

the Light

Fall 2011

Worthington Christian Schools

Striving For Excellence

*By Dr. John Foreman
Superintendent*

Welcome to a new school year! It's hard to believe that we are into October already—and harder still to believe that eight years have passed since WCS was first awarded accreditation status from the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the North Central Association Commission on School Improvement (NCA). Chartered in 1973 by the Ohio Department of Education, WCS has grown to become one of the largest private schools in the state. In the Ohio River Valley Region of ACSI (OH-KY-WV) only 19 percent (49/263) of schools have earned accreditation status with ACSI, similar to the national percentage of all (3,750) ACSI schools. We are proud that WCS is among this group as we stand committed to continued professional development of our school system.

During the first week of October, our campus hosted the ACSI/NCA accreditation site team who were tasked with the review of our school program in areas such as the instructional program, personnel procedures, student services, facilities,

planning and of course finance. This team of eight educators spent three days on campus interacting with students, parents, employees and other stakeholders of our educational ministry. At the end of the visit, the site team provided words of encouragement regarding our school, as well as ideas for continued improvement.

In recent years, NCA has changed their maximum term award for K-12 schools from seven years down to five years. Later this fall, we will be notified of their recommendation, which means that by 2015 we will be back in "preparation mode" for our next visit. While the accreditation process requires many hours of hard work by our faculty and staff, I have over the years found this type of third-party insight to be invaluable.

I continue to be excited about what God has in store for WCS in the years to come as we continue to hone our vision and seek His leading for the future. Thanks as always for your continued prayers and support on behalf of the faculty, staff, and board.





An Unforgettable Experience



WCHS seniors **Emily Cunningham, Sam Dorgan, Michael Stomps,** and **Reid Smith** had the amazing opportunity this past summer of becoming Buckeye Girls' State/Boys' State delegates. All were selected by the American Legion Auxiliary to be representatives from Worthington.

Emily Cunningham: "I was elected to the Girls' State House of Representatives, and then I was elected to House Minority Whip. I really enjoyed being a part of drafting and debating bills. The hands-on experience was beneficial since one of my interest areas and prospective careers is related to the legislative side of our government."

Sam Dorgan: "My week at BGS (Buckeye Girls' State) was one of the best weeks of my life; it was spent laughing, fellowshiping, and learning about United States government. I can clearly see how God's hand orchestrated my entire time at BGS!"

Michael Stomps: The week began with the assigning of political parties that were then tasked with constructing a party platform and electing city, county, and statewide leaders to represent their ideas and values. Additionally, both bodies nominated candidates who would face each other in the



general election. Campaigning began, signs filled the hallways, and candidates were suiting up and shaking as many hands as possible. Effectively, everyone was an active participant in the BBS government. The American Legion makes the program as authentic as possible; everything from drafting legislation, to implementing executive powers, to going through the court system is meant to mirror what occurs in real life."

Reid Smith ran for and was elected mayor of Brady City. "Living and working with 40 fellow citizens on constructing our city and facing tough issues like balancing budgets and crime created a brotherhood among us. We were together from early morning until late at night for nine days. Many delegates had experienced tough times in their lives. As a Christian, I was able to share my faith with them and encourage them with the love of Christ. I also enjoyed working as a team to take pride in our city by meeting expectations for daily city inspections."

Closing remarks from **Michael Stomps:** "I was amazed at the spectrum of people who participated in the event. From those who live in rural areas, to those who have always known the convenience and fast pace of city life, the Buckeye Boys' State program represented every part of our state, revealing to all in attendance the diverse group of people who call Ohio home."

Warrior Warehouse

By Sam Dorgan
WCHS Student

On August 30, Business Principles and Management students from past and present came together for the grand opening of the Warrior Warehouse.

Founding partners **Alec Motter, Colin Davison, Connor Emrich, Brett Elder, Devin Baker, Keaton Lovas, Brien Hodgson, Nick Miller** and **Sam Dorgan** have been passionately pursuing the formation of a school store after taking **Mrs. Ann Wheat's** Business Principles and Management class last year. In addition to breakfast items, the Warehouse carries school supplies and Spirit Wear items. Warrior Warehouse is located within the high school at the main entrance, 6670 Worthington-Galena Road. The Warehouse is open Tuesdays and Thursdays (8:00–8:30 a.m., lunches: A, B,



and Chapel, and from 3:00–3:30 p.m.). We invite all WCS families, staff, students, and friends. Please plan to pay only in cash.

The Warrior Warehouse is fundamentally built on 1 Corinthians 12:12: "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ." All founding partners have brought their own passion, talents, and creative ideas together in the development of the Warehouse, which exists to foster better school spirit, unity, and pride in our school. They also strive to teach Warehouse employees (students) occupational skills by learning how a business runs and operates. Warrior Warehouse partners are taking orders from all campuses for t-shirts and hoodies. They will be overseeing the collection of order forms with payment, ordering the apparel, and then delivering ordered shirts to each campus.

Questions? **Ann Wheat** (614-648-0002; 614-410-4293; awheat@worthingtonchristian.com).





Sixth Graders Head South

By Ruth Beschta
WCMS Science Teacher

Each spring the sixth graders spend a few months studying astronomy and space travel, then they head down to the US Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama to see the largest collection of space “stuff” in the United States! The US Space and Rocket Center is an interactive museum designed to teach about space travel and includes an amazing IMAX theater, a climbing wall, and an outdoor “Rocket Park” with full-sized rockets from the small Mercury to the giant Saturn V, and a full-sized space shuttle prototype.

