



Mr. Webb and Mr. Dunne test the building skills of middle schoolers at last week's Science Fair.

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NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

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ART & SCIENCE FAIR: PERCEIVING AND PROBLEM-SOLVING

by John Heaton, Headmaster

Each year New Covenant sponsors the Art & Science Fair, and both events take place concurrently. This week's QUID NOVI reports the results (see p. 2).

The dual nature of the event engages students in two different ways. Those who submit compositions for the Art Fair are largely engaged in what we call "perceiving," that is, they are creating original works in a particular medium—clay, paint, photography, etc. Years ago, now-retired art teacher Sarah Mays explained to me that "if you could learn to write your name, you could learn to draw." That includes just

about everybody. So why don't more students go on to achieve some level of competency with art? She went on to observe that "around fifth grade, students begin to see that their compositions don't look like what they might be copying. The first impulse is to say, 'I can't draw,' and give up entirely."

Art instruction is critical for students at this point, and it's one reason we continue to require art all the way into the high school years. Art is about learning to look, learning to observe, to see what is there and to create the shapes and spaces before you. In short, even the beginner can apprehend

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WHAT'S NEW?

Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Video

Have you ever wondered what we mean when we say a classical, Christian education emphasizes truth, goodness and beauty? How do these three topics play a role in the development of a child? Headmaster Heaton answers these questions and discusses the transcendentals in a new video produced by Hello Studios and parent **Adam Miller** (Penny 4th, Mia 2nd). It can be found on the school's website (www.newcovenantschools.org). Please enjoy watching it and learning more about our school.



THINK. LEARN. LOVE. LIVE.

H O N O R A R I A

ART FAIR AWARDS

Student art will remain on display
through Generations Day on March 24.

