

The

# Warrior Beat

A NEWSLETTER FOR FAMILIES, ALUMNI, AND FRIENDS OF NORTHUMBERLAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

October 2009

www.norrychristian.net



### Candle Sale

Monday, October 26 - sale begins  
Wednesday, November 11 - orders due  
Wednesday, November 18 - pickup orders

### End of Marking Period

Friday, October 30

### Hoss's Community Night

Tuesday, November 3 - 4 pm to close

### Reports Cards Sent Home

Wednesday, November 11

### 11:30 Dismissal

Thursday, Nov. 12 & Friday, Nov. 13

### K-6 Parent -Teacher Conf.

Thursday, November 12

### 11:30 Dismissal

Wednesday, November 25

### NO SCHOOL

Thurs., November 26 - Mon., November 30

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*Romans 11:36 For from Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things.  
To Him be the glory forever! Amen.*

## Principal's Desk



Dear Parents, Alumni, and Friends,

Christian education is all about teaching everything with a God-centered focus. What a privilege it is to be able to point young people to God in all the areas of our teaching. But Christian education is also about relationships! We place our children in Christian schools because we want them to be influenced not only by the instruction but by the lives of their teachers. Deuteronomy 6 makes it clear that the most important thing for parents (and teachers) is that we love God with all our hearts, and then that love can overflow to our children in all our conversations as we sit at home, walk along the road, or chat at school. We are blessed to have many opportunities to speak personally with students. They often share their hearts and their concerns, whether it be by sharing prayer requests in class, by e-mails, or by the many short conversations that can take place during a school day, at sports practices, or various other occasions. Discipleship is our constant goal – that we would model a life that follows Christ – that we would motivate students to follow Christ – and that we would encourage those who do follow Him to grow as His disciples. Continue to pray for us in these rich opportunities God gives to us each day in the lives of our students.

One of our frustrations as teachers is that there rarely seems to be enough time in a day to give to our students all the individual attention that we would like to, especially when the Lord opens doors to talk about more personal issues. Recognizing this need, I began last year to call on **Mrs. Jane Bowers** to help us by coming in to speak with a few students individually as special needs arose. With the support of their parents, she met regularly with the students to help them apply Biblical principles to the problems they were facing. I have asked Mrs. Bowers to consider expanding this ministry to our students. Included inside the newsletter you will find a letter of introduction which I asked her to write. Though she is trained as a school psychologist, her focus will be on Biblical counseling to encourage students to find God's help with whatever difficulties surround them. Pray that God will bless her ministry to our students.

The soccer season has been very busy and encouraging. Spirit Week was lots of fun, and the homecoming events better than ever. It was wonderful to see many alumni again. Thanks to **Jeffrey '95 and Adrienne Breed '94, Jeanie Wesner, and George Geise '94** for all their work in preparing for the homecoming celebration, and thank you to all who helped and all who participated. Special thanks to **Bethany Daku-Treas '95** for all her work in organizing our first annual 5K Fall Fudge Run. It was a great success! Be sure to check out all the great pictures on the school website alumni page! Our soccer teams have

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been doing very well. The end-of-the-season tournament this year will be held at Sunbury Christian Academy on October 22-24. Pray for safety, great fellowship, and attitudes that will continue to bring much honor to Christ.

**Report cards** will be sent home with the students on **Wednesday, November 11**. **Parent-Teacher Conferences for K-6 parents** are scheduled for **Thursday, November 12**; appointment slips for those with students in grades K-6 are enclosed with this letter. (There are **11:30 a.m. dismissals** on both **Thursday and Friday, November 12 and 13**.) Parents of 7-12 students should feel free to phone the office or any of the teachers at home if they have questions or concerns.

As we look at the academic achievements of our students, we pray that God will give them the discipline to sharpen their skills and use them for His glory. We do want to especially recognize senior **Josiah Strawser** for being named as a National Merit Scholarship Semi-finalist. This is achieved by scoring in the top 1% of the nation on the PSAT/NMSQT. We thank God for Josiah and his heart to serve the Lord, and we pray that God will continue to work in his life and use him mightily for His glory.

Please note that a **2010 YEARBOOK ORDER FORM** is enclosed and should be returned by December 4 if you are interested. We have signed a contract for a FALL yearbook again this year, so the yearbook for 2009-10 will be available in August 2010. If you want a yearbook, it **MUST** be ordered in advance. It does include all students in grades preschool through twelve.

