

COVENANT LINES

11TH EDITION

A Publication of the Eastside Christian School Board

“And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God . . . Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.” Psalm 40:3&5

Yet, we certainly have good news to share, so let's try once again to number at least a few of the many blessings God has showered on us since September.

Grandparents' Day

What a truly delightful day this was for young and old alike. The excitement of a child whose grandparent(s) or foster grandparent(s) came to visit the school was topped only by the joy of those invited. Imagine a room filled with so much love and encouragement that one must squeeze in to catch a glimpse of the reading lesson that's in progress. Now, combine this feeling with the intoxicating smells of a thanksgiving dinner that seep from the kitchen, and you have the beginning of an appreciation.

The tables were carefully arranged the night before by the Promoters group—with the exception of those who are grandparents—and set with special care, making sure to put the party favors that each student created with the place setting of his/her grandparent(s). And, with centerpieces in place . . . *what a festive sight it was to behold.*

Having enjoyed the company of fellow supporters, enveloped by the curiosity and excitement of the students, and entertained by our musicians, one grandparent was heard asking, “How do I make sure I'm invited again next year?”

Art Class

Since school resumed for the year, our students experimented with sketching, clay sculpting, painting wooden objects, designing and stamping bags as favors for their grandparents' dinner, arranging silk flowers in a small pot that they covered with glue and later painted, decorating a flower pot with gold and white paint and topping it with a candle, whittling back scratchers from a tree branch and varnishing them for gift-giving.

These activities all helped to contribute to a fun-filled first semester of art instruction, which was made possible by our many energetic volunteers. We extend our appreciation to each of you for sharing your time and your talents and, thereby, helping to spread the special fruits of creative energy.

Made the Connection

Not only is Eastside “on-line”—you can contact the school at: eastside@i2k.com—but now all the computers and printers are networked. Thanks to the expertise of Gerry VanBaren and some assistance from Pete Adams, the computers throughout the school are able to communicate with each other, sharing their accessories (ZIP drive, CDROMs, etc.) and printer hookups.

What does this all mean? Very simply, Eastside is taking remarkable strides and keeping in step with the technology revolution.



Thank you, Mrs. Miedema, for making us such fun aprons.

Cooking Class

Mrs. DeKryger and her Pre-K and Kindergarten students are enjoying the challenges and rewards of their cooking class. What do children gain from cooking? So glad you asked:

A blossoming of creativity and a sense of aesthetics; Confidence and self-esteem; Early math skills; Pre-reading and beginning reading skills; Small motor skills; Strength and endurance (stirring a batter or spreading cream cheese can be hard work if you're only three feet tall!); Science skills (chemistry, temperature, cause and effect); Patience and self-control; Language skills (observing, describing, predicting outcomes); Ability to follow directions; A sense of teamwork; Food literacy (An openness to trying new food, a familiarity with . . . [various food types]. . . where they come from); Increased interest and curiosity about all of the above!

“Pretend Soup” by Ann Henderson

Our talented chefs' repertoire now includes: Butter, Peanut Butter, Porridge, Popovers, Jungle Fun-Mix, Fruit Dip, and Bag Bread. One even talks of his own cafe'.

~over please

Eastside Christian School Association admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin.

Lessons At Large

Our students and their teachers have once again availed themselves of some memorable lessons found beyond their classroom walls.

In September, Mrs. DeKryger, Miss Dykstra and the Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 2nd grade students toured the Klackle Apple Orchard. Quite a number of the moms enjoyed the experience, too. Just a few days later, the 2nd through the 9th grade visited the Fredrick Meijer Gardens. Miss Dykstra, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Ondersma all joined them for this adventure. The latter two focused their students' attention on the sculptures, which they studied and sketched. Naturally, the younger students appreciated the figures as well, many finding it difficult to choose between the frog or the pig, as which one to love the most.

In October, Mr. Ondersma and the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students toured the Klackle apple orchard to learn about the apple industry. (This excursion most likely included sampling some of the final product.) Later that month, these students traveled with Mr. Ondersma to the State Capitol Building and the Michigan Historical Building, both in Lansing. Here they experienced Michigan history and politics and saw where Michigan's politicians gather to make laws for the State.

In December, Miss Dykstra and the second grade students went to several nursing homes to sing and to recite passages from Scripture. Mrs. DeKryger and the kindergartners joined them for two of the visits. The residents at the Christian Rest Home, Fulton Manor, Heather Hills, and Raybrook Manor must have cherished such a special treat. They also made a stop at Mr. Doezema's (janitor) house to bring him a personal get well wish after he broke his leg.

Stop&Shop

On Saturday, October 17, the Eastside Promoters hosted their second annual Stop&Shop sale at the school. Even though the weather was rainy, many people stopped in for a cup of coffee, a cinnamon roll, and to make a few purchases. Seventeen exhibitors displayed a wide array of items available for shoppers to purchase.

The total profits earned this year, more than doubled the amount

raised by our first Stop&Shop. Many seemed to enjoy the opportunity to visit with friends, and again the profits reflected the size of our "sweet tooth". (Baked goods net the largest percentage of total profits.)

The committee proclaims this year's sale a success and attributes this to our enthusiastic supporters—the many bakers, those who worked the day of the sale, the setup and cleanup crews, those who exhibited items, and most certainly, those of you who came to shop.

Latin Lives On

The following excerpt is taken from Vol.II, Issue 1 of the *Eastside Times*, the students' newspaper. Stephanie Adams, an eighth grade student, is the author of "Learning Latin".

*As you have probably heard, the 4th–9th grades are learning Latin this school year. Some people say that Latin is a dead language, but they are using Latin derivatives in their everyday English. For example, the Latin word "luna" means **moon** and we get our words "lunar" and "lunatic" from it. Another example is "magnus", which means **large** in English. We get our words **magnified, magnificent, et cetera**, ("and so on") from "magnus".*

The students studying Latin are learning not only about Latin, but also more about our own English language. About 50% of the vocabulary of the English language comes from Latin. Studying Latin helps cultivate appreciation for great literature. Latin is also helpful background to have in studying modern languages; particularly the Romance languages (Spanish, French, Italian, and Portuguese).

On the whole, everybody is enjoying Latin. When they were asked if they liked Latin; Kim DeVries said, "I like the words because they're funny;" Debbi Young said, "I think Latin is very fun."

Mailing List

If someone you care about would appreciate receiving the *Covenant Lines*, or any of the other Eastside Christian publications, please contact Kristi Thompson by *phone: 942-2939; fax: 942-1310, email: eastside@i2k.com.*
