

THE NEWSLETTER OF NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

QUID NOVI

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THE PERMANENT THINGS CAMPAIGN: PLANS COMING TO FRUITION

by John Heaton, Headmaster

Nearly twenty years ago when my children were very young, my daughter was enrolled in Kindergarten at New Covenant. Growing up in our family meant that she had already been to campus many times. As a result she was quite at home, and her first-day jitters were somewhat mitigated, leaving her to focus sharply on the important things that were happening. When the day was over, naturally I queried her about her experience. "How was the first day of kindergarten?" I asked with the enthusiasm that parents always use when they expect an exuberant answer. "Exciting?"

She responded dismissively, "It was okay." And then, looking into my eyes with all the sincerity of a five-year old, she said, "Do I have to go back?" Right then I figured that her school experience was going to be a long road.

Each day I've been watching the youngest students make their own adjustments as parents drop them at the curb each morning or walk them slowly into the building. There are mostly smiles, but occasionally overwhelming emotions still break through as children separate



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WHAT'S NEW?

The New Covenant Scholarship Foundation The New Covenant Scholarship Foundation works in conjunction with the Virginia Education Improvement Scholarship Tax Credit Program to provide scholarships for students who would not be able to receive a private education without significant help. Donors who give to the Foundation receive a tax credit for 65% of the donation amount to offset any state tax liabilities and claim the remaining 35% on federal taxes as a charitable contribution if itemizing. Giving is easy, has dramatic tax benefits, and enables the donor to control where tax money is spent.

The Foundation currently distributes scholarships to over 60 students and there is a waiting list of others when funds become available. Consider how you could be a part of helping students receive a quality education. The Foundation accepts gifts in the form of cash, stock transfers, or qualified minimum distributions from IRA's. Contact **Dayna Renalds** drenalds@newcovenantschools.org to get started with your gift.

HONORARIA



OUR SEASON TO CELEBRATE POETRY

This delightful autumn haiku conjures images in our minds of cooling temperatures, crisp air, and leaves piled high on Lynchburg lawns.

Autumn is also harvest time for verse, with the entire student body learning and sharing classic poems each year. We pile into the storehouses of our minds and hearts a harvest of richly crafted language, language that builds our abilities to read, write, and dream. Each year, we become more familiar with poetry and enjoy it more abundantly.

This year's celebration of poetry promises to be an outstanding one; with poems from the Victorian era being memorized and recited by Kindergarteners through seniors. Plan to join us for one or more of our upcoming poetry recitations.

Grammar School, September 23, 8:15am

Middle School, A Latte Poetry, October 28, 7:00pm

School of Rhetoric, October 20, 7:00pm

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from mom or dad for the day.

For the most part, however, students have slipped into their routines, are happy to see their friends, and are pleased to meet new students who have joined us this year. As summer concluded we welcomed 456 students to our classrooms, with full rosters in nearly every grade. Strong enrollment increases pressure on classrooms and commons, but we have been carefully preparing for it.

More than two years ago we anticipated what a growing student body would require for classrooms and other necessities. After careful reflection about our needs, we launched the Permanent Things Campaign to raise \$2,000,000 to fulfill those needs. The campaign has been divided into three phases, the first of which was to expand the Marie Macdonald Chapel. This part of the project at about \$500,000 was completed ten months ago, and completely funded. Students and



faculty alike have been blessed as the chapel is now large enough for almost 200 students, making it increasingly visible in the life of our community and our shared experience.

Next, during this past summer, we embarked on the second phase of the campaign, designed to provide

classrooms that would accommodate the demands of current programming. In spite of a few months of delays, two classrooms were added to the Workman Field House, and will soon be occupied by our students in the School of Rhetoric. The classrooms are arranged on a hallway whose high ceilings will display seven banners, one for each of the epics at the literary center of our curriculum. The Odyssey, the Iliad, the Aeneid, Beowulf, the Inferno, Paradise Lost and Moby Dick, are each read from the freshman through the senior year. We're calling this grand corridor with its companion

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ETCETERA

EVERYONE

NCS GRYPHON GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

Grammar School students often come to the garden to help weed, plant, and harvest different vegetables during the school year, and we'd love to have more ready parent hands to help when these classes visit. If you are interested in helping, please email Jessica Simpkins jsimpkins@newcovenantschools.org to be added to the Garden Volunteers List. You will receive announcements of future workdays and needs of the garden.

