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# The CCA Newsletter

November 2013

*Where Christ is the center of all wisdom and knowledge*

## News from the Administrative Team

The month of October went very well for us here at Central Christian Academy. The students are moving along nicely in their studies. The Dunkirk Fire Department came and gave a very informative and insightful demonstration about fire safety. Students were allowed to see a fire truck up close. Students really enjoyed their presentation.

Thank you all for getting the medical information to us Mrs. Warren appreciated it greatly. We also thank all those who have kept their payments up to date. As this month comes to a close several of classes will taking a field trip to Harvest Hollow for some pumpkin gathering, a walk through a corn maze, hayride and some other activities at the farm. A big thanks to all those helping transport our students there.

Here are some dates to remember for the month of November: on the 6<sup>th</sup> report cards go home, on the 8<sup>th</sup> school will be a half day with a noon dismissal for parent teacher conferences, on the 11<sup>th</sup> school is closed in honor of Veterans Day, and on the 27<sup>th</sup> will be a noon dismissal for Thanksgiving vacation.

## The Key to Knowledge

We found this article by David Barton, a well known historian, who specializes in American History. This article explains education of our founders against today's educational system. We hope you enjoy it.

### **Proverb 1:7 *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.***

This verse affirms that all knowledge begins with the fear of the Lord, but for some inexplicable reason, many Christians today interpret it as only applying to spiritual knowledge. While this aspect of knowledge is certainly included, the verse does not confine itself only to that area; it says *knowledge*, period.

Strikingly, for nearly four centuries, Americans believed that the fear of the Lord was the beginning of academic knowledge. For example, America's first college, Harvard, was established in 1636, and its rules declared: *Let every student be plainly instructed and earnestly pressed to consider well the main end of life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life(John 17:3) and therefore to lay Christ in the bottom as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning. And seeing the Lord only giveth wisdom let everyone seriously set himself by prayer in secret to seek it of Him. (Proverbs 2&3) Everyone shall so exercise himself in reading the Scriptures twice a day that he shall be ready to give an account of his proficiency therein.*

In 1779, when chiefs from the Delaware Indian tribe brought George Washington three youths to be trained in American schools, Washington reaffirmed that the fear of the Lord was still central to American education. Commending the chiefs for there decision, he told them: *You do well to wish to learn our arts and ways of life, and above all, the religion of Jesus Christ. These will make you a greater and*

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*happier people than you are. Congress will do everything they can to assist you in this wise intention.*

The Founders believed, and in the first federal education law acknowledged, that the schools and education systems were a proper means to encourage the “religion, morality and knowledge” that were so “necessary to good government and happiness of mankind.”

Why is this no longer the practice today? Because in 1962 and 1963, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that after 320 years of “fear of the Lord being central to America’s educational philosophy, it was time to make a change—that it was time for public education to become secular. The difference between the two approaches has been dramatic-measurable.

For example, following the introduction of the new educational policy excluding “the fear of the Lord”, academic knowledge plummeted—evidenced by the dramatic decline in the college-bound student Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). In fact, one recent international testing found that although American elementary students performed above average, and junior high students performed only average, and American high school students finished at the bottom—well below average. This sequence of results prompted one national education magazine to observe: “The longer U.S. students stay in school, the less they seem to know.”

Yet, on the other hand, testing results routinely demonstrate that students who participate in faith-based education score several grade levels higher than their counterparts in the public schools on the same academic tests, regardless of demographic locations or socioeconomic stratus. And those students also score forty-fifty points or higher on the college-bound SAT test.

The American educational system is indeed learning from the harsh experience that the Scriptures are accurate, and that “the fear of the Lord” is indeed “the beginning of *knowledge*,” including academic knowledge.

**Thank you for choosing Christian Education for your child!**

### **Alumni News**

Deidra Osula has qualified for another event, the Fifty Yard Freestyle along with the Hundred Yard Butterfly in the New York State Swimming and Diving Championships. Victoria Pucci has qualified for the diving part of Western New York Sectional Championships; Deidra will also be attending the swimming portion of these championships. Great job ladies!

### **Words of Wisdom**

*Here are few simple rules to live your life by.*

1. Always tell the Truth
2. Use kind words
3. Keep your promises
4. Giggle and Laugh
5. Stay Happy and be Positive
6. Love one another
7. Always be grateful
8. Forgiveness is mandatory
9. Give thanks for everything
10. Try new things
11. Say please and thank you
12. **SMILE!**