

# Quisqueya Eagles Newsletter

<http://www.quisqueya.org>



Friday, February 11, 2011 A.D.

Worship = Walk the Talk

I love sharing the good work that is going on at QCS, and in last Thursday's parent meeting I shared the



remarkable progress that we have made since a year ago. It has been an amazing ride! After everything on campus being displaced after January 12, and after coordinating a strong relief effort, the campus has been put back together - - better than before. Enrollment dwindled to 63 a year ago, and it is at a near capacity 288 now.

We recounted how at the last parent meeting on January 21, 2010, there was great fear and uncertainty after the earthquake, and, in spite of that and because of dedicated, flexible, and strong teachers, QCS started up again on January 27. And this parent meeting the focus was forward looking, noting, among other things, how QCS is dedicated to continuing with cost-based tuition and need based financial aid. This has enabled QCS to award \$110,535 in financial aid this year.

A big thank you to the parents who raised concerns about traffic flow, safety, and parking. Plans were also shared regarding expanded offerings in the fine arts and in foreign language. The administration will seriously study these issues, and action will definitely be taken soon.

Communication is always an important issue: The school number is 3640-8235, and we'll soon be adding a second number. Please regularly check [www.sycamoreeducation.com](http://www.sycamoreeducation.com) <<http://www.sycamoreeducation.com>> both to monitor your child's progress and to learn of important school news. Our website has important information about school, and this newsletter goes out at the end of every week, usually on Fridays. For all aspects of Elementary school, email Tony DeKoter at [tdkoter@quisqueya.org](mailto:tdkoter@quisqueya.org), for all aspects of Secondary school, email Rod Meadth at [rmeadth@quisqueya.org](mailto:rmeadth@quisqueya.org), for information regarding tuition or the budget, contact Jennifer Paultre at [business@quisqueya.org](mailto:business@quisqueya.org), and for general information, please contact the office manager, Mirna Beneche at [mbeneche@quisqueya.org](mailto:mbeneche@quisqueya.org). As always, feel free to contact me at any time.

Thank you very much for entrusting your children to QCS. We are so pleased to note the progress from a year ago, and we are excited moving forward with a self-study, a site visit from ACSI and SACS, and achieving joint accreditation. While we can justly be proud of our past, I'm eagerly expecting even more exciting things in the future.

For this week only, we have had a special series of Chapel services: every day, with the entire secondary school. This happens once a year, and we are pleased to welcome Gareth Evans as our speaker ([www.garethevansministries.org](http://www.garethevansministries.org)).

One issue that Gareth has raised several times is that of offenses. It has been made clear is that taking offense is a choice -- it is a choice to carry a particular hurt or grievance against another person. For example, the apostle John records that many of Jesus' disciples took offense when He said that they must eat His flesh and drink His blood. They chose to turn away and follow the Master no longer, because of what was said. Note that they chose!

Despite the fact that Mr. Evans has passed through many more decades than I have, even I have noticed a simple fact: some people -- some Christians -- are very easily offended. The slightest bruising causes bitterness of spirit, and relationships are damaged. That beautiful unity of the body is affected, and we risk losing our testimony of Love.

Other people -- other Christians -- are practically impossible to offend. They always assume the best of every situation; they allow that the other person might have been having a bad day, or that things are not perhaps as terrible as they seem. I would argue that these Christians show such a rich depth of Grace toward others because they understand the Grace that has been shown toward them. They are willing to forgo offense and cover a multitude of sins because they see that they themselves have been forgiven a multitude of sins.

Gareth compared offenses to having a monkey on your back. The monkey might be fun to play with at first, but after he twists his grimy fingers into your hair, and after he digs his knobby toes into your back, the experience turns sour. Let's make the choice to see the best, to keep our unity strong, and let's keep the monkeys off our backs!

Rod Meadth  
Secondary Principal

## School Calendar

M-F/Feb 21–25 - **ES Readathon** – watch for details  
Fri/March 4 - last day of third quarter  
- mid term reports – progress reports  
M-F/March 7-11 - Carnival week – Spring Break  
- Washington Trip  
Mon/March 14 - 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter begins

## Educational Tip of the Week

### Never Give Your Child Permission to Hit Another Person

If necessary, teach your child to protect himself from bodily harm, but not to fight. Talk with him about ways to resolve conflicts. He can avoid bullies by finding a safe route to and from school and by surrounding himself with friends in the cafeteria and locker room.

Many schools have peer mediation programs that train students how to resolve conflicts. Your child should ask his teacher or counselor to arrange peer mediation when he is having continual conflict with a particular classmate.

