

News & Notes

From the Director

October 24, 2008

Seven Ways You Can Support Omaha Christian Academy

1. Pray daily for the administration, faculty, staff and students. Christian school ministry is on the front line in spiritual warfare. Satan knows that the key to entangling the next generation in his web of lies and deceit is to capture their hearts today. Pray that God will protect OCA and its employees and students from the fiery darts of the wicked one.
2. Keep growing in your understanding of the philosophy of Christian school education. The very foundation of OCA's existence is philosophical. The Bible and Christian principles are our underpinnings.
3. Be enthusiastic, speaking well of OCA in your interactions and conversations with others. Your positive attitudes about OCA will influence the attitudes of your children. Plus, you are the single most effective recruiter for new families considering Christian education for their children.
4. Give financial help beyond the payment of tuition. OCA cannot operate on tuition alone. Plus, being in the middle of a building expansion program, OCA needs the financial support of its families and friends. The key is many people giving faithfully, regularly, liberally, as God blesses them.
5. Do volunteer work at Omaha Christian Academy. Volunteer work not only helps OCA, but it helps you understand how and why OCA works and helps develop good relationships with teachers and staff.
6. Plant honor and respect for the administration, faculty and staff in the hearts of your children. Respect for authority is a key Christian value. Your attitudes toward those who minister to your children are influential in the development of the attitudes of your children.
7. Support school functions whenever possible. OCA has abundant opportunities for student participation in athletics, fine arts, academic quizzing, etc. Attend these functions as often as possible in support of your children and of Omaha Christian Academy.

Tim Thompson
Director

"But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint".

Isaiah 40:31



<i>School Calendar</i>	
Oct. 24	FB vs Cedar Bluffs - 4:00 pm
Oct. 24	"Hang Out at Godfathers" after the football game
Oct. 28	VB Triangular @ Scribner-Snyder - 6:30
Oct. 29	PSAT Test - 11th grade - 8:00 am
Oct. 31	School Picture Retakes - 8:15 am
Oct. 31	Physics Field Trip - 9:00 am
Oct. 31	HS Band Festival - 1:49 pm HS Band Concert - 7:00 pm
Nov. 2	HS Band @ Grace Baptist Church - 1:30
Nov. 3	VB Sub Districts @ Bellevue East - TBA
Nov. 4	VB Sub Districts @ Bellevue East - TBA
Nov. 9	HS Band @ Temple Baptist Church- 6:00
Nov. 10	Board Meeting - 6:30 pm
Nov. 14	Elementary Harvest Party for K. thru 5th grade - 2:00 pm
Nov. 18	NFC Vocal Clinic @ College View - 2:00 NFC Vocal Concert @ College View - 7:00 pm
Nov. 21	Booster Club Meeting - 8:00 am
Nov. 24	NFC One Act Play @ Prague - 3:00 pm
Nov. 27-28	No School - Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 1	K-5th Grade Christmas Concert- 6:30
Dec. 3	District Play Production
Dec. 4	JV B/V G&B BB @ College View - TBA
Dec. 5	V G&B BB vs Bancroft-Rosalie - TBA
Dec. 8	6th-12th Grade Christmas Concert - 6:30
Dec. 12	JV B/V G&B BB @ Parkview - TBA
Dec. 13	JV B/ V G&B BB @ Weeping Water
Dec. 15, 18-19	High School Final Exams
Dec. 16	Ensemble to Christ Community Church - 9:45 am
Dec. 16	JV B/V G&B BB @ Cedar Bluffs - TBA

SUPPORT OCA BY...

