



Mrs. Newsome's third graders celebrate Egyptian Day on Friday.

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

# QUID NOVI

JANUARY 29, 2024  
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## MEASURING SUCCESS—ATHLETICS AND ACADEMICS

Marion Patterson, Grammar School Principal

New Covenant has enjoyed outstanding athletic successes over the past few years. A move up to a tougher conference came in 2019. We took on the challenges of competing against schools with strong, well-funded programs. Many schools in the Blue Ridge Conference fund their programs with endowments and tuition much higher than New Covenant's. Nevertheless, we have been gratified to see our student athletes rise to the challenges of stiffer competition with the help of coaches who give more of their time and talents to develop them than we can expect. Those coaches are truly heroes to our

students, working for small stipends or volunteering their time and expertise to mentor them. Check out the successes of the past several years in Honoraria (page 2).

Perhaps you haven't noticed how New Covenant competes with such schools on an academic footing. In the same way that New Covenant moved to a tougher league for athletics, we shifted to a tougher measure of student academic achievement. In 2005 we began proctoring the Comprehensive Test Program (CTP) from the Educational Records Bureau (ERB), which provided a way to compare our students

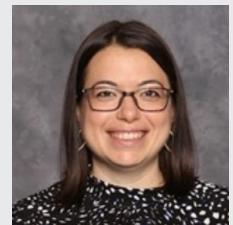
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### WHAT'S NEW?

#### Interim SOR Academic Dean

Last week we said goodbye to **Scott McCurley** who served New Covenant for nearly 20 years (2004). Mr. McCurley was the SOR Academic Dean and has accepted a position as the Executive Director for Lynchburg Boys & Girls Club. From now to the end of the year, the SoR will be directed by the Interim Dean, **Mrs. Jessica Arango**. Mrs. Arango has been serving as

the Lead Teacher and is thoroughly familiar with the administration of this division. With a lightened schedule she will lead us through the end of the year and is the contact point for parents and students in the SOR. She can be reached by email at [jarango@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:jarango@newcovenantschools.org). The permanent Division Head will be announced in February.



Jessica Arango



# H O N O R A R I A

## Successes in the Blue Ridge Athletic Conference (formerly the Virginia Independent School Conference) and the Virginia Independent School Athletic Association (VISAA)

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
<b>Women's Basketball</b>	VISAA State Division 3 Finals		VISAA State Division 3 Quarterfinals	Currently #2 in state
<b>Women's Volleyball</b>		BRAC Runner-Up; VISAA State Division 3 Quarterfinals	BRAC Runner-Up; VISAA State Division 3 Quarterfinals	BRAC Champions; VISAA State Division 3 Semi-finals
<b>Men's Soccer</b>			VISAA State Division 3 Semi-finals	VISAA State Division 3 Quarterfinals
<b>Men's Basketball</b>			VISAA State Division 3 Semi-finals	Currently #2 in state
<b>Women's Soccer</b>			VISAA State Division 3 Finals	Season begins March 2024

## FUNDRAISING REPORT

	GOAL	RECEIVED
Annual Fund/Permanent Things	\$100,000	\$64,264
General Scholarship	\$10,000	\$54,836
Scholarship Foundation	\$300,000	<i>Pledged</i> \$432,600 <i>Received</i> \$401,051

Thank you for considering New Covenant Schools in your giving. All gifts are tax-deductible to the extent that the law provides. Donations may be given through cash, check, stock transfers, or IRA distributions. Contact **Dayna Renalds** in the Development Office for more information.



## SPORTS SCORES

### Monday, January 22

#### MS GIRLS' BASKETBALL

James River Day	11
New Covenant	20

#### MS BOYS' BASKETBALL

James River Day	34
New Covenant	9

#### JV GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Lynchburg Homeschool	16
New Covenant	13

### Tuesday, January 23

#### MS GIRLS' BASKETBALL

New Covenant	25
North Cross	21

#### MS BOYS' BASKETBALL

New Covenant	22
North Cross	33

#### VARSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

New Covenant	38
North Cross	27

#### JV BOYS' BASKETBALL

Fishburne Military	18
New Covenant	55

#### VARSITY BOYS' BASKETBALL

Fishburne Military	35
New Covenant	74

### Wednesday, January 24

#### VARSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

New Covenant	42
Chatham Hall	9

### Thursday, January 25

#### JV GIRLS' BASKETBALL

New Covenant	W
Virginia Episcopal	L

#### MS BOYS' BASKETBALL

New Covenant	20
North Cross	23

#### JV BOYS' BASKETBALL

Roanoke Catholic	32
New Covenant	45

#### VARSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL

Roanoke Catholic	57
New Covenant	74

### Friday, January 26

#### VARSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

New Covenant	40
Veritas School	30

# E T C E T E R A

## EVERYONE

### CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT CONTRACT

New Covenant uses a Continuous Enrollment Contract for students, allowing them to automatically be enrolled each year until graduation without having to sign a new contract. PARENTS WILL NOT BE ASKED TO REENROLL FOR NEXT YEAR. **The opt-out deadline for the 2024-25 school year is February 1, 2024.** The Continuous Enrollment Fee of \$150 will be charged to your account on that date if you do not opt out. Please contact **Linda Hackenbracht** at [lhackenbracht@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:lhackenbracht@newcovenantschools.org) if your plans for next school year have changed.

