

Quisqueya Eagles Newsletter



**Be Strong! Be Strong!
Make each other strong!**

Friday, September 9, 2011 A.D.

<http://www.quisqueya.org>

Greetings from the Board of Trustees! We, as a Board, are pleased to see that the 2011-2012 school year has gotten off to a strong start. We'd like to recognize the strong leadership of faculty, staff, and administration who make so many wonderful things happen each day at QCS.



The QCS Board remains committed to maintaining and strengthening the Christian foundations of the school, providing an education to prepare students to impact the world for Jesus Christ - - it is one of our non-negotiable commitments.

The QCS Board is also serious about encouraging excellence, in casting a vision for the future that will increase the value of a QCS diploma. This is one reason that QCS is hosting a joint accreditation visit from ACSI and SACS CASI. The self-study process and the visiting team's evaluation of QCS will help make excellence possible.

In our last meeting we discussed various dreams for the next few years. We are happy with the way the Guidance Department is serving the entire school community. It is great that technology and art are being offered in the Elementary School and that the HS now offers Spanish, and we want QCS to continue to wrestle with the challenges of meeting the needs of both the gifted students and the students who struggle.

We would like to see the school strengthening families and getting more families to take ownership of the school. We would like to see spiritual renewal, both among students and among families.

Many lofty goals are arising from the interaction with other board members, and we're expecting a great year!

Patrick Brun
QCS Board Treasurer

Board Members:
Tim Banks, Chairman
Johanne Buteau, Vice Chair
Patrick Brun, Treasurer
Ruth Van Dam, Secretary
Beth Charles
Bill Manassero
John O'Kelley
Tim DeYoung

I'm reading a certain book right now called, "Mathematics: Is God Silent?" The author, James Nickel, spends the first half of the book giving a brief history of mathematics and science, all the way from Adam in the garden to Kurt Friedrich Gödel (a 20th Century Lutheran Austrian mathematician). I have just arrived in the Middle Ages, which Nickel describes as a time of great technological advancement, when Europeans for the first time starting putting scientific discoveries and inventions to work on an industrial scale. For example, the ancient Greeks had working models of camshaft systems, a simple machine used to convert rotary motion into linear motion (<http://msc-ks3technology.wikispaces.com/cams>), but the Greeks never applied the idea as did the monks and farmers of Europe. These enterprising people used the camshaft to pound grain, weave cloth, power billows for fire, crack rocks and more!

The author makes the argument that the reason why medieval culture employed technology in such widespread practical ways is that they held a theology of progress and redemption, with all of history moving from a definite beginning to a definite final restoration. This is as opposed to ancient Greek culture, which saw history as an endless cyclical progression, did not allow for a monotheistic view, and generally saw earthly pursuits as inferior to more "spiritual" ones.

One of my favourite Scriptures at the moment is taken from Psalm 36: "In Your light we see light." The very foundation of all that we do is based on the notion of a rational, personal, relational, creative Father God, as revealed in the Bible, through Christ, and through the Holy Spirit. As his children, our capacity to reason springs from His reason. We do what the Godless mind cannot: we explore both the "what" and the "why" questions, confidently holding to the truth of Scripture as our anchor.



No-one should have more motivation to learn about Creation, and to excel at that learning, than we who know the Creator! Let's continue to draw near to Him, together and individually.

Rod Meadth
Secondary Principal

School Calendar

Sept 10, Sat	- school Fall BBQ – 10 A.M. – 2P.M. - fun, fellowship, food, soccer
Sept 16, Fri	- parent teacher conferences in A.M. - no school for the students
Oct 14, Fri	- last day of 1 st quarter
Oct 17, Mon	- Dessalines Day - no school
Oct 18, Tues	- 2 nd quarter begins
Oct 21, Fri	- report cards/conference - no school
Oct 23 – 26	- accreditation visit
Oct 26, Wed	- Accreditation Report to the School community. All are invited to hear the initial report in the chapel at 3:30 P.M.
Dec 3, Sat	- Christmas Bazaar

REMINDER TO PARENTS

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:19 LB)

Welcome to another school year and I trust your children and you will have an extraordinary year with us at QCS.

- Just a reminder that tuition is due on the 1st of each month and you have up to the 10th of the month to pay any owing balance. In order to avoid the 5% late fee that will be added to any unpaid balance after the 10th, don't forget to make payment before that date. **Note also**, that the school reserves the right to refuse students from attending classes for delinquent accounts until the amount is paid or unless prior arrangements are made, in advance, through the business manager, Mrs. Paultre. You can contact her via e-mail: business@quisqueya.org or during office hours.
- There is a \$30 charge for all checks returned for reason of "NSF" (Not Sufficient Funds) .



