

"A spiritually uplifting life experience."

The opportunity to serve on the Llano Christian Academy board has become a spiritually uplifting life experience that was totally unexpected. Each day the presence of God is magnified by the relationships with teachers, students, parents and school supporters as they teach and learn about the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and how this integrates with our lives. I feel blessed by God to serve.

Lony Reed

President, Llano Christian Academy Board of Directors

Q: What's happening at Llano Christian Academy?

A: Amazing things!!

This issue includes:
A message from the directors,
good news from the teachers
and photos from the classrooms and the first LCA talent show!

Our Beginnings... A PERFECT PLAN

They *thought* they had a plan.

Brett and Shandon Whitson, Llano residents, and parents of two school-aged boys, had a vision to create a Christian school in Llano. They had been consulting with the best of the best. Their consultant would have been the ideal candidate to lead the school. His wisdom and direction was invaluable. They were aware, however, he was also pursuing another calling. This was confirmed with a Friday night phone call. He had accepted a job with Austin ISD. Disappointed and stressed, the Whitsons were unsure what was next. They had no other candidate in mind.

That Sunday, while greeting people before church, a woman sat down behind them. They overheard her speaking to Brother Rick Cundieff about the new Christian School that was in the newspaper. Brother Rick simply pointed to the Whitsons and said, "ask them." She introduced herself and stated that she would like to know more about the school. Brett jokingly said to her, "Got a resume?" To which she quite seriously stated in a similar fashion, "Why yes I do, I can go home and get it for you. Where would you like me to bring it?" That evening, Dr. Alice Smith delivered her resume to the Whitsons and the rest is history! "Dr.

Smith has proved to be a willing, eager and loving administrator," said Shandon Whitson. "We are blessed."



Proverbs 16:9 "A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps."

1.27.2012

LLANO CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

turned 100 days old.

*"As you think about
LCA, pray we will continue to be in
the center of God's Will." --DR. ALICE SMITH*

Praise God!



Mrs. Harriet Myrick, ART AND MUSIC

Developing curiosity in the Arts is the pathway I use to teach Art and Music at LCA. My belief is discovering music vocally, with instruments and in composition is the way to a child's heart and mind.

"If it sounds good, it is good." My grandmother, Mary Walraven Crissman, was a concert pianist with the Dallas Symphony and played the organ and piano for the Downtown Presbyterian Church in Dallas. She told me that quote when I was five years old, and that freed me, to play piano with both hands from the beginning and later play other instruments. As confidence comes to the children in Art and Music, they go on to study written music and other disciplines while each one's heart evolves into the desire to perfect their abilities.

My teaching is based on developing the three things—feel comfortable, have curious and confidence—in the children so they can learn to see God's beautiful Word and listen with their hearts and minds to the music.



*"...see it,
say it, do it
and know it."*

Pre-Kindergarten

MRS. LINDA ARBAUGH
MRS. MARY ANN SCOGGINS

Preschool— the place to be! The preschool classroom at LCA is a place of excitement, learning and laughter. students' ages range from 2 ½ (turning 3 by Dec. 1st) to 5 years. Due to the broad age span, learning opportunities are presented at different levels to ensure student success.



The curriculum used for the preschool class is Christian based and encompasses Bible study, literacy, language, math and science. Each month one or more thematic units are chosen to study. Every area of learning then becomes integrated with the chosen theme. Students are presented information and given opportunities for hands on learning through a variety of methods which include the following: songs, finger plays, games, teacher/student discussions, and teacher directed activities. These lessons are presented to students at age appropriate levels. The students are grouped



together and instructed according to their age and ability. Social skills are gained through group interaction during daily center time.

Learning themes are extended at times with special activities. Some of these are: Attending Llano Pioneer Days, visiting the Llano Fire Department, and enjoying "Green Eggs and Ham" for St. Patrick's Day! Also, the Llano library has a representative that comes to the class for check-out and story time every other week.

Parents are always welcomed to come for a visit or participate in any activity with the class. At LCA, we truly make learning fun!

Kindergarten

MRS. BARBARA JOHNSON



Kindergarten has been an exciting place to be at Llano Christian Academy. We have five Kindergarten student who come to school ready to learn everyday. We have used Purposeful Design curriculum for Reading and Math, along with supplemental materials.

My kindergarten students were quick to let me know which lessons and activities they have most enjoyed at school. The first thing mentioned was the (borrowed) skeleton that hung in our room for weeks as we studied the human body. The amount of new knowledge gained on this topic amazed me. Students told me they loved their body drawings, with bones and organs placed on their own likenesses.

During the fall, we learned to identify, name, and create new patterns in math. We had a good time creating original patterns with beads that became necklaces. Now, in March, our class is learning coin values and how to count money. We are setting up a mock grocery store in which to shop.

Sometimes we pause for some silly fun. The children have just learned the music and movements to "I'm A Little Teapot." Students enjoy relaxing on floor cushions while I read to them from Peter Pan, some of Pooh's adventures, or pirate stories. Kiddos read to me, too -- from Dr. Seuss or 'Biscuit books'.



