



CALVARY EPISCOPAL SCHOOL  
& COLLEGE PREPARATORY

# What's Up at Calvary?

Volume 9, Issue 1

August 21, 2009

**Calvary Episcopal School and College Preparatory**

## **Welcome Back to School Special Edition!**



*one mission, one vision, one heart*

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### **Our Mission:**

**Calvary Episcopal School is dedicated to developing the whole child by building a foundation of excellence within a Christian environment.**

The summer seemed to be a good time for Calvary students. Many came back to school telling about their camps, family trips and other summer break adventures. School bells at Calvary rang to open the 2009-2010 school year on Wednesday with 295 smiling students in attendance. Fifty-four of those students are new to Calvary, so we extend a special welcome to them.

This first edition of *What's Up at Cal-*

*vary?* is all about the new school year, any changes for the year and items of interest that will hopefully keep parents and students informed. Information, recognition of students, faculty achievements and communication is the major purpose of this electronic newsletter, which is sent home via email every other week. Please be sure and keep us updated on any email changes, as this is the main way our school communicates information.

### **Chapels to Focus on Student Age-Appropriate Lessons**

For those of you who have been at Calvary, chapel has been a major part of the school day. This past year our chapel services were held in the gym, originally due to work that was being done in the sanctuary. In the fall the church and school made a decision, however, to remain in the gym for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year.



In January 2009, a Town Hall meeting was held for anyone interested in discussing chapel possibilities for the 2009-2010 school year. The meeting generated a great deal of discussion, with a number of options presented based on the input of those in attendance as well as information and

comments from the most recent parent survey.

The major reasons for any discussion of chapel changes were: (1) dividing up chapels so that the lesson messages can be more age appropriate, and (2) Response to the school's accreditation report from the Southwestern Association of Episcopal Schools to "give careful consideration to the future needs of providing meaningful worship as the student body exceeds the seating capacity of the church" and "increasing the frequency of celebrations of the Holy Eucharist." Another portion of this report suggested that the school "...consider separating by divisions for two chapels a day in the church or alternating divisions each day in the church while providing occasions when the whole school meets in the Family Life Center [gym]."

A second meeting was held on June 29 of a committee selected from

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## Chapel Changes, con't from page 1

those who had attended the spring meeting. Father Frankie was in attendance at both of these meetings. After much discussion and debating of pros and cons, a chapel schedule was decided upon that will accommodate those who desire an All-School chapel, a chapel experience more than once a week or month (as is the case with most parochial schools) and a chapel by divisions that will

focus a message geared for the age of the student. The following is the new weekly schedule:

**Monday**-All School Chapel in Sanctuary, Birthdays for the Week

**Tuesday**-3-5 in Sanctuary  
**Wednesday**-PK-2 in Sanctuary

**Thursday**-6-12 in Sanctuary

**Friday**-All School Share Chapel in Gym

Special chapels such as Matriculation Chapel, Veterans' Day and Grandparent Day will continue to be held in the gym. As always, parents and guests are welcome to attend any of our chapels.

Teachers are developing time in the two non-chapel morning for devotionals, Lord's Prayer, pledge to the flag and other appropriate and meaningful activities.

Middle School has created an activity period with small discussion groups that will focus on topics of interest to middle school needs especially related to character and moral development and decision making.

## Matriculation and Grandparents' Day Chapels

Two special chapels will start off the new school year. Matriculation Chapel, which will be held on August 31, is a chapel that welcomes all new students into the body of the school. Each new (matriculating) student will come forward

at this chapel and sign the Matriculation Book, which



contains the signatures of all students who have matriculated before them. This permanent record becomes a tangible document that formally acknowledges the student as a member of the Calvary family. In honor of these students, all students will be required to wear **Dress Uniforms**. So that we can accommodate the number of new students that will

matriculate, the service will be held in the gym.

Another favorite chapel is our **Grandparents and Other Special People**

chapel, which will be held on the Friday before Grandparents Day Sun-



day, Sep. 8 in the afternoon at 2. It will also be in the gym in order to accommodate the number of guests that we have.