Thank you so much for all your prayers and support.

By His Grace,  
*Pastor John Rees*

## Alumni Parent Joins Staff

Last year, Pastor Rees asked me to consider joining the school staff. He felt that I could be helpful to some students who were struggling with various life issues. Over time I became convinced that I might have something to contribute to the school. Several weeks ago, he asked me to write a note to introduce myself to the NCS family.

I'm no stranger to NCS. My children graduated from the school years ago. I sent them here because the public school was unable to use the Word as an authority and incorporate its precepts into the curriculum. Since I further believe the Holy Spirit convicts and He can begin prodding at an early age, biblical education should start early. I believe that NCS shares these core values, and as such, has a viable mission in this community.

Throughout my childhood the "Hound of Heaven" worked in my life until He adopted me into His Family. Even though I was justified, His Spirit continues to root out sin and disobedience. Over the years, one step at a time, He directed my path. Through His leading, I completed formal education and worked for thirty years in the helping profession with various types of individuals.

Through God's grace, He radically changed my life nine years ago when my husband and I were rear-ended by a tractor-trailer. Due to injuries, I was unable to return to my job as a public School Psychologist. Radical change like this always brings questions. Just as Jesus answered the disciples' question in John 9:3, when they asked "who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him."

As a new display, He worked in my life and my body bringing me to a different place. I am unable to do what I once did, but where I have lost skills, I have gained new dependence upon Him. We are a broken people. As II Cor. 12:9 says, "...my grace is sufficient for you for my power is made perfect in weakness." As a weakling, I offer biblical counseling services to the NCS family.



Appointments for students may be made through the school office by parents, teachers, or the students themselves. If it seems after a few sessions that regular counseling would be helpful for a time, parents will be contacted and will be included in the process as appropriate. I am thankful for the opportunity to help some of the NCS students, and I value your prayers for me as I seek to minister to them. Please call the school office if I can be of any help.

*Mrs. Jane Bowers*

## Hoss's Community Night



**Tuesday, November 3**, from 4:00 pm to closing, you can dine at Hoss's AND raise money for NCS.

Here's how it works:

- *Hoss's provides NCS with tickets that are available in the office or print one out at [www.norrychristian.net](http://www.norrychristian.net)*
- *You will bring your ticket when you come in to dine at Hoss's Tuesday, November 3.*
- *Cashiers will collect the tickets along with your guest check and then total all of the checks collected.*
- *Hoss's will then send NCS a check for 20% of the total amount of guest checks collected and used with a fundraiser ticket.*

Best of all:

- *You sell nothing!*
- *One ticket is good for the entire party.*
- *Gift card sales count too!*

## Fundraising

### Candle Sale from Colonial Candlecrafters

Whether it's lighting one for yourself to fill the air with the scent of pumpkin spice or apples in the fall or thinking of a Christmas gift for a special friend, now is the perfect time to think about candles! Orders will be due in the main office with the money by Wednesday, November 11. Any checks written should be made out to **Kimberly Buffington**. The candles will be available for pick up between 3 and 5 o'clock on Wednesday, November 18 at the 5th Street double door entrance. Please park on Orange Street.

**Reminder: Candles are very heavy and awkward for our younger students to carry, especially on buses. Please consider this when making plans for picking up your candles. Thank you!**



Sale starts  
October 26

\$ & Orders due  
November 11

Pick up  
November 18

### 2009-2010 YEARBOOKS

Now is the time to order your 2009-2010 NCS Yearbook! Would you consider supporting this project by becoming a patron? Look for an order form with this month's statement.



### BONUSCARD UPDATE

Congratulations to Peg Urich who earned a \$100 Giant gift card for collecting 29 new BonusCard numbers for the A+ Rewards program and to Thilza Cordova-Martinez who was awarded \$75 in grocery gift cards for bringing in over 15 new numbers. Although the program has now begun, we will continue to accept new numbers through March. Thank you to all who participated!



*Carol Gessner*

## Sports

### BASKETBALL PRACTICE BEGINS NOVEMBER 2

Basketball practice will begin on November 2. The girls will practice from 3:30 to 5:30 on M & T and from 5:30 to 7:30 on R & F. The boys will practice from 5:30 to 7:30 on M & T and from 3:30 to 5:30 on R & F. Practices and games will be at Winfield Baptist Church. Schedules are available on our website [www.norrychristian.net](http://www.norrychristian.net) or at the school office.