The four-day trip begins early on a Tuesday morning in May with a five-hour drive to Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky. Although Mammoth Cave doesn’t really fit in with our space theme, it’s too exciting an attraction to pass by. Mammoth Cave is the largest cave system in the world, and many of its passages have yet to be explored. As we explore the “mammoth” underground caverns, narrow passages, and



amazing rock formations, we can’t help but marvel at the God who created both the heavens and the earth!

Our visit to Huntsville this year just happened to be a week after northern Alabama was ravaged by a series of violent tornadoes that left many people dead and scores homeless. We took one morning of our trip to work in a relief center run by a local church.

While the kids love the collection of simulators (the Space Shot being the favorite, simulating the feeling of taking off in a space ship, giving riders the opportunity to experience 4 Gs) those few hours spent in the relief center were a real highlight of the trip for both the kids and the adults.

This is a tremendous learning experience for the students. It is also a great time for them to bond and build relationships and memories that will last a lifetime!



A Lively Discussion

By Donna Laipply
WCS Parent

What has become an annual “Reader’s Roundtable” was the inaugural event in the newly refurbished Westview Library.

The 2010 Educating for Eternity Auction pitted two sixth-grade mothers in a friendly rivalry for the “Reader’s Roundtable” with Westview Librarian Patti Hayer. The mothers opted to co-op their money, ensuring both their sons and four friends the opportunity to discuss a current book with Mrs. Hayer—*Theodore Boone, Kid Lawyer* by John Grisham.

Not to be thwarted by the absence of the “Roundtable” from the 2011 auction, the mothers asked Mrs. Hayer to hold another roundtable with the boys. She graciously accepted, looking forward to discussing the book *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins.

The roundtable discussion was held in the newly refurbished Westview library. In July, the library was *totally* emptied for



new carpet and a fresh coat of paint. Volunteers assisted Mrs. Hayer and Mrs. Alt with the packing up and the unpacking of the books. The boys in the roundtable, plus eighth-grade girls **Maddie Woda** and **Katie McIntosh**, freely gave of their time.

Eighth graders **Ryan Harrison, Gabe Kaatz, Grant Lawrence** and **Wes Laipply** discussed the moral question, “As a Christian, what would you have done if you were picked to participate in the games?” Without giving away the plot, the boys along with Mrs. Hayer agreed that God was in control, and it was their responsibility to play to the best of their abilities to bring glory to God. “I was impressed with the boys’ knowledge of Scripture and the way they applied it to the book, especially in regard to end times prophecy,” stated Mrs. Hayer. “I was also very excited to see how they were aware of current events and connected that knowledge to what was happening politically in the *Hunger Games*. I enjoyed the opportunity to spend time with these young men discussing a book that is somewhat controversial but perfect for a thought-provoking and lively discussion.” The participants also agreed they would like to meet again next summer with Mrs. Hayer.



A Friend in Deed

By David Stoll
WCHS Media Center Director

WCS has been blessed over the years in so many ways! One area in particular that has been extra blessed is our WCHS Media Center. Robert Reither (1929–2010), whom you read about in last spring's *Light*, was a diligent contributor to the center by faithfully bringing in magazines for student use. Without these magazines, we are now experiencing a significant loss in the quality resources available for student research and enrichment.

Won't you consider picking up where Bob's passion left off? If you would like to begin donating even a few of these magazine titles



(listed below), it would be greatly appreciated. One way you might consider donating is if you have air miles that are set to expire soon. A person can spend those miles on magazine subscriptions. A donor is always entitled to a tax deduction for non-cash donations made to a charitable organization; we would be happy to provide a letter of receipt for any magazine donations made to the WCHS Media Center. For more information please call David Stoll, Media Center Director (614-410-4291). Please pray about how you can help fill these empty shoes.

Air & Space, American Heritage, American History, Archaeology, Biblical Archaeology Review, Discover, National Geographic, National Geographic Traveler, Newsmax, Military History, Natural History, Wild Ohio, Popular Mechanics, Popular Science, Scientific American, Mountain Bike, Bicycling, Skiing, Civil War, Vietnam, Wild West, World News, God's World News (or TRAK for HS)

Do you enjoy spending hours meandering through shelves of books or getting lost in a great novel? Mr. Stoll is looking for parent volunteers to help in the High School Media Center once or twice a month. Volunteers may assist in reading new literature, reorganizing shelves, and covering new books. If you are interested, please contact David Stoll, Media Center Director (614-410-4291).

Story of Survival



By Jim Parrish
WCWES Principal

Recently, Westview students were treated to a visiting speaker for chapel. On Wednesday, September 14, Blake Haxton shared his story of survival and the importance of the Body of Christ coming together in time of need.

Two and a half years ago, when Blake was a senior at Upper Arlington High School, he noticed a bruise on his leg; within mere hours of going to the doctor, Blake found himself in the hospital fighting for his life. That bruise was the onset of necrotizing fasciitis, commonly referred to as flesh-eating bacteria. As his organs began shutting down one by one, his family began to plan his funeral, yet the Body of Christ responded by praying and interceding for Blake. After undergoing surgeries to amputate his legs, enduring other radical surgical interventions, and hours of physical rehab, this young man, who was headed to Harvard on a crew scholarship, was able to share his story with Westview students.