Students are urged to invite grandparents or anyone who is special to them to join us for a chapel service that has become a favorite with everyone.

## A Chapel Message from Father Frankie

I once heard a minister at a retreat share, "What's your earliest memory of 'Church'?" His answer struck me profoundly as the question continues to challenge me today. His answer—"Everything was sideways." He went on to explain that the reason everything was sideways was because his earliest church memory was of him lying in the pew with his head on his momma's lap. What a wonderful image!

That question continues to fuel my ministry as the chief liturgist for Calvary Episco-

pal Church and School. The primary purpose of our chapel services is to worship God through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. The other purposes are about creating an environment that will hopefully make a lasting mark on the students who attend Calvary.

To that end, I believe that providing chapel services that are more age appropriate in teaching and in song will be more intentional in reaching our students with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

It is difficult to present a "sermon" that reaches 4 year olds through 18 year olds in a way that speaks to them in a contemporary voice, that speaks to them where they are in life and with what is going on in their lives. These age-appropriate chapel services will enhance their "church memories."

Frankly, I believe, as many of you do, that daily all-school chapel services are an incredible start of the day. I believe, as most of you do, too, that worship is

enhanced in the sanctuary as opposed to the gymnasium. Because of the size of the student body, to have both is impractical at this point.

So I believe the Lord God has given us an opportunity. It is an opportunity to get even more students involved and to worship in ways that are more meaningful to them. Before passing final judgment, I invite you to come and join us also in the chapels in which your child is not participating. See the depth of the liturgy as it moves your child toward a place closer to God. And be blessed!

## **Student Information at Parents' Fingertips**

You are always one click away from the most up-to-date information on their child's grades and class activities at Calvary. When you log in to the CES online grading program, [www.edline.net](http://www.edline.net), you can see your child's grades posted each Tuesday afternoon. We began posting weekly grades, progress reports, and report cards online last year, and this year, we are building on the success of this program by offering additional features that will provide even more information in an easy to use format.

You can now log in to

your child's teacher's web page through Edline. We will continue to use our current website for general school information, [www.ces-richmond.org](http://www.ces-richmond.org), but you can now access Edline from the CES site. Once you log in to Edline, you will see a shortcut for each teacher's classes, allowing you to easily and quickly click through their web pages for information, updates, homework assignments, forms, and upcoming events. The new teacher web pages are a wonderful source for information, documents, interesting links, and the latest classroom

news.

In addition, we are now offering a fantastic new feature for parents and students. When you log in to Edline, you can click on your child's "combined calendar," which has ALL of the homework assignments, field trips, deadlines, and calendar items on one calendar, specific to your child's classes! It's a streamlined, easy to use, all-in-one calendar that gives you all calendar information in one place.

New Calvary parents, or any returning parents who have not yet activated

their accounts, will be receiving an activation code in the mail, complete with instructions on how to activate your Edline account. We will begin posting grades to Edline Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m. If you have any questions or need additional information regarding your account, please contact Ms. Kanak at [rkanak@ces-richmond.org](mailto:rkanak@ces-richmond.org). We're looking forward to a great year, and continuing to work to offer new, cutting edge programs that benefit our students and families.



### **HEY PIZZA LOVER!**

The deadline for ordering pizza is quickly approaching!  
If you have not ordered and paid for pizza for your CES student(s),  
please do so today!

The deadline is **Thursday, Aug 27!**

Remember, there is NO hot lunch served in the cafeteria on  
Wednesdays, beginning Sep. 2.

The order forms are on the CES website and in the school office.

## Two New Faces in the Crowd at Calvary

The lowest faculty and staff turnover in the past ten years has resulted in only two new members joining the Calvary family.

