

FALL 2022 EDITION

THE BLAZER

Official Newsletter of Cumberland Valley Christian School



Letter from the Principal

BY AMY GARVIN

Just like that we are back in the swing of things at CVCS. We had a busy summer of sports camps and upgrading facility projects. We also had a great start to the 22-23 school year. Our summer facility upgrades included the High School getting a new hallway floor and the replacing the downstairs lockers. Our High School bathrooms also received an upgrade. One classroom received a new floor as well. Upgrading the floor to LVP throughout the school has been a blessing. It was a fresh, new look as students entered our halls August 22. We have a record enrollment at CVCS this year and most of our classrooms are full to capacity. We are thankful for each of our returning families and the new families that have joined us this year. We started the year with our Spiritual Emphasis Week and our students being challenged to Be More Like Jesus, and Less Like Me. This is also our theme this year, based off the song "Less Like Me" by Zach Williams. Our theme verse is John 3:30, "He must increase, but I must decrease." Mr. Macaluso (MS Bible and MS/HS History Teacher) and Mr. Torres (HS Bible Teacher) challenged our students to focus on being More Like Jesus and how that can look in our day-to-day lives. It was a great week for our student body and faculty.

CVCS Staff and Faculty were blessed with a surprise visit from Christian artist Matthew West. Mr. West was in town for the Uprise Festival and came to surprise our students on a Friday morning. It was a great way to end the school week.

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A photograph of a classroom with rows of orange and grey desks and chairs, receding into the background.

**The fear of
the Lord is
the beginning
of wisdom,
and the
knowledge of
the Holy One
is insight.**

PROVERBS 9:10

Letter from the Principal, continued

September has been a full month preparing for our Grandparents Day on October 7. Our students are excited to share with their grandparents all the exciting things they are learning and doing in their classrooms. We are looking forward to being back in person this year for Grandparents Day. It is always a fun-filled day at CVCS.

Lastly, as most of you are aware, we have been focusing on our #morethanscience Campaign over the last few years, and we have finally been able to move into our new Science Lab. We are still waiting for backordered items to come, but the lab is functional for our students. The Science classes are enjoying labs and STEM activities in our new spacious Science Lab.

We are looking forward to the fall months and the fun activities, field trips, and holiday breaks that come with them. When you are in the area, stop by to see our upgrades and say hello!

Mrs. Garvin
CVCS Principal
Alumni '01

Spiritual Emphasis Week

Spirituality is a point of emphasis throughout the entire school year, but Spiritual Emphasis Week is a time of decision making at CVCS.

During Spiritual Emphasis Week, Sept. 6-8, students were challenged by two speakers – teachers Seth Macaluso and Eli Torres – to either begin or solidify their relationship with Jesus Christ. Special chapels were held each day in the church auditorium.

Mr. Macaluso spoke on Tuesday and Thursday, and Mr. Torres spoke on Wednesday. Both challenged the students to take their relationship with Christ to the next level.



Golf Classic

CVCS hosted our 16th Annual Golf Tournament on Friday, September 9th. Our day started with registration at 8 AM and breakfast sponsored by Hope Worth Having Ministries. We had a full tournament, hosting 32 teams, 128 golfers, and 50 sponsors. We were blessed with beautiful weather, clear skies and sun, perfect for a great round of golf. Our major tournament sponsors, Shively Motors and Hamilton Hyundai, offered our participants a car if they were able to get a hole-in-one on hole #7. While we didn't have any golfers win that prize, we did have a participant get a hole-in-one on hole #16. Alumni Brad Coccagna won a \$500 gift card as his reward for that once in a lifetime golf shot! After the tournament, we all enjoyed a wonderful steak lunch sponsored by News Talk 103.7.



Overall, the CVCS 16th Annual Golf Classic was a huge success. We were able to raise over \$20,000 for the Carl G. McKee Scholarship Fund. This scholarship fund allows families in our community the flexibility and opportunity to afford tuition at CVCS. The money we raise through the golf tournament is a huge blessing to those families. A huge "Thank You" to all those who participated, sponsored, and volunteered!





Sports Update

CVCS sports teams have had their ups and downs during the fall season.

The varsity soccer team, despite losing multiple key performers from last year's team, is in contention again for the Mason Dixon Christian Conference championship.

