

Herald



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The Wisdom of Many
Mr. B. Kuiper, Administrator

“Where no counsel is, the people fall:
but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.”

Proverbs 11:14

As we near the end of school year 2020/2021, our hearts are humbled by the goodness of God displayed in and through us in this year. Much discussion and writing has been done about the times that the Lord has sent to us. Much growth in wisdom and understanding has been displayed. The Lord has sent a trial to us, and has also sent the means for us to grow through it. The biggest and most important means? Godly friends and colleagues.

I am thankful for the multitude of teachers and staff who have dedicated their time and efforts this year in unique ways so that the education of His children could be effective and successful. Each of you had ideas and thoughts and suggestions that made the year better for all. God has seen your work, and determined that weakest means have fulfilled His will.

I am thankful for the multitude of students who have been a part of this school this year. You adapted and created and flexed in so many ways. God has seen your work, and has put His blessing upon it so that even your sinful labors are used for His glory.

I am thankful for a multitude of Board members who have labored diligently in His service this year. When you were elected to serve, He chose you “for such a time as this” (Esther 4:14). Your wise counsel, diligent labors, and thoughts and prayers have been used for the good of the families, the staff, and the students. God has seen your work, and He says, “Well done”.

I am thankful for each parent who sent their child to Heritage Christian School this year. Your input, ideas, and questions have been valued and welcomed. As families we have endured much this year. The difficulties we have endured have impacted us in many ways. The assurance is that they have not impacted us spiritually. Subjects taught and lessons learned have been and continue to be from the basis that they must be taught and learned. God, the Creator, Sustainer, Upholder, and Governor of all things - seen, heard, witnessed, and taught by word and deed.

Above all, thank our Heavenly Father for His care and keeping of HCS in the year gone by. May this trial be used for the strengthening of the body of believers as it is seen in HCS!

In the Secretary's report, thanks is given to staff and faculty who will be leaving us. It is my pleasure to recognize the last graduate from the following families: Jacob Bartelds (Tim and Heather), Lauren Engelsma (Chad

and Pam), Maci Holstege (Greg and Rhonda), Ashlyn Kamps (Titus and Charlynn), Faith Kamps (Tim and Penny), Ryan Kuiper (Matt and Tami), Matt Moelker (Mike and Jennifer), Grace Poppema (Dean and Chris), Luke VerStrate (Tom and Christy), and Josie VanderSloot (Peter and Lisa). Our prayer is that your

experience with us in covenantal, Christian education was used for the fulfilling of vows made at baptism. May the words of the class text be yours each and every day. Know your God who is yours forever. See Him as your guide. And, recognize and celebrate His faithfulness.

Salary Committee Report – Mr. Tom Holstege

While we are still looking for a full-time teacher for the 2021/22 school year, we are very blessed in that all of our other teaching positions for next year have been filled. We have a few teachers moving around and new ones coming in. You will read about this in the Education Committee report.

Teaching contracts were handed out in the beginning of March. Salary increases were 2.0% for those with 13 years of experience or more. Teachers with experience less than 13 years were given increases based on years of service. The committee used the Christian School International Report as a guide to help make the decision of what increase our teachers would receive this coming year. This is common with the other Protestant Reformed schools in the area and the other local Christian schools. The Board is thankful for the teachers we have who have taken up the calling of

teaching our covenant youth here at Heritage Christian School.

The school budget for next year was just recently approved at the Society meeting which resulted in a tuition increase of 1.5%. The budget is established such that the revenue equals the expenses, so there isn't a surplus of cash to pay expenses when the revenue and specifically tuition doesn't come in as required. The board encourages that you continue to pay your tuition in a timely manner enabling the board to see to it that all the bills and salaries of the teachers are paid.

The salary committee is thankful and we praise God that He has provided for us very willing and extremely capable teachers to train our covenant youth. We pray that God continues to bless our teachers during the remainder of this school year and as they begin the 2021/22 school year next fall.

Education Committee Report - Mr. Mike Langeland

Isaiah 40:31 - "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

As we approach the end of the 2020/21 school year there are several thoughts that bubble to the surface when reflecting back throughout this unusual year. After the 2019/20 school year, no one imagined a school year could ever compare, much less at times be more challenging.

Board and committee meetings at Heritage Christian School always begin with scripture, prayer, and devotions. A focus of the Education Committee meeting devotions (and what has framed our discussions) this past year has been on trusting in God through adversity, and the scriptural reminder of God's faithfulness and providence. In spite of the disappointments and losses we all experienced, HCS remained remarkably resilient. HCS was able to teach students every day in person, according to His mercy.

One word I think of that encapsulates this year is perseverance. While school situations weren't always optimal, HCS strove hard to provide the best Reformed Christian Education possible. God was ever-faithful. Students, teachers, staff, substitute teachers, aides, parents, volunteers, EVERYONE at HCS persevered. We are deeply grateful to everyone for their dedication, their endurance, and especially their prayers for our school.

The Education Committee was very busy this year. There were church and denominational difficulties, and many other significant topics that drove the Education Committee to review, revise, or affirm our school policies. The Education Committee is well attuned to all HCS policy language and is very familiar with very specific policy wording following 2020/21.

We persevered.

We gratefully say farewell to Elizabeth Van Drunen and Kelly Van Overloop following their years of teaching 6th and 1st grades at HCS. Thank you Liz and Kelly! We also thank Sharon Tolsma (bus monitor) and Jodee VanOverloop (teacher aide) for their work on behalf of HCS. God bless all of you in your new callings.

We welcome to HCS for the 2021/22 school year, Benji Kuiper who will be teaching 6th grade, and Josie Vander Kolk who will be teaching 1st grade. Benji is a Calvin University graduate, and Josie is a Hope College graduate. As of the writing of this article we are still seeking another junior high teacher. We ask for your prayers that God will provide.

Finally in May, 2021, after a year and several months, it seems that normal will return to our lives and to school life. Our prayer is that school finishes well, and that 2021/22 provides the blessing of a rhythm of school life we remember and cherish. We are grateful, and we will continue to persevere.

Annual Secretary's Report to the Society – Mr. Kevin Gritters

[The following report is adapted slightly from the Board Secretary's report delivered at the annual Society Meeting in May.]

Dear Society of Heritage Christian School:

As we near the end of this 36th year of Christian education at Heritage, we are so thankful to be gathered together again as a society. As with many blessings, we didn't appreciate how important it was to meet together until we were not able to meet. I can say with certainty tonight that, as routine as these meetings can be, we as a Board missed the fellowship we were not able to have last year. Thanks be to God for the ability and opportunity to meet again. We thank God for you, and for this school.

One of our recent Board meetings began with reading Psalm 48, which describes Mount Zion as the city of our God, beautiful, the joy of the earth, a place of refuge. The chapter ends with the commands to "Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof. Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces; **that ye may tell it to the generation following.** For this God is our God for ever and ever: He will be our guide even unto death." These last few verses give the idea of inspecting, evaluating, watching, measuring, and teaching, all the while relying completely on our heavenly Father. They remind us of Nehemiah when he first returned to Jerusalem after the captivity, walking along the walls to check their condition. Similarly, we as parents have the responsibility to inspect, measure, and build the walls of our school, which is our business tonight. We need to be united in our efforts, to build foundations and walls tightly knit together so they are strong. This year, and tonight as we meet near the end of this school year, we are thankful for unity and the continued building of strong walls for our generations following.

At the end of last school year, we reported that in many ways, it had been an unprecedented year. Now already one year later, we have seen that this entire school year has been exceptional and remarkable. The challenges and trials continued and grew – in our homes, our churches, in the world around us, and here in our school. Tonight, the Board recognizes the good responses to those trials that we have seen.

First, the **students**: while it took some time to adjust to all the changes that were required in the classroom and beyond, they transitioned quickly into the different learning conditions, acclimated well, and continued their diligent efforts in school.

Next, our **teachers and staff**: God has blessed Heritage with teachers who truly desire to continue their labor of love – their vocation, their God-given calling – on behalf of our covenant children. In spite of many challenges with normal teaching methods, communication, interactions, and with so many changes to the day-to-day rhythm of school, we saw again this year that God has blessed us with teachers that have a zeal to see our

children face to face. They recognize that Christian instruction is most effective by far in the classroom, where teachers and students can see each other, be with classmates, and experience personal interactions. And they were willing to put up with some undesirable conditions to accomplish that purpose. The Board continues to be encouraged during our regular monthly classroom visits. We extend a heartfelt thanks to ALL our teachers, staff, aides, and all those who work in the school building, helping to build the walls of our children's hearts and minds.

Our **administrator** continued his calm, unwavering, dedicated leadership in the day-to-day goings-on of our school. Steady leadership sets the tone for each day, each week, and each year, and that was evidenced in the positive attitudes we saw and the unity we experienced throughout the school in the midst of hardship. Thank you, Brian, for your labors again this year.

Our **parents and families**: while not everyone sees eye to eye on teaching methods, on school requirements, on government requirements, and on other rules that were implemented this year, the Board is thankful that our parents are united in fulfilling our baptismal vows to see to it that our children are instructed in a distinctively Reformed, Christian school. We recognize how fragile the unity of a body of believers can be; it is our utmost prayer that we continue to be unified in the goal that Heritage has had since it began: that our children will receive a Christ-centered education of high academic quality based on the Holy Scriptures and the Reformed Confessions. May we as parents and grandparents alike create environments in our homes where our children learn by example to treat each other with love, kindness, respect, honor, and humility, doing what is best for the whole body.

So now we take a brief walk around the walls of our school. Sometimes this walk is literal, but often figurative. The Board does this each month as we review all aspects of the school: what is the physical condition of the building? Are there weak points in the walls that need repair today, or do we see potential issues that may arise in the future? Also, and even more importantly, what is the spiritual, mental, and emotional condition of the students and staff? What is working well, and what needs modification? Are there learning difficulties that need special attention? Are all the children being challenged enough, being prepared properly to take up their callings once they leave Heritage? Are we as a school fulfilling the purpose to which we are called – are we edifying, reinforcing, and strengthening the children that God has placed under our care, so that they view all the subjects taught through the spectacles of Holy Scripture? It is the Board's firm belief that we are fulfilling that mission.

We are happy to report that most of our teachers and staff will be returning for the 2021-2022 school year.

However, we must also say goodbye to some. Kelly VanOverloop is leaving as a full-time classroom teacher after two years, and Liz VanDrunen has decided to leave Heritage after eight years of faithful service. Lastly, Jodee VanOverloop is leaving her work as an aide to finish the schooling necessary for her to become a licensed teacher. We thank these women for their years of dedicated instruction of our children. Saying goodbye to some means welcoming others, and we are happy to report that Josie VanderKolk, who graduated this spring from Hope College, will be our new 1st grade teacher. We also welcome Benji Kuiper to our 6th grade classroom; Benji graduated from Calvin University also this spring. Lastly, we are still looking for one more teacher, and ads have been placed in bulletins with the goal to fill this position as soon as possible.

Thanks be to God for providing teachers. Please pray for God's continued provision of teachers, not only for Heritage but for all our schools. The need for teachers is great – teachers that are like-minded as we are, men and women that can be true extensions of our homes, servants of God that faithfully labor in our stead during the day. We all made our baptismal vows to see these children – God's children! – instructed and brought up in the aforesaid doctrine, or help or cause them to be instructed therein, to the UTMOST of our power. May our utmost include praying for teachers, talking to our children about being teachers, and encouraging training in Christian education when we see a young person blessed with the gifts necessary for this vital calling.

Next year we will add a third 8th grade class, at which point we will have three classes for every grade; we anticipate this continuing for the foreseeable future.

In May 2020, a **COVID sub-committee** was formed to advise the Board in navigating the myriad regulations related to the coronavirus. This committee has spent countless hours researching, understanding, and staying up-to-date with all the requirements. Special thanks goes to Chairman Mike Langeland, Erika Aalsma, Kent Deemter, Cara Dykstra, Tom Heyboer, Brian Kuiper, and Chad VanOverloop for all their extra work this year.

Long Range Planning Committee has been meeting to look at various models of the projected growth of HCS, and their report concludes that our current building and grounds can support enrollment projections for at least the next five years. At this point, it is thought that our best option for future expansion would be to construct a K-2 building on our current site. Just recently, the Board concurred with a Long Range Planning Committee recommendation to turn down the request of an adjacent property owner to purchase several acres of land by our baseball field.

On the **Technology** front, we all have a new appreciation for technology, because when it works well, it enables great flexibility in teaching and learning; but when it does not work well, the challenges and frustrations can be significant. We expended considerable time, effort, and money this year to set up classrooms for remote learning and teaching, and to

equip teachers with necessary tools to continue educating students when they needed to be home. Special thanks to this committee and volunteers for all the early mornings, evenings and weekends of installing, trouble-shooting, and correcting issues.