4TH, 5TH, 6TH

MIXED MEDIA

1st–Elise Williams
Midnight Cat, 5th

2nd–Lindyn Cannon
Marley, 5th

3rd–Tye Perault
Giant Squid, 4th

PAINTING

1st–William Marotta
Winter Wonderland, 4th

2nd–Elena Hodges
Great Horned Snowy Owl, 6th

3rd–Ollie Brunett
Meira, 5th

PHOTOGRAPHY

1st–Luke Ancona
Mae, 6th

2nd–Lilliana Fries
A Church in Iceland, 6th

3rd–Ella Dunaway
Lizard Art, 4th

SCULPTURE

1st–Eleanor Bebeko Lane
Rose, 5th

2nd–Olivia Steed
The Viking Ship, 4th

3rd–Gwen Kesler
Chicken, 6th

FILM

1st–Chambers Robinson
Invasion of the Fort, 4th

2nd–Eve Hilton, Macy Vollmer and Molly Lovell
Dreaming of NCS, 4th

BEST IN SHOW

Bella Nickel
Breakfast, 6th

7TH, 8TH, 9TH

MIXED MEDIA

1st–Alicia Kenny
Homesick, 9th

2nd–Skye Heap
Ambience, 9th

3rd–Brielle Scott
Girl 2, 9th

PAINTING

1st–Shilo Binder
Natural Bridge, 8th

2nd–John Paul Gauger
Cityscape, 8th

3rd–Charis Durand
Spring Break, 7th

PHOTOGRAPHY

1st–Ignatius Knebel
In the Funnel, 8th

2nd–Olivia Fries
Church in Iceland, 8th

3rd–Emma Haupricht
Reflections, 8th

SCULPTURE

1st–Elle Rose
Doll House, 8th

2nd–Joel Ng
A Cat, a Heart, a Living Mushroom, 8th

3rd–Michael Seckman
Bubba Stick, 8th

BEST IN SHOW

Ruby Helm
Otters, 8th

10TH, 11TH, 12TH

MIXED MEDIA

1st–Ellie and Mae Jacobs
Legolas Greenleaf, 10th&11th

2nd–Cora Helm
Wide Awake, 10th

3rd–Isaac Ham
Scoptophobia, 10th

PAINTING

1st–Abby Burton
Untitled 03, 10th

2nd–Mary Place
Untitled, 10th

3rd–Emma Fritz
The Other Flower, 10th

PHOTOGRAPHY

1st–Beau Brady
Peony Buds, 11th

2nd–Emily Trautman
Nashville, 10th

3rd–Adora Hampton
Annecy, 11th

SCULPTURE

1st–Mimi Black
Elegant Green Gown, 10th

2nd–Mimi Black
White Princess Dress, 10th

BEST IN SHOW

Abigail Place
Self Portrait, 12th

ABAIDOO AND BRENNING NOMINATED FOR ETHICS AWARD

Each year the Lynchburg Rotary Club honors young men and women in their senior year of high school who best exemplify the motto of “Service Above Self” as seen through their diligent stewardship of talents, trustworthy character, and thankful spirit. We are pleased to announce that this year’s faculty and staff nominations for the Code of Ethics Award are **Dylan Abaidoo** and **Jael Brenning**.



Dylan Abaidoo



Jael Brenning

SCIENCE FAIR AWARDS

1st Place–Half & Half

Alicia Kenny
Jude Brunett
Breezy Knight
Micah Xayavong

2nd Place–Amoogus Imposters

Selah Ragland
Olivia Kidd
Mary Glenn Morse
Virginia Morse

3rd Place–Doctor

Enoch Tan
Andre Frenchik
Jael Brenning
Elizabeth Matney



EVERYONE

HANDS & HEARTS

Sponsorship packets are due this **Friday, March 10** and can be handed in to homeroom teachers or the office. Thank you for your help in the success of our service day.

ONLINE ENROLLMENT PACKET REVIEW

Today you will receive an email from **Linda Simon** with instructions to review students' Online Enrollment Information Review Packet, which can be found on FACTS under Apply/Enroll or on the app under Online Enrollment Information Review. This review packet is required to be completed for all students. Please contact Linda at Lsimon@newcovenantschools.org with any questions.

WINTER ATHLETIC AWARDS

Winter athletic awards will be awarded this **Wednesday, March 8 at 12:40pm** in the Workman Field House. Families are welcome to attend.

SPRING BREAK

Students will have a **12:00pm** dismissal on **Friday, March 10** and school will be closed for Spring Break **March 13-17**. Students return on **Monday, March 20**. Enjoy the break!

END OF QUARTER

The 3rd quarter will end on **Wednesday, March 22**. Report cards will be emailed to parents on **Friday, March 31**.

LOST AND FOUND

The Lost and Found bins are purged at the end of each quarter. Be sure to check for any lost items before **Wednesday, March 22**.

JEANS AND GREENS DAY

Although St. Patrick's Day falls during Spring Break, students and faculty/staff are invited to celebrate this **Thursday, March 9** by wearing a green shirt with jeans or regular uniform bottoms. (As always, shoes must be closed-toe shoes and jeans must be free of rips and tears.)

AP LITERATURE & COMPOSITION EXAMS

The deadline for seniors to register to take the AP Literature/Composition exam

is **Thursday, March 9**. Instructions for registration were given to each senior by Mrs. Baker. Please contact her or Mrs. Mitchell if you have any questions about the exam or have difficulty in the registration process.

APRIL LUNCH ORDERING

Lunch ordering for April is now open and ends on **Monday, March 20** when school resumes after Spring Break. This month features the regular menu items, as well as a couple of perennial favorites—handcrafted burgers and the Gryphon Griddler, our version of a pancake and sausage breakfast sandwich. For those who subscribe to the school milk plan, a charge of \$35 for the 4th and final quarter of the year will be posted to lunch accounts after Spring Break.

GENERATIONS DAY

Grandparents and other special guests are invited to join students in class for the morning on **Friday, March 24**. Light refreshments and coffee will be provided in the library. **There will be an 11am dismissal on this day.**

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S VARSITY BASKETBALL FINISH HISTORIC SEASONS

For the first time in New Covenant Schools' history, both the Men's and the Women's Varsity basketball teams participated in the Virginia Independent School Athletic Association (VISAA) tournament which concluded last weekend. New Covenant is a Division IV school, but our conference often requires us to play schools in higher divisions.