*"I love my teacher and
I love LCA"*

EMMA MORRIS 1ST GRADE

1st Grade | MS. KRISTI HOWELL

The curriculum for first grade is Saxon Math, BJU Press Reading and Language Arts, Purposeful Design Bible and Science. One of the children's favorite math activities is building designs using shape tiles. This allows them to use different ways of thinking. They also enjoy the story problems that Saxon offers. The story problems start out simple and continually get harder which challenges the children while having them use critical thinking to solve the problems. We do a great amount of reading both independently and together. The students love when I read chapter books out loud which allows them to use their imagination to think about what is happening in the story. One activity that the children enjoyed was having a story read to them without showing the pictures and then the students have to draw their own interpretation of the drawings from the story. The pictures always turned out beautiful and fun!

The children have a fun time in Science especially when we were on the topic of the human body. Each child made a life size drawing of themselves and then we studied the main organs of the body, how they function and why they are so important to us. Once we finished studying these organ we had cut outs of the organs and the children colored and cut out the organs and glued them on their bodies. This was a fun and exciting way for the children to learn science and have fun at the same time.

Bible is an amazing part of the curriculum. The children learn many valuable lessons about Jesus and why he is so important to us. The lessons teach the children about how we are supposed to act and treat others. We learn about how we are to not only talk like Christians but act like Christians all the time not just sometimes. The lessons cover other important topics including giving, sharing, being thankful etc... I feel that with each subject the children are challenged along the way but have a fun time working on the lessons and activities. I hope they have learned from the lessons and will carry it with them throughout their lives.



Llano Christian Academy's First Talent Show!

2nd Grade MRS. MYRNA MUND



Our second grade classroom has a total of four boys. Yes, it's busy. The curriculum is designed to be challenging, exciting, and

fun. We have combined several resources: reading, English/grammar and spelling from BJU (Bob Jones University Press) and Bible and science from ASCI Purposeful Design. Math is primarily Saxon, but ASCI, enVision, Addison-Wesley and Mrs. Mund Math (for details all you need to do is ask!) is also added in various expanding ways. I personally like all of the textbooks and think the choices conform to the scope and sequence of the other grades.

In February the boys accepted the challenge to read a chapter book a week until the end of April. The reward? A Pizza Party! They are enjoying a series of books called The Magic Tree House. Each book takes the main characters on a huge adventure. What is so neat is that they are based on historical facts and are well researched. So far, the boys have been to China, India, Africa, Austria, Ireland and several other countries. In the United States, they have visited Delaware, Washington, D.C., and Rattlesnake Flats, New Mexico. They receive a stamp in their passport for each place they visit. You are welcome to come see their pictures in the hall. I am so proud that all have risen to the challenge and are meeting their goal at this time.

On Tuesday and Thursday afternoons we host the first graders while Ms. Howell teaches p.e.. We read a story after lunch and do various activities connected to the book.

3rd - 6th Grade Language Arts

MRS. ELISABETH GARRETT

As the third through sixth grade Language Arts at LCA, the past seven months have been exciting, challenging and rewarding. It has been my goal to instill an interest and love for reading and the English language. Reading to the students, providing various types of literature, including excerpts of classics, historical fiction and poetry, helps with a more thorough knowledge of available adventures. Individual students have individual interests and needs. The students walk to the Llano Library each week, checking out one or two books. A weekly book report is required along with a written report and/or project of their choice.

Each student has access to the use of a computer, having written a narrative, short stories, various types of poetry, chapter books and a research paper. The students have learned to use The Writing

Process, consisting of planning the paper, using a Thesaurus, taking notes on index cards, outlining, making a first draft, revising, proofreading and finally publishing the work.

Skills include phonics and structural generalizations, as well as vocabulary understanding. Formal spelling and handwriting lessons are carried over to daily applications. Our curriculum, the Bob Jones Press, is excellent in overlapping the skills needed for each subject, as well as the Bible class. Each subject is provided with Bible Truths interwoven into the lessons.

The fifth and sixth graders are studying the Old Testament, learning about and memorizing the books of the Bible. Students study and learn how the Bible of ancient times applies to our lives today.



3rd - 6th Grade Math and Science | MRS. DUGGAR

What a great first year at Llano Christian Academy! The 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders have made tremendous progress in my classes. I am very proud of the hard work they have displayed as well as the support that parents/guardians have provided at home. I have used a math curriculum combination of Purposeful Design and Mentoring Minds Motivation Math. We have worked to build a strong math foundation focusing on basic operations of whole numbers/decimals, word problems, place value, interpreting graphs, money and time, geometric concepts, and number lines/coordinate graphs. Since we started the weekly math homework in November, each student is working a total of approximately 200 problems a week. We will start measurement next.

The science curriculum is also Purposeful Design. As we covered the systems of the human body, I utilized the textbooks from all four grade levels. Therefore, we extensively studied the human body, and it appeared to keep their attention. Maybe we prepared some to go into a medical profession. Recently we have moved into physical science by studying matter, motion, electricity, and magnetism.



"The small numbers of students have allowed me to build a relationship with each student and to work at meeting their individual needs. I believe that all of them have made significant academic progress as well as grown in self confidence. Of course, my prayer continues to be that each student will continue to grow in faith and his/her relationship with Jesus Christ."

The Bible curriculum is also Purposeful Design. We started the year off by looking at "why study the Bible?". Then we began to do lessons that traced Jesus' life from his birth, childhood, ministry, and teachings. Presently, we are analyzing scriptures where Jesus gave us examples of how to overcome Satan and the difficulties in life. All of the students have memorized the books of the New Testament and are working on the Old Testament. Additionally, they have memorized numerous Bible verses. We have Bible study workbooks that support our lessons. The exciting news is that we have had at least four students to make a profession of faith in Jesus Christ since the beginning of school.