Middle School girls gain first-hand experience driving a tractor at Bold Branch Farm last Friday.

THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

QUID NOVI

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MEETING SUCCESS WITH HUMILITY AND FAILURE WITH CONFIDENCE

By Amee Newsome, Grammar School Instructor

Anyone who says they know me should be able to tell you one thing. I am a diehard North Carolina Tarheels basketball fan. I married into the cult twenty-four years ago, and I was quick to drink the "Carolina Blue" Kool-Aid. Devoted fans stick with their team through the ups and the downs, and through February it looked as if this season would test my loyalty. A new coach, new players, and the struggle to find our rhythm threatened to silence my taunting toward those I love who misguidedly cheer for Duke. After a particularly devastating loss to an unranked Pittsburgh team in mid-February, Coach Hubert Davis reignited his team's passion for the legacy that is Carolina basketball and reminded them that failure does not define them. "You can sit here and whine and complain and point fingers and make excuses and continue to be down on yourself," Davis said, "or you can show up the next day ready to fight and compete and get after it." Make no mistake. There was disappointment, but it became overshadowed by determination. There was the feeling of failure, but the knowledge that success was at their fingertips pervaded.

At New Covenant, we speak into what we want our students to become. Our Portrait of the Graduate asserts that New Covenant graduates encounter success with humility and failure with confidence. Society tends to think of education in

continued on p.4

WHAT'S NEW?

Have You Seen Our New Videos?

Several years ago, New Covenant was looking for a company to produce a few videos for the website and other marketing purposes. We were fortunate enough to meet **Adam Miller** (**Penny** – 3rd, **Mia** – 1st) and Hello Studios. It was the start of a series of annual videos in which various distinctives of our school are highlighted. This year Hello Studios has given us two new videos – an overview of the Portrait of the Graduate and an informative piece on the construction of the altar in the newly renovated Marie Macdonald Chapel. Both are housed on our website and Facebook page. You may find the portrait video on the home page and the altar video under Experiences/Spiritual Life. Check these out if you haven't seen them already and share with your friends. Thank you to Hello Studios for a continued job well done.

HONORARIA

MAROTTA RECEIVES CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Each year Bank of the James recognizes one senior from each Region 2000 area high school who possesses the qualities of integrity, trustworthiness, and loyalty. Grounded in community service and citizenship qualities, this distinction requires a nomination from both faculty and administration. We are pleased to announce that the Class of 2022 recipient of the Ronald V. Dolan Citizenship Award is **Jack Marotta**. Best known amongst faculty and staff for his friendly spirit, faithful service, trustworthy character, and servant leadership, Jack is indeed a most fitting candidate for this citizenship award. Congratulations, Jack!

The Middle School third quarter honor roll is reprinted with corrections from a previously published list.

HONORS FOR 3RD QUARTER 2021-2022

SCHOOL OF DIALECTIC

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Summa cum laude

Graden Bolton, 8
Emma Haupricht, 7
Joel Ng, 7
Joseph Robert, 7
Shilo Binder, 7
Elora Williams, 7
Charlotte McCarty, 7
Ian Gill, 7

Magna cum laude

Andre Frenchik, 8
Micah Xayavong, 8
Charlotte Libbey, 7
Luke Cordes, 8
Luke Hottle, 7
Walt Gill, 8
Michael Seckman, 7
Olivia Hostetler, 8
Ruby Helm, 7

Cum laude

Alicia Kenny, 8
Wyatt Renalds, 8
Olivia Fries, 7
Alex Fuhr, 7

New Covenant Schools HANDS & HEARTS

Kindergarteners prepare meals at the Salvation Army for their Hands & Hearts service.

