

INDEPENDENT STUDIES

DATES:

- May 2-5—IS testing 1-8
- May 3—7th gr. Parent mtg.
- May 5—National day of prayer
- May 7—Spring Formal
- May 9-11—Heartland Outdoor School
- May 12—Set up for Used Book Sale—help!
- May 13-14—Used Book Sale
- May 13-14—High school play—Grace Fellowship Church
- May 14—Free Sports Physicals 7-12; MCS
- May 17—7-12 awards night; senior recognition
- May 19—Senior/Board breakfast, chapel, & senior picnic
- May 20—IS Field Day, Awards
- May 23—7-12 Band Concert
- May 24—5th—12th Spring Choir Concert—1st Alliance
- May 26—MCS HS Academic Awards
- May 27—1:00 K-6 Awards RW following classes
- June 2—8th graders to Cedar Point
- June 3—Graduation practice—10 a.m.
- June 5—3:00pm Graduation at Berean Baptist
- June 8—last day of school



Check your folders at MCS, especially grades 7-12!

School year extended to make up calamity days, so we will be having school June 6, 7, & 8.



Home Sweet Home

*“Choose you this day whom you will serve. . . as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”
Joshua 24:15*

MAY 2011

Love so Amazing!

At the writing of this newsletter, I have just become a Gramma for the 8th time! What a blessing! Josh and Brooke had Elijah Michael, 6 pounds, 3 ounces. He came a couple weeks early, but everything went just perfectly. God is so good. Carrying a baby, as you all know, is certainly like faith; you have to trust that things are ok when you can't see them. God is so good.

Our daughter, Julie, is near to delivery also. She's quite dilated and ready; I'm just waiting on the phone call to go help with her other 3 kids. New life is such a wonder and such an awesome part of God's plan. Thank you all for your prayers for our family. Evan is walking now and is still in therapy; he also began speech therapy since his speech is also quite delayed. We are thrilled that Evan is walking!

Recently, I was reading Amos 5 and 6 out of the Message Bible and was struck by the following verses:

“Seek good and not evil and live!
You talk about God being your best

friend. Well, live like it, and maybe it will happen. Hate evil and love good, then work it out in the public square.” Don't you love that? Work it out in the public square where others will see your good deeds and glorify our Father who is in heaven. On a Christian radio station, I hear them say, “Live out loud.” We sure do need to think about these things as we walk through this life. We have the all powerful, all mighty, living God living within us at our disposal. Wow! I think we live way below our means! Let's live more intentionally and with more peace and joy as we trust the Lord every day, every minute of our lives and not just on Sundays.

I am currently reading *Crazy Love* by Francis Chan and would highly recommend that to you.

Does something deep inside your heart long to break free from the status quo? Are you hungry for an authentic faith that addresses the problems of our world with tangible, even radical, solutions? God is calling you to a passionate love relationship with Himself. Because the answer to religious complacency isn't working harder at a list of do's and don'ts —

it's falling in love with God. And once you encounter His love, as Francis describes it, you will never be the same.

You can read more at crazylovebook.com. I hope you'll be as blessed as I've been.

I also love the words to this song, “Day After Day” by Kristian Stanfill. Take time and just meditate on God's faithfulness.

*Men have tried to rule the world
You made but we know power is Yours
alone to give and take
A day will come when every knee will bow
And every tongue confess that You
are lord both now and forever*

*Day after day Our God is reigning
He's never shaken My hope is in the Lord*

*Time after time Our God is faithful
Trustworthy Savior
My hope is in the Lord*

*The fear of man and what they plan
will fade But we know You alone are
God of every day*

*Like the flowers, man will rise and fall
But You are everlasting, never ending
God Eternal*

*Let the songs of adoration rise
Our God is reigning up on high
He's worthy to receive the praise and
the glory*

Important Reminders

Please make every effort to return your textbooks by May 27, the last RW class if possible; book orders for next year are also due that day.

Please **return any textbooks or materials from the Resource Room** you're not using now as well. All Resource Room items must be returned before May 27.

