# E T C E T E R A

# EVERYONE

#### **GRYPHON GROWLER**

The Scott Robert Memorial Gryphon Growler will be held on Saturday, September 20 at 9:00am. This event is for the whole family and includes a 3K run as well as a 1K run for our younger children and those who like shorter courses. A pancake breakfast with all the fixings will follow. Ticket prices start at \$5 for just breakfast, \$10 for the run and the breakfast, or \$30 for a family of 3 or more. Get registered today by following this link: bit.ly/GGrowler2025.

#### **SCHOOL PICTURE DAY**

HJ Photo will be on campus Tuesday, September 30 to take individual and classroom photos. Please make every effort to have your student on time and do not plan any appointments on this day, if possible. All photo ordering will be done online, and nothing is needed from you in advance. Senior class, individual, formal and casual portraits will also be taken on this day, so please make sure to have a casual outfit in accordance with dress code guidelines, Thursday's school uniform, and your cap and gown.

### JOIN US FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL PICNIC

Our annual Back-to-School Fellowship Picnic will be **Friday**, **September 5**. Plan to bring your family and come join us for a good time together! There will be bounce houses and \$5 combo meals (hamburgers/hot dogs). Athletic events start at 4:30pm on the field and in the gym. (More details on page 2.)

# **MUSIC LESSONS**

Allegro Music will offer on-site music lessons again this year. There are a few openings for piano, guitar, and beginner voice. Visit <a href="www.allegromusic.school">www.allegromusic.school</a> or text (610) 350-1780 for info.

#### **SAVE THE DATE**

The annual men's retreat will be held on **November 7-8**. Watch for more details to come.

# **MOMS IN PRAYER**

Please join us this Wednesday from 2:00-3:00pm in the chapel for a time of prayer for our students, teachers, staff, and community.

### **AFTERCARE**

This quarter's aftercare program is full and will not be accepting daily add-ins.

# **NURSES OFFICE**

The nurse's clinic will be open daily starting at 8:30am. Prior to this time, the clinic will be available for medication drop-offs, parent meetings, and emergencies only.

### **PROGRESS REPORTS**

First quarter progress reports will be emailed to parents on **Wednesday**, **September 10**.

# **GRYPHON OUTFITTERS**

The school store is open each Thursday school is in session from 2:30-3:30pm. For any questions, please contact the store manager at <a href="mailto:Gryphonstore@newcovenantschools.org">Gryphonstore@newcovenantschools.org</a>.

# STUDENT PICK-UP/ABSENCES

If your child will be absent, please send an email by 9:00am to ncsoffice@newcovenantschools.org indicating the reason for their absence. If you need to pick up a student early for an appointment, email the time you need your student in the lobby. A parent or guardian must sign out and in all non-driving students. Parents who wish for their child to drive themselves to an appointment during instructional time (a scheduled class period), regardless of grade, must provide written permission

for each occasion. Driving students are required to sign out and in at the lobby desk.

#### **TEXTING SERVICE UPDATE**

New Covenant will be updating its texting service to better integrate with our current FACTS Family Portal system. This service will allow us to communicate important announcements, reminders, and podcast updates with parents through text messages. You can opt in by clicking the following link: <a href="https://newcovenantschools.factsmgtadmin.com/text">https://newcovenantschools.factsmgtadmin.com/text</a>.

### **WORKOUT AND TRAINING PROGRAM**

New Covenant alum Janna Renalds ('21) is offering a workout and training program for NCS moms at New Covenant on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Sessions include strength training, cardio, and flexibility. Childcare is not available. For details and pricing, contact Janna at renaldj828@lynchburg.edu.

# FINANCIAL STRATEGIES FOR FUNDING EDUCATION

The recent passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) has expanded the terms of usage for anyone with a 529 educational savings account, specifically for those who might use it for K-12 private education. The Development Office will be explaining these changes, the VA Educational Improvement Tax Credits Scholarship Program, and other tax strategies at an information meeting on **September 10 at 7:45am**. The meeting will last about 30 minutes. Sign up here to reserve your spot: <a href="http://bit.ly/4p4aVs8">http://bit.ly/4p4aVs8</a>.

# FROM HEADMASTER HEATON



If you have a young child in Grammar or Middle School, the newest episode of the "Gentle Folk" podcast is a must listen.

Tune in to listen as I interview Kathryn Martin, the Principal of the School of Dialectic. With nearly 30 years of experience with middle school students, Kathryn shares insights into parenting, educating, and responding to the sometimes tumultuous challenges of having students in the age range of 9-14.

Her wisdom would be beneficial to all listeners, but for those with children in this zone, this is a "must hear" episode.

As your headmaster, I am giving you an assignment—listen to this podcast sometime in the next few days. You will be a better parent for doing so.