The middle school boys championship will come down to the games between the Blazers and Shalom, which is usual during most years.

The varsity girls volleyball team has struggled at times with an extremely young team, but the girls show a lot of promise for the future.

The middle school girls have displayed a great deal of improvement over the course of the season.





Special Guest: Matthew West

CVCS students were provided a treat when Christian music star Matthew West paid a surprise visit on Friday, Sept. 16.

West was scheduled to appear at Uprise Festival in Shippensburg later in the day. Elementary music teacher Summer Rock was instrumental in making the connections to have West appear on campus.

When West was introduced in the Open Door Church auditorium, CVCS students of just about every grade level reacted loudly. They let out screams that were reminiscent of audiences of the old Ed Sullivan Show in the 1960s when music groups from the so-called British Invasion appeared on his show.

West performed several of his songs, including the popular “Quarantine Life,” which prompted students to sing along with the lyrics. His “Gobble Gobble” song also drew a loud ovation, and he played several other requests and answered questions from students.

When he spoke to the students, he urged students to recognize God’s love, just as he does in his songs. He concluded by praying for the students and the school.

West has released five studio albums, and he has written songs for such Christian artists as Mandisa, Casting Crowns and Point of Grace as well as mainstream country performers Vince Gill, Billy Ray Cyrus and Rascal Flatts.





Science Lab Update

Cumberland Valley Christian School has been in the midst of a Capital Campaign that we are calling #MoreThanScience. This campaign has given us the opportunity to construct a brand new science lab that will give our teachers and students an opportunity to teach and learn in a state-of-the-art facility. We are so close to reaching our goal of \$450,000, currently having \$430,000.

Phase 1 and phase 2 have been completed and the lab is looking great! Phase 3 is almost done as we are currently waiting on cabinets and a few appliances that are on order. With all of that being said, the lab is open and teachers and students utilizing the lab for classes. This is a huge blessing! Make sure to follow us on Facebook for more updates on the #MoreThanScience campaign and real-time progress reports throughout the process.

We praise God that He has been faithful to us through this process, and we are so thankful to our faithful donors who see the vision we have in order to provide the best education with a spiritual foundation. If you would like to give to the #MoreThanScience campaign, you can go to our website at www.cvcslazers.com or contact our Development Office at (717) 264-3266 ext. 143.





Dual Enrollment

CVCS offers many dual-enrollment opportunities for students, and those opportunities can turn into tremendous savings for families on future college bills.

Dual enrollment means that a student gains both high school and college credit by taking courses through a college or university. Dual enrollment can save families literally thousands of dollars if students gain college credit while still in high school. Most colleges offer drastically reduced rates for classes for high school students.

This year, more than 20 CVCS students will be enrolled in dual-enrollment classes through various colleges. Several students in past years have graduated with at least 30 college credits, which means they started on their college campus as a sophomore. Students can begin taking classes during their junior year of high school.

CVCS has agreements with multiple colleges, including Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC), Colorado Christian University, Houghton (N.Y.) College, Wilson College, and the University of Valley Forge. However, students can take dual-enrollment courses through any college of their choosing, as long as the college is accredited. Students have taken dual-enrollment classes through Liberty University, Clarks Summit University, Shippensburg University, and other colleges.

CVCS offers several dual-enrollment classes on campus, including English 101 and 102 through HACC and American Literature and British Literature through Colorado Christian. CVCS hopes to offer Psychology through Colorado Christian University beginning this spring.

“With the way things are today, families have to be looking for ways to keep college costs as low as possible,” said CVCS high school guidance counselor Tom Coccagna, who teaches four dual-enrollment classes. “Dual-enrollment classes give them a perfect way to do that; plus students can get a jump start on their college experience by finding out what college classes are like and what college professors expect.”

**"If a man
empties his
purse into his
head, no man
can take it
away from
him. An
investment in
knowledge
always pays
the best
interest."**

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



Cumberland Valley Christian School

(A ministry of the Open Door Church)

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Upcoming Dates to Know

- Oct 24-28 Mobile AG Lab
- Nov 11 Veterans Day - No school
- Nov 14 Teacher In-Service - No school
- Nov 22 Noon Dismissal
- Nov 23-28 Thanksgiving Break
- Dec 21 Noon Dismissal
- Dec 22-30 Christmas Break