Parenting Seminar **at Berean Baptist:**

“Parenting Solutions”

for parents of children ages 2-18 & also children through the age of 12. **June 4 from 8:45 am to 2:30 pm.** Cost is \$20 per adult with lunch included for adults; children must bring a sack lunch but can attend free. You will learn

practical ideas to help you address the hearts of your kids; this seminar is entertaining, encouraging, and life changing. I encourage you to attend. The presenters wrote the book, “Say Goodbye to Whining, Complaining & Bad Attitudes in You and Your Kids.”

**Everyday Parents CAN Raise
Extraordinary Kids!!**

Tell me and I forget. Show me and I remember. Involve me and I understand.



Curriculum Orders for 11-12

As you meet with your coordinator to go over curriculum, please do not pay at the time of placing your order. In the event that I can get something cheaper I will, also some items may be able to be bought with auxiliary funds. I will let you know what the bill is before you pick up curriculum. Again this year, I am asking that you pay in full for your orders before you pick them up. You will be emailed when your orders are complete and we'll set up a time to meet for you to get your curriculum.

All orders must be placed no later than Friday, May 27. I will be ordering that day!

Please consider ordering your items online or directly so you can get things delivered directly to your home.

All books from the resource room must be returned by May 27.

If there is curriculum that you're keeping for next year, please write that down on your order form with the number of the book.

Story of the World, Foreign

languages and Pacemaker order forms are now on a separate sheet.

Orders must be turned in for each child. On your order form you can also request items from the Resource Room which I will also gather for you.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

There are free items available in the closet at RWV, so please take time to browse and take what you like.

I will be placing orders next year in August, January and April, so

Heartland Retreat

Heartland Outdoor School, scheduled for 3 days and 2 nights **May 9-11, 2011**. Cost is \$110/person. Adult rates are half the student cost.

Payment is due. It's not too late to sign up if you'd like to go.

I will be staying again this year and have several parents that are also staying. In the event of my not being able to be there because of my daughter's baby, Ms Rothaar will be in charge.

Dorms have been assigned and have been recently revised again. If, when looking over the room assignments, your child would like to be with a special friend, please let me know that and I can make those adjustments.

A typical day looks like: breakfast, 2 class hours, lunch, 2 class hours, 1 hour of activity time, dinner, and evening program.

All luggage must be labeled with the student's name.

You can see a list of things to bring which will include bedding, pillow,

toiletries, and a couple changes of clothes. At heartlandretreat.com under Environmental School. No radios, money, CD players, iPods, video games, etc.

We will need to arrive at Heartland at 9:30 a.m. We will leave the back parking lot of MCS at 8:30 if you want to follow me. If not, let me know and we can meet at Heartland.

Each meal is "serve yourself" style with both hot and cold options available. Seconds are offered so students never go hungry. Drinks are served on the tables and include water and juice. Caffeine and sugar are not given to the students. At each meal, it is "dinner and a show" with entertainment including songs, skits and games.



Each person staying must fill out a health form; I need those forms before we leave MCS. This can also be downloaded off of the website. If any student is on medication, it must be turned in to the camp nurse and will be administered by the nurse. It is strongly recommended that each student have a zip-lock bag with their name on the outside and all their medication on the inside. Only put the amount of medication needed for the camp trip.

Check out their website,

Directions:

For those of you with a GPS, the address is 3201 County Road 225, Marengo, OH 43334.

From I-71

Take Exit 140, Rt. 61 South. Turn right (west) on CR 15. CR 15 will go back over I-71. Turn right (north) on CR 218. Turn left (west) on CR 225. The entrance to

Testing Results: *Yes, we want your students to do well on the tests, but remember, the most important things in life aren't tested on the Stanford and the OAs. They're tested in the struggles of this life — don't lose sight of the eternal this week!!*

Results will be back for the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) will be mailed to Mansfield Christian on May 26. Senior results should be back sooner.

Results of the Ohio Achievement Assessment will be mailed to us at Mansfield Christian June 30.

I'm not sure when the results of the Stanford Testing for grades 1-2 will be back, but it's usually the middle of June.



