



July 18, 2007 Summer Edition

What's Up at Calvary?

Happy Summer!

As summer break from school approaches the half way point, the CES/CECP family hopes that you are enjoying your summer activities. School will resume before you know it (August 23). We wish you a happy and safe second half!



What is "What's Up?"

Parents, alumnus, church members and other friends of Calvary are on the "What's Up at Calvary" email list and will receive this electronic school newsletter on a regular basis once school starts. Anyone who would like an additional email added to the list should write a request to msmith@ces-richmond.org.



Welcome to New Students

We are happy and excited to announce that CES/CECP will be the new school home to 59 students and 46 families when school resumes. Thanks to the brainchild and grassroots efforts of one of our second grade mom, **Ms. Brooke Valet**, a new program at CES/CECP, Calvary Ambassador Program, (CAP) has been organized to help acquaint new students and families with the Calvary community. **Ms. Valet**, who was new to our school this past year, has recruited an enthusiastic group of current family volunteers who are reaching out to our new families. It will be

the CAP volunteers responsibly to contact their assigned new family and provide them with important information about Calvary; you know...like "Where and how do we pick up our children in carpool?" and "Can we join our children in chapel?"

CAP volunteers will also be inviting each new parent to a Wine and Cheese Reception on Thursday, August 2 at 6:30pm in the gym. Besides the social aspect of the evening, new parents will also be provided with school information and be able to visit the school Spirit Store. Anyone wishing to be a CAP volunteer is asked to contact **Ms. Valet** at thevaletfamily@yahoo.com.

Welcome to New Crusader Personnel

Calvary is pleased to announce the addition of several new faculty and staff members.



Colleen Sanders, who is filling the newly created position of Dean of Instruction, earned her Bachelor's degree in education from the University of Texas and her Masters in Educational Administration from the University of Houston-Main Campus. She just completed her 34th year in public education, all served in Alief ISD.

Ms. Sanders began her teaching career as a K-5 science teacher but later served as a 4th grade teacher, a K-5 GT

teacher, and a K-5 Language Arts Specialist before moving into administration. **Ms. Sander's** extensive administrative experience includes four years as an elementary assistant principal and six years as an elementary school principal. For the past eight years her leadership experience has been working with twenty-nine campuses as Assistant Superintendent for Elementary and Intermediate schools in Alief.

Ms. Sanders, whose responsibilities will include admissions and the lower school, has a 29 year old son, **Brian**, who is a sportscaster for KXAN-NBC station in Austin, TX. She currently lives in Sugar Land with her two dogs, **Sadie** and **Callie**.

Lynn Kidda joins the Calvary team this year as a kindergarten teacher. She is a native of Shreveport, Louisiana where she taught pre-k for eight years before moving to Houston. In HISD, she taught kindergarten for two years at an Environmental Science Magnet school. After moving into the area, **Ms. Kidda** taught kindergarten right across the street at Jane Long for fifteen years.

Lynn, her husband, **Jim** and son, **Andrew** are active members of Calvary Episcopal Church. When not teaching, she enjoys camping, fishing, and family activities.

Sharon Standifird will be the first grade math, social studies and science teacher. This is her first year at Calvary, but she has served in public education for Lamar Consolidated the last two years. Prior to teaching for Lamar, she can be credited for countless volunteer hours at her children's school, teaching at her church, and serving at a local homeless shelter.

As a professional she has worked many years in marketing and served in the Armed Forces for nine years. In 1990-1991, **Ms. Standifird** served the U.S. Army in Iraq during Desert Storm/Shield

as a Military Police person. After taking time off to be with her children, **Ms. Standifird** pursued her life long dream of becoming a teacher and graduated from the University of Houston, Summa Cum Laude, with a B.S. in interdisciplinary studies; she received her EC-4 certification through ACT Houston.

Ms. Standifird is from Charleston, West Virginia and has lived in Texas for six years with her husband of thirteen years, **William**, two Calvary Crusaders, **Alexandria** and **Bradley** and her "crazy" Jack Russell Terrier **Blackjack**.

Amanda Thompson is the 4th grade Math and Language Arts teacher. This is her first year at Calvary, but she has seven years of experience in both public and private schools. She graduated summa cum laude from the University of Houston with a B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies with emphases in both math and music.

Ms. Thompson has also been involved with the Calvary family as a Room Parent and substitute teacher. She has a son, **Cameron**, who is in the 2nd grade at Calvary and has been married to her husband Nathan for ten years. They also have two cats, **Creal** and **Tiny**. **Amanda** has a love for music and is very involved in her church's music ministry as a member of the choir, praise team, and as the children's choir director.

