be eligible for this class.
- **There are two classes** of preschool for students who are four years old. Both meet on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The morning class time is from 8:45-11:15 and the afternoon class is from 12:00-2:30. Students must be 4 by December 1, 2010, to be eligible for this class.
- **A class of Developmental Kindergarten** that meets every afternoon from 12:00-3:00. It is for students who have summer, fall or early winter birthdays and would benefit from waiting a year to start kindergarten.
- **We offer a class of half day kindergarten** that meets every day from 8:00-11:15 **and a full day program** that meets every day from 8:00-3:00. Students must be 5 years old by December 1, 2010, to register for one of these classes.
- **Testing for kindergarten readiness** will take place in March to help parents determine the most appropriate class for their children in order for them to be successful.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Ellens at 455-0310.

## WEST CAMPUS NEWS AND NOTES

- **IPOD Chapel:** Jan. 18—No School
- **West Campus Chapel:** Jan. 20—Curt DeYoung
- **Semester exams** in science will be given to 7<sup>th</sup> graders on Thursday, Jan. 14, and in social studies on Friday, Jan. 15. 8<sup>th</sup> graders will take semester exams in social studies and Bible on Thursday, Jan. 14, and in science and language arts on Friday, Jan. 15. Detailed exam schedules (including test times and dismissal times) were distributed to all 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders last Wednesday, Jan. 6. Extra copies of this schedule are available in the west campus office.
- **7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders will be dismissed** from school at 12:05 pm on both exam days. We do offer quiet study halls on Thursday afternoon if students want to remain at school.
- **A big thank-you to** all who attended last week’s performances of “Annie”. Between the two performances over 600 people enjoyed the show. Thank you for supporting the 8th graders with your attendance, laughter, and applause. Mr. & Mrs. Haagsma also wish to thank the 8th graders, and their parents, for the gift certificates, hard work and support. Praise God for a job well done!
- **ATTENTION - FLEECE NEEDED!!!** A blanket made of fleece sure sounds good in the middle of January in Michigan. A Middle School exploratory group will again provide a setting for students to make fleece blankets for Project Linus. This nationwide program seeks to provide fleece blankets to children who have been abused or mistreated, and we could use your help. We are looking for donations of fleece or monetary donations so we can purchase the fleece to make the blankets. Please bring your donations to Legacy Christian’s West Campus. If you have any questions, please call 455-3860. Thank You!
- **The 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade band, orchestra and choir concert** originally scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 10, has been moved to Thursday, Jan. 21. The concert will begin at 7:00 pm and will be held in the west campus gymnasium.
- **PARENTS OF 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS:** Plan to attend one of South Christian’s Curriculum Nights on Jan. 19, 20, or 21 at 7 pm in the school media center. Be informed about graduation requirements, course selection, etc. in an extremely important meeting for parents who either have made the decision or are still uncertain about their son/daughter’s high school education. Questions? Call Jean Meines at 455-3210.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS SCHEDULE

#### 7th grade girls bball

JAN. 15	CALVIN CHR.	HOME(3:45)
JAN. 20	DUTTON	AWAY

#### 8th grade girls bball

JAN. 15	CALVIN CHR.	HOME(5:00)
JAN. 20	DUTTON	HOME

### **TRASH FOR CASH**

Meijer has a bonus offer for BoxTops going on until Jan. 20. Buy any 10 BoxTop products and get 70 bonus BoxTops. See this week's store flyer for more details.

### **PTO NEWS**

If you would like to include a Shopper Ad for this month (January), please bring it to the elementary office by Monday, Jan. 25, to be published on Wednesday, Jan. 27. Cost is 10 cents per word.

### **MOMS IN TOUCH**

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you... Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy" (Isaiah 60:1, 5a). It is our prayer that our students will know the joy they are told about at Legacy, that they will "be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for them in Christ Jesus" (I Thessalonians 5:16-18). Please join us as we pray for our students--the next Moms In Touch meeting is scheduled for Monday morning, Jan. 25 (note no meeting on 1/18 because there is no school that day), at 8:30 am in the elementary library. We plan to pray specifically for Mrs. Ellens, Mrs. Kwekel, Mrs. Wielard, and Mrs. Taruc, as well as for our children and the needs of our school community. The evening group plans to resume meetings soon; watch the newsletter for details.

For more information, contact Janine Brouwer ([janinerb@juno.com](mailto:janinerb@juno.com), 455-9484) or see [www.MomsInTouch.org](http://www.MomsInTouch.org)

### **NEW LIFE THRIFT STORE NEWS**

From New Life Thrift Store - BIG HELP IS NEEDED!!! We are drowning in year-end donations and need help asap!!! If you are looking for something to fill your winter days, as well as a way to serve, look no further. The New Life Thrift Store, benefiting the five South Suburban Christian Schools, could use your help sorting and stocking. We are very blessed with donations, but need volunteers to assist in processing. Call a Manager at 534-7134 to volunteer.

### **TRIP**

**Thursday Cash and Carry**—Purchase from a large variety of gift cards/certificates in our TRIP inventory with cash or check at the TRIP office (located at the west campus school building) from 7:45-10:00 am on Thursdays. If you want to start a TRIP account, you or a relative can sign up on Thursday and buy inventory right away. There is no fee to start and TRIP can transfer your earnings to any tuition paying school including colleges. We would love to help you start saving money on your tuition!