Via the **Building Committee**, the Board approved allowing Special Education to renovate a former storage room into usable classroom space. The Board has seen many examples of the great benefit of having Special Education students under the Heritage roof, and we are very thankful for the opportunity for all students to encourage and witness to each other. We also hired a new Facility Manager, Jeremy Lubbers, and we commend Jeremy for the excellent work he has done this year. The Building Committee coordinated expanding the sidewalk along the west side of the building for safer access, continued the ongoing carpet replacement program, coordinated repair of roof leaks and pipe leaks, and facilitated other capital improvements, ongoing repairs, and preventative maintenance. Lastly, we recently approved making much-needed improvements to the brown storage barn near the SW corner of school.

The **Transportation Committee** coordinated the purchase of a new 77-passenger bus at the beginning of the school year. Much effort went into ensuring safe busing again this year, including extra cleaning and seating requirements. Thanks again to our dedicated drivers and our transportation supervisor. Remember that we still have openings for bus drivers for next year, so please contact our transportation committee (transportation@hchr.org) if you are or know of someone that may be interested.

Four **board members are retiring** again this year, and we now take a moment to thank them for their three years of hard work and countless hours of laboring for the cause of Christian education. Kent Deemter served on the Education and Federation Board Committees, the COVID-19 Task Team, and was chairman of the Technology Committee. Tom Heyboer was the Foundation Board representative, served on the Publicity Committee, was chairman of the Transportation Committee and also served on the COVID-19 Task Team. Chad VanOverloop was chairman of the Building Committee for three years and has served on the Finance Committee and the COVID-19 Task Team. Lastly, Matt VanOverloop has served on the Education, Enrollment, Insurance, Salary, and Transportation Committees, and he led our Board as Vice-President last year and President this year. We express our gratitude to these men for their efforts, their expertise, their leadership, and especially their dedication to and zeal for Christian education. These men have worked on your behalf over the past three years; please extend your thanks to them as they complete their terms.

As watchmen on the walls of this school, our walk around the walls must not be solely focused on looking at the school itself. We must reflect on our personal lives and also look outward. We are and must be aware of the temptations of this world for our children. This is a

weighty calling for us as a body of believers – and I speak not just for us as a school board, but for us as fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers. The devil is working feverishly to lead us astray, and he pays particular attention to our children. For if our children go astray, there is no church and no school for the future. In Revelation, the dragon seeks to devour the remnant seed of the woman. How are we protecting our children against this? Are we building firm foundations and strong walls, or are we letting them be exposed to dangerous things? What are we teaching them at home by the way we act, by the way we talk about things, or by the way we talk about people? Are we teaching them to deal with conflict and sin properly? By our own language, do we teach them that gossip is ok? Or, that we can speak anything as long as it is true? Or, that we must always speak the truth IN LOVE? The devil wants the first two. The devil wants to tear away the filters of truth and love, which he knows will create tiny fissures in families and classrooms, fissures that will become wider cracks and eventually gaps and large breaches in the wall. As a board, we pray fervently for you, for us all – as husbands, as fathers, as heads of our homes – that we

may faithfully lead our wives and children in a way that glorifies God. And we covet your prayers for us as a Board, to have wisdom from God to make good decisions for this school. Pray for our school, for our churches, for our homes, and for our children, remembering and “being confident in this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ” (Phil. 1:6).

I said this last year, and I will say it again tonight: I encourage each of you – when we are able again – to walk the halls of this building, to see the Scripture and words of encouragement on the walls of the classrooms, to see children building Christian friendships that will last a lifetime, to hear teachers, staff, and volunteers pouring their hearts and souls into the instruction of our children. I know we will all appreciate this in a new and special way. May God bless all our labors, for we know that “Except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain” (Psalm 127:1).

Fundraisers Year End Report – Mrs. Dee VanOverloop, Secretary

Another year for Heritage is almost finished. What a year it has been! We managed to stay in person all year even though our classrooms, playgrounds, chapels, and devotions all looked a bit different. We want to take a moment to thank our school board and our Covid committee for having many meetings and for spending their time figuring out how to best run our school in these crazy times. We also would like to thank everyone for their generosity and willingness to help Heritage, even though most of our fundraisers weren't possible, and even meeting in person was not possible until our last meeting of the year.

There isn't much to report from a fundraiser stand point because of Covid. We did manage to have our Penny Wars fundraiser, and it seemed like a success. The kids all enjoyed getting involved and as one student put it, “Help pay for our school”. We hope to resume more fundraising for Heritage soon. As of right now it looks like the Fair Fundraiser will be possible. Please make sure you have signed up for shifts. Without the help of our parents and grandparents and other supporters this huge fundraiser would not be a success.

There are a few standing committees that were still able to help school in fundraising this year. We want to thank our TRIP ladies, our Hot Lunch ladies, the Family Fare

Direct Your Dollars ladies, and Box Top committees. These committees can go unnoticed but are truly important to helping school run and raise money for our school. So thank you to these ladies especially!

After a year like we have had I hope it has made all of us stop and think a bit about ways we can help at school. The purpose of Fundraisers is to help keep tuition down, which is something we all benefit from. Working together on fundraising opportunities creates bonds with others, especially because we are working together for a common cause. We hope to see all of you mothers at our first meeting of next year; watch your bulletins for an announcement in late August. Our officers for next year are President-Lori VanOverloop, Treasurer-Tara Koole, and Secretary- Julie Gritters.

I would also like to take a moment to thank our retiring officers: Susan King as president and Danielle VanOverloop as treasurer. [Additionally, we also take this opportunity to thank the retiring secretary, Dee VanOverloop, for her work this past year.] These ladies made our zoom meetings and our in person meetings run smoothly and truly have a heart for helping Heritage. We pray God continues to bless our efforts at Heritage and His name is glorified by all we say and do.

Let's Play Games – Mrs. Deb Altena

Summer is almost here. Teachers are concerned about summer regression, and students anticipate playing and forgetting all about school work. Parents attempt to balance the freedoms of summer with a little review through the summer as they purchase “Summer Bridge” workbooks and enroll their kids in the library reading clubs. These are all great activities to do with your children, but I have one more to add - play games! Games are a great way to keep your brain alert and review skills that have been taught throughout the school year. Not computer or video games, but games that parents and kids can play together. Listed are a few games that are put into different categories to show how they could benefit any player. Keep in mind that if a child is struggling in a certain area, the game may be challenging at first; be patient and keep working at it until it becomes a favorite game. A last word of warning – don't let your kids know these games are good for them, just let them have fun.

Fine Motor – Great games to work on improving the fingers, eye hand coordination and lay the groundwork for writing.

- Topple
- Connect Four
- Light Bright
- Operation

Math Facts – Fun ways to review the math facts

- Countdown by Cadaco (Good for addition, subtraction, multiplication & division)
- Head Full of Numbers by Learning Resources (Great for fact families)
- Pass the Pigs by Milton Bradley (Fun way to add to 100)
- Yahtzee
- Equate (The math version of Scrabble)

Math Place Value – Understanding order of numbers is foundational to more complex math problems.

- Racko (Place value of ones and tens must be understood with this game)
- Qwitch by Out of the Box (Fast and fun card game where the numbers or letters are sequenced up or down)

Left/Right and crossing the midline – The right and the left side of the brain must work together to make learning activities successful. Any games or exercises that cross the middle of the body using the left and right side simultaneously develop this basic skill.

- Street Rhymes/Clapping hand games with songs like “Miss Mary Mack” (Such an important game that kids don't play much anymore and it costs nothing!)
- Twister (Left/right, following directions and balance are all part of this game)
- Jumping Jacks

Planning and logic – Good planning is needed to figure out how to carry out and complete assignments.

- Battleship
- Guess Who
- Connect Four
- Sudoku
- Mastermind (Use logic and strategy to solve the code)
- Triazzles (Three sided puzzles pieces that take planning and logic to solve)
- Rush Hour (Navigate your car through a traffic jam with this puzzle)
- Quirkle (Match colors and shapes, but use strategy to gain more points)

Auditory Sequence and Active Listening – Remembering a sequence and holding it in memory is a needed skill for following directions and actively listening to the teacher.

- Battleship
- Telephone game
- Simon Says
- Red Light Green Light
- Bop-It and Bop-It Extreme
- Guess Who by Milton Bradley

Visual Memory – Holding pictures and letters in memory make spelling and copying from the board less of a challenge.

- Zingo by Binary Arts (Like bingo with a fun twist for quick recognition of matching pictures)
- Simon (Old game, but fun to challenge yourself how much you can remember)

Visual Planning – Understanding spatial relationships is important for many parts of learning, even for something as simple as knowing when to start the next word down a line.

- Blokus (Easy, quick game for all ages that takes strategy and planning)
- Trigon (Similar to Blokus, but with triangle shapes)

Visual Perception – Seeing patterns is important for learning and making connections with the materials being taught.

- Blink by Enterprises Inc. (Fast, fun game for children as young as 4 years old. You can be creative to adjust the “handicaps” to make it an equal race to match the shapes and colors)
- Set by Enterprises Inc. (Similar to Blink, but more challenging because you must match colors, shapes and numbers – Challenge yourself to find the relationships between the cards)

Spelling and visual patterning – Understanding the patterns found in words makes these games more fun; it also makes remembering how to spell easier.

- Boggle
- Quiddler by Enterprises Inc. (Fun for the young and old as you build words)
- Upwords by Milton Bradley
- Scrabble (Regular and junior versions are available)
- Chunk Stacker by Smart Kids (Keep building new words as you add to your word stacks)

Vocabulary Building – If language is low, it is challenging to understand what is being taught in the room. Vocabulary building can never be emphasized too much.

- Taboo

- Catch Phrase
- Scattergories by Parker Brothers (Good for word retrieval too)

Vigilance – An important skill to complete tasks efficiently. These are games for the child who has difficulties sustaining and completing the task.

- Bopit and Bopit Extreme
- Musical Chairs/Cake Walks
- Red Light-Green Light
- Simon Says
- Whack a Mole (A favorite for listening skills too)

Commitment – Mr. Greg Holstege

In normal years West Michigan is privileged to hold its annual 25K run in Grand Rapids, but this year due to Covid concerns it was not held. It is a run that starts in Grand Rapids and goes out along the Grand River and back into the city, covering a little over 15 miles and attracting some of the best long-distance runners from all over the world. Some of our own teachers and staff participate as well. It is a race that one doesn't decide overnight to run the next day or week but requires much training and diligence to prepare for a race like that. A race like that requires commitment, dedication to the cause one is striving for.

Commitment to a cause is something we all have in common here at Heritage Christian School. As teachers, we are committed to instructing the students that you send to us every day. The staff of Heritage has prayerfully committed their lives and instruction to teach His students the fear of God in the various subjects they have been taught. Many hours of training and preparation have gone into their teaching so that your children grow in the Spirit of truth. No matter what the subject may be, the staff of Heritage is committed to use their abilities to instruct the covenant youth. They have taken classes, gone to seminars, instructed each other at conventions, and just shared ideas at school, ideas that have all been used for the enhancement of the education of the students given to us by you.

This commitment has been made even stronger due to the events surrounding us today with Covid concerns and the concerns involving the division found in our churches. Our teachers are committed to teach your children in the light of the truths of the Scriptures as found in the Reformed faith as expressed in our Protestant Reformed Churches. There are those who have left our churches recently who have questioned "whether we are still good Christian schools?" I assure you that the answer to that question is a resounding, "YES!!!" The staff and school board are committed to continue providing a Protestant Reformed education for you and your children here at Heritage. At HCS, we remember the words of Proverbs 22:6, "**Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it**".

Commitment is something our students need to have as well in order for them to benefit from the teachers' instruction. The class of 2021 will have gone through 10 years of instruction at Heritage, learning much about the world they live in, much about their spiritual well-being, and the commitment and dedication to living the life of a pilgrim of God who sojourns through this world. As it is put in I Corinthians 9:24, "**Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one received the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.**" Graduates, keep your eyes on the prize described here as you move on to high school and the years following. Continue to be committed to your Reformed faith and love of God no matter where God has put you.

Many of our students have learned about commitment when playing on our junior high sports teams. The players realize that all need to practice together, play together, to have fun together, and to have a successful season. That is one of the reasons why practice is important for our teams or why practice is important for our bands or choirs to be able to perform to the best of the abilities God gave them. If one is not committed to the activity at hand, the team/band/choir suffers for it. No matter what activity, one needs to be dedicated to that activity. Sometimes that means the sacrifice of other activities or things one might want to do, such as playing a computer game instead of practicing their instruments.