Best Wishes to a Dedicated Educator



Best wishes to our WCHS Science Teacher of 18 years, Deb Walton, who retired this year. Mrs. Walton brought a wealth of experience into her biology classes. She previously worked for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, where she composed documents on local land use management for critical areas and then taught land use planning education courses for local officials.

Deb earned her BA from Wittenberg University, her Master's degree from Duke and The Ohio State University, and completed postgrad work at the University of Wisconsin, Georgia Tech, and The Ohio State University School of Law.

While at WCS, she was known for her love of all God's creatures—especially birds, salamanders, saltwater fish, and her hatching chicks. She led trips to study marine biology on the Roatan Peninsula, contrasting ecosystems in Costa Rica, and wetland studies at Darby Creek. She inspired dozens of future doctors and nurses. Every year she had students accepted into the World Food Prize, which is dedicated to increasing the amount, quantity, and availability of food.

Deb continues to do adjunct teaching at Mount Vernon Nazarene University and is involved with Licking County Soil and Water District, where she has been elected chairman of the board.

Blake humbly explained that God is the one who spared his life and how important it was for him that the Body held him up in prayer during that hard season almost three years ago. The students listened to Blake share his story of God's faithfulness in what appeared to be a hopeless situation. Blake encouraged the students to develop and nurture their Christian friendships while at WCS. Currently, Blake is a junior at The Ohio State University and helps coach Upper Arlington's crew team.



How We Stack Up

By Dave Muschott

WCHS Assistant Principal, Student Services
Director

The Guidance Department of Worthington Christian High School is pleased to announce the following academic achievements for the 2010–11 school year.

Eighty of our high school students took the ACT (College Entrance Exam), earning a median score of 24.7. Our “core score,” meaning students taking four or more years of English and three or more years of math, social studies, and natural sciences, scored a median of 25.7.

This is a one-point increase, which is equivalent to a four percent overall increase compared to a perfect score of 36. SAT results are pending as of this printing.

AP Test results:

WCHS had our highest number of Advanced Placement tests taken in May—61 AP tests were taken by 43 students in the areas of Calculus, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, US History, Biology, Chemistry, Spanish, and Studio Art. Following is a breakdown of the results:

6 Tests—earned “5”

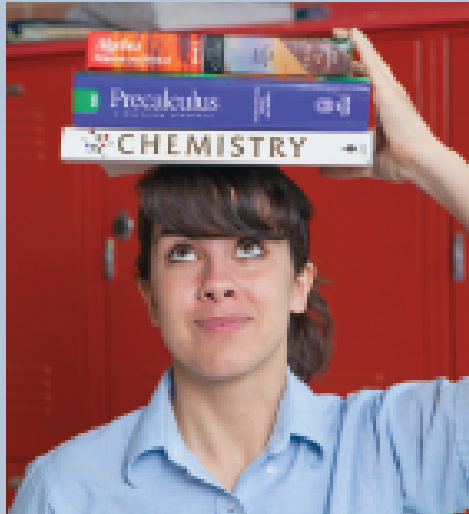
12 tests—earned “4”

20 tests—earned “3”

38/63 = 60% earned a passing grade and possible college credit.

The following students scored a 5 on their AP Literature tests:

Jonnie Barlow, Ellie Billman, Emily Cunningham, Amy Early, Faith Mascari, and Nick Seling



Ohio Graduation Test in March:

Eighty-two students took the OGTs during our testing in March of this year. WCHS is proud to announce that nearly 93 percent of all test-takers have passed ALL five of the tests. Following is a breakdown of those results:

95% of our students were above proficient in Reading

96% of our students were above proficient in Math

95% of our students were above proficient in Writing

87% of our students were above proficient in Science

91% of our students were above proficient in Social Studies

This results in a WCS **92.8 percent passing rate.**

This compares us quite favorably with Olentangy High School (**91**), Upper Arlington City School District (**90.5**), Dublin City School District (**88.2**), Worthington City School District (**86.1**),

Westerville City School District (**80.8**), Big Walnut High School (**80.2**), Buckeye Valley High School (**80.1**), and Columbus City School District (**41.0**).

The State passing rate is **75 percent** (with 69.5 percent in all five categories compared to our **93 percent**).

Beyond high school:

Generally speaking, 95 percent of our students go to four-year institutions with three to four percent community college, and one percent military or working. This compares favorably with a March 9, 2011 report from *US News* which found that 75 percent of middle and high school students plan on going to college.

Fourth Graders “Twitter” Together

By Sandy Cupp

WCWES Teacher

Twitter, tweet and chirp were sounds that WCS fourth graders heard during their recent trip to the Grange Audubon Center in Columbus.

Coinciding with current science units, students enjoyed a tailor-made lesson with the naturalist about birds and their characteristics and then took a fun hike through four different habitats. With binoculars and field guides in hand, they observed birds in their natural environment, which provided plenty of information to include in their annual bird-watching project. A bonus of our visit related to our pond studies—critters and plants of the pond habitat were on display as students enjoyed seeing frogs, dragonflies, ducks, turtles, and whirligig beetles, just to name a few!





From Korea to Switzerland

By Liz Bookheimer
WCS Alumni Coordinator

WCHS is blessed to have ten students attending our school from various countries around the world.

• Twin sisters **Yining (Lilly) and Yizhen (Lucy) Cheng** are both juniors from Jinhua, China. Lilly lives with Melissa Welch's family and Lucy with the family of Bob and Heather Lewis.