**Monday orders:** The next Monday orders are due by 8:30 am on January 18 in one of the TRIP boxes (there is a box at each campus). Please enclose a check rather than cash with your order. Orders are ready first thing Thursday mornings at Cash & Carry or will be delivered to the campus office you have designated.

**Please note:** Even though there is no school on January 18, TRIP processing of Monday orders will still take place. Please be sure to have your orders in the TRIP boxes by Friday of this week.

**Did you know** that TRIP carries the Beltline Bar \$10 gift certificate? The certificate is good at Beltline Bar, Bagel Beanery, Sundance Grill, and the Omelet Shoppe.

### **New to TRIP:**

I-tunes \$25 gift card @ 4% will be stocked at Cash & Carry; \$15 I-tunes card will also still be available.

To sign up for TRIP or ask any questions, call Mara Koning at 827-9548 (home) or 617-9105 (cell) or email her at: [legacytrip@sbcglobal.net](mailto:legacytrip@sbcglobal.net).

## REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Friday, January 15th**, Marcie Apple (LCS Parent) is co-hosting a bone marrow drive at Rogers Plaza from 12-5 pm. A very good friend of hers is in need of a bone marrow transplant. Please come out and donate and help save lives! The Gift of Life - the Greatest Gift of All!!! God Bless and Thank You!
- **South Christian Alumni**: Come join us on Friday, February 5, 2010, as we celebrate Homecoming! Our crew of senior leaders will be recognized between the Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys basketball games. Former band members are invited to join the pep band for the evening; Alumni are invited to join the fun and spirited competition with the Crew seniors during halftime; and Alumni may catch up with old friends over a cup of coffee in the Media Center after the game. We'd love to see you.
- **SCHS Travelogue series continues** on Friday, January 22, with "Ireland: Celtic Myths and Splendors" with Sandy Mortimer. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children. The show begins at 7:30 in the SCHS Auditorium.
- **All 3rd & 4th grade girls**: a basketball clinic will be held at South Christian Activities Center for four weeks starting this Saturday, Jan. 16th, at 10:00 am. Registration is \$15.00 and will take place before we start this week. Any questions call Coach DeBruyn at 534-6136.
- **Field and Stream** – Friendship Christian Reformed Church invites you to their Field & Stream Club, Tuesday, January 19, at 7:00 pm. John Lerg, Plainwell, DNR will be speaking on Deer Management, Michigan Deer Herd. Coffee and cookies will be served.

## FINAL THOUGHTS

The experience of asking for **Final Thought** topic suggestions has been very interesting. I'm glad I asked, and am even happier about the responses that have come in.

One of you quickly suggested that information about snow days may be interesting and/or helpful. Snow days often seem to take on a life of their own. Many students become excited by the mere thought of an unexpected day away from school. That excitement can be helped along by group dynamics here at school, and by overzealous weather people. Interestingly, the anticipation of a snow day often turns out to be more exciting than the actual day itself.

But, I'm getting off topic. Our reader asked specific questions related to the decision process, the procedure used, etc. For our format today I'll simply answer those questions.

1. **"Does the state of Michigan have limits related to how many snow days we can take?"** The state of Michigan requires schools to count hours in their school year rather than days. The state allows schools to include the first 30 hours they are scheduled to be in session but can't because of factors such as weather, sickness, natural disaster, etc., Beyond that, if the school year just barely meets the state's minimum hour requirement, the school may have to make the hours up. LCS is generally just fine with hours. If we would ever get behind we may need to look at a mid-year correction such as the second day of our mid-winter break, or extending the year.
2. **"What is the reason for having a snow day?"** The safety of our students, bus drivers, other drivers and staff are all factors that are considered.
3. **"Who makes the decision to have a snow day?"** I actually make the decision. However, it is not exactly an isolated decision. I often talk with the Kentwood bus garage and have multiple conversations with Mr. Plaisier, the principal from South Christian. I also watch a lot of weather reports and monitor what neighboring schools are doing. Even though we are a suburban school we do have a bus route that goes out as far as Green Lake. So, we monitor the Kentwood, Wyoming and south Grand Rapids conditions as well as conditions south of town.
4. **"Who do you call when you make the decision?"** I call Mrs. Ellens, Mr. Bergakker, a secretary, a teacher and a bus driver. Each of these calls starts a phone chain that includes our entire staff. Mrs. Ellens changes the school's voice mail and accesses the GRAIL (Grand Rapids Radio Broadcasters Association) web system to post our school information. I also call the Kentwood bus garage, the Wyoming food service, channel 13 and channel 8.
5. **"Is there a security code at area television stations that schools need to use?"** Yes, there are security codes. So, an enterprising individual cannot make an "announcement" for a school.
6. **"When does this process begin? Are there any staff that are typically at school prior to a snow day decision?"** When the weather is threatening I generally get up around 4:30-4:45 am and step outside to see what's going on. Soon after, I'm watching channel 13 and channel 8 and/or talking on the phone. However, by that time Mr. Bergakker is already clearing snow at LCS. So, he is almost always at work before a snow day decision occurs. We try to have the decision made before bus drivers leave their homes or Mr. Bergakker begins warming up the busses. The most difficult mornings are those where a turn for the better or a turn for the worse is predicted for sometime between 6:00 and 8:00 am.

Have a great week...free from snow days,

Mr. Bonnema