

APRIL 12, 2021

CALVARY SCHOOL NEWS

TO KNOW JESUS AND MAKE HIM KNOWN

Rejoice! We Are Saved by Grace

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works so that no one can boast." **Ephesians 2:8-9**

Why does a grandma cook for a grumpy grandchild? Why does a mom sing lullabies to her baby who is screaming in her ear? Why does a dad give a hug to a teenager who crashed the family car? Why does a friend play with a person who spoke mean words yesterday? And why does God give you family and friends who love you?

Why do you get to hear birds singing on days when you feel like crying? Why does a puppy come to sit by you when you're feeling all alone? Why does your favorite food make you smile when your whole day has made you frown? Why does your best friend make you laugh when you were bored? And why does God let us smile while we live in this world?

Why did God imagine your life before the world began and choose you to be in heaven? Why did Jesus scrub your sins away with his blood when he died on the cross? Why did the Holy Spirit ignite faith in your heart when you heard the story of Jesus? Why did God save you from hell and put you on the highway to heaven?

You can answer all those questions with one word: GRACE. Here's a simple definition: Grace is why you get good things that you don't deserve. Grace is essential when you realize you've messed up. If your family only took care of you when you behaved well, you would not make it very long in this life. If God only allowed you to smile when you worked hard enough to smile, you'd have a very frowny life. And if God only rescued people who earned his love by doing good works, nobody would go to heaven. If God weren't gracious, we would all be worried.

But that is crazy talk. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9). You see God's grace in all the good things you don't deserve—from your family to your happy days, and even the forgiveness of your sins and your eternal life in heaven. God gives you good things just because he's nice. So don't worry. Rejoice that we are saved by grace!

Closing Prayer: Dear Jesus, you love us because you are so kind, even when we are not. Make us happy to receive your grace so that we can focus less on ourselves and more on you. Amen.



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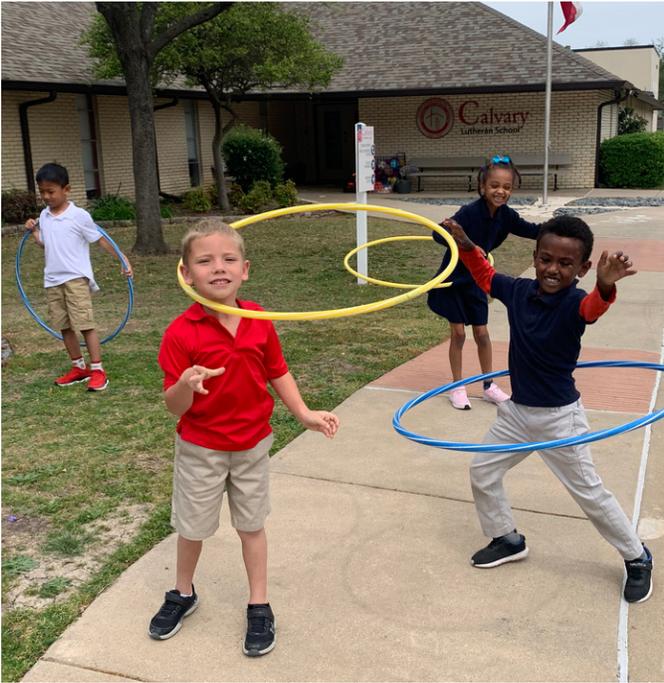
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BIRTHDAYS

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Calvary
LUTHERAN CHURCH + SCHOOL



UPCOMING EVENTS

APR 14	Chapel and Offering- Gr. 3-8, 8:20 AM & PreK-2, 8:50 AM
APR 16	Grand Spelldown 1:15 PM
APR 19-30	ACT Aspire Assessment Window - Grades 3-8
APR 23	Arbor Day - Classroom Activities
APR 26-30	Family Strong Week, 5 for 5 Challenge

GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS

Quarter 3 Parent-Teacher Conferences: Thank you for your participation in last week's parent-teacher conferences. It is always a blessing to be able to sit down together and share our mutual commitment for the spiritual and academic growth of God's children. If you were unable to schedule a meeting last week, please do contact your child's teacher this week.