OCA participates in several different programs that give OCA either free merchandise or cash. Please recruit family, friends and neighbors to also save for OCA. *Here's how it works:*

COLLECT:

- **Campbell's Labels for Education** - Please clip ONLY THE UPC LABEL (1 point or 5 point UPC) and collect caps of PACE and V8 products. You may visit the website at www.labelsforeducation.com for further details and a list of eligible products.
- **"Our Family" Label's for Learning** - Please clip only the UPC from "Our Family" products. Each UPC is worth 5 cents. These products can be purchased at Bag 'N Save and No Frills.
- **Box Tops for Education** - Each box top is worth 10 cents. Please clip closely around the box top (it saves a lot of time when bundling them for submission). Do not submit any Betty Crocker coupons/points, we do not collect these. Box Tops also offers online shopping and a Visa charge card which generates a percentage back to OCA. Visit Box Tops web site for more details at www.boxtops4education.com.
- **Target Visa Card** - Use your card and Target will give a percentage back to OCA.
- **Hy-Vee Cash for Students** - This program runs through December 31, 2008. Hyvee donates \$1.00 for every \$200 worth of receipts turned in. Hy-Vee also offers **Smiles for Education**. Please register every time you shop at Hy-Vee while the program is offered.
- **Bag 'n Save Rewards** - Bag 'N Save offers \$1.00 for every \$150 worth of receipts. This program runs about mid-January to mid-April.
- **Inkjet/Laser/Fax Cartridges** - Recycle cartridges in the marked box in the hallway on 3rd floor.
- **Land O Lakes** - Collect bottle caps. Each cap is a value of 5 cents each. Find out more at www.savefiveforschools.com.

Place your UPCs/Box Tops in the box outside the school office. Store receipts can be place in the labeled box on the table outside of the office. Thank you for your help in supporting OCA and the time spent trimming Box Tops and UPCs. Please feel free to call Kathy Nilius if you would like to help or have questions on these programs, 492-8777.

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to parents, grandparents and friends of OCA for contributing Box Tops, Hy-Vee receipts, Ink Jet cartridges and using your Target Red Card. Below are the totals OCA received from your 2007-2008 donations.

- Hy-Vee: \$101.78
- Target: \$681.26
- Box Tops: \$806.95
- Ink Jet: \$92.00
- Our Family: \$283.05
- Total: \$1,965.04



What Is Hosting an Exchange Student Like?

Hosting Koam's exchange student is much like having an adopted son or daughter, without the lifelong commitment and without financial obligation. You enjoy the company of a cute, healthy young child you can show your love and attention to, raising her or him in the right way. The student's life will be positively influenced by learning from your family the great Christian values, and everyday lifestyle. The exchange students show appreciation to the host family with the gift of \$3,000 for the academic year, and come with complete medical insurance, tuition, and personal spending money for the duration of their stay. Apply to make the difference! Contact your school office or contact the area coordinator, Mison Cowell at 402-991-4616 or 402-301-5257 (cell).

Guidance Corner

- ⇒ Midland Lutheran College will be hosting an open house on Monday, Nov. 10 for students interested in the Business field. Registration begins at 9:00 am in the Anderson Conference Center. To RSVP, complete the campus visit form on their website (www.mlc.edu/admissions) as soon as possible. If you have questions call 800-642-8382, ext. 6501.
- ⇒ Trinity Bible College will be hosting College for a Day! on November 14. For more information visit www.trinitybiblecollege.edu.
To register to attend go to:
www.trinitybiblecollege.edu/visitors.
- ⇒ La'James International College will be hosting a visitation day, Holiday in the City, on Wednesday, Nov. 5 from 10:30 am - 2:00 pm. To RSVP call 1-888-880-2108.
- ⇒ Seniors interested in attending Central Community College in the career fields of Heavy Construction and Agricultural Diesel Technicians may be eligible for scholarship opportunities. Please contact the guidance office for more information. Application deadline is Feb. 13.
- ⇒ The Omaha Area College Fair will be held on Sunday, Oct. 26 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at UNO's Sapp Fieldhouse. EducationQuest Foundation will conduct financial aid sessions at 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 pm

- in the HPER Building next door to the Fieldhouse.
- ⇒ Several scholarship opportunities are available through the American Legion Auxiliary. Different eligibility requirements apply for each individual scholarship. Contact the guidance office for more information.
- ⇒ UNO will be hosting a Fall Open House on Sunday, Oct. 26 from 1-4 pm. For more information go to www.pki.nebraska.edu.
- ⇒ If you are a budding entrepreneur and/or have dreams of owning your own business someday, you may be eligible to apply for the NFIB Young Entrepreneur Award. To apply visit www.NFIB.com/YEA.