### ART FAIR

New Covenant's annual Art Fair will be held on **Monday, March 11**. See flyer for details.

### THANK YOU

New Covenant has raised \$934.26 from August through November by shopping at Kroger. You can help New Covenant earn money by linking your Kroger account to our school. Simply log in to your Kroger account online or go to the app and select Rewards> Community Rewards> New Covenant Schools to link to your account. Our organization number is IX901.

### MOMS IN PRAYER

All moms are invited to this weekly meeting for a time of prayer. Come join us in this new year as we pray for our children and our school community. We meet **Wednesdays from 2-3pm** in the Marie Macdonald Chapel.

### WINTER BREAK

School will be closed for Winter Break from **Thursday, February 15 through Monday, February 19**. Students return on **Tuesday, February 20**.

### SCHOOL CLOSING OR DELAY



All information regarding schoolwide closings or delays related to weather will be communicated via email as well as reported to ABC News 13 and their online closings list.

**A decision to close or delay school will be made by the Headmaster by 6:00 am.**

The school's emergency text notification (REMIND) will NOT be used for school closures or weather delays.

If you are unable to get to school because of unplowed roads, your child's absence will be excused.

Please note that our families and faculty are spread out over several counties; therefore, our decision to delay or cancel may be based on conditions different from those you see outside your own home.



# Mary Poppins

February 22 – 7:00pm  
February 23 – 7:00pm  
February 24 – 2:00pm & 7:00pm  
February 29 – 7:00pm  
March 1 – 7:00pm  
March 2 – 2:00pm & 7:00pm



TICKETS ON SALE NOW

[www.newcovenantschools.org/ncs-tickets/](http://www.newcovenantschools.org/ncs-tickets/)

throughout the grades to those in schools similar to ours.

CTP-5, which our students in grades 2-9 recently took, is a test of achievement, a measure of what students have mastered, not a test of ability or IQ. The test questions are written by a committee of educators at the ERB. While the content is not a perfect match for what our classical and Christian curriculum emphasizes, it is a good one. For example, it includes subtests which measure verbal and mathematical reasoning, abilities we specifically target through logic, Latin and math classes. Rather than measuring a student's knowledge of exactly what we teach as our regular testing in school does, CTP gives us the opportunity to compare the performance of our students to the performance of other students on the same items. Rather than just comparing ourselves to a large sample of public and private schools, we can see how we stack up against strong, high-achieving schools across the country.

The news is good! We have a track record of nearly 25 years in which we are meeting or exceeding the achievement of that group we're testing ourselves against. We see this when we compare the scores of each grade level against the same scores from other independent and classical Christian schools.

We also investigate the group scores for areas in which we can improve, and we evaluate in order to refine our curriculum and practices in the classrooms. Each year, individual student scores are reported to parents. You'll see those in about six weeks.

Above our academic and athletic goals stands the Portrait of the Graduate. It is through our entire program that we strive for the character qualities listed there. Studies in academics, arts and athletics all contribute to the shaping of a whole person and leaning into this model. These goals are less easily measured than athletic or academic achievement, of course, but they are also more enduring

and eventually more visible. As we celebrate student successes along the way, we set our sights on the formation of a young adult who has come to full maturity in wisdom and virtue.

## QUID NOVI

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Class of 2024 • Mike Lovell • Class of 2025  
Neil Bohnert • Leslie Moeller • Bob Price  
Leland Seckman • Dan Vollmer  
Class of 2026 • John Gauger • Nancy Hall  
Chris Misiano • Sam Mizener • Tom Rogers  
Anne Umbarger