COVID & Protocol Updates: Last week, changes in our COVID protocols went into effect. Although we are maintaining our masking protocols, we have ended temperature checks and are allowing greater building access for parents to drop off their children and to visit the school office. We encourage you all to continue to follow our protocols as we seek to ensure continued participation of all our students in daily classroom instruction. Current strains of COVID appear to be more contagious to elementary age children than we have seen previously this school year.

Maternity Leave Update: We are pleased to share that Mrs. Barksdale will return to our grade 1-2 classroom on May 3 to finish the year with her students. We are thankful for Mrs. Kopplin's continued service through April 30, and we are excited for Mrs. Barksdale's return. Mrs. Voss begins her maternity leave today. Again, God has graciously blessed us as Mrs. Rachel Smith is now serving as our kindergarten teacher through the end of the school year during Mrs. Voss's maternity leave. Mrs. Smith's email address is rsmith@calvarydallas.org.

School Spirit Tastes Great! Join us THIS WEDNESDAY for our Spirit Night fundraiser at Chipotle! Stop by Chipotle at 11613 N Central Expy Ste 100 in Dallas on Wednesday between 4:00pm - 8:00pm and support Calvary Lutheran School. Mention the fundraiser or show them the green flyer that was sent home at checkout and Chipotle will donate 33% of the proceeds to our school! Prefer to order online and do takeout? Use code CLKDRT4 in 'promo' field before checkout. Orders placed online or through the Chipotle app for pickup using this unique code between 4 and 8 PM will be counted. Click [HERE](#) for more details.

ACT Aspire: Students in grades 3-8 will participate in the ACT Aspire assessment from April 19-30. This online assessment will assess students in reading, English, math, reading, science, and writing. This assessment assists us as another tool in tracking student academic growth and assessing our curricula.

Spelling-Bee: Our annual written and oral Spelling-Bees will be held in each classroom early this week. Our Grand Spelldown will be held in the sanctuary this Friday, April 16, at 1:15 PM. The first and second place winners in grades 4-8 will participate in the Grand Spelldown. Parents and family of students participating in the Grand Spelldown are invited to attend with mask wearing and social distancing being observed.

CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY AT CALVARY!

On Friday, April 23, we will hold an Arbor Day workday and celebration at Calvary, and we invite you to join us!

This Arbor Day there will be opportunities for students in each classroom to serve outdoors either in a morning or afternoon session followed by outdoor fellowship and snack at 2:30 PM. This event is supported through Thrivent funds and all participants will receive a Thrivent "Live Generously" T-shirt to wear while they work!

We welcome parent volunteers to help oversee student work in designated areas. If you would like to serve, please RSVP at www.calvarydallas.org/connect/arbor-day/

THE DETAILS:

Who: All Calvary students, teachers, and any parents who can help!

Parent volunteers will lead small groups of students in Arbor Day clean-up projects.

When: Friday, April 23rd

- PreK - 4th Grade: 10:00-11:30 AM
- 5th - 8th Grade: 1:00-2:30 PM
- 2:30 - Snack and celebration

Thank you for your support in this wonderful opportunity to teach our students citizenry, responsibility, and the love of God's created world!



PRINIPAL'S MESSAGE

Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. Ecclesiastes 4:12

Perhaps this week, you might find some time for a brief illustration with your children as a part of sharing a devotion on the words above. You could gather some string or yarn and just play tug of war with one strand – how easily is that string broken? Add another string and try again and then a third. Discuss how much stronger that cord of three strands is rather than a strand of one.

Now, you can draw your spiritual comparison. I think of our work together as we seek to daily train children so that they might grow spiritually and academically. When parents and teachers work together united in their faith and trust in God, what a strong cord is formed! When

parents and children work together in the home united in their faith and trust in God, what strong cord is formed!

We all face challenges in our lives and to our faith every day. When we try to deal with these challenges alone, we are like that single strand that so quickly breaks. But when we united ourselves with fellow believers and our almighty God, suddenly our challenges are more than manageable. Let's build strong cords in our lives and teach our children to do that same.

Prayer for the Week: Dear Jesus, forgive us for so often trying to solve our challenges by ourselves. Thank you for family and fellow believers who unite us with you and make us so much stronger than we can be by ourselves. Make our cords strong in our family, school, and church as we united together and with you. Amen.