• **Haiji (Helen) Lin**, a junior, is from Shanghai, China and lives with host mother Margo Belkofer and her family.

• **Yuhan (Zoe) Liu** is a senior from Changsha, Hunan Province, China and lives with Robert and Amy Bachmeier from Grace Church of Powell.

• Twin brothers **Jurgen and Kevin Nyatsi** are freshmen from Linz, Austria who live with their aunt and uncle.

• **Dae Cheol (Andrew) Shin** is a freshman from Korea who lives with his aunt and uncle.

• **Yawen (Mandy) Yang**, Grade 12, is from Shanghai and lives with the family of Tom and Wendy Feusse.

• **Yiwen (Clara) Yang**, Grade 11, is also from Shanghai and is living with **Donyell Miller** and her mother Saa Otaru.



• **Elena Wuest** is a sophomore from Cham, Switzerland and lives with Brian and Jessica Pack and family.

WCMS has seven internationals this year:

• Twins **Ye Rim** and **Se Rim Byun**, Grade 8, from Korea

• **Ho Hyuk Jung**, Grade 6, from Korea.

• **Kyungmin Kim**, Grade 6, from Korea.

• **Daijing Xu**, Grade 6, from Korea.

• **Min Sang You**, Grade 6, from Korea.

• **John Joseph Wandikbo**, Grade 8, from Indonesia

These students have come to WCS from many different sources—Forte and Face the World to name a few. Several still have come to WCS independent of any agency and have to coordinate all of the details themselves. When you consider the opportunity presented to each of these young people—leaving their home and travelling thousands of miles away, living with a new family in new surroundings in a totally foreign culture and for most, experiencing a totally foreign language! Please pray for them as they acclimate to the United States and to WCS!

ParentsWeb Tech Tips

By Bob Johnson
WCS Computer Technology
Coordinator



As a WCS parent, have you successfully logged into the WCS ParentsWeb system this year? ParentsWeb is a key web site resource that parents should use to monitor the academic progress for every class their students take at WCS, especially in WCS Grades 6 through 12. The link to the WCS ParentsWeb login screen is: <https://www.renweb.com/rwlogin/ParentsWeb-Login.aspx?District=wcs-oh>

• **Returning WCS parents who used ParentsWeb last year should note that this year each WCS parent and student needs to use a unique ParentsWeb 'username' and password to log in to ParentsWeb.** We recommend that parents set their ParentsWeb username to be the same as their 'primary' email address that is in their ParentsWeb account.

• **Did you know each WCS parent can have two different email addresses defined in their ParentsWeb account?** One email address is known as the 'primary' email address. In most cases this primary email address is the same as a parent's ParentsWeb login username. Whenever a Renweb email is sent by someone at WCS to parents, the email will be sent to both the primary and secondary email addresses for each parent recipient. To define a secondary email address in ParentsWeb: Login to ParentsWeb, click on SCHOOL INFORMATION, then WEBFORMS, then FAMILY DEMOGRAPHIC FORMS, then CUSTODIAL PARENT button, then type in an email address in the 'Email Address 2' data field.

• **Some parents have reported issues when trying to view Homework information for their students on ParentsWeb.**

Here are some techie browser specific tips: parents who use the browser Internet Explorer 9 (IE9) should try to clear their Temp Internet files and cache if they experience problems viewing homework or other info on ParentsWeb. Parents who use IE7 with Windows XP should try to upgrade their IE7 to IE8 if they are having issues viewing homework. Parents with MAC computers need to use the Firefox 2.0 browser or higher on their MACs, instead of using the Safari browser that comes standard on MACs.

• **Did you know that parents can set preferences in their ParentsWeb account that can cause Progress Reports for each of their students to be automatically emailed to the parents on a daily or weekly basis?** Login to ParentsWeb, click on SCHOOL INFORMATION, then WEBFORMS, then FAMILY DEMOGRAPHIC FORMS, then CUSTODIAL PARENT button, then review the settings under the AUTO EMAIL settings in the PREFERENCES section.

• **Many parents like to print monthly lunch calendars for their students, but this is currently not easy for parents to do in ParentsWeb.** As a workaround for this issue, it is our intent to email a one page lunch calendar to parents at the beginning of each month that would be easy to print.

Please contact Bob Johnson (bob.johnson@worthingtonchristian.com; 614-410-4299) if you have questions or issues with the WCS ParentsWeb system.



Show Me Your Faith

By Heather Lewis
WCMS English Teacher

"But someone will say, 'You have faith; I have deeds.' Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds"
James 2:18.

This year our sixth graders experienced more than just "Rocket Parks" and simulators on their annual class trip! The students took time before the Space Camp class trip to pray and gather emergency relief supplies for the people of Alabama as they began the long recovery period from the devastating tornados that killed at least 240 people and splintered communities. We saw a glimpse of the downed trees and met emergency relief workers and saw their pictures from that day as they brought in generators to get the power up. One picture was of a restaurant and the only thing remaining in the rubble was a coffee maker. The disaster was said to look like an atomic bomb hit.