FUNDRAISING REPORT

	GOAL	PREVIOUSLY	THIS WEEK
Hands & Hearts	$40,000	$38,620	$47,195

ETCETERA

EVERYONE

FIELD DAY

Our annual Field Day will be on **Friday, May 27**. This event is for our Grammar School students in grades K-4. **We are still in need of more parent volunteers**. Children love when their parents participate! If you would like to be a parent volunteer, please go to Signup Genius at this link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084BAFAB2CA3F58-k4field. If your student in grades K-4 will NOT be attending, email **Naomi Hostetler** at nhostetler@newcovenantschools.org. Although Kindergarten will have their last day of school on **Thursday, May 26**, they are invited to come at 9:30am and participate in Field Day **IF they have a parent accompanying them**.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Parents will receive an email with a link to view student progress reports **this Wednesday, April 27.**

APPOINTMENTS/ABSENCES

As a reminder, anytime your student will be missing school for any reason, please email the office at ncsoffice@newcovenantschools.org. When returning from appointments, all students are required to have a parent sign them back in. **This policy applies to all students except seniors and student drivers with a note or email from parents**.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DRAMA PERFORMANCES

Miss Zisi's Middle School drama students are excited to present to you ***A Night at The Theatre: Middle School One-Acts***. 5th/6th are performing The Crown Prince of Wanderlust, a comedic fairy tale; and 7th/8th are performing All the World's a Stage, a mashup of Shakespeare plays. Performances are **April 29th at 7pm** and **April 30th at 2pm and 7pm**. Tickets can be purchased at the door for $5 (cash or check only). Reserved seating is unavailable.

MAY BREATHER

There will be no school on Monday, May 9.

Enjoy the breather!

MS RETREAT DAY ACTIVITIES

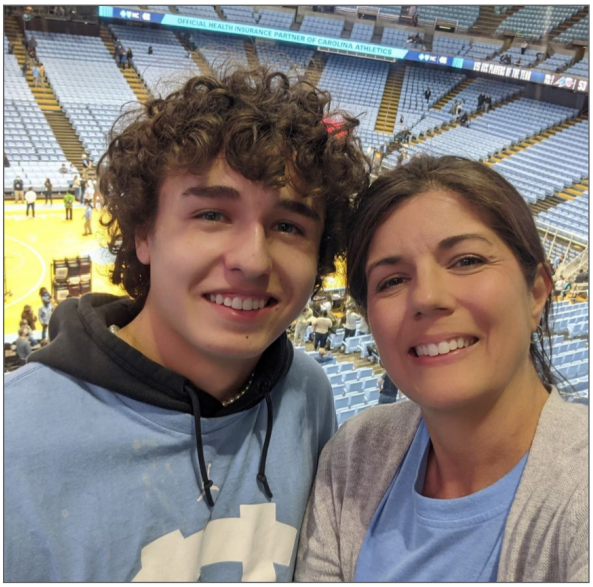
Middle School boys test their "drop challenge" contraptions . . .

. . . meanwhile Middle School girls learn to operate a chain saw.

continued from p. 1

terms of passing and failing, and athletics in terms of winning or losing. Winning a game or acing a test is met with celebration, but what happens when we don't achieve what we set out to do? We often forget the lessons to be learned through failure.

In her book on differentiation in education, Carol Ann Tomlinson (2014) points out that research shows us the human brain is malleable.[1] Your intelligence is not determined when you are born but is shaped through your experiences, both successes and failures. The role of the teacher is to provide students with an education that challenges them to learn and grow while also providing the support that is needed to keep moving forward. The path down which we are guiding is not always easy, and it will be met with failure at times. This is a hard lesson for anyone to learn. Children have grown accustomed to receiving trophies at games where no one but the competitive spectators keep score. Parents are tempted to scoop up their children before their knees ever scrape the sidewalk. Young adults have not experienced the reward of hard work because those around them applaud their mediocre efforts and call them great. When we do not allow our children to fail, we are taking away the opportunity for their character to be tested and formed. Students must know that failing is a part of success. Without failure, the taste of victory is not as sweet.



Diehard UNC fans Amee Newsome and son Carter (Class of 2020) at UNC's Smith Center.