Commitment is also a trait to the parents who send their children to Heritage or other Christian schools. One only needs to see a tuition bill or the school budget and realize that financially there has to be a commitment for our parents to make to ensure the running of our schools. If there is not that commitment, the schools will struggle to meet the financial responsibilities that have been placed on them. That might mean certain sacrifices on the part of our parents in areas of life to continue the support of the kingdom causes we have in our lives. Are we ready to forsake certain things in life so that the schools and churches are supported? Remember that our actions are seen by our children and they learn their view of the kingdom causes from us as parents.

Are we modeling that to our children in the way we as parents view the education process of the students? As

the years go by in my teaching career, I feel a slipping of that commitment by some of our parents. There are more vacations being taken by parents during the school year which hinders the educational process of the students and the teachers involved. I see/hear of students taking days off to go shopping, hunting, fishing, or leaving school a few days early to get a head start on Christmas or spring vacation and wonder what kind of message is being sent not only to the children of those parents but also to their friends concerning the commitment of Christian education. We are role models to our children and need to remember that our actions do have consequences that affect others. We can show our commitment to Christian education by showing our

interest in their school day, their homework (making sure it's done and checking their grades), and their genuine well-being in the classroom.

God has given us a blessed gift of our Christian schools. May He continue to give us the wisdom and strength to use these schools to ensure that future generations of covenant children may benefit from our commitment to Christian education. When we host Grandparents' Day at Heritage, one can see the tremendous zeal and commitment coming from them as they visit the classrooms and interact with our students. May we hold to that commitment as teachers, students, and parents as we conclude this year and pass that commitment on to our children in the years to come.

Thou Hast Ordained Praise: Choir During Covid – Mr. Dan VanDyke

God's Name will be praised. In Luke 19, when Jesus came into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, the Pharisees wanted Him to rebuke His followers for praising Him in ways that were inappropriate in their minds. Jesus said, "...if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out." God's Name will and must be praised - even out of the mouths of our children whose faces and voices have been hindered by masks.

It's been a truly humbling year. God has reminded all of us that we aren't in control and we often don't get what we want. Losing all choral and congregational singing for such an extended period of time has been especially difficult for those who are fed and blessed by voices lifted in song to praise our mighty God. Early in the Covid experience, I'm sure many saints turned to Youtube and other recordings as a meager substitute for the many concerts that would normally have taken place during the spring season.

When I learned of the restrictions that would be in place for our Junior High choir, I almost despaired of getting any worthwhile education out of our choir classes this year. How could I possibly teach kids how to improve their singing skills when I can hear about 80 percent of their volume, can determine about 15 percent of their diction, and can see 0 percent of their mouths? At a recent choir period, we compared the sound of masked vs. unmasked voices. The difference was dramatic. The masked voice sounded like we were all singing into a pillow. Along with these challenges were the daunting logistics of social distancing with all its obstacles: a rehearsal venue big enough to accommodate 120 singers at six feet spacing, a wireless microphone functional enough to project my voice to such a space, a method of classroom management effective enough to

persuade choir students still to work hard at this business of praise, etc. Even to teach ear training, the time it took me simply to walk through the choir and hear every child's voice took at least three times as long as it normally does. The challenges seemed too many and too diverse to begin to manage. But God's Name will be praised.

Accepting the challenges as well as we could, we set about to get as much out of choir as possible. Now here's the most humbling part. Contrary to my scant expectations, these students impressed me time and again with their willing, if not cheerful, compliance to the regulations and their determination most days to make the most of choir despite the hurdles. They were a constant reminder to me that even when conditions aren't ideal, God calls each one of us to serve and praise Him in the place and situation into which He has placed us. Yes, there were frustrations, but the triumphs outnumbered them.

When it came time when we were allowed to remove our masks and hold choir outside, the educational cost of the hindrances was clear, but God's Name was praised and is being praised every choir period and every day in classrooms throughout the school. The hindrances may be out of our control, but our response to them isn't. I am so thankful that God has blessed us all with these godly children who truly delight to praise His Name. In fact it was my students who asked that we take time for classroom singing once a week. This year will not soon be forgotten by any of us, but I hope we all remember best the lessons our children taught us that God's Name WILL be praised, by us or others or stones. What a joy to be given a place among the choir of all ages who praise His Name both on earth and in heaven above.

Break – Mrs. Rhonda Holstege

Summer is a time that parents and children get to unwind from all the daily routines of school. It is a time for vacation and fun with family and friends. We tend not to think about the upcoming school year until it gets closer to August. The weather is too nice to hardly even

think of saying the word "school". We love the outdoors and everything that may go with that. But summer can be a time to strengthen some skills that maybe need to be worked on. They are still able to have fun throughout

the day, but can accomplish a lot with parent help in regards to learning.

The first thing that will need to be accomplished is setting up a time that will work for your family to learn. If you don't mentally prepare yourself, the learning will probably never happen. When our children were little, they used to enjoy going to the library to pick out their favorite books. During school it might be a little busy, so summer was a great time to keep up with their reading. Challenge them to pick out books that they like to read, or otherwise they will sit on the counter until the next library visit. There are some online resources that may be utilized as well, if you have the opportunity. The online resources may help with comprehension, as the parent might not always have time to question the child and what was read or understood in a chapter book.

Math is another subject to work on over the summer. Flashcards are always easily available and can be looked at even while traveling, so long as they don't get carsick. Sometimes the dollar stores carry workbooks, more so for the lower grades, that kids love to work on when they are bored. This might be more exciting for girls rather than boys, but it was not too hard to get a boy to do one page a week. Set lower goals and if that is

accomplished, they feel like they are succeeding. The goal may be raised to fit your child's needs.

Writing is another important skill that may be worked on over the summer. We have our IEW program up and running. The children mostly know how to write a sentence or a paragraph(s). Use the summer fun to write about what they did in the past week. Use the dressup words, look in a dictionary for more exciting words, and read their work to their siblings or parents for practice reading out loud at home.

Lastly, maybe your child has a specific skill that you would like them to work on. You know your child. A little practice over the summer will give them some encouragement to have the confidence to come to school at the start of the year. Do a little bit each week or even every other week. It will soon become routine and they can still enjoy the outdoors as well. Think about how much screen time they have during a specific day. If your child is able to do that without complaining, they should be able to do a little bit of 'practice' as well. I know, it does all sound so simple on paper, so here is to hoping you can instill in your child, a little bit of excitement for summer learning. Enjoy your summer break!!

Lessons From Nature – Mrs. Sandy Glashower

This past year for devotions the fourth graders heard daily readings about God's amazing creation. We learned many wonderful details about numerous animals God created. The fourth graders chose one of these animals and shared a lesson it taught them about God.

- 1) **Autumn:** The Horned Toad Lizard can shoot blood out of its eyes and into the enemies mouth to protect itself. I learned that we can protect ourselves by reading God's word and praying.
- 2) **Karissa:** The Arctic Fox can live without food for up to three weeks. I learned, I should be thankful for what I have and not want what others have.
- 3) **Anthony:** The adult pandas care for their young which taught me to care for others and show kindness.
- 4) **Aisha:** I learned that in order to save an animal like the manatee, you need wisdom. Where do we get wisdom? We get wisdom from God. We must trust God to give us the wisdom to do things.
- 5) **Addie:** Like the lady bug who keeps the humans homes from becoming full of insects, God keeps us from being full of sin.
- 6) **Landon:** Unlike the little fish that is lured into the Alligator Snapping Turtles mouth, God doesn't fall into the trap of Satan. He overcomes Satan's evil.
- 7) **Ella:** Pandas are very rare because they are becoming extinct. The Bible tells us about something else that's rare in people's lives which is Jesus. He did a rare thing. We should be more like Jesus and be kind and stick up for friends.
- 8) **Joseph:** I learned from the underwater Sawfish that God gave it a saw to be able to eat and stay alive. God gives us gifts and talents so we must use them to the glory of God. We must always show mercy to others.
- 9) **Calli:** Chimpanzees make us laugh. In Ecclesiastes 3:4 it says, "A time to weep, a time to laugh, a time to mourn, and a time to dance." I learned that laughter is an important part of our lives. God created it so we can do it.
- 10) **Leyton:** I learned from the tiger that its life isn't easy. It has to hunt for its food everyday. Food is hard to catch for the tiger. For me, my life isn't always easy. Sometimes I have hard things to do, but God helps me through the hard times.
- 11) **Julia:** I learned God protects us like the whale protects his pod. God watches over us, helps us, and wants us to be kind, gentle, and friendly.
- 12) **Adalyn:** The Arctic Fox is very dependent on itself to live. I learned I am not dependent on God and I must try to depend on God more.
- 13) **Evan:** The crocodile is strong and mighty just like our God is. God can protect us in time of need. If you feel unprotected then go to God in prayer and ask Him for His help.
- 14) **Ethan:** I learned from the Raccoon Dog that he is willing to change what food he eats. God wants us to change too. He wants us to repent from our sins.
- 15) **Asher:** Like the beaver prepares his home for his family, Jesus prepares a home for His family. I

also learned beavers warn their family about harm. God warns us too about sin.

- 16) **Rylan:** I learned that as the dolphin makes a long sound of clicks, we have to learn to control our tongues. God wants us to control our tongues so it does not say evil things and cause great damage and hurt.
- 17) **Thomas:** Mosquitoes hurt people by biting and sucking their blood. We can hurt people too by backbiting and gossiping.
- 18) **Kayla:** Ghost Crabs are the same color as the sand and live in holes on sandy beaches. Even though we can't see the ghost crab very well, we know that it's there. The same with Jesus. We can't see Him but we know that He is there.
- 19) **Jordynn:** In nature, certain types of fish can fool you. I learned that Satan can fool us too. We need to look to God to help us because we are sinners.
- 20) **Case:** I learned from the Imitating Cat Bird that we have to imitate God. We have to love, forgive, and be slow to anger like God. We also should stick up for our friends and protect them.

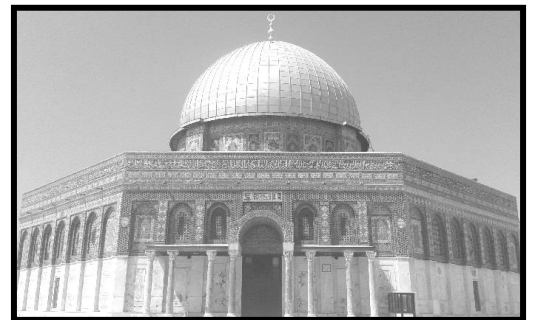
- 21) **Hannah:** I learned that leopards do not mix well with humans. They have their own place in nature. We too have our own place in God's nature and we have to use His nature the right way.
- 22) **Madison:** I learned from the Surgeon Fish that it has a unique name. Everyone has a unique name but there is one name that stands above all names which is Jesus. Jesus' name describes him. We must look up to Him and say, "There is no other name that is more powerful and precious than your name Jesus."
- 23) **Hunter:** Caterpillars spend lots of time eating. I learned to spend less time eating and more time with God. I must set aside time to pray to God.
- 24) **Brittney:** I learned that like the beaver who makes his home for his family; so too, God prepares a place in heaven for us.
- 25) **Nolan:** Grizzly bears are wild creatures who are dangerous to humans. I learned when Christ returns, grizzly bears and humans will roam and live together in peace as God intended.

Antichrist – Signs in Our Times – Mr. Bill Joostens

In recent weeks, the eighth grade has been studying a fitting current end times topic of the antichrist. We have observed many examples of antichrist's deceits and wily tactics in our times. Tenets of antichrist are varied and of every label of belief that is contrary to scripture to appeal broadly to reprobate man throughout the world. His goal is unifying the world around humanistic belief that man himself is "god." This convincing argument (to the reprobate mind) is to unite humanity in worship of antichrist as he promises them utopia on earth and each follower is supported to realize their dream to do what is right in their own eyes, i.e. worship of self. Thus antichrist leads man in direct opposition to the commandments of the one only true God of heaven and earth to worship Him and Him alone (Luke 4:8). Ultimately, antichrist's methods are employed by Satan who gives antichrist his power (Rev 13:2) in an attempt to identify, ostracize and destroy the members of the true church of Christ. We must take unto ourselves the whole armor of God (Eph. 6:13-17) in this battle of faith to the end. Only then can we stand against the wiles of the Devil in these last times.

