

PUSCH RIDGE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

“Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah... has triumphed.” Revelation 5:5

January 2011

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Principal's Coffee - PRCA

Thursday, January 6

8:15 am - 9:15 am in Library

Joining us Glen Shepherd

Principal's Coffee - CCA

Thursday, January 20

8:15 am - 9:15 am

CFC in the Fireside Room

Joining us Glen Shepherd



From the Principal's Desk

“O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old – what we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done. He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands (Psalm 78:1-7).

The future is now. What we purpose today in Christian schooling will pay off tomorrow in the lives of our students. But, is Christian schooling worth the financial cost? Choosing a school like Pusch Ridge Christian Academy (PRCA) often requires a significant financial commitment, and the cost is usually borne by individual families. So, if it costs, and the cost is significant, then the question becomes, is it worth the cost? What are the benefits to choosing a Christian education for one's child(ren)? Obviously, economic times that have put incredible financial stress on today's families make this decision even more challenging.

I love the opportunities that come our way as Christian educators to integrate

biblical concepts and principles into every facet of learning – concepts and principles that guide spiritual life, including relationship with God as well as relationships with others in everyday life. Biblical truth and understanding must be an integral part of every planned learning experience. The integration of biblical truth is the way of Christian education, demonstrating that every dimension of life is sacred.

PRCA's purpose is “to partner with the Christian home in discipling young men and women in their relationship with Christ and the Scriptures” (CFCS Mission Statement). By partnering with our families, we look to support the values of the Christian home through the assurance that your children's teachers, beyond being professionally qualified, are men and women who love the Lord, love His children, and love teaching. They are followers of Christ, going the “extra mile” in teaching their subject area through the lens of God, and are educators who seek to model and extend Christ-likeness in their teaching roles.

In Jonah 1:1, we read: “The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: ‘Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.’” It took Jonah time spent in the belly of a whale before he was convinced to follow through on the Lord's command (Jonah 3:1-3). Sadly, much of today's world counters Scripture and its



Mission Statement

Catalina Foothills Church Schools, a covenantal Christian school system, exists to glorify God and to partner with the Christian home in discipling young men and women in their relationship with Christ and the Scriptures, unfolding to them a unified and Biblical world and life view, equipping them with the tools necessary to pursue a lifestyle and love of learning, exposing them to the classical ideas from our Western cultural heritage, and challenging them to pursue academic excellence. We desire to see our young men and women, “increase in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men,” in order to live out their faith as servant leaders in every area of society (Luke 2:52).

Pusch Ridge Christian Academy does not discriminate on the basis of sex, nationality, or race of its students or in the administration of its educational policies, the awarding of financial aid, or any of its other school administered programs.



ALL-SCHOOL NEWS

eternal truths, and man has strayed and lives life in a self-serving manner, pleasing himself long before others or God.

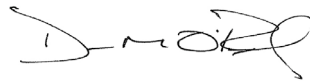
I appreciate and agree with Ken Smitherman, former President of the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI), who concludes in an article from *Christian School Comment*: "There is tough competition for the heart and mind of every individual. Our children in their development ages are particularly vulnerable to that which is attractive but can be exceedingly destructive. Our culture and the world put extraordinary emphasis on satisfying and pleasing self. Jesus' call is one of putting God and others before self – a decision and a position that are not the natural bent of humanity. This daily school regimen of emphasizing putting God and others first – reinforced by men and women who embrace it, all in an environment that centers on God's Word – can be a tremendous defense against the competitive voice of the world."

"Training up" (Proverbs 22:6) children to walk in His ways is one of the most challenging mandates of parenting. PRCA "desires to see our young men and women 'increase in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men' (Luke 2:52) in order to live out their faith as servant leaders in every area of society" (CFCS Mission Statement). "Christian schooling," as Ken Smitherman states, "is about teaching and nurturing students

so that they will pursue that right way."