Remind your child that fighting, hitting, and bullying are never acceptable ways of settling conflicts. If he complains of being a wimp, remind him that assault and battery are illegal.

## Today's Smile ☺

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work.



As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, 'I'm drawing God.'

The teacher paused and said, 'But no one knows what God looks like.'

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, 'They will in a minute.'



If your kids woke up on the wrong side of the bed this morning chances are you're feeling a little cranky, too. Sleep problems can start early and make life miserable for everyone in the house. The American Academy of Sleep

Medicine say:

- Infants need 14-15 hours of sleep
- Toddlers 12 to 14 hours
- Preschoolers 11 to 13 hours
- School-age kids: 10 to 11 hours
- Teenagers: 9 to 10 hours

## Introducing . . .

### Jodie Ackerman

Not many visitors make it upstairs to the end of the elementary hallway where the Kindergarten classroom is located, but that is where I spend my days. My name is Jodie Ackerman, and this is my thirteenth year of teaching Kindergarten at QCS.



I have lived in Haiti for 25 years this month. My husband John is a nurse, working in medical clinics and health education through the L'Eglise de Dieu Reforme. We have raised two lovely daughters here: Jacquie and Jessica, who both graduated from QCS. Jacquie is married to Kevin, and they live in Indiana. Jessica and Jacquie are both students at Indiana University, as a freshman and graduate student.

I grew up in various parts of the eastern United States, moving as my pastor father moved to different churches. I have lived in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois. I love to travel and see new places! I attended Rollins College and Anderson University, and Ball State University for graduate work. I have taught at all levels from preschool through high school, but mostly lower elementary.

Although Kindergarten requires an enormous amount of energy, I enjoy the enthusiasm my students bring to learning. I also appreciate their tender hearts and open minds, so receptive to God's love and His amazing world. It is a privilege and a responsibility to work with these little ones.

So if you ever find your way upstairs to the Kindergarten class, stick your head in and say hello!



## Sycamore Corner

Did you know that you can change your login password?

If you think PwD88g9i24 is hard to remember? Then, just go here:

My Sycamore > My Organizer > Password

Type in the old one, and put in your new one twice. Note that you are required to make it reasonably difficult, so put some letters and numbers into it.

## Gearing Up for 2011 – 2012!

Re-enrollment forms for the upcoming academic year will be going out on March 21 and will be due on March 31. Students who are not reenrolled by March 31 will not have a place reserved for the coming year..

## Something New

Did you attend the **Open House in the Elementary School from 8 A.M – 10 A.M.** yesterday? It is for for parents and perspective parents to come and see what is happening in the classroom at Q.C.S. The ES chapel would be a part of that experience. If you know of a family desiring to send their child(ren) to QCS in the new school year, make sure that they too know that they may visit on Thursdays in February 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

Do drop in and see us in action ☺

## Just in time for the Read-A-Thon

This week the Library has received and processed another selection of books which have been donated by The Alec and Myrtle Chabot Memorial Fund - just in time for the **Read-A-Thon:**

Penguins and Antarctica by Mary Pope Osborne  
 On The Blue Comet by Rosemary Wells  
 Scat by Carl Hiasson  
 Around the World in 100 Days by Gary Blackwood  
 Diary of a Wimpy Kid - The Ugly Truth (Purple) by Jeff Kinney  
 Brisingr by Christopher Paolini  
 The Cats of Roxville Station by Jean Craighead George  
 and several others...

Mr. A. R. Chabot  
 Librarian



## Read-A-Thon Poster Contest Information.

Handouts and paper for the elementary Read-A-Thon Poster Contest were sent home yesterday so that students can create a "space" advertisement for the Read-A-Thon.

Completed poster entries are due by Wednesday morning, February 16th so that they can be judged and the winners will be announced in Chapel on Thursday, February 17th. Read-A-Thon officially begins on Friday, February 18th.

All poster entries will be on display in the Library and along the Elementary porch during the Read-A-Thon and we invite parents to come in and see them.

Mrs. Julie White  
 The Elementary Librarian



The students were asked to find the names of God used in the Bible and then print the names on a sheet of paper and leave blanks so that the name of God would appear without printing it in the middle of the sheet. God certainly has many names to describe Himself ☺

Oh Valentine  
 So much wasted money  
 To your honey  
 As an economist  
 I do not like the mist.  
 People go buy cards  
 And chocolate hearts.  
 I love the taste,  
 But I hate the waste.  
 You bring her things  
 But what do you get?  
 NOTHING!



By Shady