By way of many examples in the study of the antichrist deceits in beliefs, movements, and teachings in history and to the present, we have observed how scripture as the standard of truth exposes antichrist's evil tactics. Following is first a short synopsis of just two of the many examples we've observed that alert us to the ways antichrist is visible in the world in our times. Then be sure to read on to a sampling of student responses to this application question "In what ways are you as a believer called to battle against the antichrist and his spirit in your life now and in the future?"

Judaism- For a first example, we might look at Judaism. Do you realize that the Jews, having denied the true Christ, are still looking for the coming of their messiah? In preparation, they are collecting and fabricating materials, utensils and furnishings for the THIRD and final rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem on the Temple Mount. They hope to eventually obtain the right to carry out the third rebuild of the Temple of God on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem where the Islamic shrine of the "Dome on the Rock" (*at right*) now stands.



This will be their climax of history since, by doing so, they believe they will usher in the coming of their "Messiah" who finally establishes his earthly kingdom in Jerusalem fulfilling the Old Testament. They prophesy all nations of the earth will come together under their "Messiah's" rule at that time. We considered the Jews working toward this unity of all nations and the establishing this earthly empire by a false Messiah as actually an embracing of the coming of the antichrist's final kingdom. Interestingly, 2 Thess. 2:1-12 prophesies of the events of antichrist coming to power sitting in the temple of god, saying that he is god.

Rastafarianism- A second example can be found in Rastafarianism, originating in Jamaica in the 1930's.

Were you aware that the Rastafarian religion follows the Prince Ras Tafari Makonnen who was crowned king of Ethiopia in 1930 (reigning 44 years thereafter) and took on a supposed "divinity" expressed in his assumed name "Haile Salassie" meaning "Might of the Trinity" and the title of "Conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah, Elect of God and King of Kings of Ethiopia"? The Rasta's believe he is the returned messiah of the Bible who is come to restore the position of the African (Ethiopian) peoples of the world in an earthly kingdom. The Rastas refer to their religious-life practices as "livity." Livity is the purely humanistic idea of self-righteous perfection in life, "everliving living," as they refer to it, made possible by the life-force given by Almighty Jah (blasphemously from the Hebrew: Yahweh) which exists IN all people, a combined god with self-called the "I and I". Through this life-force, the individual becomes divine (is Rasta'ed) and they refer to this inner divine nature as "I-Vine." Rastafarianism claims a false Christianity that's humanistic to its core and persuades its followers in heart and mind through its humanistic message of self-reliance and self-determination, that man himself is god.



The lion figure on the Rastafarian banner (they adopted the Ethiopian flag under Salassie's reign) (at left) intends to represent the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, but

instead is a betrayal of the truth. The religion is rather a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour - the antichrist.

As members of Christ's church, we must be ever watchful in our times and ready to expose and combat antichrist's lying deceptions with God's true Word. God calls us to oppose the antichrist personally every day through all life. It is critical for God's people of every age to be discerning and active in opposing him day by day. The "mystery of iniquity" is already at work (2 Thess. 2:7) and believers must pray for a "single" eye (Matt 6:22) in the light of truth to discern its deceptions in our times. Its advances are subtle, yet powerful temptations to the flesh in the present times. Let us instruct our sons and daughters to carry out this calling so that as they grow older they will not depart from it. Our youth in a conscious and persistent way, must battle...the following samples are students thought to this question: "In what ways are you as a believer called to battle against the antichrist and his spirit in your life now and in the future?"

Zach Looyenga - We must oppose Antichrist using the truth of the gospel to expose the lies and heresies of the wicked world. We must also oppose him presently instead of waiting for an actual man to come, we must

fight his spirit, his ideas that grow in society, by preaching the truth of God's Word and exposing the lie.

Zach Korhorn - When antichrist tries to tempt us with the promise of peace, we must refuse. We are always in a battle against sin so we are fighting against antichrist every day. We must use the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures against antichrist in our fight against sin.

Jaxon Pipe - To teach our offspring to expose antichrist's lie and believe it itself, we must use the Word of God as our only tool and not believe the lie looking toward Christ as our only hope...we must know the Bible so we know it by heart because there will be days when we will not be able to have them, we must treasure and use the Word of God not man.

Logan Koole - I must be a witness to the unbelievers and attempt to convert them as well as expose the lie of antichrist. I must also not be afraid to tell my peers what's right or give in to peer pressure. And in the future I must speak up or against incorrect political and religious views. Also tell my children, nephews and nieces about God world and how to lookout for antichrist.

Kathleen Korhorn - WE should do it the same way as Jesus did. We should oppose the antichrist by exposing the lie and tell others the truth by preaching the gospel. We should also notice what is going on in the world around us and how that applies to the coming of the antichrist...we should oppose him in a spiritual manner using God's Word.

Ryan Kuiper - We as Christians are called to fight against the antichrist...we must use God's holy inspired Word. Through this and throughout life we must teach people like at our future job we can teach our co-workers... we can show them the way.

Ashlyn Van Overloop - Antichrist will use many things to try to turn us away from God such as TV, music, and more. We are called to turn from those things and use His Word and learn the truth.

Caleb Kleyn - I am called to oppose the lies of Satan, to watch and wait on the Lord for His coming and to oppose all heresy, ecumenism, and hedonism. Also as a believer I must oppose antichrist directly in my heart. In the future I must promote the gospel to all believers and point out Satan's temptations. I must constantly pray to God and serve Him. I must also be a witness to all and call others and myself to repentance.

Owen Heyboer - Tell friends or people in your class not to do wicked things, expose the lie by using the truth. Tell people not to watch bad videos. Tell people to not take God's name in vain. Tell people to not be mean to neighbors. Stay away from wicked things, read the Bible. oppose antichrist in your mind.

Benny Kuperus - To preach against antichrist's ideas, expose them to be a lie using the truth of God's Word. To not take part in any of the things of this world, not to be influenced by them.

Buckrey Machiele - We must think of this as a personal battle with antichrist and we have to not fall into the traps

of his and the false doctrines and attack him with the Word and truth of God's Word not with guns and tanks but attack him spiritually because...God is all powerful.

Maci Holstege - We are not to "wait" for antichrist to come because he is already present. We must oppose him now by exposing the heresies and lies in the churches today...We must use the Word of God which is the only way to defeat the antichrist.

JD Schimmel - We must oppose all the false religions and ministers and not join in on earthly, wicked activities and temptations and preach God's real Word to all, especially to those who are preaching it falsely and we must witness to people we come across such as our neighbors.

Michael Cnossen - We are to fight sin and heresy. We must NOT fall for the teachings of false christianity but to keep our ways rooted in God's Word alone. We must also, later in life, when we are given children, teach them the signs of the antichrist and show them what to look for.

Jonah Brummel - I can pray for God to protect our PR churches from heresy and humanistic teachings. I can spend time in God's Word to prepare to ward off the antichrist and I can watch for the sign of the end times.

Katelyn VanUffelen - We must oppose antichrist right now by promoting the truth. As teenagers we can oppose antichrist by not falling into sin by peer pressure and we can't follow everyone else because it's popular. In the future, we must oppose antichrist by telling everyone the truth...we have to fight him now.

Laura Gunnink - Right now we must have knowledge of the antichrist. We must oppose peer pressure and we must oppose all heresy. Right now we are surrounded by temptations that could lead us in the wrong way... we can learn to oppose those temptations and we should do so in a spiritual manner.

Ashlyn Kamps - As Christians, we are called to battle against antichrist with the truth of God's Word, by going to church every Sunday, catechism, Sunday school, all these means will help us fight against antichrist because the truth leads him away, it's a weapon we use.

Luke Dykstra - I am to oppose antichrist and all signs of him. Oppose the lie. Read scripture and learn about antichrist and how to battle him. Oppose humanism and hedonism. Pray to God for help in all this, we cannot do it alone. Monitor what we watch and listen to.

Science – Mr. Randy Kuiper

Teaching science is just one of the countless things I love about my job. The topics that we cover throughout second grade science are exciting to students, who truly enjoy the shift from reading, writing, and math around which much of our school day is concentrated. Even after eight years, I still enjoy the topics I teach, and it has been a blessing for me to learn more and more about the handiwork of God as I teach this subject. The main reason why teaching science has become so enjoyable for me is that I am able to help my students see the marvelous works of God in every science lesson. His creation, from the insects and planets, to the human body and plants, are amazing works of God's hand.

“By all His creatures let His Name be honored and adored; Let all that breathe, in praise unite to glorify the Lord.” Psalter 411, verse 2

With the start of school last fall, students began to study insects. Though many students are squirmish at first, they quickly realize how interesting insects actually are as they learn about a handful of insects that God has placed on this Earth. Often, we view insects as a nuisance, but students are able to see the many ways in which insects are beneficial to us. Did you know that ladybugs protect crops by eating aphids, an insect that destroys crops? Students also gain an appreciation for the honeybee, since it is the only insect that produces food for humans. By focusing on the positive aspects of insects during this unit, we can see how God's Name is honored and glorified by every creature, even insects.

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” Genesis 1:1

After wrapping up the unit on insects, students delve into the study of the solar system. What a drastic change this is to make the switch from some of the smallest creatures into the study of planets. It is often difficult for students to grasp an understanding of just how enormous this universe actually is. Earth, though extremely large to us, is just a speck compared to the universe in which we live. It's tough for second graders to comprehend that Jupiter is the size of more than 1,320 Earths, or that the sun is actually a medium sized star! Studying the solar system provides a wonderful opportunity for us to study the first verse in the Bible, which immediately proves that the solar system is the handiwork of God, and not created through any other means.

“For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.” Psalm 139:13-14

Soon after Christmas Break comes the study of the human body. During this unit, students love when a famous visitor, Mr. Bones, makes a special appearance in the classroom. Throughout this unit, students learn about the functions and parts of the skeletal, muscular, digestive, respiratory, circulatory, and nervous systems. Students always enjoy learning about the functions (jobs) of the individual systems, as well as the different organs within the body. However, students are truly amazed as they begin to learn about the ways that God has created these systems to work together. As students gain an introductory understanding of the

complexity of our bodies, it gives them fresh meaning to the certainty that every person is fearfully and wonderfully made by God.

“And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.” Gen. 1:29

As spring arrives, second grade wraps up with the study of plants. Students begin to understand how the tiniest seeds grow into mature plants, which then produce flowers and fruit for us to enjoy. Students cannot help but be amazed when they learn about the many different products that we get from plants. Who knew that crayons can be made from soybeans, and that just one acre of soybeans can produce over 82,000 crayons? Students also enjoy planting seeds in soil and observing the changes from day to day. Learning about the life cycle of plants gives us even more reason to enjoy the countless plants which grow around us.

Insects. Solar system. Human body. Plants. These four topics are fascinating in many ways, and provide multiple opportunities for us to praise God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us, His people. My second grade students recently wrote some sentences describing what unit(s) they have enjoyed and what interesting things they have learned in science class this year.

I loved learning about the solar system, because I loved learning about the different planets. Mercury is hot on one side and cold on the other side. Venus is the hottest planet, and Earth is the only planet with life. No one has traveled to Mars. Jupiter is the biggest planet, and Saturn has beautiful rings around it. Uranus is a cool blue color, and Neptune is the last of the eight planets.

Kaleb Joostens

I loved all of the units we studied in science, especially plants, because we grow plants. We grow beans, peas, lettuce, tomatoes, and potatoes in our garden at home.