Choosing a Christian school like PRCA and making the financial investment in an education that forms children spiritually as it develops them intellectually is to be commended. A biblically formed world and life view in the life of a child really has no price tag and it's wonderful to see our parents making it a priority because they see its value. Eternally speaking, and in the eyes of the Lord, the financial sacrifices are worth the cost. I assure you that in all that we do, we purpose to make your investment one that will produce fruit for eternity.

In Him,



Mr. Dennis M. O'Reilly
Principal

2001-2012 Re-Enrollment

As Mr. O'Reilly shared in the letter he included in the January tuition statement, re-enrollment packets are due in the office by February 1, 2011. To access the packet, please Log onto ParentsWeb, click on Family Information, Click on Re-enrollment and read the instructions for both updating your demographic information online as well as downloading the packet of forms.

Course selection for all PRCA students grades 6-12 will be completed this year online for the first time ever. To select courses, go to ParentsWeb, click on Student Information, then go to Course Request. The name of your child will be listed individually. You will have to click on each middle school and high school student's name to select their courses.

You may register for classes starting at 8:00 am on the morning of January 10, 2011. Students will automatically be assigned a number based the order in which they completed the course selection process online. Although we can usually accommodate a student's first choice in electives, a few classes do fill rather quickly. This is particularly true in the middle school.

In order to keep your place in the class enrollment line, you must have submitted all re-enrollment forms and paid the \$50 re-enrollment fee by February 1 and the registration fee by March 1. Students who register on January 10, and soon after will most likely receive their first elective choice. The number of sections we offer for each course is greatly determined by the students' course selection, which in turn affects our staffing needs. Consequently, the sooner students register the easier it is for us to plan for next year.

If you have concerns about your child not returning next year for any reason that perhaps we can help address, please contact Mr. O'Reilly or any of our administrators so we can come alongside you in this prayerful decision. We hope all of our students will be part of the PRCA family again next year.

If you have questions or comments about the re-enrollment process, please contact:

- Glen Shepherd in the Admissions Office
- Teri Rohne in our Guidance Center regarding online Course Selection
- Carol Mifflin in our Business Office on any financial matters

PRCA Website

Our website allows us to keep you up-to-date with school information and provide you with important documents. This section will provide you with direct links to the information and forms you need. Visit us at: www.cfcsmain.com.

[This link](#) takes you to the following documents:

- ACH Form
- Bus Contract and Routes
- Lunch Menu
- Prickly Pear Jelly Order Form
- SAT Prep

PRCA Needs

MS Praise Band

Is in need of an electric keyboard. Nearly any medium to full-size keyboard will do, but it must have two particular features.

- First, the keyboard needs to have its own internal speakers as well as a jack to connect it to a sound system.
- Second, it must have the ability to transpose keys.

If you have a keyboard you no longer have use for and it has these features (if you are not sure, please let us have a look and we can figure it out), and you are willing to donate it to PRCA for the middle school praise band, please contact Tyler Shepperd 520.235.7796 or Michael Rivers 520.904.8610).



ALL-SCHOOL NEWS

Cell Phone Policy

Students may possess cell phones but they must be turned off and concealed during school hours. While cell phones are a valuable feature of modern life, they can be disruptive and undermine our goals for education. Cell phones being used during the school day will be taken and returned to students after dismissal from school. Please remind your student that texting or calling a parent while in school is also a violation of this policy. You can help your student by not calling or texting them while they are in school. Cell phones may be used during the school day with permission from the office.

Lion Cubs!

What fun we had on November 17, hosting 32 potential "Lion cubs"... younger brothers and sisters of our current Lions...for a Sibling Shadow Day! Our special guests, whom we pray will be part our school come August, spent the morning with a host in the grade they will be going into. Then after chapel and lunch they went with their older brothers and sisters to two of their classes.

If your son or daughter wasn't able to be involved with this special Sibling Shadow Day and you want him/her to have this experience as they consider attending

Pusch Ridge next year, please call Glen Shepherd and he will arrange for a day when this can happen.

