

C.S. LEWIS

ACADEMY NEWS

MAY 2010



A Message from Mr. Finch

When my wife and I lived in Guatemala we would often go to the grocery store in search of familiar items to buy. We both love sour cream, but it was so hard to find. One day we found it on clearance in a small tienda. No one seemed to want it. They preferred the old standby which I could not adjust to. It was undesirable to say the least. Well, I asked the locals why no one bought sour cream and the response was it is different and they were not too comfortable with these new American products. At the time, it reminded me of Dr. Seuss's tale of "Green Eggs and Ham." As a parent I am constantly trying to get my children to at least try everything on their plates. Well, this situation is something I find regularly in the community. Finishing our third year is a milestone. It signifies that the school is here to stay. We have become a positive part of the community and still there are community members who are hesitant to try something new. We have an amazing school with solid programs and high academic standards. We have a unique model of instruction that is being replicated across the country and highlighted among the best

practices in public schools. C. S. Lewis Academy is a very positive and safe school environment. We have high performing students and continually make huge gains in student proficiencies and progress. Spread the word about the positive contributions the school has made in your children's lives. Help the community understand that trying something new will enhance their child's education dramatically. C. S. Lewis Academy is a remarkable learning environment for everyone! I have heard a parent say, "My daughter is just average, she is not gifted nor does she struggle, and besides all her friends in the neighborhood go to the district school. She is fine where she is." I understand the mother's philosophy; however, I feel that her daughter *could* benefit from a solid, rich educational experience. Average is not good enough. At CSLA we accept everyone and set high standard of achievement. We have great students who make wonderful friends outside their immediate neighborhoods. It is a very enriching environment and all students no matter their educational strengths or weaknesses, deserves the very best education possible and not settle for anything less.

As the school year comes to an

end, I reflect upon the year and feel very pleased with the many positive outcomes that have been taking place. I am so happy with the quality of work many of the students produce and for the diligent efforts of their teachers. As many of you parents know, C. S. Lewis Academy has had some huge success in the areas of Math, Science and Language Arts. I recognize that there are many other schools your children have gone to or could go to and I feel honored and privileged that you have chosen C. S. Lewis Academy as a place to educate your children. So in response to this, we, the faculty, staff, and school board have worked unceasingly to ensure that your children received the very best education around and our success is being touted and noticed by many.

We are so fortunate to have the ability to make educated choices as to where our children attend school and to take an active role in our children's education. Once we found the ever elusive sour cream, I needed to look no further. I had tasted the alternative and preferred a more non-traditional approach to topping my potato. May we be the topping that makes a difference in the lives of your child. ☺

New Middle School model

Some exciting modifications are taking place for our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade classes at C. S. Lewis Academy next year. The school will be implementing a new model of instruction for all students. In these grades. These changes will help address the individual academic needs of the students. Students will be assessed and grouped in classes in order to better address their academic goals and progress. There will be four classes of Literature each with a unique focus. There will also be four classes of Math including the

courses of Pre-Algebra A, Pre Algebra B1 and B2 and Algebra 1. Students' academic levels will also be identified in creating Writing Composition classes. Science, History, P.E., Spanish and Art will all be instructed according to the grade level of the students. This has been a very exciting development for students and parents who desire more flexibility in classes and the ability to change teachers based on certain courses. Class activities, service projects, and leadership opportunities for students will also be a major part of our new middle school culture.

School Clothes

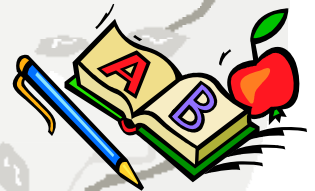
As you search for the right clothes for school in the fall, please make sure they follow the guidelines specified in the student handbook. As a reminder, students should not wear pants or shorts with cargo pockets. This seems to be one of our most common infractions every year, so please purchase bottoms without the cargo/exterior pockets. Also, the school is in need of any slightly used dress code items. Please bring them to the front office. Many families benefit from donated clothing, as well as students who need a change of clothes throughout the day.

Summer Reading

Be on the lookout for our fun and exciting summer reading program!

Revised Student Handbook

The revised student handbook is now available online! Check it out, for the guideline fro the dress code as well as the newly approved discipline and electronics policies.



2010-2011 Enrollment

We are still accepting students for the next school year. Tell your friends, family, and neighbors about CSLA. We are trying very hard to fill every seat possible. We are allowed to have up to 450 students K-8. I feel we have enhanced programs, and skilled teachers which offer a very powerful education. It is a shame when a seat is empty and a child could be participating, learning and benefiting from everything we have to offer. Parents, please inform the office if you are moving and/or will not be returning to the school.