The entire sixth-grade class and a great group of supportive and energetic parents arrived at Manna House, the helping hub of 17 Alabama churches, to serve. And serve we did! It was a God thing. We made and bagged bologna sandwiches, piled on the peanut butter, counted out cookies, zip-locked baggies of bagels, traveled through an assembly line of



toiletry kits, fluffed balled-up bags, loaded trailers full of food to take to the disaster sites, divvied up diapers, prayed, cheered, and loved in the name of Jesus. It was such a blessing to pour out the love of our Lord in this demonstration of faith.

Thank you, parents! Your example of compassion and leadership is so important, and it is a blessing to serve with you. Thank you to those who gave and those who served, and may we all continue to pray for the dear souls who will receive our meager offerings and know that others care for them.

From East to West

By Heather Lewis
WCMS English

WCMS English 6 students had the exciting opportunity to learn more about modern-day missions work—especially in China! The journey began as we studied the missionary biography of Hudson Taylor, God's Adventurer. Students then interviewed and wrote the biography of a modern-day missionary.



Pastor Daniel Wakesa from Kenya, Shay Smith, Tammy Smith, Heather Lewis

On the day of the Missions Fest, missionaries from around the globe came and shared their powerful mission field testimonies to glorify God. It was a blessing to hear the faithfulness of our Lord Jesus from servants from around the world. The missionaries had served in China, Honduras, Ivory Coast, Afghanistan, Thailand, Japan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Haiti, and domestically in the US through International Friendships.

The students in small groups were able to interact by asking questions, discussing, viewing pictures, and getting to know these humble servants through amazing stories of God working in their lives.

Students studied the Romans Road to Salvation and created over 200 Red Envelope Tracts in Chinese and English that were shared by missionaries to China and Taiwan this summer. The students also were able to send over 150 Chinese Children's Bibles to China through a special prayerful savings project. The students had a very rich experience learning Chinese brush writing and played

the traditional West African game called Gaga. The Chinese lunch and tea were delicious as the students enjoyed dining together in their beautiful clothing representing world missions.

The Missions Fest was a very special end to the school year. Many parents and teachers worked to create a day to focus on world missions with a distinctly Chinese flair, honoring our Lord Jesus and His work.



Summer Missions 2011

Touching the world with the love of Christ



A Quilt Full of Caring

By Liz Bookheimer
WCS Alumni Coordinator

"Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him" James 1:12.

This verse was embroidered across the top of a very special quilt that was created this spring by WCS moms Sandy Blusiewicz and Michele Bolyard. It was Sandy's idea to create the quilt as a love gift to our principal Tom Anglea as he recuperated from emergency brain surgery and radiation.

Michele brought 25 blank squares to WCHS and displayed them on a table in the foyer. Students, parents, and staff were encouraged to write a get-well message and sign their name. Sandy then sewed the squares together using school colors as a background. Her friend Jennifer McCann then finished the quilting.



The completed quilt was presented as a surprise to Tom Anglea at the Class of 2011 Commencement on June 5. Everyone in the audience was impressed both by this labor of love and especially with Tom's attendance. May God continue to bless him with healing.

Lettuce, Carrots, Beans, Tomatoes...



By Carole Galbraith
WCHS Art teacher

On a bright warm day, as summer began its slow transition to autumn, the WCS school garden rewarded students Anna Shaw, Elena Wuest, Olivia Watson and Joel Montgomery with vegetables, flowers, and the opportunity to bless the residents of the Missions House with its bounty—lettuce, kale, carrots, beans, tomatoes, pumpkins, gourds, and sunflowers. Even the squirrels took advantage of the abundance!

If you would like to share in the continued success of the WCS school garden, we would love to hear from you next season. If the feeling of God's soil between your fingers isn't your thing, we could also use garden tools, wood for raised beds, or seeds. Also consider garden clean-up on Community Impact Day in October. We hope the garden will continue to supply the Missions House for many seasons to come.

Doing What Is Good

By Linda Hall
WCWES Teacher

Burdened to help those in need as we watched the devastation caused by deadly tornadoes and floods, the students, parents and staff at the Westview campus raised \$800 which was donated to the American Red Cross for disaster relief. Titus 3:14 says: "Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order to provide for urgent needs and not live unproductive lives."

To add some fun to the drive for funds, some staff members volunteered themselves on the last day of school. Students could place donations in tubs with the teacher's name on them. The staff member with the most money agreed to be



pushed off the edge of the platform dive during the all school pool party. Judy Bechtel was our winner! She was such a good sport, and the students loved every minute. The pool rocked with students' good-will cheers! We also had what we called a "Wind and Water Challenge" happening poolside where students participated in fun wind and

water games. All in all, we succeeded in helping those in our country with great needs while enjoying a little end-of-the-year fun!



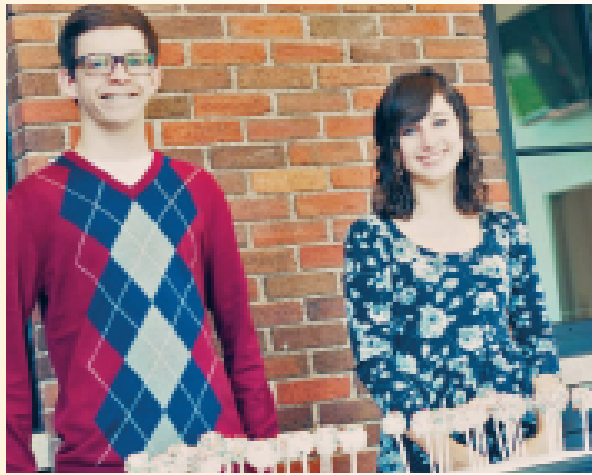
Grant Allows Students' Art to Take Flight

By Beth Heisey
WCHS Art Teacher

We are thrilled to announce that two of our very own, Sophomores Madi Safer and Will Hejduk, have secured the very first high school programming internship at the McConnell Arts Center (MAC) in Worthington.