In general, if you have a child you are hoping will join your child(ren) currently attending PRCA for the 2011-12 school year, and you haven't already contacted the Admissions office to share your son or daughter's name and grade, please let Mr. Shepherd know so he can start working with you on the enrollment/admissions process. We hope to have many new brothers and sisters with us next year!

Recruiting and Admissions Season is Here!

If you know of a new family interested in Pusch Ridge for their child(ren) for the next school year, please suggest they call the Admissions office to arrange for a tour, a Shadow Day, and to learn about our Admissions Open House dates. We will be hosting these special events throughout the spring.

PRCA Open Houses will take place on Saturday morning from 9:00 – 10:15 on the following dates: January 8, February 12, March 12, April 17 and May 7.

You may have friends who have elementary school-age children who are seeking an excellent Christian

education for their children as well. Please encourage them to call Rebecca Shepperd, our Director of Admissions at Cornerstone (529-7080). Cornerstone's Open Houses will take place on Thursday mornings from 9:00 – 11:00 on January

Lions in Sports

Spring Sports begin soon:

High School

- Baseball
- Golf
- Softball
- Track
- Tennis

Middle School

- Boys Basketball
- Girls Basketball

If you are interested in playing a sport in the spring, please make sure you have all your paperwork on file in the school office to get your Gold Card. If you have already played a sport this year all that is needed is the sports fee of \$100. When you finish your winter season sport, your uniform and equipment will need to be returned, along with the sports fee before your Gold Card can be issued for the new sport. If this is the first sport you are participating in the following items need to be in your student file before you can get your Gold Card:

- Your birth certificate
- An emergency form
- Signed athletic release
- Sports physical (done after March 1, 2010)
- Health History

Thanks to Target!

The PRCA Science Department recently received a generous grant from Target. The \$500 grant will fund an Honors HAP field trip to Grand Canyon University on March 11, for the annual Health Careers Exploration Day. Thank you, Target!

8th Grade EVENT!!!

Date: January 24, 2011
Time: 6:30 pm, Cafeteria

8th Grade students and parents...Join us as we educate you about our excellent high school program; hear from current students, enjoy refreshments, fellowship, and see mentorship in action!

Highlights :

- *Honors/College Prep
- *Athletics/Fine Arts/Elective opportunities
- *Friends!!!
- *Why PRCA?

FUN!!

FOOD!!

RSVP: Teri Rohne, teri.rohne@prca-tucson.org

INFORMATIVE!!

ALL-SCHOOL NEWS

13, February 10, March 10, and April 15.

Please also encourage prospective families to visit our website: cfcsmain.com. The Enrollment/Admissions Packet for prospective students may be downloaded (the Admissions section). Mr. Shepherd welcomes calls and visits from any interested students and parents so please pass the word. Thank you.

Drop Off/Pick Up Policy

For safety reasons, students must be dropped off and picked up only in the designated "parking loop" south of the school buildings or in the north parking lot. Please do not drop off or pick up your student in the staff parking lot or the basketball court area as students are always present in this area and the buses need to drive through and park.

After School Policy

The school is not responsible for students who arrive before 8:10 am or remain on campus after 3:45 pm, unless involved in a school-related activity. It is our expectation that middle school students will either be in the parent pick up area, involved in an after-school sport, with a teacher for extra help, or in the library doing homework. As of late, we are seeing an increase in the number of middle school students without a destination after school. We are here to partner with the family so please call if you need to discuss after school logistics.

Angel Tree Giving

The PRCA response to our Angel Tree Ministries outreach was outstanding. Pairing off with friends, middle school students purchased gifts for 100 children and high school students provided for 130 more. Only through your support and encouragement is the success of this gift drive possible. Each Angel Tree gift is a tangible expression of love motivated by grace, both for the incarcerated parent and his or her child. Thank you parents for raising such compassionate, gracious young men and women.