Calendar:

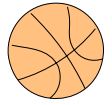
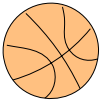
- Oct. 27 - Doane College Rep Visit
- Oct. 28 - UNK Rep Visit
- Oct. 29 - Metro Community College Rep Visit
- Nov. 5 - SAT Registration Deadline for Dec. 6 Test
- Nov. 7 - ACT Registration

Deanne Jenkins
Guidance Counselor
Omaha Christian Academy
402-399-9565

BASKETBALL SPORT SIGN-UPS

K-6 Basketball Season runs from January to March

Cost: \$52.00 per player



Basketball sign-ups begin soon!

- Registration forms cannot be accepted prior to the In-Person Sign-Up Date, Monday, Oct. 27
- If you would like to have a neighbor, friend or relative on an OCA team with your child and they want to register during the “No Late Fees” time frame, that is okay!
- All OCA families will have first priority
- We will cash all checks on Saturday, November 15 or later.

In-Person Sign-ups: Monday, October 27, 3:15-4:00 pm

This will be located on the 1st level foyer of Liberty Christian Center. Bring a completed Registration Form with check made payable to “Youth Sports”. Consider being a coach. We must have our own coach to form an OCA team. *No Late Fees!*

Mail-In Sign-Ups: Tuesday, October 28 to Friday, November 7

Accepting a completed Registration Form with check made payable to: “Youth Sports”, postmarked by November 7. *No Late Fees!*

Youth Sports
C/O Joyce West
6813 N 102nd Ave. Cir.
Omaha, NE 68122

Open Registration Sign-Ups: Saturday, November 1 to Friday, November 7

Friends, relatives of OCA families and home schoolers are welcome to join OCA teams that are in need of players to formulate OCA teams. Accepting a completed registration form by mail only, postmarked by November 7. *No Late Fees!*

Youth Sports
C/O Joyce West
6813 N 102nd Ave. Cir.
Omaha, NE 68122

Final Opportunity Sign-ups: Saturday, November 8 to Friday, November 14

This is the final opportunity to register for basketball. Unfortunately if you waited until now there will be a late fee. This is the last chance to be put on an OCA team. No exemptions. **\$10.00 Late fee!**

NO MORE OCA Sign-ups: Saturday, November 15 on

To register November 15-November 22: You can register at the YMCA at 76th and Maple to be put on a YMCA team. **You will not be put on an OCA team when you sign up through the YMCA. After November 22 they will charge a late fee of \$25.00.**

OMAHA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

5612 "L" Street
Omaha, NE 68117

Phone: 402-399-9565
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E-mail: ktulsie@ocamail.org

www.omahachristianacademy.org



Excellence in Christ-centered Education

ATTENTION 7th & 8th GRADE BOYS...

Monday, October 27 there will be a meeting for all 7th & 8th boys interested in playing basketball. Please meet with Coach Thompson in room 308 at 3:30 pm.

REPORT CARDS

If you were unable to attend parent/teacher conferences, a hard copy of your child's report card was sent home this week. Also, you may access that report card at any time on Sycamore Education. Follow these steps:

1. Login on Sycamore Education using your family login and password.
2. In the left column, click on "My Organizer"
3. In the left column, click on "My Students"
4. In the main window, click on your child's "code" number.
5. In the window that pops up, click on the "Documents" tab.
6. Click on the "2008-2009 Grade Card - Q1" (you will need Adobe Reader to open this file).

You may follow this procedure each quarter to view your child's report card.

SCHOOL PICTURES

If you have not turned in your school picture proofs with your order, please turn it in on Monday to the school office.



School Picture Retakes are scheduled for Friday, October 31 at 8:15 am.

School Lunch Menu

	Entree	Sides/Dessert
Oct. 27	HOT— Chicken Nuggets COLD—Turkey and Cheese Sandwich	Glazed Carrots Apple Wedges Cake
Oct. 28	HOT— Nachos with Beef & Cheese COLD—Crispy Chicken Salad Box	Corn Kiwi Snicker Doodle
Oct. 29	HOT— Red Baron Pizza COLD—Taco Salad Box	Lettuce Salad Pears Chocolate Chip Cookie
Oct. 30	HOT— Chicken Fried Steak COLD—Turkey and Bacon Club Sandwich	Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Mixed Fruit w/ Cherries Pumpkin Bar
Oct. 31	HOT— Spaghetti Mac COLD—Smart Box	Green Beans Orange Wedges Cake

Students may choose yogurt & cheese stick as a main dish alternative.