Milo Hostege

I like insects. I learned that spiders are not insects because they have eight legs. Caterpillars are cool because they turn into butterflies. **Gerrard Kuiper**

I love science. Insects have a head, thorax, abdomen, two antennae, six legs, and exoskeleton. We also learned about Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. What kind of candy bar is in space? A Mars-bar! **Anderson Mowery**

My favorite unit in science was the solar system. My favorite planet is Jupiter because I love all of the colors. How does Jupiter hold up his pants? With an asteroid belt! **Alivia DeVries**

I like the solar system so much because we get to learn more about our Earth. Venus is the hottest planet. The world is great and wonderful, and it is all God's creation. **Arianna Engelsma**

I liked the unit on plants in science. We planted peas and beans. I planted a bean seed, and only two people

planted peas. I liked insects, too. We had butterflies in our classroom. Once when Mr. Kuiper let a butterfly go, it pooped on his hand. **Paige Butler**

I love science. My favorite unit in science was insects. I learned the six parts of an insect. I also liked the solar system. Did you know that Jupiter is a gas planet? How do you make a space party? You plan-it! **Silas VanOverloop**

My favorite science unit is plants. My favorite part was the plants that we planted. I planted a bean seed. My favorite plant is a rose. Did you know that God made roses to have thorns on their stems? **Aubrey Dykstra**

My favorite unit is the solar system, because I like planets. They are cool. My favorite planet is Neptune because I like the color. I also like Earth because it is cool and we live there. **Cade Schipper**

My favorite science unit is the solar system. My favorite planet is Jupiter because it is the largest planet. Stars can be bigger than the Earth. **Blake Noorman**

My favorite science subject is insects. Some insects go through complete metamorphosis and others go through incomplete metamorphosis. My second favorite subject is plants. A true fact is that some plants can be cut and they grow back. I love these subjects so much. **Brett Zandstra**

I liked the solar system unit because it has planets and I like planets. I like looking up in the sky, and I enjoy seeing the beautiful colors of the planets. I like Neptune because my name starts with N. Neptune is big! Did you know that the sun is not the biggest star? Isn't that cool? **Natalie Griffioen**

My favorite science unit is the solar system. I like science because it is different from all the other subjects. My favorite thing in the solar system is Saturn because it has beautiful rings. Saturn has more than one ring. **Amelia Kuiper**

My favorite unit in science is the solar system. It is so cool that we are so small and Jupiter is so BIG! My favorite planet is Jupiter. **Willem Kamps**

I liked learning about the solar system. I know that it was made by God. It was so cool, I actually got a little chilly. I also like learning about insects. For the human body, we did an experiment where we took crackers and pop and a plastic bag, and put the crackers and pop in the bag as a way to see what happens in our stomach. **Elsie Uittenbogaard**

I love science. It is fun. My favorite unit is the plants one. It was fun to plant plants. **Chase Zuverink**

My favorite science unit is insects. I liked the insect unit because we (my class) found butterfly larva and put them in a cage with milkweed. The caterpillars grew and turned into butterflies. **Ella DaGram**

My favorite science unit was the solar system. My favorite planet was Jupiter because of the Great Red Spot. My other favorite was Mars because it is the start of my name. **Marshall VanTil**

I liked the insects unit because insects are really cool. I liked learning about their life cycles. We even had caterpillars, which changed into butterflies. Butterflies can have a lot of colors on their wings. I also like praying mantises because they are pretty. Science is awesome! **Gracie Lotterman**

My favorite science unit was plants because we were able to grow plants. We put seeds in cups with dirt and watered them while we waited for them to become plants. At the end of the year, we can take them home. **Cameron Boverhof**

I really like the solar system because I like planets. I also liked learning about comets and asteroids. My favorite planet is Jupiter because it is the biggest planet. Mercury is the closest planet to the sun. One of the phases of the moon is the crescent moon. **Jacob Brummel**

My favorite science unit was the solar system. My favorite planet is Saturn because it has very cool rings. I also like Jupiter because it is huge. **Samuel Byker**

Geography – Mr. Rick Gritters

In 5th Grade Geography, we learn the fact that there are 2 ways to know and understand God: the Bible and the Creation. The Bible is the main way that God teaches us about Himself. And God gives us faith to believe that what the Bible says is true and without error. He also gives us faith to understand and believe that what we see in the world around us was made by Him during the 6 days of creation. When we study the Geography of the United States in 5th Grade,, we are studying a part of God's Creation. The rugged mountains,, the winding rivers,, the blue lakes, the open plains are all part of the amazing beauty of God's World.

The following Informative Reports were writing assignments stemming from a contest we had recently. Our Geography bulletin board displayed 14 various well known places (some man-made, some natural) throughout the country and world. Using their knowledge of the world as well as the internet, 5th Graders attempted to name as many of these places as possible. In the end, each student chose one of these places to research and learn more about, and the following is a result of their hard work.

The Eiffel Tower - Carter Potjer

The Eiffel Tower in Paris, France has been in lots of movies and over 3,600 drawings. One reason is because of its height. The tower is 324 meters tall. It was the tallest building in the world until 1930. It is taller than the Chrysler building by 5.2 meters. One person died when he was trying to parachute off the Eiffel Tower. The tower is so tall that it takes 300 steps to get to the first level and 1,665 to get to the top.

The Eiffel Tower's nickname, La dame de fer (Iron lady), is very fitting because it is mostly made of iron. Iron is very heavy. Each square meter weighs 7.8 tons. It weighs a total of 10,100 tons. Even though iron is strong, the tower still sways up to 9cm in the wind.

The large size of the tower means it needs large numbers of materials and time. It took two years, two months and five days to build the tall Eiffel Tower. It gets repainted every seven years. It takes 25 painters five months to paint the Eiffel Tower. They use fifty tons of paint. It takes 20,000 light bulbs to light up the tall Eiffel Tower.

There have been more than 250 million visitors to the Eiffel Tower since it opened in 1890. The ten-ton cars

carry 65 people at a time to the top. It takes eight minutes and five seconds to do a round trip of the Eiffel Tower. There is a 360 degree view from the top of the monument. There are also a couple of restaurants in the Eiffel Tower to eat at.

All of these interesting facts about the Eiffel Tower make me want to visit it someday. Would you like to visit the Eiffel Tower some day?

Space Needle Report - Brendan Wigger

The Space Needle is one of the most recognizable places in the world. It was built on April 21, 1962 for a world fair. It is in Seattle, Washington state. It is 605 ft. high. The top house on the Space Needle is 520 ft. wide. Edward E. Carlson first sketched the top house of it on a napkin. It took about 400 days to make it. 1.3 million people visit it a year and 60 million people have visited it since its grand opening. It cost 4.5 million dollars to build it. The workers got \$3.92 each hour they were building it.

It weighs 9,550 tons. It took 5,600 tons of concrete for the Space Needle's foundation. It took 74,000 bolts to build it. The Space Needle was built where there was an old fire station.

There can only be around 25 people in the elevator at once. On average around 20,000 people go up this elevator each day. It takes 43 seconds to go from the bottom to the top. It goes 10 miles per hour. Every minute it goes about 800 ft.

It has 25 lightning rods on the roof in case it is struck by lightning. It can withstand 200 mile per hour winds, and category 5 hurricanes. When it was finished, it was the tallest building west of the Mississippi River.

On April 19, 1999 the Preservation board of the city designated it a historic landmark. It has a rotating glass floor, and you can lean against tilting glass walls on an open-air deck. It's wasp-waisted shape was inspired by an abstract sculpture by an artist with the name of Don Lemon. It was called "The Feminine One." It is owned by the Wright family. The property for it is 74 acres. In 2018 it was renovated to make the experience even better. The renovation cost 100 million dollars.

The Space Needle sounds like it would be very cool to go to. There are even restaurants there! I would be glad to go there. Would you be willing to go there and be that high up?

Leaning Tower of Pisa - Alexis Looyenga

When I saw the Leaning Tower of Pisa up on the bulletin board, I thought it was nothing but a boring, white tower. But when I did a report on it and learned more about it, I thought that it was really interesting.

The Leaning Tower is located in Piazza de Dun mo, 56126 Pisa Pi Italy. The height of this amazing tower is 186 feet. There are also 8 floors and 296 feet. The tower weighs 14,000 tonnes and leans at 3.99 degrees. This building cost about 4,100,000 dollars. 5,000,000 people go to visit the amazing building almost every year.

The starting and ending of this tower was really impressive. The Leaning Tower of Pisa was slowly built in 1173 and ended in 1399. This tower was opened in 1372. The Foundation was laid 3 meters into the ground. The Leaning Tower of Pisa was built on soft ground of clay, fine sand and shells. It started to lean in 1178, when the builders finished the second floor.

The Tower has a really cool nickname. The Leaning Tower of Pisa is also called the Bell Tower. The tower has 7 bells and each one of them weighs over 8,000 lbs.

The tower is impressive because it does not fall. The leaning tower of Pisa does not fall because its center of gravity has been carefully kept within its base. Steel Cables helped pull it back into its original position.

Well, when I finished this report, I learned quite a bit about the leaning tower of pisa. And when I learned that 5 million people went there almost every year, I was more tempted to go there when I am older. I hope you liked the report that I did.

The Roman Colosseum - Ethan denHartog

I first became interested in the Colosseum when I read a book that took place there in first or second grade. The book was called Ranger in Time, Danger in Rome. I hope you like my report!

The Colosseum was built between 72 A. D. and 81 A. D. [Only nine years!], and building started 7 years before Mt. Vesuvius exploded, destroying Pompeii. It was made from stone, concrete, using slave labor. It is the largest amphitheater in the world, reaching 6 acres total. It is 620 ft. long [189m.], 512 ft. wide[156m.], and 159 ft. tall[50m.]. The builders also made a cloth awning to protect spectators from rain and sunlight, like a gigantic umbrella. The awning was supported by 240 masts, and was extended by sailors.

The Colosseum was used for 4 centuries. It had 76 entrances/exits and could seat about 50,000 spectators, about half the amount as the Michigan Stadium. The seating arrangement was like this; Senators in the front, officials were second, citizens and soldiers were third, and women and slaves in the back. It had a wooden floor covered in sand. Games included mock sea battles, gladiator fights, remakes of famous battles, and animal hunts. The colosseum may have gotten its name from a statue of the emperor Nero, called the Colossus of Nero, which was 30 ft tall.

The colosseum still stands today. In recent years the Colosseum has been visited by about 6 million people

per year. It has been damaged by pollution and is a modern wonder of the world.

Here are some interesting facts that I found. There was free food for spectators. There were passages underneath the arena for storage of animals, slaves, scenery for hunts, and other things for the events. There were also trapdoors for special effects. In animal hunts some uncommon animals were used. Some of the animals that were used were: tigers, lions, elephants, giraffes, bears, rhinos, crocodiles, and panthers

That is what I found out from the websites I checked out. I have never been to the Colosseum but I would really like to. Would you like to visit the Colosseum someday?

Washington Monument - Evelyn Langerak

The Washington Monument is in Washington D.C. I have never been to it but it sounds very interesting. I hope you like my report and learn a lot.

The Washington Monument was built in 1848 and finished in 1884. The designer was Robert Mills. The plans to build it began before Washington was elected President. It was the first monument built. There are 36,000 stones in it. They stopped for 23 years because they did not have enough money and because of the Civil War. That is why it is lighter in color on the bottom than on the top. Then construction started back up again in 1877. It is made of granite and sand stone. It was opened to the public on October 9, 1888. It took 30 years to complete and is 173 years old. It cost \$1,187,710 to build and is estimated 100,000 tons.

The Washington Monument has a lot of features and details. There are 50 American flags around it. The address is 2 15th St. NW Washington D.C.20024. It is 555 feet and $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch tall. It has 896 stairs in it. It is the tallest obelisk in the world. An obelisk is a tall, 4 sided, narrow tapering monument which ends in a pyramid like shape at the top. There is not a building that is allowed to be taller in Washington D.C.

It was cracked on August 23, 2011 from an earthquake. It was a 5.8 earthquake. The crack was 1 inch wide and 4 feet long.

The estimated number of visitors is 25 million people every year. The visitors are not allowed to go in the stairwell anymore because so many people who were out of shape kept passing out.

The elevator used to only allow men and the elevator ride is 20 minutes long to the top.

Gateway Arch Fun Facts - Morgan Karsemeyer

When I was going to the largest Arch in all of history with my family and relatives, I thought it was going to be fun! But it was funner than I expected. Everything amazed me! I was so glad that I was there to see it all. And I hope to see it again.

The construction and designing was interesting when I learned about it. This arch was designed by a person named Eero Saarinen. He designed it in 1947 and won a contest with the arch. The arch was constructed in 1963-1965. The cost to build the Arch was \$13 million and the

company thought that during the construction 13 workers would die. To construct it they had to demolish 40 blocks for the foundation. When they constructed the arch they made it to withstand earthquakes. The company also made it as wide as it is tall. On the top they put 16 windows on each side and made the foundation sink 18 meters underground and they also put the visitor center underground too. The arch was constructed to sway only one inch in a 20 mph wind! When they made the trams the building cost \$ 1,977,750 equivalent to \$ 190 million today. On June 10, 1967 the arch was open to the public.

The arch had over 4 million visitors in all and has 3 modes of transportation: the trams, an elevator, and stairs (1,067 stairs). The trams traveled 250,000 miles by going up and down the arch by 2007 conveying more than 25 million passengers! The stairs were only for emergencies.

These are some fun facts that I am going to share with you. The most fun fact that I like which I am going to share with you right now is that only one person died at the arch by parachuting and the parachute wouldn't come out so he fell to his death. And on the bottom people scratched graffiti from 5-7 feet high on the wall! This 192 meter arch also became the centerpiece of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. The Gateway Arch also appeared as the symbol for Missouri!

I loved it when we went to the Gateway Arch! And I hope to go there with my relatives and family again. I also hope that I will learn more about this wonderful Arch! Hope you enjoyed these facts.