**Ms. Stacy Hodges** is the new school nurse for Calvary Episcopal School. Ms. Hodges has been a registered nurse for 17 years. She has worked 13 years as an emergency room nurse and the last 3 1/2 years were spent as a school nurse on the elementary level for Lamar Consolidated ISD. **Ms. Hodges** and her family (including two Calvary students) live in Fulshear.

**Ms. Charlyn Harris** is the 1st grade Math, Science, and Social Studies teacher at Calvary. Al-



Ms. Hodges, RN (left) and Ms. C. Harris, first grade teacher join the faculty and staff for 2009-2010

though this will be **Ms. Harris'** first year teaching at Calvary, she recently completed 13 years of teaching in Fort Bend ISD. Her experiences include teaching Kindergarten and 1st grades, Reading

Recovery, district science kit trainer, and other various curriculum activities. **Ms. Harris** is a native Texan and Houstonian, receiving both her Bachelors and Masters degrees from the University of Houston in Elementary Education with an emphasis in the teaching of primary aged students. She enjoys spending time with her husband and daughter, and other family members. In addition, **Ms. Harris** is an avid reader and scrap booker.

Calvary welcomes these two new members of our staff and we invite you to drop by and meet them when you are in the building.

### Join the Calvary Band

Did you ever want to be a part of band? Well, if you are in 5th—8th grade you can be playing an instrument in no time! The band is for anyone, regardless of your talent level, or knowledge of music. The CES beginner band will start on Monday, August 24, 2009, 7:00 a.m. in the Multi-purpose room. The beginner band, which is available to 5th and 6th



graders, rehearses on Monday and Tuesday at 7:00 a.m.

If you are interested in joining the band, please come to the beginner band class and talk with **Mr. Talton**, Calvary Band Director. The deadline for joining beginning band is Tuesday, September 8, 2009. If you have any questions please contact James Talton: [jttalton@juno.com](mailto:jttalton@juno.com) or cell: 832-594-2142.

### Middle School Athletics

Calvary Athletics is off to a great start!!! Our football team has been practicing since Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> and fielding the largest number of participants EVER!

Volleyball had an excellent start, as well, with our camp coached by Spike Sports and practices beginning last week. We also have enough girls to

### Cheerleaders Attend Camp

The Calvary Cheerleaders participated in cheer camp this June at the Calvary gym. **Ms. Childress**, cheer sponsor, reports that the girls did a great job receiving top honors on their performances.

The Cheerleaders for 2009-2010 are **Captain Angie Gonzales**, 9th grade, 8th grade co-captains are **Chloe Deshazo** and **Jurnee Jones**. Teams members are

**Melissa Cook, Becklien Jarret and Rory Smith.**

Besides getting ready to cheer at football and volleyball games, the girls performed at the back to school pep rally today.

**Great job Calvary cheerleaders...keep up that spirit.**



field two teams. Wow!!

Team schedules for football and volleyball are posted on the school website under "Athletics." Parents, if you have not gotten your child's physical, please do so as

quickly as possible. Physicals should be on file in the athletic office when practice begins.

**Good Luck Calvary Crusaders!!! We wish you a super season!**

## Drop off, Pick up and Carpools

The first week of school is a time when anxious students (and parents) return to the routine of school with so many things on their minds that it is always good to review the rules as well as provide updates on any new information. Drop off and pick up are always areas of concern for schools, as the students' safety is of such critical importance.

Beginning Monday, the gates on Travis and Austin Streets will be locked in the morning. This will help school personnel get all students into a supervised area. Students should be dropped off at the parish hall door at the

covered walkway on Austin Street, or in the circular drive on Travis Street. Students cannot be dropped off before 7:15am.

There are three areas for pick up. Students in grades PK-5 are picked up in the circular drive on Travis Street. Students in grades 6 and up and mixed carpools of lower and middle/upper school students are dismissed from the parish hall on Austin Street. We ask that all parents display their carpool tags on the rear view mirror so that those who are super-

vising carpool can see your number as you approach.

Parents who do not want to pick up their child in carpool may also go to the walk up area, which is outside of the gym

doors. Parents should bring car tags with them to the walk up area for security reasons.