The men's team turned in an outstanding season with 18 wins and 10 losses, beating Division II schools like VES, or losing by a mere 2 points, as it did against North Cross. The men advanced to the State Semi-finals and notched the school's first VISAA state playoff win. During the season, they scored 7 wins against

teams included in VISAA state playoffs.

On the women's side, the team finished with 13 wins and 12 losses, winning games they needed to win, and showing real grit the whole way. By season's end they were ranked high enough for the tournament, and advanced to VISAA state quarterfinals. The women had 6 season wins against teams included in VISAA state playoffs, the most important being their "upset" win in first round of the tournament.

At tournament time, our women won their first round game and advanced to the Quarterfinals. Last Wednesday the women's team faced Roanoke Catholic taking the game all the way to the final 30 seconds. After staging a comeback from being down 12 points to the #2 ranked Celtics, they lost in heartbreaking fashion by only 2 points. **Brielle Walker** had 17 points and **Olivia Kidd** had 13.

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beauty for its own sake, and participate in it.

One of the great emphases of classical, Christian education is to acquaint students with truth, goodness, and beauty. Of the three, beauty is the most non-cognitive. When we look at a beautiful landscape, or stand before the ocean, or look at a particular piece of art, we receive it as a whole. We take it in all at once. In short, we experience it, but we do not have to analyze it to be moved by it. Of course, we *can* analyze such things, but in doing so we should not miss the joy that is had by simply appreciating it with nothing else in view.

The Science Fair as conducted at New Covenant is another unique inclusion in our curriculum. Long ago we charted a course away from the kind of fair that relied upon student research with the results published in a static fashion on a foam board. While that can be a

fruitful way to conduct a Science Fair, we wanted to challenge the students in the moment, by placing a problem before them that they had to solve under a timed challenge. After students form their teams (note the self-selected names!), each grade level is given materials with which to address a particular challenge. This year for example, some students were tasked with making a structure that would withstand the shock of a simulated earthquake, generated by a special “shake” board. Others were given popsicle sticks and glue with which they had to create a bridge that would sustain the load of increased amounts of weight. Still others were charged with creating a boat designed to carry maximum weight without sinking.

These and other challenges require the team to collaborate, design and build their projects with limited materials and limited time. It mimics that great moment

on the Apollo 13 moon mission when, in the wake of a near-catastrophic failure in the cryo-tanks, engineers on the ground had to figure out how to “scrub” increasing amounts of carbon dioxide from inside the lunar module. Sitting around a large table at mission control, the engineers were given every piece of equipment available to the astronauts in space, and were tasked with creating an additional filter which could then be replicated inside the spacecraft—all before the astronauts were unconscious! Okay. The stakes are never that high in our Science Fair, but the exercise is instructive for problem-solving, managing time, and working together productively under a little pressure.

Our combined Art & Science Fair provides the opportunity for students to stretch themselves in how they perceive the world, and how they solve problems that confront them. We congratulate the winners listed in the *Honoraria*.

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The men were seeded #4 and earned a First Round bye before facing Williamsburg Christian in the Quarterfinals and advancing to the Semifinals. On Friday, they tipped off against the #1 seed Banner Christian. A strong showing put the Gryphons up by 9 at the half, but late in the fourth quarter the gap was closed and the Gryphons were down by one less than a minute to go. At 16 seconds the Gryphons intercepted an inbound pass and called timeout. Coach Klein drew up the play, but the team missed two shot opportunities before the buzzer sounded. Losing by one point was tough, but once again the team showed that it is extremely competitive against tough opponents. **Luke Libbey** and **Cole Murdock** were the leading scorers in the game.



In other season highlights **Douglas Powell** was named to the 2nd Team All-Conference, and was the team's Leading Scorer and Leading Rebounder. **Cole Murdock** was the 2nd leading scorer and rebounder, while **Cole Bowman** was the team leader in assists. **Brielle Walker** was named to the 2nd Team All-Conference, and was the women's leading scorer and leading rebounder. She also set a new school record with over 650 career points. **Jocelyn Walker** is the 2nd leading scorer and rebounder. **Ellie Jacobs** was the team leader in assists.

The season awards ceremony will take place this Wednesday during 6th period (12:40 pm) in the WFH.

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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