Big Ben - Olivia Bleyenber

Hi my name is Olivia! For my report I picked Big Ben. I picked Big Ben because it is such a big clock! It is so amazing how people made this. Before you jump into reading it, I hope you like it.

Big Ben has been around for 178 years! They started to make it on September 28, 1843. It was finished on May 31, 1859. It took them around 16 years to build it! And cost them 35 million dollars to make.

It is the biggest clock in the world! It is 315 feet tall. It weighs 15 tons. The minute hand is 14 feet long and the hour hand is 9 feet long. They had to replace 2 sides of the clock because Germany attacked it in 1941.

Big Ben is a symbol of the United Kingdom. There are four faces on the clock, each one showing the right time. Each face has a diameter of 23 feet. There are 334 steps between the ground and Big Ben's belfry. A belfry is basically the top of the clock.

I wish I could see it in real life because it is so big! It is amazing how it still has the right time because it is so old.

That was my report on Big Ben. I hope you liked it. And it was interesting. See yah!

Gateway Arch - Sarah King

I love how the Gateway Arch looks. It is located in St. Louis, Missouri. It is a national park near the Mississippi

River. I have already been there once, but I would like to see it again.

Building the Gateway Arch cost a lot of money and took lots of work. It cost about 13 million dollars to build and over 3 million dollars to make the elevator, Tram, and the stairs. But the stairs are only for emergencies. The arch was made hollow so that visitors are able to ride the tram up to the top for views of the city. They began building it on February 12, 1963 and finished it 2 ½ years later, on October 28, 1965. In order for the arch to be built, they needed about 5,000 workers. The arch was built as a memorial to Thomas Jefferson for opening up the west. It was first called the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. It was later named The Gateway Arch after the name of a city play. Finally, on June 10, 1967 it was opened to the public.

The way that the Gateway Arch is designed is very impressive. It was designed by a Finnish- American architect, Eero Saarinen in 1947. The arch is 630 feet tall and the distance between its legs is equal to its height. The total weight of the arch is 43,220 pounds. It is the tallest memorial in the United States. Saarinen designed it to be very stable to withstand high winds and earthquakes. They used over 80,000 tons of steel in construction. The arch has foundations that go 18 meters into the ground, and it has 11,000,000 rivets.

Although I don't remember it much, I know that our vacation to St. Louis was a wonderful vacation. My family and I went there to see the Gateway Arch when I was 2 years old. It was a very hot vacation, the weather was about 103 degrees. The arch was huge and there were many people there. Each year over 4 million people visit the gateway arch. My Dad and my brothers went up into the arch but I was too young to go in it so I stayed back with my mom. We also went to a museum near the Gateway Arch.

The Gateway Arch is a wonderful place. I loved studying it and getting fun facts for it. I know that I learned very much when we started doing this report. I hope someday we can do this again and then maybe I can pick a new place and learn a lot about that too.

Golden Gate Bridge - Ely S. Hopkins

The Golden Gate Bridge is a suspension bridge found in California, U.S.A. It's an amazing, orange structure. This bridge is found in San Francisco, CA. It attracts more than 10 million people each year, and 120,000 vehicles every day, which is not surprising since it is one of the 7 modern wonders of the world.

It crosses over the Golden Gate Strait, which is where it got its name. The bridge is a quick way to get to Marin County from San Francisco or the other way around. Before the Golden Gate Bridge was built, it took hours to drive around the strait, or take a ferry across the strait.

Though many obstacles stood in their way, the designers still built the beautiful golden bridge. The bridge construction began on January 5, 1933 and was finished on April 19, 1937. Back then, the Golden Gate Bridge cost \$35 million, and in today's money, it

would've been \$514 million. It wasn't opened until May 27, 1937, 1 month and 8 days later. It took 4 years to build. Eleven workers died during the construction. There was also an earthquake during the building of the Golden Gate Bridge.

The whole suspension bridge weighs 887,000 tons (1,774,000,000 pounds). The 2 cables holding the bridge up each weigh 24,500 tons each, or 490 million lbs. Each tower weighs 44,000 tons, or 88,000,000 pounds.

The bridge, before it was built, was known as the "bridge that couldn't be built", but it was built, and for a time it was known as the longest bridge in the world. It is 8,981 feet long (1.7 miles), 90 feet wide, and the towers 746 feet tall. Each tower is 700 feet above the water and 100 feet below. The bridge's deck is 250 feet above the water.

It took several months to figure out the color. The navy wanted it painted like a bumblebee. Then the Army Air Corps wanted it red, with white stripes, the colors of a peppermint. But in the end, the bridge was painted with "International Orange".

The Golden Gate Bridge represents my homeland. Whenever I think of California, the bridge appears in my mind. I don't remember seeing it, but I probably visited it when I was really young. I hope you enjoy my report on the Golden Gate Bridge.

Mt. Rushmore - Owen Zuverink

Mt. Rushmore is an amazing place. It starts off with flags on each side of the cement walkway then it opens up to a place with some buildings, and finally Mt. Rushmore. There are a lot of bleachers. They lead down 100 rows. It's crazy! We went down to the bottom bleachers and looked up and we saw how big it really was.

It was built in 1927-1941. It is found in the Black Hills of South Dakota. They carved and chiseled for 14 years! At first most people didn't know what they were doing; they thought it was just a mountain. Then they heard that they were carving 4 presidents on Mt. Rushmore! Over 400 people helped build it. There is a secret tunnel behind Abraham Lincoln's head called the Hall of Records. It is supposed to hold the Constitution, Declaration of Independence, and all of the information about the presidents in brass safes. It is built 5,725 ft. above sea level. In 2019, the last living carver named Nick Clifford died.

There are four presidents on the mountain. George Washington, Theodore Roosevelt, Thomas Jefferson, and Abraham Lincoln. Each president sculpture was supposed to be waist down on each president but they ran out of funds and couldn't finish. George Washington is the most finished. (you can see the top of his coat) Each head is over 60 feet tall.

The National Park has, in all time, received \$142.2 million from tourists only. The credit/design is to historian Doane Robinson. In 2018, they got \$2.3 million.

I had a very interesting and fun time and I bet if you went there you would too. I don't want to give away too much information so you'll have to look it up. It's cool and you'll

have lots of fun! All you have to do is convince your parents.

Big Ben - Nolan Corson

Big Ben is a huge clock tower in London, England. Its nickname is the Great Bell. It was renamed from the Elizabeth Tower.

It was designed by Augustus Pugin and his team and they started building it on September 28, 1845. It was completed on May 31, 1859 and it stands 316 feet (96m). The dials on the clock are 22.5 feet in length (6.9m). It's been there for about 150 years and has 5 bells. It was one of the largest buildings for about 23 years. Later, the designer Pugin died of an illness in 1852.

There used to be a palace there called the Palace of Westminster. It was destroyed by a fire so they rebuilt it. While they rebuilt it they started building Big Ben with it.

It's probably a really fun place to visit. But it has been closed down from Covid. Hopefully I could go there sometime because it was really fun doing research on it.

ALCATRAZ - Zach Pols

Alcatraz is an island in a bay and is in San Francisco, California. Alcatraz is also known as the Rock. Alcatraz was built in the 1850's as an army base but it wasn't needed so they turned it into a prison in 1909. Then it closed in 1934. The size of the island is 22 acres.

This prison was for the worst people. Here are some people who were at Alcatraz. The first person in Alcatraz was Frank Bolt. The last person at Alcatraz was Frank C. Weatherman. The worst person at Alcatraz was Robert Stroud, because he killed many people.

Alcatraz is hard to escape. The water is 43 feet deep and it has sharks swimming around the island. They are mostly leopard sharks and they do not eat humans. Three people escaped from Alcatraz and were never heard from again.

Alcatraz is the most haunted prison. People love stories about possible ghosts wandering in the prison haunting it. We know it's not true.

One cell is 9 feet deep, 5 feet wide, and 7 feet tall. Each cell has a sink, toilet, bed, and a desk.

I would go there if I could. I liked doing research on it.

The Colosseum - Joselyn Brummel

When I first saw a picture of the Colosseum, I didn't know about all the history it had, until I read about it. While I was reading about it, I learned a little bit about what sports they did back then and after that I decided that I was going to do the Roman Colosseum for my report.

The Colosseum is an interesting building. It is old and constructed well. The Colosseum is in Rome, Italy and is also known as the Flavian Amphitheatre. They started to build it in 72 AD during the reign of Emperor Vespasian. It was completed in 81 AD during Emperor Titus' reign. Then during Emperor Domitian's reign it was changed a little bit. Emperor Domitian added a fourth floor and then finished the interior seating. It is 156 meters wide and

189 meters long and is as tall as a 12 story building. It was built by about 60,000 Jewish slaves. It is made of stone and concrete. It is the symbol of the Roman Empire. It has 80 entrances, and 4 main floors that are 80 acres long. They called the west gate the Gate of Death.

There are 36 trap doors in the arena for special effects. Under the Colosseum there are numerous rooms where they kept the animals and slaves.

They did a lot of fighting in the Colosseum and it was used for gladiator fights and animal hunts. Gladiators were fighters that date back to the fourth century BC. In Latin gladiator means swordsmen. During the middle ages they stopped doing performances. The last recorded gladiator fight was around 435 B.C and they did animal hunts until 523. The first games lasted 100 days and that included 3,000 gladiator fights. There were about 10,000 animals killed in a day at the Colosseum. Also, according to experts, about 400,000 gladiators died, from the beginning of time. Experts think that 9,000 wild animals were killed during inaugural games. An Inaugural game is a game where they elected Emperors.

The Colosseum was badly damaged many times. In 217, AD it was badly damaged by fire. They think the fire started by lightening. It was not fully repaired until 240 AD. There were further repairs in 250 AD and then again in 320 AD. It was damaged again by an earthquake in 443 AD, and more work on fixing it followed in 484 and 508 AD. 2/3 of the Colosseum was destroyed over time.

It could sit 50,000 people at once and you could go in for free and get free food. To protect them from the sun they put an awning over top of the seating area.

I have never seen the Colosseum before but if I could I definitely would. But my parents probably wouldn't let me go to Europe. It seems like an amazing place to visit. I hope you enjoyed my report on the Colosseum.

The USS Arizona Memorial - Isaac Neal Kamps

When I first heard about the USS Arizona Memorial, I thought it was a museum with some parts of the ship. I was very wrong. It's an interesting place to learn about the ship's history. Here are some facts I learned.

The USS Arizona is a battleship that sank on December 7, 1941 when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. 1,177 people died on the USS Arizona. 355 people survived. There were 23 sets of brothers on the ship.

The ship was very big. It was 608 feet long, and weighed 29,630 tons.

The USS Arizona memorial is the most visited place in Hawaii. 1.7 million visitors come every year. The memorial is made out of white steel and concrete and it's 184 feet long. The monument is built directly over the sunken ship. Elvis Presley, a famous rock and roll singer, fundraised \$65,000 for the monument. Alfred Preis designed the shape of the memorial.

The memorial represents those who lost their lives at Pearl Harbor. I thank every soldier who risked their lives

to help the nation. I hope I can one day go to the memorial and see where everyone fought.

Mt. Rushmore Report - Madison VanOverloop

I loved to learn about Mt Rushmore and I would like to go there someday. I hope you enjoy learning about Mt Rushmore like I did.

The mountain was inhabited by the Indian Sioux tribe. The Sioux tribe contains the Lakota, Eastern Dakota, and the Western tribe. Then the Europeans started to arrive in 1743. They claimed the land for the French. America bought the land for \$ 15,000,000 and they sent Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to search out the area. The presidents carved into the granite mountain side are: George Washington the 1st president, Thomas Jefferson the 3rd president, Abraham Lincoln the 16th president and Theodore Roosevelt the 26th president.

Learning about the process of the building was interesting. The mountain covers 1,278 square miles, and is 1,725 feet above sea level. The mountain was sculpted by Gutzon Borglum and Lincoln Borglum and is named after Charles E Rushmore, who donated \$5,000 to Borglum. The mountain is carved into the Black Hills. Over 45,000 tons of stone were removed. It was planned for each president to be carved from head to waste but they didn't have enough money to finish. The cost was \$989,992.32. The perfect time to visit is September, October, April, and May. It is illegal to climb Mount Rushmore. It took 400 workers and none of them died. Later some died from silicosis, or lung damage which was caused by dust in the process. The mouths on each face are 18 feet wide, the faces are 60 feet wide, the eyes are 11 feet wide and the noses are 20 feet wide. The presidents are all 60 square miles each. The workers had to climb 506 steps each day. Jefferson's face was next to Washington's but was dynamited off. It started in 1927 and ended in 1941.