The first set of Parent Teacher Conferences will be held a week from today – **Friday**

September 16th starting at 7 A.M. These conference aim to establish good contact between the home and school, focusing on the learning journey of your child. Evaluation of the first five weeks of school can only be done in a beginning way. Certainly these first weeks of school have given the teacher a good indication of your child's behaviour, attitude toward learning and more. Be sure to be involved in your child's learning.

Let's Come Together Tomorrow Fall Family BBQ!



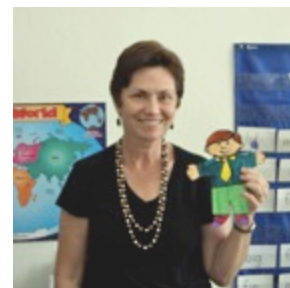
Saturday, September 10th
10 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at QCS Campus
Lunch will be served at one.

Tentative Schedule

- 10 a.m. -11 a.m. = soccer games on the field for ES
- 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. = basketball shooting gamest for MS,HS and Adult
- 11 a.m.-noon = MS,HS, adult soccer
- 11 a.m. -noon = ES basketball court
- noon to 1 p.m. = volleyball on the basketball court and soccer on the field
- during the last hour we can be flexible and move volleyball to the field if more people want to play
- basketball could be on the court then if people are tired of soccer

Meet the Teacher . . .

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 fourteenth year of teaching Kindergarten at QCS.



I have lived in Haiti for over 25 years. 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. All three of them are students at Indiana University, as a sophomore and graduate students.

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!

Educational Tip of the Week

Getting Excited about Reading:

- Give your child the choice to read what they want. It helps them create their own identity and interest in reading.
- Find authors your child likes to build connections and excitement about reading
- Choose all kinds of books, such as non-fiction, fiction and certain themes. It exposes them to various kinds of literature and also helps them determine their personal preference.
- Suggest books that build on personal experiences such as friendship, family, trips, pets or sports.
- Think about the 3 I's: Interest, Integration and Invention.



Reading Together:

- Read aloud to your child and with your child. Take turns reading a book with them – this promotes confidence and builds great relationships with literature.
- Older children benefit from reading aloud – hearing an adult read with fluency and discussing a book with an adult have great benefits.
- Research has shown that reading aloud to your child:
 - Increases their vocabulary
 - Improves their attention span
 - Nurtures emotional development
 - Stimulates imagination
 - Creates understanding of other cultures and lifestyles
 - Improves problem-solving and critical thinking skill

Hints for Reading Aloud:

- Choose a book that lends itself to reading aloud – folktales, funny or scary books are always fun.
- Make reading time special. Find a cozy, comfortable place to read.
- Be versatile. You read to them or they read to you. Take turns.
- Introduce the author and illustrator. Discuss what they do with your child. Saying the name of the author and illustrator makes the connection that books are created by real people.
- Talk about the book – ask questions about what they liked and did not like, what they found interesting, and more.
- Show the pictures while you read.
- Read with expression.
- Read together EVERY DAY!



“Read to your child today and inspire a lifelong love of reading.”

Get Caught Reading!

PSAT/NMSQT Questions and Answers

- Q:** What is the PSAT/NMSQT?
A: It is the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.
- Q:** What does the PSAT/NMSQT measure?
A: Critical reading skills, math problem-solving skills, and writing skills.
- Q:** Why should 10th and 11th graders take the PSAT/NMSQT?
A: According to the College Board website, the most common reasons for taking the test are to:
- “Receive feedback on your strengths and weaknesses on skills necessary for college study. You can then focus your preparation on those areas that could most benefit from additional study or practice.
 - See how your performance on an admissions test might compare with that of others applying to college.
 - Enter the competition for scholarships from NMSC (grade 11).
 - Help prepare for the SAT. You can become familiar with the kinds of questions and the exact directions you will see on the SAT.
 - Receive information from colleges when you check "yes" to Student Search Service.” (From <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html>)
- Q:** When and where will the test be offered this year?
A: It will be offered at QCS on **Wednesday, October 12.**
- Q:** How can a student register to take the test?
A: Register by bringing the \$14 testing fee to Mrs. Beneche in the front office by **Wednesday, September 14.**
- Q:** Who should I contact if I have questions about this test?
A: The Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Pruitt at ipruitt@quisqueya.org.