



CHATTER

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◆ From the Principal --



TEARS & JOY

Just two weeks ago I woke to a text message that one of my former students had been killed in a tragic car accident in Pennsylvania. There were no details, just that sad message. As the day unfolded, I saw more reports about a tractor trailer driver who plowed into 10 cars and killed three people.

During the course of the day I reviewed many memories I had of Ethan Van Bochoven when he was a student in my sixth grade homeroom. I remembered him as a great athlete, kind young man, and a musician. I continued to watch Facebook messages pour in and I was so blessed by what I read. Ethan was truly a wonderful young man. People spoke of his smile, laughter, kindness and music skills, but there was so much more. It was the more that was my blessing! I read of his incredible love for the Lord and for his passion to share that love with others.

Attending the funeral I heard his brother and father share that their greatest prayer was that someone would come to know the Lord as their Savior through this accident and Ethan's death.

When our students graduate, I always share the same verse with them. Ill John 4 says, "I have no greater joy than this: to hear that my children are walking in truth."

In the midst of my tears, I have joy!

INCREDIBLE CHALLENGE AHEAD

Thursday evening, November 1, is rapidly approaching and we are looking forward to our **SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CAMPAIGN BANQUET**. It will be held at Portobello in Oakland.



This is **OUR** school. Everyone is important at RCS. We need you to help make this a successful banquet. Please plan to attend, bring a friend and consider what part you can play in helping the \$85,000 challenge become a reality.

Our students are being encouraged to participate by placing their donation in the big container outside the school office. All of their donations will be doubled and then brought to the convention where it will be doubled again! A donation of \$.25 rapidly becomes worth \$1.



CHRISTMAS JOY!

Does it bother you when you go into a store in October and you already see so many Thanksgiving decorations? Sometimes I just feel like I am being rushed through the year and I don't have enough time to enjoy the day I am living.

Well, this time I have no problem stressing that Christmas is coming! Every year the students at RCS collect shoebox Christmas gifts for needy children around the world. The only Christmas gifts that these children will receive are found in one shoebox.

Can you imagine being ecstatic to receive a toothbrush, a yo-yo, a comb, and things like that? Please be sure that you read the materials in this week's Friday Folder to see what can and cannot be included.

Rev. Franklin Graham has been leading Operation Christmas Child for years. His organization sees that children in poverty stricken areas all around the world have a special Christmas gift. In addition, each child receives the Gospel message in his/her own language.

This is a wonderful way for families to experience the joy of giving. Truly we are rich in America and there are so many blessings that we can share with others.

You can start sending in your filled boxes now, but be sure they are all in by **November 12**.

CLASSES IN THE OUTDOORS



The 7th and 8th graders recently returned from their 3-day, 2-night outdoor education trip to Spruce Lake Retreat in Canadensis, PA. The two classes participated in different activities that provided hands-on science learning, helped build class spirit, and challenged them to meet individual goals.

Each day was filled with challenging activities. We arrived on Wednesday just in time for a delicious lunch, time to unpack and get ready for the first adventure. After lunch, the seventh graders took the Mountain Stream Geology hike up Spruce Mountain and the eighth graders went to the High Ropes Course. By the time we returned from these two adventures, everyone was ready for dinner and then some free time in the game room and on the basketball court. Later that evening, everyone enjoyed a trip to the Ice Cream Shack.



Morning came early and Thursday was another day filled with challenges and adventure as the seventh graders headed to the High Ropes Course and the eighth graders took off for the Mountain Stream Geology Hike up Spruce Mountain. Again, the high ropes posed incredible challenges. At night, the students participated in an exciting outdoor-in-the-dark version of a scavenger hunt.

On Friday morning, the students faced a tough challenge at the climbing wall. Conquering the height and struggling up the tower, ended with them rappelling down. The last adventure of the trip was the zip line which they had been looking forward to riding. They had an exciting ride on the 550+ foot outdoor zip line. Attached to the cable by a pulley and a rope, each student took a leap of faith off the platform and entered into an exhilarating ride.