Mt Rushmore was sculpted with 4 presidents for more appearance. Washington was finished in 1934, Washington is the most complete. Jefferson was finished in 1936, and Lincoln was completed in 1937. They carved George Washington for starting the country, Thomas Jefferson was carved for westward expansion, Theodore Roosevelt for growing in strength, and Abraham Lincoln for preservation in American Civil war. There is a secret room behind Lincoln's head which contains information which Borglum calls Hall of records.

I hope you enjoyed reading my summary about Mt. Rushmore. I learned a lot of things and I hope you did too. I would like to see it in person someday, maybe when I am older.

Great Wall of China - Natalie Bylsma

The class was doing a contest and we had to do a report on one of them. So I decided to do the Wall of China. We have never gone to the Wall of China but I really want to go there. I think it would be cool to go up into a plane and see the whole wall.

The Wall of China was built by the Ming Dynasty. The wall was built 2,300 years ago. Finally it was finished in

1878. It took more than 2,000 years to build. Many workers died from falling stones, exhaustion, diseases, animal attacks and starvation. There was moss growing on the bridge in 1907, and that means they had to rebuild the wall because it was getting old. This amazing wall is built with 4 layers in it. Building the wall was a common punishment for Chinese convicts. I think it's amazing that there are people buried under the bridge.

Roosters were brought to the bridge to celebrate the dead. The nickname for the wall is "the long Graveyard." If you walk the whole bridge it will take you about 11/2 years to do it. It seems like a long snake wiggling up and down. It covers most of the Northern border of China. It was built by slaves, peasants and criminals. People building the wall were not treated well, they were buried underneath the bridge. Portions of the wall are falling apart. The wall is built with rock, powders, dirt, bricks and cement. There are 7,000 watch towers and block houses for soldiers. Sometimes I just want to see how it stretches.

It is known for the largest structure in the universe. The wall stretches so far that it even spreads over mountains and hills. There is a myth that you can see the wall from the moon. The wall has so many visitors that in 2021 there were 630 billion people. More than 1/3 of the wall has been missing without a trace. One section in the wall has bullet holes in it from the last battle that was fought there. The wall is actually a system of walls, it has a lot of layers in it. The wall was called the longest cemetery on the earth.

Sometimes I imagine what it was like to build the wall. It must have felt like forever, Especially for criminals. I would hate being the family and someone telling you that your husband died by falling rocks. And all the facts about this wall is making me want to go to the Wall of China.

BIG BEN - Josiah VanderKolk

On September 28, 1843, this iconic clock tower had begun to be built, keeping jolly old London on time for nearly 157 years. But this landmark wasn't used for just keeping track of time, it was used for many more things.

London resident, Augustus Pugin, had begun to have this legendary tower built. This famous landmark took almost 13 years to build! The London Clocktower, also known as Big Ben, has 393 steps in the tower to get to the top! It also has 2,600 cubic meters of brick to make this famous tower and it is the largest rectangle clock tower in the world. The sheer mass of this tower is easily explained by the sight of the hands and the minute hand is 14 feet long in length! The iconic landmark got its design from the Gothic Revival, another famous building in Britain when fully functional the tower chimes its massive bells every 15 minutes! Speaking of the bells, these giga-ton hunks of metal are 13.5 TONS! Two out of 5 these bells have broken over their many years of service.

Tragically, the clocktower was bombed during one of the major World War 2 attacks, The Blitz. In May 1941,

Heinkels, Dorniers, Messerschmitts, Nazi planes and Stukas filled Britain's sky, this activated one of World War 2's most notorious battles, The Battle of Britain. This sudden raid burned out Britain's parliament, the building attached to the famous tower and although the bombs hit the roof of the tower, the fire from the parliament did not set fire to Big Ben. The damage soon proved unavoidable. This old clocktower also had been a prison, during both World Wars for espionage.

The damage inflicted on Big Ben during WWII was heavy, although the British parliament had thought they had fixed the Big Ben. But 70 years later they realized the battered tower was more damaged than they thought. The roof tiles of the tower had been damaged and the clock tower was practically falling apart! And so the British government had to shut Big Ben for about 3 years! Today in 2021 the clock tower is fixed completely.

When I am in Covenant, I might go to Britain and see Big Ben. I hope you learned some new things about the BIG BEN!

Mount Rushmore - Janelle Feenstra

I decided to do a report on Mount Rushmore because I thought it was really cool. It was very interesting to research, too. I went there in August, and it was really fun. I found out things that I never knew about Mount Rushmore before. I hope you enjoy this report about Mount Rushmore.

It is called Rushmore, because a man named Charles E. Rushmore traveled to the Black Hills in 1885 to inspect mining claims in the region. The idea of creating a sculpture in the Black Hills was dreamed by Doane Robinson. He wanted to find a way to attract tourists to the state, and it worked. Mount Rushmore is now visited by nearly 3 million people each year. In 2018 alone, over 2.3 million tourists visited Mount Rushmore.

It took 14 years to build it, from October 4, 1927 to October 31, 1941. A total of 400 men and women built Mount Rushmore. It was exciting, but dangerous. The workers had to endure conditions that changed from blazing hot to bitterly cold and windy. Each day the workers had to climb 700 stairs to the mountain. The 3/8 inch thick steel cables lowered them over the front of the 500 foot face of the mountain in a "bosus chair." The project cost \$989,99.32. Thankfully, no one ever got killed during the project.

George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt were selected to be carved on the mountain. The 4 U.S. Presidents on Mount Rushmore represented the United States of America's birth, growth, development, and preservation. George Washington (1789-1797) was chosen because he was our nation's founding father. Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) was selected to represent expansion because he was the president who signed the Louisiana Purchase and author of the Declaration of Independence. Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919) was chosen because he represented conservation and the industrial blossoming of the nation. Abraham Lincoln

(1809-1865) was picked because he led the country through the Civil War and believed in preserving the nation at any cost.

The president's noses, mouth, eyes, and faces were very high! The president's noses are 20 feet long, each mouth 18 feet wide, and the eyes are 11 feet across. The presidents' faces are 60 feet high.

Here are some facts about Mount Rushmore. Mount Rushmore is sometimes called the Shine of Democracy. Gutzon Borglum died 7 months before it was finished and then it was completed by his son Lincoln. The most complete U.S. president on Mount Rushmore is George Washington. Nick Clifford was the last living carver of Mount Rushmore. Sadly he passed away in November, 2019. In fact, Mount Rushmore was originally designed to contain the head and waist of each U.S. president. However, the funds ran out and the project was never completed.

I went to Mount Rushmore last year on my family trip out west. My family and I traveled in our motorhome. We went from Michigan all the way to Montana. We had to climb a lot of stairs to get to the front of the faces. I took a lot of pictures, until my camera couldn't fit any more pictures on it. I hope you enjoyed this report on Mount Rushmore.

Eiffel Tower - Emery Scholten

I have never been to the Eiffel Tower in Paris, but my aunt has and she brought us back some candy for the kids, and a little Eiffel tower keychain for the big kids and everyone a bracelet. I really hope I can go there someday.

You wouldn't believe how amazing the Eiffel Tower is. I would love to visit it sometime. How was the Eiffel Tower named? It was named after Alexandre Gustave Eiffel who created the eiffel tower. Its nickname is the Iron Lady because it is made of so much metal and iron. It is in Paris, France. In fact, it is the tallest man made structure in France! It is also a cousin of sorts to the Statue of Liberty. There is a post office and gift shops at the bottom of the Eiffel Tower. Today it is the most visited, paid structure in Paris, France. Each night the Eiffel Tower is lit up by 20,000 light bulbs.

The Eiffel tower took so long to build and it was made strong for anything that could happen. It is very tall and has lots of cables and antennas on top of it. The tower was made so that if it gets too hot the tower can stretch about 7 inches. The Eiffel tower weighs 10,100 tons! It took 2 years to finish building it. Construction started in January, 1887 and ended in March, 1889. The Eiffel Tower is 1063 feet tall to the very tip. The second level is about 380 feet above ground.

If you were to take off the paint on the Eiffel Tower you would be surprised what you find underneath. Lots more paint coats! It has a lot of paint coats on it because people repaint it on average every 7 years! Since its original painting, it has been painted 19 more times. It was first painted dark red, yellow, and then bronze.

Today it is brown. The Eiffel Tower has 16,000 gallons (60 tons) of paint on it.

I hope you liked learning about the Eiffel Tower because I did and like I mentioned at the beginning, I hope to go there someday.

The USS Arizona - Grant Dykstra

When I read a book about Pearl Harbor in second grade, it has since made me dream about going to Hawaii and visiting the USS Arizona. This is my report about the USS Arizona and the attack on Pearl Harbor. I hope you enjoy and find this report interesting.

On December 7, 1941 the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Then sank many ships including the USS Arizona. Pearl Harbor is located in Honolulu, Hawaii. Hawaii was not a state at that time but it was U.S. territory. The attack of Pearl Harbor led the United States to join World War II.

The USS Arizona was built in 1913 and commissioned in 1916. The USS Arizona was made of copper and silver.

The memorial itself is made of concrete and steel. The memorial was built in 1962 by an architect named Alfred Preis, who was born in Austria.

Here are some things about the people on the ship. There were 23 sets of brothers who died on the USS Arizona. The USS Arizona even had its own band that played while the attack happened. The entire band died during the attack. The USS Arizona is the resting place of 1,102 of the 1,177 soldiers and crew mates.

In fact the ship weighed 29,630 tons. The length of the USS Arizona is 608 feet. The ship sank 40 feet below Pearl Harbor. The ship is one of 18 ships that sank.

Well, all good things must come to an end so I hope you enjoyed this report. I hope you thought it was interesting.

Mount Rushmore - Conner J. Gunnink

When I was young I always thought that America had no cool mountains in it and Mount Everest was the only cool mountain in the world. Well, I soon figured out that I was wrong because I had never heard of Mount Rushmore.

There was a man named Doane Robinson who wanted to attract tourists to South Dakota so he came up with the idea of Mount Rushmore. Sadly Doane died before the structure was complete.

Mount Rushmore is located in the Black hills near Keystone, South Dakota. Doane put 4 really popular presidents on the mountain because he thought that presidents were a really good way to attract tourists. He put George Washington the 1st president, Thomas Jefferson the 3rd president, Abraham Lincoln the 16th president, and Theodore Roosevelt the 26th president. Doane put George Washington was chosen because he was the nation's founder. Thomas Jefferson was chosen because he was the one who bought the Louisiana Purchase, and authorized the Declaration of Independence. Theodore Roosevelt was chosen because he represented the blossoming of the nation. Abraham Lincoln was chosen because he abolished

slavery in the U.S and supported the fact that everyone should have equal rights.

It took 14 years to complete, it cost \$989,992.32 to complete the sculpture, but they were supposed to make the whole bodies of the presidents. Except that never happened because they ran out of funding. It was finished on October 31, 1941, It took 400 men to complete. Surprisingly nobody died during the construction.

Here are some surprising facts about Mt. Rushmore. The Sioux indian tribe had 2 nicknames for it: The Six Grandfathers, and Cougar Mountain. It was called the six grandfathers because when one of the Indians saw it he saw 6 directions, North, South, East, West, Above, and Below. There is a secret hallway behind Lincoln's head called the Hall of Records. It was planned to hold important documents such as the Declaration of Independence, The Constitution, as well as information on all of the presidents. The sculpture was designed by Gutzon Borglum. Nick Clifford was the last living carver, he died in 2019. The mountain is 5,725 ft. above sea level.

I hope you enjoyed reading my report. I've never been to Mt. Rushmore but I will someday, I know it.

Alcatraz Island - Brayden Cleary

Alcatraz is a prison in San Francisco Bay, California. This prison is for very bad people that have done very bad crimes. I have never gone to Alcatraz, but if I could I would.

The building of this prison was quite impressive. The building cost \$200,000 to build. It took 6 months to dig out the base of Alcatraz. It was open for 29 years and then it got too expensive.

Alcatraz prison was supposedly the one prison you couldn't escape from. There were three men that tried to escape at Alcatraz: John Anglin, Morris, and Clarence Anglin. The three men tried to escape on a boat and the boat flipped over, so they swam to shore. No one knows if they are still alive, or if they died while swimming. If they are still alive Morris would be 91 years old, John 88, and Clarence 87 years old. There were also 300 civilians that lived on the island. I would not like living there at all.

Alcatraz is now a museum. To go, it is \$25 for 5-11 years old, 12 and up is \$40. 1.5 million visitors have gone there. If you want, you can buy a lottery ticket. If you win, you can stay overnight at Alcatraz. 600 people have stayed overnight. Would you stay overnight if you could?

