



## EASTERN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

### Eastern Christian Middle School Weekly Home Bulletin

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**Next Week, 3/14 - 3/18:****March 11, 2016**

Monday: TRIP orders due  
HS conferences for 8th graders this week

Tuesday: Small groups

**Coming Up:**

March 21 - 25 Spring Break

March 29: Easter Chapel, 5th Grade

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The last five weeks we've looked at the area of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, and how successful schools for young adolescents address these areas. I've included links below in case you've missed any - click on the "Week" in front of each statement.

[\*\*Week 1\*\*](#) - *Educators value young adolescents and are prepared to teach them.*

[\*\*Week 2\*\*](#) - *Students and teachers are engaged in active, purposeful learning.*

[\*\*Week 3\*\*](#) - *Curriculum is challenging, exploratory, integrative, and relevant.*

[\*\*Week 4\*\*](#) - *Educators use multiple learning and teaching approaches.*

[\*\*Week 5\*\*](#) - *Varied and ongoing assessments advance learning as well as measure it.*

As a Christian school, we add another distinguishing characteristic of our curriculum that differentiates us from other schools - faith integration. I have hinted at this characteristic in the statements linked above, but wanted to take an extra moment to present the idea of faith integration on its own.

To integrate means that you combine pieces in order to form a whole. The idea of wholeness is essential in Christian education because we look at content as being incomplete without a connection back to our understanding of God - Who He is and what He has done. Just as content in one discipline is connected to content in other areas, making our overall understanding more complete, faith integration argues that wholeness does not happen without the integration of our faith perspective.

- In Math: how our understanding of math principles, numbers, and order give us a clear picture of the nature of God's reliable character.
- In Science: how our study of the different branches of Science reveals to us the intricacy of a creator/designer Who has revealed Himself to us through creation.
- In History: How we can observe the providence of God through the superintending of the affairs of man throughout history, accomplishing His plan and purpose.
- In Literature: how studies of characters in novels provide a narrative on the character and nature of man, both in what we experience everyday and what we long for.

These statements are brief, but provide a quick peek at the way faith integration completes the picture of what we study. Because we hold the Truth and can know it in the written Word of God and through the Son of God, we know that no knowledge is complete without seeing how it fits into the greater picture of knowledge. The wholeness that comes through faith integration is a distinguishing part of our vision of who our students will become, that they would be "persons of Christian vision and influence."

Grace and Peace

Dan Lazor, Principal

## MIDDLE SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember to "spring ahead" this weekend as Daylight Savings time begins.

**8th Grade Parents** - A confirmation email was sent to you on Tuesday, March 8th with the date/time for your ECHS scheduling conference. Conferences are held here at the middle school with the HS Dean and your child. Contact [Sandra DeMarco](#) with questions. Conferences are next week Monday - Thursday.

**Tissues needed!** If you have a son or daughter who struggles with allergies, please send in a box or two of tissues for their classrooms, as both the nurse's office and classroom supplies are low.

**8th Grade Boys** - You are invited to participate in an indoor soccer clinic run by EC Varsity coach, Rudi Gesch. The clinics, for boys in 9th - 12th grade, will be held on the following Saturdays in the ECHS gym from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. - March 5 and 19, April 9, 16 and 23. Those entering 9th grade next year are welcome to attend! Questions can be directed to [Rudi Gesch](#).

**Track season starts on March 28!** Track for girls and boys grades 6, 7 and 8 will start on March 28, the Monday after Spring Break. Your child must have a valid NJ sports physical form (less than 365 days old) on file with the school nurse as well as the online sports participation packet completed ***before attending any practices***. Bring the NJ sports physical form to your pediatrician when you make an appointment. It can be downloaded and printed from [www.easternchristian.org](http://www.easternchristian.org). You will find the online sports participation packet there too. Please contact [Aaron Goldstein](#) with any questions.

The Eagles After School program announces the Spring after school clubs which include ***Soccer, Gardening, Creative Writing*** and ***Basketball***. The clubs are for students in 1st - 6th grade and meet after school at the Eastern Christian Elementary School. The cost is \$100 and includes transportation via the EC shuttle to the Elementary campus. A flyer is in your child's Friday Folder today. Registrations are due by April 15. You may contact [Michael McKinney](#) if you have any questions.

**Eagles Day Camp, 2016 is open for registration:** Register today at [www.eaglescamps.org](http://www.eaglescamps.org)! The camps run with a different theme each week throughout the month of July. There is an early bird special - register by March 31 and save! For questions, please contact [megroy@easternchristian.org](mailto:megroy@easternchristian.org).

## PTO NEWS:

This week you can shop at **fiVe BEL<sup>o</sup>W in Paramus** and benefit your child's school. A flyer is in your child's Friday Folder today. Shop there any day next week and 10% of all sales will be donated back to Eastern Christian!

Tuesday, March 15 is ECMS Community night at 3 Chicas Mexican restaurant in Wyckoff! Dine in or take out between 11a.m. - 9 p.m. and 20% of your purchase will be donated to the ECMS PTO. The flyer is in this week's folder or just mention it when you order. Thank you for your support!

Funds2Orgs: Are you doing spring cleaning anytime soon? If you are, please be sure to save any gently used shoes that you were considering getting rid of. All 3 campuses for **Eastern Christian will be collecting new and gently used shoes** starting in April through the end of May, which will help EC to earn funds based on the number of pairs collected, as Funds2Orgs will purchase all of the donated goods. All donated shoes will then be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of microenterprise partners in developing nations. Funds2Orgs helps impoverished people start, maintain and grow businesses in countries such as Haiti, Honduras and other nations in Central America and Africa. Any questions? Check out [www.funds2orgs.com](http://www.funds2orgs.com) or contact Lynda Vincenti: [LyndaVincenti@hotmail.com](mailto:LyndaVincenti@hotmail.com)

## FOUNDATION NEWS:

The Auction Gala will be held on Thursday, April 21 at the Indian Trail Club - save the date!

- ❖ **GIFT CARDS DONATIONS ARE NEEDED!** We are in need of gift cards for our Blooming Flower Pockets to be sold during the Gala. Would you consider donating a \$10 - \$25 gift card or two with your T.R.I.P. order this week? Simply order the certificate(s) you wish to donate and write "auction" next to it and include the amount in your check. You will receive T.R.I.P credit for your purchase!

### **TRIP INFORMATION:**

Monday orders will be accepted in any school office on the following dates:

Monday, March 14 and 28. The TRIP store is open from 8 a.m. - 12 noon every Friday at 569 High Mountain Road, (the former Eagles Learning Center).

### **Gift cards for the Spring Auction Gala**

It's that time of year - preparations are underway for the Spring Auction Gala to be held on April 21. Please consider donating a gift card or two, in amounts from \$10 - \$25 for the floral pockets. You will receive TRIP credit for cards donated.

### **New Retailers**

Smashburger - available in \$10 denominations, 8% TRIP credit

Carters/OshKosh - available in \$25 denominations, 6% TRIP credit

Speedway - available in \$25 denominations, 3% TRIP credit

If you are interested in ordering online, and would like some help in enrolling in ShopwithScrip; call the TRIP office to make an appointment to set-up your account and learn the ordering process.

**Questions?** Call Sharon at the TRIP Office (973) 427-6244 Ext. 7210, or call/text her at (201) 650-7056.