### Driver Safety and the New Laws

Parents should be aware of two new laws go into effect September 1. Drivers in school zones

(which are all around the Calvary campus) may not use their cell phones when driving up to pick up children. Signs will soon be posted around the campus. Also, children under the age of 8 must be in an approved children's booster seat unless they are over the height of 4'9".

Parents should also be reminded that the streets around Calvary are school zones with a 20 mph speed limit. Drivers should not make u-turns in the middle of the street when coming to pick up or drop off their child. **Let's all make our student's safety Priority One!**



## Student Health and the Flu

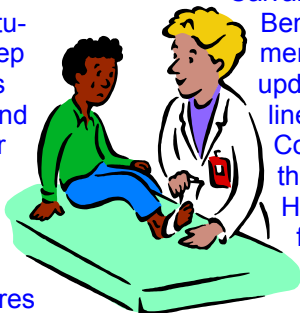
As schools open, all eyes are on the reports that the H1N1 virus will be revisiting. Everyone who is in high population areas, like schools, offices, churches, shopping malls, etc. can be exposed if there is someone in that group that is infected.

We continue to remind students to wash hands, keep hands away from mouths and noses and sneeze and cough into sleeves rather than hands.

Additionally, Calvary has met with our night cleaning crew, who assures us that desks and other student areas are being cleaned with disinfectants each evening.

We also remind parents that students should not be sent to school when a child has fever, and should

not return until twenty-four hours after the temperature has returned to normal. Parents should notify the nurse if their child has been diagnosed with any communicable disease.



Calvary is a member of the Fort Bend Emergency Management team and receives all updates and follows all guidelines from the Fort Bend County Health Department, the Texas Department of Health and the US Center for Disease Control.

All parents are required to fill out a new "Emergency Medical Form" each year for every child in the family. This is to ensure that all emergency numbers are correct. This also serves as a consent for your child to receive cough drops, Benedryl Cream or Tums

Second Graders are busy learning to use their planners and practicing for chapel. This is their first year to serve during the chapel service as torchbearers.

They are very excited to be part of the chapel program. We actually had **Adrienne Dans** and **Carmen Gaas** volunteer for service without any practice, and they did an awesome job.

## College Prep Program Students Soar

As year four opens for the Calvary Episcopal College Preparatory (CECP) students, some have graduated and gone off to college, while others have returned from the summer ready for the challenges of a new year. Greeting all of them is an excited and dedicated faculty who look forward to working with our tremendously talented students and the changes that have been made that will make the program even stronger.

### Dual Credit

Many parents are aware that there is an opportunity for dual credit during high school years for their students. Dual credit is where a local college grants college credit for curriculum learned in the student's high school. Most local high schools are tied in with Wharton County Junior College or Houston Community College. A visit from University of St Thomas last year created quite an interest in our educational institution; such an interest that the visitors presented our school to the University of St Thomas

Board to see if they could partner with us as their first high school dual credit collaborator. We are very excited that this private, Christian university saw CECP as a college-prep curriculum of which they wanted to be a part. These courses are offered to juniors and seniors who are enrolled at CECP. Several of our students are attending classes on University of St Thomas campus and will receive high school credit this Fall.

**Danielle Frias, Eric Boshart and Jeffrey Guillott** are our students who will take classes such as Pre-Calculus, Calculus, and Government class.

**Alysse Ligon** was our first student to go through the program this summer taking Religion and US History and stated that she "felt very prepared." She went on to note that the "students in my class were pretty shocked when they found out I was a high school stu-

dent."

### New Curriculum

CECP is entering its 4<sup>th</sup> year and has continually evaluated the curriculum in order to best meet the needs of the students.

