

What's UP! at Calvary

February 3, 2003

Welcome to a new informational email newsletter from Calvary Episcopal School! Each week you will receive an email from the school detailing information about the school: events, student achievements and program information. We hope this will help you to keep abreast of school news and current events. This special newsletter is for our families with email. So, if you know someone who would like to be receiving email services, please have them email msmith@ces-richmond.org. For the latest school calendar and update on school happenings, visit the CES website at www.ces-richmond.org.

Viva Tejas!

If you were doing anything Friday night other than celebrating **Viva Tejas**, the annual CPTO Fundraiser at Safari Texas, you missed out on a tremendous evening. Everyone enjoyed the food, drink, silent and live auction, dance music, and the fellowship! The totals are still rolling in, but all indications point to a "record breaking" evening! Sincere gratitude and beyond go out to our Auction co-chairs, Ms. Debbie Lewis and Steven and Kelly Burke. They have been working since last summer to make this event the biggest and best ever...and they certainly succeeded!



Open Houses



If you know someone looking for a great school...please let them know about our Prospective Student Open Houses:

- Tuesday, Feb. 4, 7pm in the chapel
- Wednesday, Feb. 12, 8am-3pm

Registration for the 2003-2004 school year will be as follows:

- Feb. 18-21 for current students
- Feb. 24-28 for church members
- Mar. 3-7, open registration

Spelling Bee

The annual spelling bee was held last week and the results are: **Carson Eagleton** won the bee with **Denys Herfort** as alternate. Carson prefers to not compete, so Denys will represent the school at the Fort Bend County Bee on

Saturday, Feb. 22 at Austin Elementary School. Special thanks go out to **Ms Parsons** for so expertly organizing the bee and her (lovely) assistant, **Ms. Foyt!**



Progress Reports

It is already the middle of the third quarter, and progress report time. Reports will be sent home tomorrow with elementary students and mailed to middle school homes.

Free Dress Days!

There will be two upcoming free dress days:

- Feb. 14 (wear red for Valentines!)
- Feb. 21 (For the wonderful participation in the Auction Star Ads.)

5th Grade Parent Meeting (Date Change)

Are you a parent of a CES 5th grader? Have you begun to think about the fact that your 5th grader will soon be in middle school? Well, then the CES faculty has a program to “ease your mind.” There will be a “Parents Introduction to Middle School” meeting on Thursday, **February 20, 7pm-8pm in the gym.** Middle school and 5th grade faculty will present an overview of middle school programs and curriculum. Mark your calendar, (**note date and location change**) as it will be an interesting and informative evening.

Good Things Going On!



In a previous newsletter you learned about how our 6th & 7th Computer Elective students are participating in The Stock Market Game™, an educational simulation of “real world” stock market trading, sponsored by the Houston Chronicle. This activity broadens knowledge of terms heard daily – Wall Street, stock exchange, Dow Jones Industrial Average, brokers’ fees, portfolio, equity, and many others. Ms. Chambers, who teaches the class just reviewed the progress of our teams. Currently only 7th graders are trading with 6th graders beginning today. Out of 100 schools participating in this region we are currently ranked 33rd-and this includes high schools!

Basketball

Boys and Girls Basketball teams will play their next games Tuesday at BCA and Friday at TCS. Go on a road trip this week and watch the Crusaders win!



Did you know?...Groundhog Day is celebrated on February 2, across the United States and Canada and is a North American tradition. It is based on a belief that on February 2 the groundhog, or woodchuck, comes out of his hole after winter hibernation to look for his shadow. If he sees his shadow, it's a sunny day and he predicts six more weeks of bad weather. But

spring is coming if no shadow is seen. The groundhog responds accordingly. He goes back into his hole if the weather turns bad but stays on top if the weather is warm.

This legend owes its origin to the European tradition of Candlemas. There is an old European belief that a sunny Candlemas Day would have the winter last for another six weeks. Also celebrated on February 2, the Candlemas was used to commemorate the Purification of the Virgin Mary. Candles for sacred uses were blessed on this day. Gradually the traditions at this Candlemas came to be associated with different folklores. The Germans added the belief of an animal, initially a hedgehog, being frightened by his shadow on Candlemas and would predict that winter would last another six weeks. This legend was brought to America during the 18th Century by German settlers and they adopted the groundhog as their weather predictor.

Groundhog Day came into being in North America during the late 1800s because of the combined effort of Clymer H. Freas, a newspaper editor, and W. Smith, an American Congressman and newspaper publisher. They organized and popularized a yearly festival in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, a State that was populated by many German settlers. The festival featured a groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil which is used to foretell how long winter would last.