Milk will be served with all meals.

Cost: \$2.60(Pre-K-5); \$2.75 (5-12); \$1.00 Extra Entrees

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Cub Scout Corner

Den Meetings

- Week of October 27: No Webelos Meeting
- Week of November 3
- Week of November 10
- Week of November 24

Pack Meeting

November 20



OCA/YMCA Youth Sports K-6 Winter Basketball Registration



Season: January 2009 – February 2009

Sign-up Early & Avoid Late Fees!

Teams are formed on a first come, first serve basis. **COST: \$51.00** per player (payable to: "Youth Sports")

Registration: Sign Up Date - Monday, October 27th; 3:15 – 4:00pm (1st level Atrium at LCC)

If you miss the Sign-Up Date: registrations will be accepted Oct 27th – Nov 7th - with no late fee – by mail only; All envelopes must be postmarked by Oct 31st, with checks included made payable to: "Youth Sports":
Mail to: Youth Sports, c/o Joyce West, 6813 N. 102nd Ave. Cir. Omaha, NE 68122

Nov. 1st – Nov. 7th: OCA friends, relatives of OCA families, and Homeschoolers - with no late fee.

Last chance to be on an OCA team: Nov. 8th – Nov. 14th Registrations will be accepted – with \$10.00 late fee.

NO REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER POSTMARDED DATE OF NOVEMBER 14TH.

If OCA does not have a team with a full roster, your child will be put on a Y team, unless otherwise noted on registration.

Practices: Will be at various Public schools around town. Once a practice site is agreed upon, it will be the same site throughout the season. The YMCA is working with us, in a temporary situation without a gym. *Practices* may start sometime in Late December, depending on gym availability. Before the season starts the Y allows 2 practices a week, after the season starts, only one practice. At this time we do not know where the games will be played or when. Public schools throughout the city are used.

MISC INFO: Boys K-6th grade teams will play on Saturdays. Girls 1st – 6th grade teams will play on Sundays. Girls can play on girl teams starting in 1st grade if there is enough interest.

Basketball teams are formed by Grade Level of the child – not age level.

Youth Sports will provide balls for practices. The YMCA will provide *game balls*. **Kindergarten:** mini ball, 7' basket; **1st & 2nd:** junior ball, 8' basket; **3rd & 4th:** Women's ball, 9' basket; **5th & 6th:** women's ball, 10' basket. Everyone will play at least 1/2 of every game, there will be an emphasis of participation, teamwork & fair play. Your child will come away with learning something of the sport, playing as a team & hopefully find it a very enjoyable experience. At the YMCA & the OCA/YMCA Youth Sports programs winning is not emphasized at the recreational level. There are other leagues that provide a competitive atmosphere for the competitive player. You must provide own medical insurance & personal equipment as needed.

COACHES: **There must be a volunteer coach for every OCA team!** Sports specific knowledge is helpful to be a coach, but not mandatory: enjoying children & wanting to teach & be a positive role model is the most important qualifications. The coach must be able to hold practices once a week. If there is not a coach, the team will be turned over to the Y, and the Y will put the kids on a Y team.

NEW SHIRTS: All Basketball players must have a number on there shirt. If you have a navy and gold shirt with a number on it, you're all set. If not, you will need to purchase an OCA shirt for **\$8.00**. This shirt will be worn for all Youth Sports events. Shirts are available for adults and coaches to purchase too.
 Sizes: SM 6-8, MED 10-12, LG 14-16 and Adult Sizes: SM, MED, LG, XLG

Registrations may be made by parent, child, carpool person, friend, or anyone that can stand in line and hand in a completed, signed registration form with the registration fee.