As part of this innovative program, the students will be creating art experiences aimed at increasing student achievement in art, as well as public consumption of art. This will be accomplished through careful planning of sessions, to be held the third Sunday of every month throughout this next year—"Art off the Square!"

Through these gatherings, people of all ages will be invited to come experience art in a variety of ways. Hands-on sessions utilizing everything from recycled computer equipment to musical instruments, will hopefully inspire the public to see art in a new light. Poetry readings, impromptu drama sessions, musical jam sessions, open studio sessions for high school students...Madi and Will are responsible for the planning and

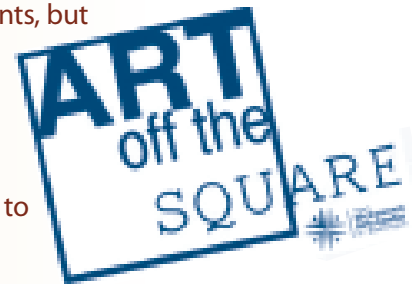


execution of these and many others throughout the year. Local artists of all ages will be highlighted, and admission is free to the public.

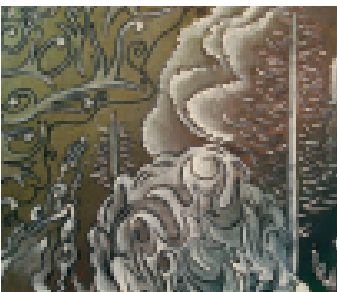
The very first "Art Off the Square" session, which took place September 18, showcased local sketch artist Phil Gegner, demonstrating drawing and portraiture, and WCS sophomores Logan Keseg and Jake Harrison, who provided music throughout the galleries. A variety of instruments were on hand, courtesy of Colonial Music, for attendees to try out as they created their own "art!"

Please come out **each third Sunday of the month**

to support not only our students, but also the local arts community as WCS makes yet another mark in the art world through this fantastic opportunity! For details on future "Art off the Square" gatherings, please go to www.mcconnellarts.org.



Westerville Music and Arts Festival Entries



By Hope Harrison
WCS Director of Development

Youth Art is a huge part of The Westerville Music and Arts Festival. More than 100 young artists participate each year, and their creations are thoroughly enjoyed by Festival visitors. Categories include oil painting, acrylic painting, watercolor, charcoal, tempera painting, pastels, black-and-white pencil drawing, color pencil drawing, pen and ink, ceramics, sculpture, mixed media, weaving, calligraphy, black-and-white photography, and color photography.

Awards are given for first, second, third, and honorable mention in each of the categories, as well as a "Best of Show" award for each of the age groups and a "People's Choice" award voted upon by the public.

This year, several WCS students submitted artwork:

Bailey Strick—Watercolor (First Place); **Emma Singleton**—Acrylic Paint; **Jake Harrison**—Acrylic Paint (Honorable Mention); **Sydney Arena**—Pencil Drawing (2nd Place); **Micayla Messana**—Charcoal; **Cameron White**—Pencil Drawing; **Colin Hearon**—Pencil Drawing (Honorable Mention); **Cody Holbrook**—Pencil Drawing; **Sarah Whitt**—Acrylic Paint; **Natalie Secrest**—Pencil Drawing; **Emma Irwin**—Pencil Drawing

There isn't room here to show you all the beautiful pieces created by these students, but their work is on display in the high school main entrance. Please stop by—and don't forget to congratulate these individuals!



The Secret Is Out!

By Tom Burns
WCHS Bible Teacher

The secret is out—God has blessed the community of Worthington Christian with an astounding amount of musical talent. Over the years our students have gone into music performance and production at a prodigious rate. Recently several bands made up of Worthington Christian alumni have started gaining traction in the Central Ohio music scene. With so many talented students and alumni, it seemed like a natural fit to sponsor a benefit concert associated with the senior trip.

Each year the senior class plans charitable projects intended to assist the people of the Dominican Republic. Partnering with missions agencies and local churches in the Dominican, we have provided medical care, food, and clean drinking water to people who do not have access to these things. The Class of 2011 and WCHS staff brainstormed ways to meet these needs but seemed to encounter multiple roadblocks. We found ourselves needing to raise \$9,000 in five weeks if we were going to accomplish our goals.

The students baked and sold goodies and funded dress-down days. Offerings were taken and donations solicited. These efforts were astounding, with many hands sharing the labor, but the amount was adding up too slowly to reach the goal. Out of their concern, some students suggested a concert. Could we persuade students and alumni to play a benefit



concert, donating the money raised to help provide clean drinking water and food in the Dominican Republic? Even if we planned it, would enough people show up to justify the event?

The response was overwhelming! On March 5, just a few weeks after the inception of the idea, Twentyone Pilots and LUX played in front of hundreds of students and fans in our own chapel. Those \$5 admissions began to stack up until the total raised was more than \$2,000! This effort was one of many that put the fundraising total for the trip well over the goal and eventually beyond \$10,000!