Middle School Spelling Bee

Congratulations to the Middle School Spelling Bee winners! The 1st and 2nd place winners from each grade will be representing Pusch Ridge at the ACSI District Spelling Bee at Casas Christian School on January 22, 2011. Way to go!

6th grade:

- Tie for 1st place – Lauren Gaston and Jake Toole
- 3rd place – Kyle Eggers

7th grade:

- Tie for 1st place – Julia Bombadier and Rachel Romero
- 3rd place – Hailey Hughes

8th grade:

- 1st place – Grace Johnson
- 2nd place – Ariel Gin
- 3rd place – Skye Uldrich

Math Tutoring Available

High School Students

Mrs. Schultz' and Mr. Seymour's students will meet from 3:00-4:00 pm on Wednesdays. Mrs. Linaman's and Mrs. Wahl's students will meet from 3:00-3:45 pm on Wednesdays.

Middle School Students

Tutoring time will be from 3:45-4:30 pm on Wednesdays. Ms. Swisher's students will be tutored by Mrs. Wahl and Mrs. Halvey's students will see Mrs. Linaman.

Prickly Pear Jelly

Prickly pear jelly and syrup is on sale. Contact Holly Munro or Nikki Simpson with any questions. 520.797.0107 ext. 131 (Mrs. Munro) and 132 (Ms. Simpson).

Science Fair

Seventh grade students will be bringing their display boards and completed science fair reports to school on Monday, January 24, 2011. They will be presenting their projects to the students in their classes. Then on Monday, January 31, students will carry their boards and reports to the gym for judging in the 2011 Pusch Ridge Christian Academy Science Fair. Judges will be evaluating projects and talking to students all day. Then at 6:30 p.m. the doors will open for students and parents to view the projects and see the awards! Join us January 31 at 6:30 p.m.!

College Scholarship Offers Submitted

The following seniors have submitted a copy of their college scholarship offers. If your senior has received a written offer of

scholarship, please have him/her bring a copy (or send original and we will copy) to Mrs. Rohne or Mrs. Abrams and we will record it. We are both available to help with subsequent applications for colleges or scholarships. We are proud of all the hard work our seniors are putting forth! Please keep us posted as to your acceptances as well.

- Joe Abrams
- Kurt Andres
- Haley Christensen
- Maddy Cooney
- Sam Dunn
- Zach Johnson
- David Lowery
- Megan McKee
- Daniel McLeod
- Cori Messer Myers
- Geoff Pooley
- Grant Pooley
- Brennan Smith
- Ryan Tanner
- Sarah Yuhas

Pusch Ridge Wins City Volleyball Championship

The middle school A-team at Pusch Ridge Christian Academy won the city championship in its volleyball league.

Pusch Ridge is a Northwest school that serves 455 Christian students in grades 6-12.

More than 45 girls participated in the volleyball program this season. Pusch Ridge offers 8 sports in middle school and the PRCA middle school tackle football team also won its league championship.

The Lions volleyball team plays in the Tucson Independent Athletic League (TIAL) composed of private schools throughout Tucson. Head Coach Nikki Simpson led her team to a 13-2 record, beating Casas Christian in the championship game.

Members of the championship team were Olivia Christian, Abby Clark, Shelby Dirkschneider, Leah Edmond, Kaylin Frisby, Haley Haynes, Grace Johnson, Kelly Lienhard, Lindsay Olson, Jamie Ricksecker, Kailey Rohne, Moriah Roters, and Clare Wallum.

ALL-SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Shelby Dirkschneider received one of the MVP awards for her solid serving, great blocking ability, and powerful hits. Kailey Rohne was the other MVP due to her serving, consistent setting, and positive attitude. Each member made a major contribution to the team.

"It was a great feeling to fight through losing the first game of the season and go on to win the championship," stated Coach Simpson. "We talked about resilience, communicating and working as a team throughout the season during our devotional time."