No one may sign up more than 2 kids that are not their own. It is on a first come, first serve basis. Meaning, if a team already has 10 players (the max) and your child is #11, they will be placed on a YMCA team, unless a second OCA team can be formed. All efforts will be made to have all the kids that sign up be put on an OCA team at their grade level. Your child may be moved up a grade to formulate team, unless noted on different on registration form. Team formations are very dependent upon the interest at sign up time. Please sign up on time. If a team is short, registrations will be open to friends, neighbors, and home schoolers. OCA families will always have priority. [Help form OCA teams – Sign-Up Early!](#)

OCA Youth Sports Winter Basketball Registration Form

Child's Name (one per form please) **Birth date** **SEX** **GRADE** **Move Up a Grade?** **Need a Shirt?**
 _____ ___/___/___ B G _____ Yes, if needed or No size: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____ HM #: _____ Cell #: _____

Total \$ _____ Made Payable to: "Youth Sports" is attached. **Email Address:** _____

Would you like to volunteer as a Coach or as an Asst. Coach? _____

I have read and understand the above and give my permission for my child to participate:

Date: _____ Parent Signature: _____ Parent's Names(s): _____

If an OCA team can not be formed would you like to be registered on a YMCA team? YES or NO (circle one)

Any Questions do not call the school! Call Joyce West, Youth Sports Committee Co-coordinator at 659-0492 or email: joycewest@workware.com. Watch "News & Notes" for updates!

Storing Up Treasures in Heaven

What a blessing are the words of Jesus, recorded in what we fondly call the Sermon on the Mount. Delivering those words some two millennia ago, Jesus spoke to a group of followers on a hillside near the Sea of Galilee. This particular part of His message seems to loom large in these days: “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal” (Matthew 6:19–20, NIV).

As we observe the unbelievable upheaval in the world of economics and financial investment, you can rest assured in the soundness of the investment you are making in your children’s Christian schooling. An education firmly rooted in Christ-centered principles and God’s Word is an investment in which thieves and all the elements of deterioration will not prevail.

Here was a living example of parents engaged in spending high-quality time on a family vacation and, at the same time, helping their children see the wholeness of kingdom life.

My intention is not to describe your Christian school as the silver bullet—some sort of magical place. Rather, it is to describe a place committed to engaging in the spiritual formation of young lives as it focuses simultaneously on the intellectual, social, and physical development of its students. You have chosen well, and I want to encourage you to participate equally with your school at this crucial time of your children’s nurture and development.

This past summer, we had the privilege of welcoming houseguests from the East Coast to spend a couple of days with us on their journey west for a family get-together. Their vacation was a fly-and-drive holiday that included camping and in general a delightful time for a family of four, which included a preschooler and a primary-grade student. The mother was a graduate from the Christian school I had administered out west, and the father a graduate of a Christian school back east. Wisely, they had gone

beyond simply picking up some travel games for their kids at the local toy store. Instead, the parents had taken the time to make attractively designed album-journals that included a map showing where they planned to be every day. For the album-journal, they carefully divided each of their vacation days into a series of daily activities: information about where they would be, notes about some of the things to look forward to, and a place to answer age-appropriate questions about what they were actually seeing and doing. And then in a wonderfully presented manner, each day included a small portion of Scripture accompanied by questions for the children to ponder and respond to very simply in a few words.

As I sat with these little guys one morning after breakfast and watched them do the daily activity, I was deeply moved not only by the thoughtfulness of their responses to both the sights and the activities they were enjoying but also by the level of thoughtfulness they gave to the day’s Scripture.

Here was a living example of parents engaged in spending high-quality time on a family vacation and, at the same time, helping their children see the wholeness of kingdom life—life that embraces the gospel—life that so weaves the spiritual with what some would describe as the secular to create a whole new something. The result was that the children received witness to the wonder of God’s creation, experienced the thrill of enjoying it, and developed a growing and real understanding of God’s Word. This family was doing genuine spiritual formation as a vital, natural aspect of their daily living.

That simple notion is the unique distinctive of Christian schooling: developing that “whole new something” and not merely pasting some kind of spiritual overlay on top of “regular life,” but nurturing the spiritual aspect of life so that it becomes life itself—kingdom living. As a family engaged in Christian schooling, you are making a financial commitment to investing in a “whole new something”: in essence, you are storing up treasures in heaven.



Ken Smitherman, President
Association of Christian Schools International