Special thanks to **Tyler Joseph** and **Nick Thomas** (class of '08) and Chris Salih from Twentyone Pilots, as well as **Jessie Johnson, Tucker Rochte** ('09), **Alex Johnson** ('11) and Cameron Rochte from LUX for their willingness to play the show without compensation. The concert was a lot of fun, and the many students and music fans walked away not only having had a good time but also participating in something much larger than themselves. These young men testify to the work of God in their lives continuing to serve through the talents with which God has blessed them.

Extreme Makeovers

By Jack Chapin
GBC Service Ministries

Thanks to Jack Chapin and our Service Ministries Team, WCS facilities are shining as the new year begins. Have you noticed the new paving on the tennis court parking area and the new batting cage practice area of the WCHS baseball field?

Stop by our Westview campus and enjoy the new carpet and paint in the library, classrooms, and corridors on the lower level east wing and some classrooms and corridors on the upper east wing. This caused an “all hands on deck” effort before carpet removal and painting to clear furniture and bookcases. Similarly, the classes and library needed to be returned to normal after carpet and painting. *(Ask Patti how many books she unshelved and shelved!)*

When you come to the high school, take note of the new carpet in the hallways and a new Warrior entry mat. Rooms



Westview Before



Westview After

5,11, and 12 received computer upgrades, and the Media Center received an upgraded circulation desk—and you'll notice new chairs and tables in several classrooms and at lunchtime. Student restrooms were also updated.

Some of the blessings have included buses that passed inspection, plus one gently used bus that was added to the fleet.



Perfect to a Tee

By Kevin Weakley
WCS Athletic Director

On August 12, 132 golfers came together for a day of golf and fellowship to support the WCS Athletic Department. Two flights consisting of 17 teams competed during the event. Recently hired football coach Brian Stier was introduced and shared his excitement about football and his plans to use the sport to honor Jesus at WCS.



Thanks to the efforts of all involved, we were able to raise over \$15,000! As the 2011–12 school year kicks into full swing, these dollars will help support the athletic department.

A special thanks to our generous hole and green sponsors: Byers Automotive, Central Ohio Financial Management Group, Chile Verde, Coach's Touch Painting, Crown Appraisal, Courtright Design, Diamond Cellar, Jae Company, Mid America Cleaning, Ohio Health, Thomas Door, Ward and Connelly, Verizon Wireless, Carnegie Investment Counsel, Four Grandsons LLC, Herbert and Conway, Qdoba, Modern Exterior, Romanelli and Hughes, Tsibouris and Associates, and VFP Fire.

Thanks to our golf outing committee. Bill Evans, Mark

Lawrence, Rodney Hamrick, David Muschott, and Elden Deskins were involved in helping plan for the event, collecting prizes, and running the event.

Thanks also to Jennifer Deskins, who invested many hours in preparation for the event. It was great having WCS coaches (Brian Stier—Football, Alex Schmidt—boys' tennis, Matt Liston—volleyball, David Muschott—golf, Kevin Weakley—boys' basketball, Adam Heath—girls' basketball, and Tim Kraynak—baseball) helping at the outing. The WCS golf team also helped out throughout the day. Kudos to all!

Watch our website for WCS Family Dinner Nights! Eat at area restaurants on designated nights, and a portion of your purchase goes to WCS! A great way to foster community within our WCS family!

Over & Out 2011



By Pam Cain
WCMS Computer Teacher

WCWES fifth graders continued a long-standing tradition as they packed up their lockers for summer and headed to Camp Lazarus for three days of fun, reflection, and exploration while growing closer to God and to each other. The theme of the event centered around Daniel 11:32b: "...and the people who know their God shall display strength and take action." The days were filled with many activities, including the challenging ropes course, an inner and outer beauty lesson, belt making, cake decorating, making



marshmallow guns, tie-dying t-shirts, and so much more. Daily Bible teachings directed the focus of all that we do to be centered on the Lord. Families of the fifth graders joined in the event on the second night, when the family picnic brought everyone together to eat and fellowship. This year was special with the fifth graders from the Powell Elementary and the fifth graders from the Westview Elementary joining together to strengthen their relationships in preparation for middle school. This event has been a lasting memory in the lives of many WCS students and one that the younger students look forward to. Over & Out has blessed my family, and I pray that you have the opportunity for it to bless yours.



WCS Football Program Takes Momentum

By Kevin Weakley
WCS Athletic Director

Worthington Christian has announced it will start a football program. The fall of 2012 will see a middle school team take the field. In 2013, a JV team will be added, and in 2014 the Warriors will field its first varsity team.

Since the announcement was made last December, a steering committee has formed to help give feedback during the process. In addition, WCS has hired its first head football coach, Brian Stier. Coach Stier will coach the middle school team next fall and move up with the program, becoming the school's first varsity coach in 2014. The announcement has also opened the door to potential league opportunities in the future.

Beyond the obvious "how can you live in Ohio and not do football?" there are several other reasons why WCS is committed to adding football as the school's 15th varsity sport. Adding a football program is consistent with the school mission statement in that it will provide more outreach and discipleship opportunities. Adding football also provides more opportunities for students (in addition to football, cheerleading, marching band, student events, etc). Football builds on the tradition of excellence set forth by so many past students and families at WCS. In addition, football can help increase enrollment, expand funding opportunities, increase school spirit, build community, and provide more options for league membership.