**Season Passes** will be available for basketball season and will be sold at the games. The passes cost \$5 for students & staff, \$12 for adults, and \$30 per family; they include admission to all home games. Regular "at the door" prices are \$1 for students & staff, \$2.50 for adults, and \$6 per family.



### ALUMNI UPDATE REMINDER

Please visit our website at [www.norrychristian.net](http://www.norrychristian.net) to fill out and submit your alumni information/update form. Thanks!

## Development

### EITC

As many of you are aware, the state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) program's funding level was compromised in this year's budget negotiations. For those unfamiliar with EITC, it is, in short, a tax credit program that serves as a conduit for businesses to direct money that would have otherwise been paid as taxes to fund scholarships for students who meet the state's criteria for receiving financial aid. The final outcome in this year's budget was a 15 million dollar cut to the EITC program this year, with an additional 10 million dollars to be cut next year.

This program has been a boon to NCS, enabling us to retain current students and even increase enrollment in this difficult economic environment, while so many other Christian schools have watched their enrollment drop, without recourse. Currently the support of local businesses through the EITC program is making a very real difference in the lives of 107 students at NCS. On behalf of these students, I would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to the following businesses for their participation in the EITC program:

**Bingaman & Son Lumber, Inc.**  
**Deer Park Lumber, Inc.**  
**Furmano's**  
**Keller Marine**  
**Middleswarth, Inc.**

**Papalia Financial Services**  
**RYVAMAT**  
**Shumaker Industries**  
**SPOROCO, Inc.**  
**T-Ross Brothers Construction, Inc.**

While the cuts in the newly-passed state budget will impair our ability to meet our scholarship funding goals for this year, we are encouraged by the support from our friends in the business community and optimistic about securing the necessary funding next year. I encourage you to be deliberate in looking for businesses who would like the opportunity to help the students at NCS and control where their tax money goes. Pennsylvania-based businesses structured as a C-corp, S-corp, or LLC may be eligible to participate in the EITC program. Please do not hesitate to call me with any questions concerning EITC at 473-9786 at extension 297.

*Mr. Josh Knauss '97*



## Northumberland Christian School

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Phone 570-473-9786 • Fax 570-473-8405

[www.norrychristian.net](http://www.norrychristian.net)

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*Stimulating in students a passion for excellence in learning, service, and worship.*

### Events & Prayer Calendar

1 <i>(Italicized names are the student for whom to pray on that date.)</i> <i>Karis Mitchell</i>	2 <b>Basketball Practice Begins</b> <i>Hannah Nelson</i>	3 <b>Hoss's Night</b> <i>Kaylee Richey</i>	4 <i>Kendra Schoeppner</i>	5 <i>Wyatt Shaffer</i>	6 <i>Anna Ulmer</i>	7 <i>Emma Ulmer</i>	
8 <i>Trey Wallace</i>	9 <i>Sophia Zhu</i>	10 <i>Emma Daku-Treas</i>	11 <b>Report Cards Distributed Candle Orders Due</b> <i>Gabriel Frye</i>	12 <b>11:30 Dismissal K-6 PTC</b> <i>Madison Gahrng</i>	13 <b>11:30 Dismissal</b> <i>Joshua Groninger</i>	14 <i>Rebekah Hayner</i>	
15 <i>Charles Heid</i>	16 <i>Meghan Hudson</i>	17 Away - BCS <i>Natalie Mathews</i>	18 <b>Candle Orders Pickup</b> <i>Logan O'Neil</i>	19 <b>Picture Retake Day</b> <i>Justin Ross</i>	20 <b>Health Screenings</b> Away - Susquehanna House b, B <i>Anna Shaffer</i>	21 <i>Taryn Snyder</i>	
22 <i>Elijah Bailor</i>	23 <i>Justin Baumert</i>	24 <i>Mason Breed</i>	25 <b>11:30 Dismissal</b> <i>Olivia Brubaker</i>	26 <b>No School</b> <i>Alyse Daku</i>	27 <b>No School</b> <i>Bethany Dressler</i>	28 <i>Rodney Englehardt, Jr.</i>	
29 <i>Micah Ferster</i>	30 <b>No School</b> <i>Jacob Furman</i>					<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <h1>November 2009</h1> </div>	