### 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.

NEW COVENANT SCHOOLS

# HONORS FOR 2ND QUARTER 2023-2024

## SCHOOLS OF RHETORIC AND DIALECTIC

### THE HEADMASTER'S LIST

#### *Summa cum laude*

Caleb McCormick, 12	Mary Glenn Morse, 12	Olivia Kidd, 12	Diego Leal, 12
Adora Hampton, 12	Virginia Morse, 12	Brielle Walker, 12	Ally Horne, 12
Nicole Clark, 12	Noah Caldwell, 12	James Brophy, 11	John Brophy, 11
Corey Hackenbracht, 11	Cora Helm, 11	Ellie Jacobs, 11	Melia Leitner, 11
Jenna Ng, 11	Brey Welch, 11	Declund Stevenson, 11	Jack Duncan, 11
Graden Bolton, 10	Andre Frenchik, 10	Walt Gill, 10	Rusty Hooks, 10
Ashe Smith, 10	Enoch Tan, 10	Olivia Fries, 9	Ian Gill, 9
Avery Harrison, 9	Embry Carlton, 9	Emma Haupricht, 9	Ruby Helm, 9
Charlotte Libbey, 9	Charlotte McCarty, 9	Joel Ng, 9	Joseph Robert, 9
Judah Weber, 9	Ellia Ramsey, 9		

### THE DEAN'S LIST

#### *Magna cum laude*

Beau Brady, 12	Abby Rose, 12	Charlotte Seay, 12	Claire Copenhaver, 12
Saria Hostetler, 12	Andrew Rogers, 12	Mae Jacobs, 12	Elizabeth Deneen, 11
Graham Kowalski, 11	Noah McCormick, 11	Lizzie Bryant, 11	Breezy Knight, 10
Grace Brady, 10	Alicia Kenny, 10	Ryleigh Taylor, 10	Rosa East, 10
Luke Cordes, 10	Micah Xayavong, 10	Skye Heap, 10	Olivia Hostetler, 10
Charlotte Morse, 10	Stone Haibach, 10	Caden Smith, 9	Alex Fuhr, 9
Michael Seckman, 9	Elora Williams, 9	Hannah Edwards, 9	Kylie Garnett, 9
Elle Rose, 9	Journey Lancaster, 9	John-Paul Gauger, 9	

#### *Cum laude*

Sarah Robert, 12	Daniel VanVoorhis, 12	Luke Libbey, 12	Kate McCurley, 12
John Scruggs, 11	Emma Fritz, 11	Grace Hendricksen, 11	Ellie Bonebright, 11
Lucas Gorman, 11	Abby Burton, 11	Jocelyn Walker, 11	Eva Andrade, 10
Ayla Gezen, 10	Alara Gezen, 10	Sarah McCurley, 10	Wyatt Renalds, 10
Emme Sue Foster, 9	Evan Bosak, 9	Emma Compton, 9	Molly Hendricksen, 9
Nicholas Richmond, 9			

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### *Summa cum laude*

Ava Boettger, 8	John Sorenson, 8	Peter Brophy, 8	Naomi Rigg, 8
Elena Andrade, 8	Charis Durand, 8	Christian Henson, 8	Elle Vollmer, 8
Idella Olmsted, 7	Claire Reynolds, 7	Luke Ancona, 7	

#### *Magna cum laude*

Jojo Deyo, 8	Kate Cordes, 8	Leila Kenny, 8	Kendall Morrell, 8
Lucy Kirshberger, 8	Addie Ruhl, 8	Charlie Kershaw, 8	Joseph Lee, 8
Reese Mahle, 8	Alaina Hilton, 8	Emma Christian, 8	Micah Harrison, 7
Eleanore Seckman, 7	Judah Durand, 7	Bryce Hampton, 7	Gwen Kesler, 7
Mitchell Rogers, 7			

#### *Cum laude*

Lizzie Miller, 8	Alex Pemberton, 8	Xander Arbaugh-Turner, 8	Natalie Nivens, 8
Wyatt Gill, 7	Lydia Smith, 7		

# ART FAIR

PAINTING | MIXED MEDIA | SCULPTURE | PHOTOGRAPHY | FILM

Monday,  
March 11

## IMPORTANT TIPS FOR ART FAIR SUBMISSIONS:

- Students in K-12th grade may submit TWO PIECES of art in each of the five named categories.
- Student work grades 4-12 will be in the JUDGED art show.
- All submissions should be given directly to Miss Eshleman or Mr. Dunaway.
- Flat (2D) submissions should NOT be folded or on lined paper.
- Submissions MUST be unframed.
- All photography should be printed on photo quality paper (preferably 8 ½ x 11 or larger).
- Sculpture (3D) submissions should stand upright OR student should provide a base on which to stand the piece.
- Lego submissions will NOT be accepted.
- ALL pieces should be the CREATION of the student(s).
- Multiple students may collaborate on a single submission.



*William Marotta (4th Grade), 2023 Submission*

**ALL submissions due Wednesday, February 14th**

Parents who would like to volunteer to mat/hang work, please contact Hattie Eshleman at [heshleman@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:heshleman@newcovenantschools.org) or Michael Dunaway at [mdunaway@newcovenantschools.org](mailto:mdunaway@newcovenantschools.org).