

Calendar of Events:

May 5—
Elementary
Field Trip to
Children's Mu-
seum

May 7—
National Day
of Prayer

May 14—
Day of Giving

May 15—
Field Day

May 21—
Kindergarten
Graduation
and School
Closing Pro-
gram at 7pm

May 29—
Last day of
school

August 20—
Parent
Orientation

August 27—
First day of
school

September 26—
Annual Auction

Update:

GCS was able to purchase an iPad for LifeSteps from the money raised by the Penny Wars. On April 23th, students went bowling with some of the clients and gave them the iPad.

Grace News

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3

APRIL 2015

Day of Giving 2015

Grace Christian School is participating in the fifth annual Armstrong County Day of Giving. The date is May 14th and is a one-day-only event. Community Foundation Serving the Heart of Western Pennsylvania has set aside this one day to raise as much money as possible for non-profit organizations. Any individual monetary donations from 20 to 5,000 dollars will be matched by the Community Foundation. The amount of money that is matched to every donation will depend on the total amount raised by the group of non-profits. Just like last year, the school is working with Cornerstone Consulting Group in an attempt to raise 40,000 dollars to be able to meet their budget.

Last year the school made 42,150.27 dollars total, more than double the amount raised the previous year. Parents and faculty have been asked again to commit to sending out letters containing the Day of Giving details to at least 25 people and to making a follow-up call to the same people. On April 16th, all the letters were prayed over before they were mailed. The school recognizes that God is the One who can truly increase the donations given. By doing all this, the school hopes that each family will be able to raise at least 1,500 dollars and together be able to reach their larger goal.

There are three ways to donate: First, it can be done online by going to

www.ArmstrongGives.org. Second, it can be done by a check or money delivered to GCS. The check must be made out to "Community Foundation" and "Grace Christian School" must be in the memo box; also the date on the check must be May 14, 2015. Third, it can be done by a check made out as stated above, mailed to 220 S. Jefferson St., Kittanning, PA, 16201. Remember, this is a one-day-only event! If done online, it must be on May 14th, or if mailed it must be post marked on May 14th. With your help and prayers, GCS can meet its goal of 40,000 dollars for this school year.

Pack-a-thon

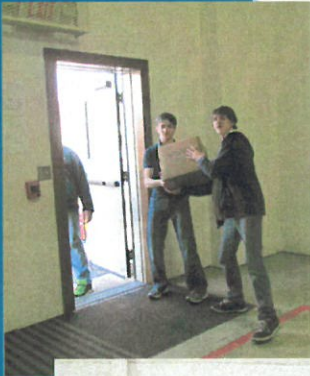
On April 24th Grace Christian School had the opportunity to pack meals for the community for a second time. Teachers, staff, parents and students worked together in the annual Helping Hands Meal Pack-a-thon. Together we packed 10,000

meals of high-protein mac-n-cheese. The boxes were then given to Armstrong Community Action food banks who distributed them to food-insecure families. All of us at Grace Christian School are thankful for the generous hearts



that support the school with prayer and financial gifts, and we are excited that we were able to give back to the community.

Summer Exploration



From June 15th to August 21st Grace Christian School is offering Summer Exploration for children, ages 4 through 13. This is the first time that such a program is being held. Charlie Atwood, high-school instructor at GCS, will be heading up the program. Summer Exploration is five days a week,

but there are full-day, partial-day, full-week and partial-week packages. Each week, from 9am-3pm,

the children will learn about a different country, enjoy arts and crafts, make kitchen creations native to the country being explored, participate in team-building activities, and enjoy a day of hiking, fishing and other outdoor sports at Camp Whites Pond. Owned by the West Kittanning Grace Brethren Church, this 108 acre camp includes ponds, a lodge and pavilion, ball field, campground and lots of trails. For an additional fee, pre and post-activities from 7:30-9:00am and 3:00-5:30pm are

available. The different countries being explored are China, Japan, India, Brazil, Spain, France, Italy, Australia, Africa, and even Outer Space. The price is reasonable with discounts for attending five days a week and for registering multiple students. For more information, call Charlie Atwood at (724) 545-7257, ext. 307, or e-mail gcssummerexploration@yahoo.com. Why hire a babysitter this summer? Let your kids explore at Summer Exploration!



Students packing mac n' cheese meals in boxes and loading the boxes into the van for the Pack-a-thon



Lauren Emminger and Eva DiMaio won ribbons at the ACSI Speech Meet.

On March 13th the gym was full of laughter, colors and kids. It was the annual Winter Carnival. The elementary students had completed the Read-a-thon and earned a day of fun. They played games like golf and Frisbee and fishing, got their faces painted, made crafts, and ate food. The highlight, though, was

throwing pies in their teachers' faces. The high-schoolers got to go bowling for an afternoon instead.



On March 25th the preschoolers' parents came for tea. This was to introduce the parents and students to Kindergarten. Phyllis Adams decorated the room and made finger sandwiches. Cold tea was served for the preschoolers' sake. Mrs. Luke, the preschool and kindergarten teacher, talked about what they would learn next year and Principal Edwards shared about the benefit of Christian education.

Competitions

The students have been very busy the last couple of weeks. On March 27th two elementary students participated in the ACSI Speech Meet at Evangel Heights. This was the first time anyone has competed, and the school is going to encourage more participants in the

future. Before that, grades 4th through 11th competed in the ACSI Creative Writing. They submitted original works of poetry, short story or essay. Eva DiMaio was the only one to receive a blue ribbon, but many students received red and white ones. Students also participated in the Geography

Bee. John Brody Kunst got first place. Prior to this award, he won a perfect round ribbon in third grade and has placed first each consecutive year. John will only be eligible to compete one more year in the Geography Bee.

Rewards

Tea