



**EASTERN CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL**

**Eastern Christian Middle School
Weekly Home Bulletin**

September 30, 2016

Next Week, :

Monday: TRIP orders due

Tuesday: Small Groups begin (Alternating with Chapel the following week)

Coming Up:

Thursday, October 27, 7:00PM: Thrivent Financial Parent Seminar

Wednesday - Friday, November 2-4: Parent Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, November 9: School Picture Retakes

Message From the Principal:

“God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing.” ~C.S. Lewis

What a joy it is to serve in a school that is centered on God! Each day I am amazed at what I can witness as I watch our ECMS staff “do their thing” - instructing students in class, discipling students in the hallways and during advisory, encouraging their students (your children) at every opportunity. I cannot imagine a more nurturing and stimulating environment for young adolescents. However, all of it would be an empty pursuit without knowing that there is a greater purpose in what we do. Academics are obviously important, but they take on an even greater significance when we place them in the context of knowing God, understanding His call, and being able to fulfill that call because we are well-trained. That is the aim of an Eastern Christian education - striving to support and build graduates who are leaders in their fields, holding to a Christian vision of the world and having the ability to influence change.

Thursday night marked our annual Back to School Night. During this well-attended event, parents had the opportunity to get an inside glance at our MS program from our teachers. Families were provided with the opportunity to see the “How?” and “Why?” of what we do, as well as to meet teachers and to ask questions.

Next week also marks the kick-off of our Small Group series. Forty-two 7th & 8th graders have been preparing to lead their peers in a bible study during their leadership classes with Mrs. Tyvoll and Mrs. Kuipers. Groups of 5th & 6th and 7th & 8th graders will be divided into small

groups to look more closely at lessons related to our school theme, "In His Image." Please pray for our small group leaders as they take this step of faith.

God Bless,
Dan Lazor, ECMS Principal

School News:

MAP Test Scores are in Friday Folders for ALMOST all students. Check Friday Folders/backpacks for an envelope with your and your child's name on it. While most students received theirs at the end of the day, we were unable to get them out to every one of them, so if your child did not bring one home today, it will be sent home on Monday.

School Pictures were also sent home today. Look for them in your child's backpack. Everyone who **ordered** should have a package. If you have any questions about your child's photos, you may **email Justin at justin@justintylerphoto.com**.

Need to call the school office? We do love hearing from you! If possible, please try to call after 9am and before 2pm. (unless it's about an absence or it's urgent of course!) The office gets extremely busy with the needs of our students and families, and we would like to give you and our students all the attention that you need. You may also email ecms@easternchristian.org or gtenewitz@easternchristian.org, or text Gloria at 201-970-4230. Thank you! :-)

Sports: Questions about upcoming games/meets? Please email our Athletics Director, Aaron Goldstein, at AaronGoldstein@easternchristian.org, OR, even better, go to [Game Schedules](#), found under [Athletics](#) on our website for game information. You can also click on "**Notify Me**" at the top of the **Game Schedules page**, to sign up to receive all the information you need as soon as any information is added or it changes (even before we are notified ourselves in the office!) since these decisions are made by coaches and the Athletic Directors.

From Laura Gorter, RN, ECMS School Nurse: Tis' the Season! Students are beginning to become absent because of illness, and some are coming to school ill. Just a reminder of part of our student health policy, found in the Student/Parent Handbook: "In keeping with our goal of providing a **healthy environment for all students** attending Eastern Christian School, the following is adopted to that end: ...Any child who is exhibiting any of the following signs or symptoms of contagious viral or bacterial disease will be excluded from the classroom at the discretion of the principal, school nurse, or the classroom teacher. If any of these symptoms remain chronic, the recommendation of the child's pediatrician will be sought regarding the advisability of readmission into the classroom:

- a. **Vomiting,**
- b. **Fever in excess of 100.0° F**
- c. **Constant and persistent coughing, sneezing or runny nose**

d. Bleeding, oozing or running sores or abrasions that are not or cannot be covered, or

e. Red, itching eyes with discharge

Please keep this in mind before sending your child, who may be ill, to school. Also, please keep your child home until 24 hours after a fever has subsided on its own (without fever reducing medications). Thank you for your cooperation! (And feel free to send a box of tissues in at any time!) Laura is in the health office from about 11:30 to 2:00 every day. If you have any questions, you may email her anytime at LauraGorter@easternchristian.org.

Athletic games schedules are kept up-to-date on our website: www.easternchristian.org - click on the [Athletics](#) tab and go to [Teams](#) and [Schedules](#). You will get directions to all games and meets there as well. We ask that you also sign up for "[Notify Me.](#)" Clicking on that will give you the tutorial on how to sign up to be notified of any changes as soon as they are made!