Trust – Mrs. Emily Cnossen

A very important part of teaching is creating and maintaining a good teacher/student relationship in the classroom. This relationship is built on trust and respect. It is a relationship that can take a long time to develop, and that can be destroyed in an instant. But what actually is trust? If we look in the Webster's Dictionary we see it defined as a noun (a belief in the reliability of another) or as a verb (to believe, hope, put in the care of). There is no one absolute way to build trust in a classroom. But in doing a little research of breaking down what trust is, there seem to be 4 main elements.

1) Being Genuine—taking a true interest in your students, listening to them, forgiving them, and allowing them to see that you make mistakes too.

2) Being fair—however, fair doesn't always mean equal. But it does mean you help each student to the need that they are at—not putting one above another in any way, challenging and assisting each student at their individual level. This is keeping favoritism out of the classroom.

3) Competence—staying organized and knowing your content leaves no room for students to doubt you.

4) Predictability—creating routines, rules (and sticking to them), helping students cope with the unavoidable changes that will come their way.

Looking at those four main elements, I can say with confidence, that our teachers here follow those elements in their everyday teaching. Not perfectly, but we all strive to do our very best in each of those areas. Why do we strive to do our best to follow those elements? It is not the pay check. It is not because we want the parents to

like us or to be the 'favorite teacher'. It is not because students learn better when they trust their teacher. All of those things are important, and we do want those, but those are not the ultimate drive behind creating a trusting environment in the classroom. Our ultimate goal is the honor and glory of our God and establishing an earthly trust begins with trust (faith) in our Covenantal Father, which He works in us. He is always faithful and always cares for us. As teachers, we are called to be a leader, a guide, and an example. And as a Christian we are called to glorify God. One of the ways we are called to glorify God is to reflect the love He has given to us, the undeserved sinners, towards those around us. We were made in HIS IMAGE. Our God, who is Omniscient, Omnipresent, the Perfect Judge and the Forgiver of All Sins.

When I go to school, when I enter my classroom, when that classroom fills up with twenty pairs of squinty eyes (I know there are smiles behind those masks) my heart is filled with happiness. I look back over the past year, over all the ups and downs that have happened, especially with our current situation. I find myself thinking less of the things that I couldn't do because of the rules and more about what I WAS able to do even with the rules. I wasn't able to have the wedding with all the guests I had planned on, but I was able to get married with friends and family. I had to wear a hot, stinky mask (and a face shield for a while when recovering from sickness), but I was able to be IN a classroom WITH my students. It makes me feel so small thinking of all the things I worried and complained about. Where was my trust in

God then? And that makes me think of my teaching. If I am not trusting in God, who is perfect in every way, how can my students trust me, someone who is very sinful and full of mistakes? As Christian teachers (and parents at home) we want to create a safe and happy environment for our students and children. But in creating that environment, make sure to remember that trust HAS to take root in our perfect Heavenly Father.

Only then can we even start to begin to build those relationships with those around us. Only because we are redeemed by Christ with the Holy Spirit in our hearts, poured out by our Heavenly Father, can we even scrape the edge of exhibiting those elements of trust. God should be the foundation of our teaching, our attitudes, and most importantly our relationships with our students and children. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

~ PARENTS – Some items to take note of ~

- **Report card pick up dates** are **June 15 – 17** here at school. All items will be near the main entrance of school.
- **2020-2021 class lists** will be emailed out the day after the August *Herald* is distributed. The email will be sent to the 1st of the two email addresses supplied to us on your enrollment forms.
- TRIP summer dates are (from 9-10:30 AM): June 15, June 29, July 13, July 27, August 10, and August 24. Regular TRIP hours will resume on August 31.
- Room Moms sign-ups will happen in the fall (so that you are aware which class your children are in before you sign up). Watch the first memo of the school year for information.

Grab your golf clubs!!

Our Heritage Christian Foundation will be holding their Heritage Foundation Golf Outing on Saturday, July 17 with a shotgun start at 7 AM.

The outing will once again be held at The Meadows in Allendale.

To reserve a spot for your team, please call Kevin Van Overloop at 616-520-5835 or Scott Koole at 616-293-1624.

*Cost is \$500 per team. **Please call soon as spots fill up quickly!***

2021-2022 School Year Calendar

August 30, 2021 - School starts
September 3-6, 2021 - Labor Day Break, no school
September 8-9, 2021 – School pictures
September 13-17, 2021 – MAP Testing for Grades 3-8
September 16, 2021 – Fall Family Supper
October 21-22, 2021 - Teachers' Convention, no school
November 3-4, 2021 – Parent Teacher Conferences
November 18, 2021 – All School Program
November 25-26, 2021 – Thanksgiving Break, no school
Dec. 23, 2021 – January 2, 2022 - Christmas Break, no school
January 14, 2022 – End of 1st Semester
January 17-21, 2022 - MAP Testing for Grades 3-8
February 2-3, 2022 – Parent Teacher Conferences
February 18, 2022 - Mid-winter Break
April 1-8, 2022 - Spring Break, no school
May 16-20, 2022 - MAP Testing for Grades 3-8
May 30, 2022 - Memorial Day, no school
June 1, 2022 – Graduation, last day of school (1/2 day)

2021 HERITAGE FAIR RESTAURANT

at the Hudsonville Fairgrounds

Fair 2021 is scheduled to make a comeback on August 23-28, D.V, and the Fair committee is making plans and getting things ready to roll! This fundraiser is only possible with the immense time and energy of many people of our Heritage Christian School community: filling kitchen/dining room shifts, cleaning, food prep, runners, pie and specialty dessert volunteers, donations. And the list goes on. We are thankful and humbled by the outpouring of help in the past and are asking for your continued support this year.

Shifts: If every Heritage family works two shifts, every single shift will be filled. That would be fantastic!! When choosing shifts, consider what works best for you, but also please consider that your time at the fair is a wonderful way for you to contribute to this amazing fundraiser, fellowship with other believers, serve others, and let your light shine! There are many opportunities available from food prep, helping in the kitchen or serving food in the dining room. There is NO experience necessary - we can train you on the job. Come see for yourself how great our restaurant is!

Sign-up Genius is NOW OPEN! Go to www.signupgenius.com and click on the magnifying glass (search symbol) in the upper right-hand corner of the page. When prompted for an email address, type heritagehudfair@gmail.com. This will bring you to the shift schedule for the fair. Look over the days, times, and jobs available and type your name into a spot that works for you. Then consider choosing a spot for your spouse, your teenager, or grandparents.

Runners: The committee is looking for a runner to help out Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday afternoons (2:30-6:30). This involves picking up pies from local churches and going to various area stores to purchase items needed at the restaurant. Please call Ronda Van Bommel if interested or with any questions (401-8851).

Babysitter Sign-up: 7th and 8th grade girls who would like to help out by babysitting children whose parents would like to work a shift at the fair (and you okay this with your own parents), please sign up on the Junior High bulletin board at Heritage. We will then email this list out to Heritage families who are looking for babysitters.

Pie Makers: The committee is looking for a few more ladies to contribute their baking skills to the cause by making pies for the fair. If interested or have any further questions, please contact Megan Dykstra at 616-821-4340 or megan.dykstra@live.com

Fruit/Hummus Chairperson Needed: One other opportunity is to head up a group of ladies who make our fruit cups and hummus snacks throughout the fair week. If you are interested, please contact Danae Karsemeyer at 616-690-1775 or djkarsemeyer@yahoo.com.

Donations: We are asking for food items needed for our restaurant. Most items are priced from \$3 to \$20. Any items you are able to donate reduce our costs and help our restaurant succeed. **Sign up for donations will also be available on Sign Up Genius in the next couple of weeks, so stay tuned.**

Advertising Opportunities: We love our business sponsors! There are many opportunities to advertise your business or join our tip-matching program. If you have the opportunity to help the school in this way, please contact Danae Karsemeyer at 616-690-1775 or djkarsemeyer@yahoo.com.

Watch our Facebook page for more information: "Heritage Christian School at the Hudsonville Fair" (You don't need to have a Facebook account to see our page).

A HUGE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF HERITAGE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2021-2022 School Supplies

Kindergarten Supplies - all labeled

Backpack
Lg size Pencil Box (> 4" high)
2 Large Erasers
2 Large Solid Glue Sticks
Thick Washable Markers
Crayons (24 or less)
Good Quality Scissors (round-tips)
1 Sturdy Folder with Inside Pocket
Gym Shoes (Velcro or Slip-on)
Art Shirt
Small Pillow (14" or smaller)
One pair socks
Picture of your kindergartener

1st Grade Supplies – all labeled

School Box – Large Size
10 Pencils
1 yellow highlighter
1 Large Eraser ("Pink Pearl")
3 Large Glue Sticks
24 Crayola Crayons
Colored Pencils
12 Thick Washable Markers
4 Dry erase markers
Fiskar Scissors
1 **wide** ruled spiral notebook
Paint Shirt
Gym Shoes
2 Strong, Durable Pocket Folders

2nd Grade Supplies - all labeled

KJV Bible
Psalter
12 **Sharp** Pencils
24 Crayons
24 Colored Pencils
10 thick washable markers – standard colors
1 Yellow Highlighter
4 Dry Erase Markers – black or blue
1 normal pink eraser
Large Plastic Pencil Box (w/ Snap Lid)
Fiskars **Sharp-Point** Scissors
3 Large Glue Sticks
1 Hard Covered Composition Notebook
2 Strong, durable Folders
Earbuds in a labeled bag/pouch
Art Shirt
Gym Shoes & Extra Pair of Socks

3rd Grade Supplies

KJV Bible
12 - #2 Pencils
Earbuds in a small bag/pouch
Fiskar Scissors
2 Red Pens
4 dry-erase markers

3rd Grade Supplies, continued

2 Glue Sticks. 1 Glue Bottle
Art Shirt
Small Pencil Box
12" Ruler w/Inches & Centimeters
2 Blue or Black Erasable Pens
1 yellow highlighter
Small Notebook for assignments
2 Black Flair pens (Papermate brand, fine point, non-permanent markers)
1 Black Sharpie marker
Crayons (~48)
Markers, Colored Pencils
3 Wide Ruled Spiral Notebooks
3 Single Pocket Folders – incl blue
Loose Leaf Paper –Wide Ruled
Psalter
Large Eraser
Gym Shoes

4th Grade Supplies

KJV Bible
Psalter – in Good Condition
Crayons
Thin washable markers
24 pack of colored pencils
20 sharpened #2 Pencils
2 large glue sticks
Yellow highlighter
Large Eraser
12" ruler with metric and customary measurements
Pointed scissors
Zippered 3 Ring Binder/Trapper
2 pkg. wide ruled loose leaf paper
Gym Shoes
1 wide ruled 1 subject spiral Notebook
6 2-Pocket PLASTIC folders (w/ holes)
Earbuds
2 dry erase markers (not for Woudenberg)

5th Grade Supplies

KJV Bible and a Psalter
Zippered 3-Ring Binder/Trapper
6 Folders
Colored Pencils
Markers
#2 Pencils
2 Red Pens
Blue or Black Erasable Pen
1 Yellow Highlighter
Large Eraser
Loose Leaf Notebook Paper
5 wide ruled spiral notebooks
Ruler (w/Standard & Metric)
Pointed Scissors
Calculator
Gym Shoes
1 Large Glue Stick
2 fine tipped Black Sharpies

6th Grade Supplies

KJV Bible and a Psalter
Pencils and Eraser
Pens: Blue/Black for Work
Pens: Red for Correcting
Black Thin Tip Marker
Colored Pencils
Markers
Highlighting Markers
5 spiral notebooks (70-100 pgs)
Calculator
Gym Shoes
Ruler with inches AND centimeters
Glue Stick
Scissors
Zippered 3-Ring Binder/Trapper
5 Folders w/Pockets
200 pg. loose-leaf paper

Junior High Supplies

KJV Bible and a Psalter
Multiple Pencils and Pens (mechanical pencils preferred, but not necessary)
Colored Pencils
Highlighter
1 good eraser
Rubber cement
White-out
Scissors
4 3-Ring Binders (1" rings)
4 pkgs of 5 piece index tab dividers (1 pkg. per binder)
Three Spiral Notebooks
5 Folders w/Pockets
Folder for Art
Loose Leaf Notebook Paper (400 pages)
Ruler with Inches & Centimeters
Compass
Protractor
8th grade Math and 7th Acc.Math - TI-83 or 84 Scientific Calculator
7th Regular Math – TI83 or above is recommended, but not required
DC Math - TI-30XIIS calculator or above