KINDERGARTEN 2023-24

Now is the time to submit a student application if you intend for your child to begin Kindergarten in the fall of 2023. We offer early enrollment to parents of current Pre-K students and new siblings of New Covenant students in other grades. Until October 12, 2022, your application for a new sibling or Kindergarten student will receive priority in our admissions process. Applying is easy. Simply visit our website www.newcovenantschools. org and select the "Apply Here" button at the top of the page. From there, you can open an account for your student, and once the account is saved you can log in and out without losing your information. If you would like to learn more, please contact Linda Simon at <u>lsimon@newcovenantschools.org</u> about scheduling a tour. Tours are held each Thursday at 9:15am and registration is required.

CUSTODIAL POSITION

NCS has a custodial position available for 3-4 hours in the evening Monday through Friday. If you are interested, please contact **Darren Johnson** at djohnson@newcovenantschools.org or 434-665-9574.

THANK YOU!

114 families have linked their KROGER card to New Covenant Schools. As a result, those families have earned \$2,314.87 for New Covenant from December 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022 just by shopping! We would encourage all our families and their relatives to join this program. To do so, simply visit www. kroger.com to create an account or sign in, select My Account, then Community Rewards. Our organization number is IX901.

GRYPHONS YOUTH BASKETBALL CAMP

A basketball camp will be held on Saturday, September 24 from 8:00am to 12:00pm for students grades 2nd – 6th. Participants will learn basketball fundamentals in a variety of formats from our varsity basketball players and coaches. The cost is \$20 per person. Registration can be completed here https://bit.ly/gryphon_camp

MIDDLE SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSED WORK

If your student is absent and needs to complete makeup work, please first check FACTS for assignments and then check for an email from the teacher with assignments. Next, come to school, sign in and go to your student's locker to get materials needed. Some students have locks on lockers, so please get the combination from your student or from the front office.



SPORTS SCORES

SI OKIS SCOKES
Monday, September 12 JR GRYPHONS VOLLEYBALL New Covenant
Lynchburg Patriots 1
JR GRYPHONS VOLLEYBALL New Covenant
Tuesday, September 13
MS VOLLEYBALL New Covenant
VARSITY VOLLEYBALL New Covenant
VARSITY SOCCER New Covenant
MS SOCCER New Covenant
VARSITY TENNIS New Covenant
MS CROSS COUNTRY New Covenant1st Place
VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY New Covenant3rd Place
Thursday, September 15
JV VOLLEYBALL New Covenant
VARSITY VOLLEYBALL New Covenant
VARSITY SOCCER New Covenant
Friday, September 16
MS VOLLEYBALL New Covenant
JV VOLLEYBALL New Covenant
VARSITY VOLLEYBALL New Covenant
MS SOCCER New Covenant
VARSITY SOCCER New Covenant

Nec covenant schools

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classrooms the "Epic Hallway," celebrating as it does the most significant works in the Western tradition. These classrooms will be finished by October 1, and will be dedicated on Tuesday, October 11.

The placement of the classrooms requires that we relocate the outdoor recreation area, previously used by students of all ages. This part of the project will be developed on the back campus below the service road. It will begin later this fall, as we are still in the permitting process, and will function as an outdoor extension of the Workman-Hall Fitness Center. Together this phase of the campaign will cost about \$500,000, all of which has been pledged.

With over \$1,000,000 committed to the campaign, the third and final phase now stretches out before us.

Over the next ten years our goal is to raise the remaining \$1,000,000 for

two purposes. Half of this amount will reduce indebtedness so that in less than ten years, all loans will be retired, and the entire campus will be debt-free. Moreover, we intend to strengthen the school's already favorable financial position, by adding \$500,000 to our reserve funds. These two actions are strategic initiatives intended to contribute to long-term stability—to permanence. We want our parents, grandparents and benefactors to know that we are committed to the wise stewardship of resources that so generously support our mission. In God's gracious providence, this campaign will secure the school for generations to come, to make permanent, humanly speaking, our efforts to provide education in the classical, Christian tradition for those come after us. If you share our vision, you can join our efforts by pledging to the campaign this fall.

Quid Novi

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Class of 2023 • Nancy Hall • Kristin Hampton • Sam Mizener • Tom Rogers Anne Umbarger • Darryl Whitesell • Class of 2024 • Mike Lovell • Class of 2025 • Neil Bohnert • Leslie Moeller • Bob Price Leland Seckman • Dan Vollmer

EX OFFICIO

John Heaton-Headmaster Eric Parker-School Warden

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.

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