Mansfield Celebrates 50 years!

Next year Mansfield Christian is

celebrating its 50th anniversary. Stay tuned for many special events as we look back on 50 years of God's faithfulness to us.

In celebration of our school's 50th anniversary (1961-2011) MCS will be participating in several community events. We want to use these public events as a way to not only thank the people of our community, but also to keep them informed of the quality programs we offer, such as Independent Studies.

We are creating a float that can be used at the Memorial Day parade,

Miss Ohio parade, Blueberry parade, Labor Day parade, and the Holiday parade. The school will provide the candy that can be handed out as we walk.

We also hope to have a booth at the following events: Richland County Fair (Aug. 7-12), the Lexington Blueberry Festival (Aug. 18-21), and the Bellville Street Fair (Sept. 14-17). Volunteers are needed to help at each of these events and more that will be announced at a later date.

I'd love to see us as a group, participate in one of these events. Let me know if you're interested in any of these in particular. The parades would be fun for us to walk

as a group, holding a sign for Independent Studies behind the MCS banner. Let me know your thoughts.

I would also like to have an Independent Studies Reunion, but would need someone to help with this task. I have many email addresses from over the year and of course addresses, but really need help to get the word out! Let me know if you are interested.

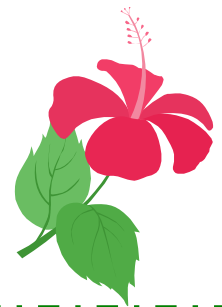
Just recently, I got a letter from a form IS parent that now lives in Florida. It was such a joy to hear how everyone is doing since they've become adults.

Remember, your labors are not in

WITH GOD, ALL

THINGS ARE

POSSIBLE.



Notes



Spruce Hill Inn & Cottages

(a beautiful place behind Snow Trails) is offering an essay contest. Students are encouraged to write an essay about their parent, guardian, grandparent or primary caregiver. The top 15 essays will receive prizes and the person they write about will be honored.

Winners also get a night stay at Spruce Hill! The deadline for Father's Day essays is Friday, May 27. Essays should be sent to Spruce Hill Inn & Cottages, 3230 Possum Run Road, Mansfield, Ohio 44903. Entry forms and guidelines are available in the IS office.

Congratulations to our IS kids that participated in Sleeping Beauty.— Grace Surber, Bailey Young, Brooke Young, Jon Walthour, and Katie

Walthour. You were all wonderful. Thank you for your many hours of practice. Free book available at: Thoughtfullearning.com *Inquire*—a Guide to 21st Century Skills. This is a handbook with rules and guidelines for technology practices that aren't in most books. Try it!

Great home school website: www.homeschoolguides.com Packed full of information I know you will find helpful.

Christian Home Educators of Ohio Convention

Teaching with all Wisdom:

Christian Home Educators of Ohio is presenting their 27th annual convention June 16-18 at the John S. Knight Center in Akron, Ohio.

Speakers include Michael & Elizabeth Smith from HSLDA, Diana Waring, author of *Mystery of History*, Bill Jack from Worldview Academy, & many more.

Prices are very reasonable—for an individual it is \$55 for two days.

Pre-registration is only open through May 14, then registration will have to be on site in Akron. Credit cards are accepted for pre-registration only and

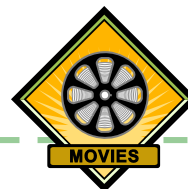
not for on-site registration.

To see exhibitors displaying in the vendor hall go to www.cheohome.org

I remember being at the first CHEO Convention! Seminars and workshops will include many topics from high school record keeping, creating a joyful atmosphere, choosing curriculum, dealing with chronic illness and depression while schooling, lapbooking to time management and much, much more.



Live in such a way that if others don't know Jesus they will come to know Him by knowing you.



Breakfast Update:

The 2011 Flamin' Hot Breakfast was a success thanks to all of you! We served 345 people and raise almost \$2800. We had a steady flow of business all morning. Everyone who came seemed to enjoy the food and fellowship. Many in attendance complimented me on the behavior of our IS students. I'm so proud of them all!! They were friendly and worked diligently with good attitudes. One by one I watched our kids get tips from parents, then promptly go and give that money to our Japanese fund.