Victoria Braquet will be teaching middle school mathematics. She comes to Calvary after teaching 37 years in public secondary schools in Michigan and Texas. She holds a BS in math education from Central Michigan University and has completed post graduate work at University of St. Thomas, University of Michigan, University of Houston, Michigan State University, Rice University Summer

Math Project and Park City Math Institute. She just completed her 26th year in Alief ISD where she has served as a team leader, department chair, and most recently as the math specialist at Alief Taylor High School.

Ms. Braquet, who taught 6th – 8th grade math for twenty-one years, is actively involved in Conference of Advanced Mathematics Teaching, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics and Rice University School Mathematics Project, both as a speaker and participant.

Ms. Braquet is married to **Robert** and has three grown married children, **EJ** in Denver, **Scott** in Cypress, **Nicole** in San Francisco and one grandson, **Nathan** in Cypress. She has two dogs and two cats.

Ms. Ashley Smith is joining the Calvary family this year after teaching 6th and 8th grade science in Lamar CISD. This is her second year of teaching. Prior to teaching **Ms. Smith** worked for seven years as a Microbiologist/Medical Technologist. She has a B.S. in Biology/Microbiology and a minor in Chemistry from Southeastern Louisiana University. She also has a degree in Medical Technology from Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, GA and is accredited by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists.

Ms. Smith moved from Atlanta, GA in 2005 to Richmond, TX along with her husband **Joe** and son, **Gabriel**, who is looking forward to starting second grade in the fall. On May 31st of this year, the **Smiths** expanded their family to include their new son **Liam**. **Ms. Smith** has been a CES parent for the last two years.

Stephanie Bradow will be teaching Speech/Drama, middle school computers and yearbook/journalism. **Ms. Bradow** comes to Calvary from Masquerade Theatre, where she has performed

professionally in a number of musicals over the past six years. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in music from Texas Lutheran University, and her Master of Music degree from Rice University.

One teaching position remains open at Calvary. **Ms. Tonia Nelson**, who taught fifth grade last year, has resigned her position to stay at home with her new son, **Hayden Miguel**. We wish her the best and hope to see her back at Calvary when Hayden “grows up!”

About Our Website

If you are not a regular visitor to our website, www.ces-richmond.org, this is one site that should be bookmarked on



your web browser.

The Calvary site provides a great deal of school information from Employment Opportunities to

Summer Reading Lists. Other informative features include the yearly and daily school calendar, lunch menus, supply lists, summer reading lists and handbooks, just to name a few. And, be looking to the website for homeroom assignments, which will be posted on Aug. 20.

Meet the Teacher Night

Meet the Teacher Night is scheduled for Tuesday, August 21 at 7pm. Parents and students are invited to this “open house,” and are welcome to visit classrooms and teachers. Information about the upcoming school year will be available.



Uniform News

Ms. Chipman, our long-time volunteer who has coordinated many of our used uniform sales, has announced the summer Used Uniform Sale, Wednesday, August 8, 11am-7pm in the Parish Hall. If you have uniforms you would like to donate to the school for the sale, please bring them, cleaned and folded, to the school office.



Parker Uniforms has opened a new location at 4630 Highway 6, SL 77478 and the phone number is 281-494-6789.

Speaking of Dress (Code)

It is easy for all of us to get into the summer mode of flip flops, summer wear, and longer hair styles. The Calvary dress code, however, will be in effect beginning the first day of school. Although the 2007-2008 Student Handbook has not yet been published, students and parents may review the dress guidelines in the current handbook which can be found on the CES website. Parents are urged to call the school if there are any questions related to uniform dress or dress code.

Middle School Athletics

As the new school year approaches, middle school boys and girls will soon begin preparing for fall sports, football and volleyball. As in past years, **Coach Morris** will be coaching the volleyball teams, and **Coach Wiser** will be at the helm of the football team.



Coach Morris has scheduled a Volleyball Camp for the week of August 13-17, 1pm-4pm daily, at the CES gym.

The camp will be conducted by Spike Sports with a fee of \$120. Girls who are interested in playing volleyball are urged to attend. Additional information will be sent out by **Coach Morris** in a couple of

weeks. Questions can be addressed to Coach Morris at amorris@ces-richmond.org or by calling 281-342-3161 ext. 41.

Football practices will begin on Monday, August 6, 4pm-5:30pm, at Pitts Park in Pecan Grove. Boys wishing to play should attend the first practice. Questions regarding football can be directed to **Coach Wiser** at dwiser@severntrentdenora.com or 281-239-09897.

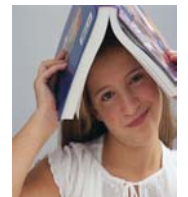


Student athletes must have athletic physicals completed prior to practice. Physical forms are available in the school office or on the Athletics web page.