Foundation Office News & ECSA Announcements:

Alumni Choir: Seeking singers to join the Alumni Choir. We invite past & present Staff and Parents, as well as any Alumni to join us in a 1 day performance on **Sunday, Oct 23**, from 1:30 - 2:30. Email katietarta@easternchristian.org or call [973-310-0412](tel:973-310-0412) for details.

DITTO Volunteers Needed: We are in urgent need of volunteers at ditto of North Jersey, EC's upscale resale store, located at 965 Belmont Ave, North Haledon. Please call [973-423-4886](tel:973-423-4886) or visit www.dittonj.com

Second Annual EC Homecoming Weekend, October 21-23! Lots of great events happening! For more information, visit www.easternchristian.org/homecoming.

TRIP Orders are accepted every Monday when school is in session. When there is no school on a Monday (holiday/snow day) TRIP orders will be accepted on Tuesday. The TRIP office will be open every Friday morning from 8 a.m. until noon. **ONLINE ORDERING:** Did you know you can order your gift cards online, reload your cards or immediately download e-cards? Call the TRIP office or go to www.easternchristian.org for more information. **Questions?** Call Sharon at the TRIP Office (973) 427-6244 Ext. 7210, or call/text her at (201) 650-7056.

Thrivent Financial Parent Seminar - October 27, 7:00PM:



For most families sending their kids to college and dealing with the cost of that endeavor is not a matter of if or when – the question is HOW? How are we going to pay for it (and for our other children after them), how much debt will we or our child have to incur for their degree, how do we choose a school that's a good fit for my child academically and for our family financially? Our educational presentation gives families a glimpse into the future and allows them at the very least to understand the different aspects that go into answering these questions and at the very best a way to begin to plan so that these questions are answered well in advance of the arrival of that first semester's tuition bill.

Bill has been with Thrivent for 4 years, prior to that he worked in Student Lending for JP Morgan Chase and in Financial Aid at NYU, Fordham University, and the School for Film and Television. In all he has spent about 25 years in and around Higher Education financing. As a Financial Associate at Thrivent with the Certified College Planning Specialist credential he enjoys helping families prepare for and navigate the daunting process of paying for college. He and his wife serve in the Youth Group in the congregation they attend and Bill serves on the Board of Directors for the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate as the Chair of Church Relations. They live in Saratoga Springs, NY with their four sons.

8th Grade Parents and All Others Interested in ECHS!: Visit Eastern Christian High School by attending the **ECHS Open House on Thursday, November 10, at 7:00PM**. Meet teachers, administrators, current ECHS parents and students, and see for yourself why Eastern Christian High School was named one of the "[50 Best Christian High Schools in America](#)," how your child may be able to earn up to **29 college credits** through our Dual Credit Program, [Project Acceleration](#), (think a year or more of college savings\$\$!) and get more information about the campus and dynamic courses offered. [Register Now!](#)

The **After-School Program** for students through 6th grade has begun. [Click here](#) for the link to information about this program, which is held at the Elementary School Campus. Fifth and sixth grade students who attend the program are bused to the elementary school at no additional charge. Special programs are also offered from time to time. For any information about our After School Program, please email the Director, Beth Wright, at BethWright@EasternChristian.org.



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www.dittonj.com

www.facebook.com/ditto.nj

Volunteers Needed

ditto of North Jersey, is seeking volunteers for a number of positions with flexible hours.

Our volunteers enjoy a community atmosphere of friendship and support. Over the past six years, ditto of North Jersey has not only made significant contributions to Eastern Christian School, but has established a reputation of providing excellent quality items (clothing, appliances, housewares, toys, etc) at exceptional prices to those who live in the surrounding communities, especially Haledon, Prospect Park, and Paterson.

In addition to supporting Christian education, ditto makes regular contributions to CUMAC (Center of United Methodist Aid to the Community), New Hope Community Ministries, Salvation Army, Carey Christian Services, Paterson Habitat for Humanity, Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center, and Baby Bank.

- **Cashiers**
 - Shifts available Tuesday through Friday, 10AM-1PM and 1PM-4PM
 - No experience necessary, training will be provided

- **Electronics (small appliances, lamps, toys, etc)**
 - Each item that is donated needs to be tested for proper operation, cleaned, and prepped for sale
 - Shifts available any day, Monday through Saturday; as many or as few hours as you are available
 - This work has traditionally been done by male volunteers but is open to all

- **Stockroom or Sales**
 - Process and sort donations
 - Price and tag items for the sales floor
 - Place items on the sales floor and maintain display areas
 - Shifts available any day Monday through Saturday; as many or as few hours as you are available

Join the team and join the fun! Contact Deb Tanis for details and information at 973-423-4886