At this time we are also exploring the possibility of renovating our outdoor sports complex. Potential additions would include artificial field turf, a bleacher and press box system and an all-in-one building. The R. Fred Hogue Center is a state-of-the-art indoor athletic and recreation facility. Our vision involves creating an outdoor sports complex that matches the welcoming atmosphere and overall quality of our indoor facilities.

Field turf would benefit our soccer and football programs as well as baseball and softball teams. Currently, the stadium field is used only as a competition field. Field turf would allow for year-round use, and essentially add two acres of land to our grounds, allowing teams to not only compete on the field, but practice as well.

Our current bleachers will not support a large crowd. The proposed system includes a 1,500 seat capacity that would be wheel-chair accessible. A press box customized with WCS red and gold would sit at the top. The all-in-one building would centralize all outdoor activities, housing concessions, restrooms, and locker rooms.

These upgrades would enhance the overall experience for current students and families and build on the long history of excellence at WCS, raising the level of school spirit throughout the year, and create the energy needed as we build momentum in the future.

Taking Aim At His Passion

By Donna Laipply
WCS Parent

What is orange and black? Made of clay? Flies at the speed of 48 mph? If you guessed a clay pigeon, you are correct. To be more specific, it's a clay pigeon thrown from a mechanical machine in the shooting sport of skeet. Eighth grader **Wes Laipply** spent his summer becoming familiar with how fast the clays fly.

Through a beginning shotgun safety course at Black Wing Shooting Center (BWCS), Delaware, Wes was introduced to the shooting sports of trap and skeet. Drawn to skeet because of the challenge of shooting two clays released at the same time, and at the encouragement of staff at BWSC, Wes joined the summer skeet league.

After shooting just six weeks competitively, Wes entered his first registered skeet shoot in 12 gauge, breaking 58 of 100

clays. His reward: experience and a spaghetti dinner at the end of the day. Late August Wes entered his first state shoot, breaking 80 of 100 clays.

"Skeet to me is more than breaking clays; It's my passion," states Wes. "God has been opening doors that I never imagined. It's exciting and sometimes a bit scary. I want my shooting to reflect His glory. My current goal is to break 25 of 25 clays. My dream is to start a WCS team."





Alumni Scoreboard

Once again, the WCS alumni soccer team took on the WCS varsity boys in the annual Alumni game. This was a fun game not only for the alumni team but also for their parents who may once again be "in the loop" at the soccer field. The alumni players did a great job of staying in shape as it is their yearly opportunity to measure up against the current team. This year's game resulted in Varsity 4, Alumni 3, with Eschel Christians being elected the MVP! After the game, many alumni complimented the teams' sportsmanship and style and are eagerly waiting for next year's game.

Attention, all alumni! Beginning with our next issue, the Light will introduce Warrior News as our Light centerfold. Watch for news about your classmates! Email your news to liz.bookheimer@worthingtonchristian.com.



Triathlete



Congratulations to fifth-grader Gabrielle Nicol! Gabby participated in the Highlands Pool and Rec Center kids triathlon event on September 11, where she swam 100 Meters, biked 1.4 miles, and ran 1/4 mile. She completed this in under 13 minutes and finished first in her age group. Gabby is daughter of alum Tony Nicol, Class of 1988.

A Great Start



*By Midge Taylor
WCS Tennis Coach*

The Lady Warrior Tennis Team is having a great season with a record of 11-3 and are excited to be playing in the semi-finals of the OTCA tournament on October 3 at home. The girls are working hard and striving to honor God and be a testimony on and off the courts with their opponents. The season wrapped up with a home match on October 4 and tournament play beginning October 6.

Volley For the Cure



Congratulations to our junior varsity and varsity teams who competed against Columbus School for Girls. Both teams won their respective matches.

So, far, we have raised \$755 which will be donated to the local Susan G. Komen for the Cure® Affiliate, working to save lives and end breast cancer forever by empowering people, ensuring quality care for all and energizing science to find the cures.

Fun at the Pool

Alisa Giammarco and Paige Pennington welcomed summer at the "Last Day of School Swim Party." All of Westview gathered at

the Olympic Swim Club for some fun in the sun, ending a great school year. It was a great time of bonding and friendship building. Who will EVER forget Mrs. Bechtel being pushed from the high dive!



How to Reach Us

Worthington Christian Schools

John Foreman, PhD, Superintendent

Administration

6670 Worthington-Galena Road

Worthington, OH 43085

614-431-8210

High School

Tom Anglea, Principal

6670 Worthington-Galena Road

Worthington, OH 43085

614-431-8210

Middle School

Troy McIntosh, Principal

8225 Worthington-Galena Road

Westerville, OH 43081

614-431-8230

Westview Elementary School K-5

Jim Parrish, Principal

50 Westview Avenue

Columbus, OH 43214

614-431-8240

Kindergarten

8225 Worthington-Galena Road

Westerville, OH 43081

614-431-8240

Development Office 614-410-4300

Warrior Athletic Hotline 614-431-3815

WCHS/WCMS athletic fields are located at 8225

Worthington-Galena Road, Westerville.

The Light



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WCS is going green! In an effort to be good stewards of our finances and to save trees, we are posting the Annual Report on our website with hard copies available by request. Please feel free to email the Development Office if you would like a copy (hope.harrison@worthingtonchristian.com).

WCS District-wide PEP RALLY coming on November 19!
Watch our website for more information.

WORTHINGTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS, INC.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Worthington Christian Schools recruits and admits students of any race, color, national origin, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletics and other school-administered programs.