In my third-grade classroom, we boldly raise our hands to share our mistakes with our classmates and share what strategies we have learned to fix them. We celebrate the struggles that help us get where we are. We recently finished a writing project on the mythical story of Icarus. There were many steps to take and corrections to be made, and the process was challenging for even the best of writers. As each student finished, they were given the opportunity to push the cow buzzer to celebrate the good "moos" that they had accomplished one of the hardest assignments of third grade. They encountered this struggle with confidence knowing that they would have a finished product that they could be proud of. At each step, they were learning what it took to move forward and knew their teachers were there to support them along the way. When the final project was complete, the joy on their faces was priceless, and the pain of the process was forgotten as they pushed the buzzer to hear the applause of their classmates.

What does encountering failure with confidence look like at New Covenant? It's a grammar school teacher guiding a student in learning to read after they have struggled with phonograms for months; music teachers aiding a student in mastering a cello solo after hours of practice; seniors presenting their theses after months of research and revisions; or coaches rallying the team to come from behind to defeat a long-time rival for the first time in school history.

Don't be afraid to let your children experience failure. Be there to support them along the way. Help them learn from their mistakes so they move forward with confidence, knowing hard work and lessons learned will one day lead to success just as it did for my Tarheels: a team that decided to learn from their failures and turn their season around, a team that was once counted out but ended up fighting for the national title.

Writer's note: UNC fans are still working on encountering success with humility. Until we've mastered that... GO HEELS!!

[1] *Tomlinson, C. A. (2014). The Differentiated Classroom : Responding to the Needs of All Learners. ASCD.*

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Class of 2022 • Amy Bonebright • Dr. Tim Brophy • Leslie Moeller • Bob Price • Dan Vollmer • Class of 2023 • Nancy Hall • Kristin Hampton • Sam Mizener • Tom Rogers • Anne Umbarger • Darryl Whitesell • Class of 2024 • Mike Lovell

EX OFFICIO

Rev'd John Heaton

OUR MISSION

New Covenant Schools is an educational community serving families of Central Virginia, providing an exceptional education in a classical curriculum within the framework of historic Christianity, furnishing the student with the tools of education and the inspiration to be a lifelong learner.

New Covenant Schools

The Clown Prince of Wanderlust

All the World's a Stage

A NIGHT at the THEATRE

MIDDLE SCHOOL ONE-ACTS

April 29—7pm
April 30—2pm and 7pm

Tickets $5
Open seating

New Covenant Schools
MOOMAW CENTER

NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS SUMMER CAMPS

STRINGS CAMP

Joe Nigro and **Teresa Angell** will lead two weeks of Strings Camp for rising 4th through 12th grade students. The camps will run June 13 - June 17 and June 20 - June 24, Monday through Friday, 9am-12pm. Students may attend one or two weeks. The cost is $125 per week and payment should be made by check to "James Chamber Players." Please contact **Joe Nigro** at jnigro@newcovenantschools.org if you have any questions regarding the camp.

Please use this link to sign up for **Strings Camp** https://forms.gle/CNLrbYDRxZFrfpEU9

STAYFIT CAMP

Our annual StayFit Camp will run from June 20 – July 28, Monday through Thursday each week from 9am – 11am for rising 1st through 7th grade students. Each week the participants will play various sports and do exercise for fun. The price for this six week camp is $200 for first child and $50 for each additional child in the family. If you have any questions, please contact **Julie Neiderer** at jneiderer@newcovenantschools.org.

Summer weight training will be available Monday – Thursday, 3:30 – 4:30pm from June 20 – July 28, for rising 8th-12th grade students. There is no fee associated with these sessions.

AMERICAN GIRL CAMP

Rising 2nd – 5th grade girls, we would love to have you join us Monday, June 27- Friday, July 1 from 9am – 2pm for our annual American Girl Camp! This year's doll is Nanea Mitchell. We will be on island time as we explore the Hawaiian culture during WWII through dancing, cooking, and crafts. The price for this camp is $200. If you have any questions, please contact **Amee Newsome** at anewsome@newcovenantschools.org.

Please use this link to sign up for the **StayFit** and **American Girl Camps** https://forms.gle/VdTN6Z1Pf6XzYR516