
RAGGANT STANDARD

FIELD TRIP #4 & END-OF-THE-YEAR FEAST



Thank you to all for making our fourth Field Trip - a “hike” along the new Ebey Waterfront Trail and a tour of the Marysville Waste Treatment Plant - so much fun! Congratulations to Team Luther, winner of the House Scavenger Hunt!

This Friday is our End-of-Year Feast! The Assembly will be 12:15 - 1pm with Mr. Higgins speaking, and the Feast will run from 1-3pm. The school will provide burgers, hotdogs, buns, and water. Families with last names beginning with A - H, please bring a side, and those with a last name beginning with I - Z, please bring dessert.



RAGGANT SUMMER READING BINGO

Maggie Higgins has graciously offered to organize Raggant Reading Bingo again this summer! This is a free summer reading program with small prizes available for students going into grades 1- 10.

All instructions and information will be attached to the Bingo sheet. Sheets will be available by contacting Maggie Higgins by e-mail (maggie.magknits@gmail.com), or you can grab one on the last day of school. Maggie will also gladly answer answer questions!



Peter Pohl is thinking about putting a DVD together and selling it for \$15, or Blu-ray for \$20 of the Spring concert as a Fundraiser for Europe. Please let Mrs. Sarr know if you would buy one, and we'll see if we have enough interest!

SUMMER TUITION PAYMENTS

For those on a 12-month payment program, please plan on sending summer payments to:

Evangel Classical School
c/o Jim Martin
P.O. Box 3097
Arlington, WA 98223

SUMMER BIRTHDAYS

Aaron vanderBeken, June 19th

Olivia Harsh, June 21st

Joshua Sarr, June 26th

Henry Callender, July 20th

Keelah Higgins, July 24th

Gresham Callender, July 28th

Gracie Higgins, August 3rd

Job Lugg, August 5th

Kathy Lomakin, August 6th

Willow Higgins, August 16th

Theodore Callender, August 17th

Maggie Higgins, August 25th

Trevor Barnts, August 26th

RUMMAGE SALE

The ECS Rummage Sale, to raise funds for Europe, will be Thursday, July 20th - Saturday, July 22nd. Drop off items at the vanderBeken home on Thursday, July 20th. The sale will run Friday, July 21st - Saturday, July 22nd, with more information forthcoming! Contact Laila Bour for more details: missionminded18@gmail.com.

RAGGANTS GOT TALENT

The first EVER *Raggants Got Talent* will be Friday, October 7th at 6:30pm. Individuals will be \$5 at the door, families will be \$25. This will also serve as a fundraiser for the Europe Trip, and a chance to showcase some of our school's talent! Auditions are open to those associated with ECS and will be at the end of summer/beginning of school. Contact Mrs. Sarr with questions.



2017 KINDER PREP!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 9th: Last Day of School, Dress Uniform, Year-End Assembly, FEAST!
- June 14th: Qtr. 4 Grades Due - Report Cards and CTP Scores will be distributed soon after.
- June 29th: Uniform Sale 10am - 12pm, location TBD. Contact Ruth Callender with questions.
- July 10th - 14th: Logos Teacher Training (we appreciate your prayers!)
- July 20th - July 22nd: Rummage Sale Fundraiser @ vanderBeken's
- July 23rd - 26th: TECY Youth Retreat @ Lake Wenatchee (all are invited! Contact Mr. Bowers if you would like to attend)
- September 1st: Initial deposit for Europe Trip due
- September 5th: FIRST DAY of the 2017 - 2018 School Year!

A NOTE FROM THE U.H.

A Generation with No Last Name

When a child is born, we give him a name. A first name. A Christian name. There's usually a story behind this naming, and it tells a little bit about what he'll be born into. But it's his his surname, or last name tells where he came from. There are generations of stories in a last name. *Crane. Walker. Marlatt. Higgins. Harsh.* Stories.

How tragic would it be to divest children of their last names? To do so would be a step toward making them placeless, sons of nobody. Or at least acting like it.

How can we know who we really are if we don't know where we've come from? How can we know why we think as we do without knowing who has influenced our thinking? And who influenced them? And what did they write? Modern American children are becoming less and less capable of answering these questions, and their teachers and parents are only a little better off. I embody this bitter indictment, but I've repented, and I'm trying to learn...that I may have something to pass on to my children.

Culture is a baton, and the point of education should be to pass that baton to the next generation. We ought to be training our kids to receive that baton in full stride and run faster and farther than we have. The operating assumption of classical educators has been that the culture-carrying tools are the liberal arts, including the Trivium (Grammar, Dialectic and Rhetoric) and the Quadrivium (Astronomy, Arithmetic, Geometry and Music). If students have these tools, they are not only becoming competent culture carriers, they're equipped to learn just about anything they want.

Additionally, classical educators believe that passing on culture is impossible without the inculcation of virtue in the pupil. With the advent of the Scripture we have an objective and consistent authority when it comes to virtue training. We can trace the influence of the gospel from Jerusalem to our doorstep as our forebears have carried the baton to us.

Meanwhile, our culture not only pretends there is no baton, we cut off the feet of the next set of runners. So even if we do hand them something glorious like *Paradise Lost* or Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No. 4 in F Minor* (a personal favorite of mine), they have no idea what to do with it. They think it's not worth the effort it takes to appreciate it, so they opt for choose-your-own-adventure novels and Taylor Swift.

There are a number of strategies that our culture is using to divest our children of their heritage. Some are more subtle than others:

- Keep them from good books. The right books teach us why we think the way we do, and they train children to think in biblical categories, as they learn what evil and good look like. Sometimes fiction is clear where reality is fuzzy. Additionally, many of the right books are primary resources that teach us our history (while many of the wrong books are secondary resources that spin our history).

- Keep them from character training. If truth is relative, as our culture insists, there's no point in telling a child he's wrong about anything, whether it's the sum of 2 and 2, or poking his classmate in the eye with a pencil. This is bound to end badly. But it's alright if we're all just soulless protoplasm.
- Make them believe we're all the same. At the heart of multiculturalism is parity.
- Make them hate where they've come from. This is the telos to all of our multicultural talk and training. If we can get them to believe we're in a bad place now, they'll soon want to be someplace else.

Conversely, at ECS we want our students to know and love their heritage...not because it's perfect, but because it's a gift, and it's ours. We didn't ask for it, but it has produced us, and that's worth learning about. Like having a last name.

Many of you are trying to make educational decisions for your children for next year and beyond. And when you do, it's important to ask a number of big questions (since this is a big decision). Look your child's teacher (or principal) in the eye and ask these sort of things:

What is the ultimate point of education? Why are we learning this stuff?

How do you decide what to teach? What standards to you (or your decision-makers) use?

Why do YOU do this? Is it to reproduce yourself in the lives of your pupils or to get the summers off?

What do you think of old books? Are they obsolete or foundational?

Is there an objective standard of morality? How do you determine your classroom rules?

There is a wealth of presuppositions behind the answer to each of these questions, and conscientious parents should care about all of them. May God grant us wisdom as we prepare to pass the baton.

Risus est bellum!

Jonathan Sarr