JUNIOR JAVA

Where: Cafeteria
 When: Monday – Friday, 7:15am to 8:00am
 What: Coffee w/ flavored creamers
 Hot Chocolate
 Iced Coffee
 Ice Tea
 Hot Apple Cider
 How: Cash Only
 Who: The Junior Class for a Prom Fundraiser

Parents: Please remind your student that only water is allowed in the classrooms.

PAVING THE PATH to COLLEGE NIGHT

January 10, 2011

There are three components to this night: 1) College Athletics (Room TBD), 2) Junior College Seminar (Cafeteria), 3) Senior Financial Aid Seminar

This format is completely different than what we have done in the past. Dinner will be available for purchase that evening because we really want you to come. The cost for dinner will be \$4/person or \$10/for family (of 3). Dinner can be purchased at the door and we will begin serving dinner at 5:00pm. Childcare is not available, sorry (however, if this is preventing you from coming, please let Mrs. Rohne know...she will do everything possible for you to be here). Please RSVP to Mrs. Rohne at teri.rohne@prca-tucson.org if you plan to eat dinner so we know how many to provide for. We have tried to structure the evening so that we can accomplish all of these events, but it will be tight. Therefore, we highly recommend that both parents come if

possible to divide and conquer.

For FRESHMAN and SOPHOMORE students and parents interested in College Athletics:

- 5:15-6:15 pm only

For JUNIOR students and parents:

- 5:15-6:15 (only if interested in collegiate Athletics)
- 6:15-8:30pm Come for dinner and then the College Night. You will have the College Seminar first followed by the Financial Aid Seminar

For SENIOR students and parents:

- 5:15-6:15 (only if interested in collegiateAthletics)
- 6:15-7:45 Parents only, Financial Aid Seminar

COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS - You won't want to miss our "Paving the Path to Athletics" Seminar

Parents of high school students (freshman through senior)... please plan on attending this information-packed night regarding collegiate athletics. If you are even remotely considering athletics as a means to enrich your college or help pay for it, you will want to attend this night. You will receive details about NCAA Div III all the way through NAIA and NCAA Div I. Find out what questions to ask, what sports in college look like, what the process looks like, etc.

JUNIOR COLLEGE SEMINAR

This event is extremely important for ALL juniors and parents. If you don't know for sure what your plans are after high school, how you will afford college, what you should be doing to prepare for college or life after high school, SAT/ACT test taking, etc. then you need to attend. After the session with Mrs. Abrams and Mrs. Rohne, you will be treated to a financial discussion with Mr. Jim McCormick, Vice President for Student Development at Colorado Christian University. He is a wealth of knowledge regarding financial preparation for college, no matter where you plan to attend.

SENIOR FINANCIAL AID SEMINAR

Parents of seniors...you will not want to miss this event! Please plan on a financial information-packed night

provided by Jim McCormick, Vice President for Student Development at Colorado Christian University. Mr. McCormick will be presenting information on how the FAFSA works and how colleges use that information, ways to fund your college education, and more.

Upcoming Events

January

Admissions Open House

Saturday, Jan 8, 2011 @ 9:00 am @ PRCA

NHS Meeting

Monday, Jan 10, 2011 @ HS lunch in the Library

College Night

Monday, Jan 10, 2011 @ 5:00 pm - Dinner in PRCA Gymnasium. 5:15 pm - Collegiate Athletics. 6:15 pm - Junior College Seminar

No School - MLK, Jr. Day

Monday, Jan 17, 2011

Freshman Forum

Monday, Jan 24, 2011 @ 6:30 pm

Washington DC Trip - 8th Grade

Saturday, Jan 29, 2011 - Saturday, Feb 5, 2011

Science Fair

Monday, Jan 31, 2011 @ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm in Gymnasium

February

Grandparents' Day - PRCA

Wednesday, Feb 16, 2011 @ 9:00 am - 11:00 am @ Gymnasium & Cafeteria

No School - Rodeo Days

Thursday, Feb 24, 2011 - Friday, Feb 25, 2011

mytown
MUSIC

