



# The Christ Courier

Volume 15 Issue 1

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ Episcopal School

September, 2023



## The 2023-2024 School Year Begins . . . by Catherine Oliver, Head of School

On behalf of the board, faculty and staff of Christ Episcopal School, I welcome all returning and new students and their families. We are so pleased to be your partner in the education of your children.

I want to share a few things with you that help make our partnership a great success:

1. Parents of students in preschool, check your child's *tote bag* EACH DAY for teacher and school communications as well as student work.
2. Kindergarten to grade 5 parents:
  - A. Sign or initial your child's *Agenda* each day and review teacher notes, assignments, and reminders.
  - B. Parents of students in kindergarten to grade 5, check your child's backpack for his/her "take-home" folder which will contain school notes and student work sometimes requiring your signature and return.
3. Communicate, via phone or email, with your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns.
4. Call **me** if you want to further discuss **anything**.



## CES GARDENS

We are excited about continuing to work in our CES Gardens that **Dr. Alan Sowards** helped us start a few years ago. We again have been blessed with a grant from the **Nacogdoches Junior Forum (NJF)** for \$1,355.57 that will help our students further learn about the beauty of growing plants, flowers, fruits, and vegetables themselves. We thank **Kristin Wright** and **Ashlee Brazil** from the NJF for their interest and involvement.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are thrilled to announce our 2023 **Pumpkin Patch Chair**, CES Parent and PK4 teacher, **Catherine Polk** (Camille PK4 and Jack PK3). She will coordinate our Pumpkin Patch volunteers throughout the month of October. Pumpkins will be delivered on **Tuesday, October 3rd!** We will need multiple volunteers to help unload and sign up for Pumpkin Patch shifts. Please join our CES annual tradition of selling pumpkins to our Nacogdoches community. This is our 26th year!



**Mrs. Unger's Kindergartners** celebrated their love of teddy bears by having a **Teddy Bear Picnic** on the first Friday of school. Each child brought their favorite teddy bear from home and shared why that bear was special.



**Mr. Hanes' 5th graders** are assigned **Flag Duty** responsibilities. They learn about the history of our flag and how to properly raise, lower, and fold our flag. They also know that there will be days when our president may order the flag to be flown at half-staff.

**Mission:** Christ Episcopal School is a diverse community of learners who participate in an enriched academic program in a nurturing Christian environment which fosters a dedication to service to others and a love of lifetime learning.

# Christ Episcopal School - Parent Association

Our CES Parent Association chairs are **Kim Newman** (Aniston-5th) and **Sasha Kubacak** (Sloane-5th and Robert-1st). Our CES board member who reports monthly about CES-PA activity to the CES Board of Trustees is **Carrie Gilcrease** (Quinn-4th and Beckett-K). The CES-PA also communicates to parents via the classroom teachers and the CES Parent Association Facebook page and via the Remind App. I am so grateful for their efforts and time spent on organizing and following through with our CES-PA fundraising activities. Committee **volunteers are needed** to assist with the upcoming school year events. We would love new parental involvement in the **Parent Association**. If interested, please contact **Kim Newman at (903) 235-0875**. A **CES-PA Meeting** will soon be scheduled. The date and time to be announced. Please attend if you can!



## SIGN UP FOR THE KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

CES receives a percentage of your Kroger purchases throughout the year after you enroll online. Please enroll to help benefit the school at <https://www.kroger.com/account/RewardsNow/>

## CASH FOR CAPS M&S and Stripling's

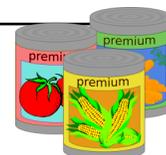
CES earns 25 cents for every medicine bottle cap you turn in that is from M&S Pharmacy or Stripling's Pharmacy. Please participate!



**T-Shirt Sale:** The CES-PA is selling our new CES 75th birthday t-shirt design that can be worn on Fridays during the school year. Order forms will go home soon!

## FOOD for H.O.P.E.

Our on-going community project is the local food bank, H.O.P.E. - *Helping Other People Eat*. Each Wednesday, students bring canned or dry food goods to Chapel to donate to the bank. Make an effort to send a food item each Wednesday for the rest of the school year. Christ Episcopal School does make a difference in the lives of our own neighbors!



## JOE SHELKEY



CES is incredibly grateful to **Joe Shelkey**, our Facilities and Safety Taskforce Chair (and new School Board President), who immediately stepped in and helped on the morning that we discovered the school had flooded on May 11th. Joe has continued to help day in and day out with scheduling all kinds of bids related to the flood damage and guiding the contractors and all of the workers involved in the repairs. He has been our hero in regards to donating his time, knowledge, and manpower while putting the school back together in preparation for the beginning of the school year. Thank you, Joe, for your selflessness, sense of humor, and kindness during these past 3 months. We could not have done it without you.

The **CES School Board** held its annual Board Retreat on Saturday, August 19th. We sadly said goodbye to our beloved President, **Travis Killen**, whose 6th term ended this summer. We are forever grateful to him for his devotion, dedication, and service all these years. He was instrumental in helping with our recent re-accreditation and the creation of our latest strategic plans. We are proud to announce our new slate of officers: President **Joe Shelkey**, Vice President **Victor Lofgreen**, Secretary **Sydney Kroll Register**, and Treasurer **Morgan Wallace**. We welcome new board member, **Olivia Kiritsy**! The amazing School Board continues to help CES maintain a high level of excellence. Other members of the 2023-2024 CES Board of Trustees are: **George Barham**, **Ken Deppisch**, **Carrie Gilcrease**, **Brenda Lindsey**, **Suzie Mayes**, and **Alan Sowards**. We are extremely grateful to this group of dedicated volunteers.

## Important Dates in September

- Mon., Sept. 4 Labor Day Holiday, NO SCHOOL
- Tues., Sept. 12 End of first Mid 9 weeks, Grades 1-5
- Wed., Sept. 13 Mid 9 week reports sent home, Grades 1-5
- Mon., Sept. 25 - Scholastic Book Fair
- Fri., Sept. 29
- Mon., Sept. 25 Open House Night, 5:30-6:30pm
- Tues., Oct. 3 Pumpkins arrive!  
We need help unloading!