New for Next Year

Thanks to the generosity of our Calvary PTO, students and teachers will enjoy new classroom materials. Everyone will return to find that new flat screen monitors have replaced the old tube type in classrooms and library. The library lab has been expanded with more computers to serve students conducting research and taking AR tests. Students in the lower school will be instructed from the latest edition of Saxon Math, and Houghton Mifflin English. **Thank you, CPTO!**



Safeguarding God's Children Training

The Episcopal Diocese of Texas requires that all school volunteers and employees be trained in "Safeguarding God's Children." This child safety awareness training is available at Episcopal churches and schools throughout the Houston area. The next

training session at Calvary will be on Friday, August 17, 12:30pm-3:30pm. There is no charge for the training, but registration is required. To register, call the school office at 281-342-3161.

From the Calvary Library Summer Reading 2007

The summer months are filled with fun activities for the entire family. As you plan for all the fun events please don't forget to include summer reading activities for your children. Grades two through eight have required reading books that must be read by all students over the summer. The Calvary library will be open on Wednesdays through August 8 from 12:00pm to 2:00pm for students to take the AR quizzes on all books read.

The public libraries have wonderful summer reading programs for all ages, as well. Students in Pre-K through 5th had a presentation by the librarian explaining the summer program. Reading skills must be practiced just as sports are practiced to maintain skills. Reading should be encouraged at all times of the year to help it become a lifetime pursuit. Try to set aside time each day for reading and discuss the books with your children. Remember that you should continue to read aloud to your children. The rule of thumb is to select books at least two years above the current reading level of your child. This will help to develop new vocabulary and higher level thinking skills.

Reading Tips for Families

- Make reading a priority in your home.
- Set aside time to read with your child.
- Find a favorite place to read.
- Provide a large assortment of reading material.
- Make frequent visits to the library.
- Read aloud to your child.
- Be a role model. Let your child see you reading.

The following are a list of helpful websites that encourage reading:

Texas Bluebonnet Award Nominees (Grades 3-6)

<http://www.txla.org/groups/tba/index.html>

Caldecott Award Winners (Award given for illustrations)

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardscholarships/literaryawards/caldecottmedal/caldecottmedal>.

Newbery Award Winners (Award given for writing/up to age 16)

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardscholarships/literaryawards/newberymedal/newberymedal>

2x2 Reading List (List of picture books recommended)

<http://www.txla.org/groups/crt/2x2intro.htm>

Robin Krig, Librarian

Registration and Enrollment Update

Registration for the fall is going very well, with enrollment at 325 students in grades PK-12. Space is still available in all grades except PK, 1st and 4th. Sixth grade has two spots open, and there are 2-4 spots open in the rest of the lower and middle school classes. Anyone who has friends who may be interested in CES/CECP in the fall is encouraged to have them give the school a call.

As a reminder to current families, tuition refund insurance (TRI) is required of all families who pay tuition on any type of a payment plan (semester or monthly). Please be sure that all enrollment and TRI forms are submitted to the business office.

2nd Annual Calvary Episcopal School Golf Tournament

The 1st Annual Calvary Episcopal School golf tournament was a tremendous success in all respects. We had over 80 golfers who all had a great day. And on top of that the event raised over \$12,000 for the school!



The 2nd annual tournament is planned again for late October, and we will play at Pecan Grove Country Club. The details of the tournament will be sent out in August. Please plan to play and plan your sponsorship budgets to help support this worthy cause. Sponsor levels will be the same as last year.

GOLD Tournament Sponsor - \$2,500
SILVER Tournament Sponsor - \$1,000
Beverage Cart Sponsors (2) - \$500
Driving Range Sponsors (1) - \$500
Hole Sponsors - \$300

Live on Wednesday
LOGOS
at CALVARY

Paul tells us in I Corinthians that “each one of us is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good”. These are known as spiritual gifts and we all have them! Think about what you enjoy doing or what you are good at doing...chances are that is your spiritual gift. Do you enjoy organizing or planning? Would you rather help behind the scenes? Do you love to cook? Are you called to teach?

Whatever your spiritual gift(s) is (and remember we all have at least one), Logos is a ministry where you can use your gift to serve God and His children.

Just ask someone who has previously volunteered for Logos about the rewards you receive from God when a child comes up and gives you a big hug, just because...when one of your students decides to be baptized...when you see the joy of the Lord on the children’s faces while praising God. Those are the kinds of rewards volunteers receive while serving the Logos kids!

Logos currently has many opportunities for volunteers ranging from leadership to teaching to playing to helping behind the scenes. You can volunteer a lot or a little. You can have a child attending Logos or not. Please pray! It takes a lot of volunteers for Logos to happen every Wednesday night...we need you and the gift(s) with which God has blessed you!

Please contact **Dianne Duncan** (281-342-3316, Dianne@kepha.com), **Kathy Snow** (713-376-7513, ksnow29@houston.rr.com) or the church office for more information on how you can be part of this awesome ministry and how you can make a difference in a child’s life.