This year, a new curriculum is being introduced to 9th-11th graders. Education2020 is an online comprehensive curriculum that incorporates streaming lectures, virtual labs, PowerPoint presentations, pod casts, research and literary analysis. Beyond the core curriculum,

our incredible staff enhances the standards with writing workshops, live debate trials, research papers, dialectical notebooks, history coming alive, science labs with dissections, calculator class and math labs. This year will prove to be invigorating with an amazing groups of students, once again, and an incredible marriage of great teaching, advanced technology, and collabo-

rative learning!

### Science Update

This school year we ask all CE College Prep science students to have safety goggles and a spiral notebook for Monday's classes. Students and parents will be asked to sign a safety form that they have read, understood, and agreed to that concern safety procedures in the school science lab. Lab science is fun, but it must also be safe.

Activity in the science lab is designed to complement the E2020 program with hands-on experiences. During the year, students will be asked to perform some labs or projects at home. Parents CAN help but are encouraged to not take all the fun by doing the project while their student merely watches. Parents are welcome in lab, but bring your goggles.

**CECP  
MANDATORY  
parent  
meeting on  
Tuesday @  
6:30**

## From the Business Office

If you were on campus on Friday, you probably noticed a new wave of color in our new spirit shirts. In the spirit of "going green," our business office will be making a transition to paperless billing. All future account statements will be sent via email, so please ensure that you are receiving e-mail messages

from Calvary. If there are any changes in your preferred e-mail address, please call Ms. Carrillo in the business office 281-342-3161 (ext. 35). (If you send the other green (cash) to school to pay any accounts, please be sure your payment is given to someone personally in the business office.)

## Breakfast at CES

Running late and needing a nutritious breakfast? **Ms. Donna**, (our) school caterer, provides a breakfast for students beginning at 7:30am in the Parish Hall. Cost for the breakfast is \$1.50 and is served every morning except Wednesdays.

## Used Uniform Sale Hits a Homerun!

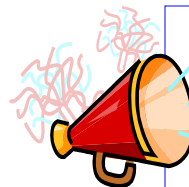
Once again, our amazing CES Used Uniform Chairperson, **Ms. Claire Chipman** has had a record breaking sale!

Thanks to the generous donations of many Calvary families, and the hard work of several of her dedicated volunteers, the Used Uniform Sale held on August 5<sup>th</sup> was the most successful sale ever held raising more than **\$2,700!** This was the eleventh year that long-time Calvary mom, **Claire Chipman**, organized the sale, and she said that it went very smoothly due to the assistance provided by volunteers **Chandler Warren, Alma Flores, Shirley Murphy, Brooke Murphy, Mandy Casey, Heather McBride** and **Sherrie and Alex Gideon**. Special thanks go to **Mary Servantes**, who not only assisted with the sale, but is

also organizing the mission project to send the old Calvary polo shirts to South America.

**Ms. Chipman** is planning a Winter Sale and has received some great suggestions on possible dates to maximize attendance, but it all depends on how many donations come in prior to January. Critical items needed are the polo shirts with the embroidered logo, hoodies, and navy blazers. Donation forms are available both at the sale and through the front office. All proceeds directly benefit the Calvary students and your support is greatly appreciated. And, needless to say, CES cannot thank **Ms. Chipman** enough for her continued work on this special project that benefits families and the school.

## Did You Know...



...of the 54 new students, an amazing **65%** are from families with more than one student attending our school!

## Coming Up at Calvary

For the most up-to-date events, visit our web calendar at [www.ces-richmond.org](http://www.ces-richmond.org)



**Tuesday, Aug. 25**-CECP Parent Meeting 6:30-8pm in CECP building; 6pm, School Board Meeting

**Friday, Aug. 28**-CPTO Fall Fundraiser Kick-Off

**Monday, Aug. 31**-Matriculation Chapel (**Dress Uniforms Required**)

**Tuesday, Sep. 1**-Follow Your Child's Schedule Night (Middle School)

**Monday, Sep. 7**-**Labor Day**

### Holiday

**Sep 9-11**-7th Grade Retreat-The Outdoor School

**Friday, Sep. 11**-Grandparents and Other Special People Day (Chapel at 2pm)