The three day adventure operated according to the “challenge by choice” principle. The concept is that everyone is invited to participate voluntarily in each of the various activities and challenges. Everyone respects the participant’s choice and everyone is encouraged to stretch themselves outside of their comfort zone.



The trip provided a great opportunity to grow spiritually, physically, socially and emotionally. A special thanks goes to our chaperones who helped make this great trip possible - Miss Lincoln, Miss Van Schepen, Mr. McQuade, Pastor Harris and Dr. Furrey.





SPECIAL THANK YOU TO EMERGENCE

We are all enjoying the many wonderful changes in the facilities. A great deal of planning, work and resources were invested in this project. Emergence Church totally renovated the main building and some additional changes were made in the small building. RCS is the

recipient of this good work and we wanted to express our sincere thanks.

On October 10, we were finally able to hold chapel services upstairs. The students were really looking forward to getting to see the new auditorium. It was a wonderful time of celebration as we invited some of the leaders from Emergence to join us. Pastor Nate Dorka, Steve Hawthorne, Greg Prairie and Stephanie Clauson joined us. Our focus was to celebrate God's great work and express our thanks to Emergence for all they had done.



Prior to the chapel, each student wrote a thank you note to Emergence. The letters from Kindergarten through eighth graders were absolutely precious as they shared their personal appreciation. The letters were then put together with some special class pictures and professionally bound. This will serve as a good reminder of how appreciative we are for their good work on behalf of Emergence and RCS.

GREAT GIFTS FOR OUR STUDENTS!

The new school year started with a wonderful gift for our students! Thanks to the great work

of our PTF, Mrs. Coyne presented our students with six new Chromebooks. Pastor Nate from Emergence, presented the students with another six Chromebooks. These 12 Chromebooks have already been put to great use as Miss Van Schepen moves through the school every Wednesday teaching computer classes. Thanks for supporting our PTF and helping our students.

Very soon other teachers will be incorporating Chromebooks into their daily class instruction. Technology is an important tool for RCS students. The Chromebooks are an addition to our iPads and interactive monitors in each classroom.

COMING EVENTS



November

- 1 - 17th ANNUAL CAMPAIGN BANQUET
- 3 - Turn Your Clocks Back
- 8 - Marking Period 1 Ends
- 10 - PTF Pancake Breakfast
- 15 - All Pro Dad Breakfast (7-8 AM)
- 16 - Report Cards go Home
Escape Day (Gr. 6-8)
- 20 - Thanksgiving Chapel and Feast
- 21 - Early Closing
- 22-23 NO SCHOOL—Thanksgiving

Use your spiral school calendar and Friday Folder to keep updated on all activities!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



NOVEMBER -

- 12 - Colin McHugh
Hailey Dorka
- 14 - Khloe Jones
- 23 - Maria Rinaldo

*Have a
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!*

RCS Homemade Pancake Breakfast

Saturday - Nov. 10
9 - 11 AM

Order your tickets NOW!



*This is a
great event
to invite your
friends!*



FIRE PREVENTION MONTH

The Ringwood Fire Department visited with our third and fourth grade students. They brought their "Smoke House" to demonstrate good procedures for escaping a home on fire.

If you haven't done so yet, be sure to set a "family meeting spot." Another good reminder is to change the batteries in your smoke detectors when you turn your clock back or forward.

LIFE AT R.C.S.



ALL PRO DAD BREAKFAST

Once a month, dads and kids gather from 7 - 8 AM for breakfast and a special time of bonding. All Pro Dad provides an opportunity for dads to spend quality time with their children that will strengthen their relationship. Plan to join them on Nov. 15.



APPLE PICKING FUN

It's Apple Picking Time! Our students enjoyed a fun trip to Penning's in Warwick where they got to pick apples, visit the petting zoo and enjoy some time with their classmates, teachers and parents. Apparently, all of the apples didn't make it back to school.