The flowers the students made were also beautiful. Thank you again.

Mr. B's flavored pancakes were a real hit. We may even advertise different flavors next year since they were in such demand.

Thank you to all who participated whether it was through ticket sales, donations or work at the breakfast. Everything went so well and you were all a joy to work with.

Thank You!

Movie Production Camp

June 20-24 for students entering grades 6-12; 9:00 am—3:00 pm daily at OSU

This is a week of scripting, analyzing, and developing your own movie. You'll also record your voice, inserting video/pictures, text, and designing costumes to aid in the production of your movie.

Registration forms are available in the IS office or by emailing Margaret Hersman at hersman.10@osu.edu.



Young Writer's Camp

Designed for students entering grades 3-6 next fall. Grow in confidence and skills. Make friends and have fun!

June 27—July 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. daily at OSU Mansfield.

Cost is \$100 which includes supplies and snacks. I have registration forms if you're interested.

Specifically 7th—12th

7th-12th grade students can take the **STAR Reading Diagnostic Test**; just let me know and that can be given in my office.

Rising Stars Engineering

Camp—7th—8th graders are introduced to engineering through a hands-on, week-long, summer camp. June 13-17 and June 20-24 from 10 a.m.—5 p.m. located at NCSC Kehoe Center. For more information email dstrauss@ncstatecollege.edu. Or www.collegetechprep.net/risingstarts.

Free Sports Physicals—for students in 7th—12th grade next year. Boys at 8:30am and Girls at 9:00am in the high school gym. All high school and middle school students who participate in a sport must complete an OHSAA pre-participation physical form before he/she can participate in a sport, including tryouts and practices. The form is valid for one year and can be picked up in the high school office or you can print it off the MCS website under the athletics link. All 4 pages must be on file at the school, dated and signed and

completed by the parent and a physician.

There are coaching positions available. Any IS parent interested?

Varsity boys basketball coach

JV boys soccer coach

Varsity girls soccer coach

Varsity cheerleading.

Please email taylor.douglas@mcsflames.org if you're interested.

You Know You're a Homeschooler when:

... your kids are in the kiddie pool playing Lewis and Clark, paddling down the river with lacrosse sticks.

... you go to the greenhouse in the summer to buy herbs and start talking to the kids about the different kinds of plants ... and then one of the workers asks if you work there!!!!

you're out with non-homeschooling friends and they expect you to know the answers to everything--like the difference between a vegetable and a fruit and whether certain things like cucumbers are veggies.

Do these sound like you???

After School Classes 11-12

We are again offering weekly after school classes for home schoolers from MCS and the Mansfield area.

Up to this point we have just had you sign up tentatively, but are ready to start accepting registrations for these classes.

Classes include:

- **Art : Junior High & High School**
\$275/year + \$50 supply fee/year
- **Lab Sciences-Earth Science for Jr. High & Physical Science for H.S.**
\$275/year + \$40 lab fee. (Classes

offered in 2-year cycles of Life Science & Earth Science/ Biology & Physical Science)

- **Junior High & High School English** \$275/year —Strong emphasis on writing skills and grammar. Study Skills, reflective journaling, writing, literature, spelling & vocabulary will be covered.
- **Computer**—Open to grades 7-adult \$275/year - Learn Word, Excel,

PowerPoint, and Access, web publishing, etc.

- **Spanish I**—Open to grades 7-12. \$275/year The course includes listening, reading, writing, speaking, grammar, composition, and culture. The class is 100% immersion.

Not sure if enough interest for :

- **HS Bible**—\$275/year
 - **HS Speech**—1/2 year— \$137.50
- Let us know if you're interested.

Elementary News

K-6 Awards

Friday, May 27 @ 1:00 p.m. at RW, parents are invited to come as students receive character awards, awards for Speech Meet, Math Olympics, Creative Writing, etc. This will be held whether we have Field day that day or regular classes and will be our last class of the year. At the conclusion of the assembly you are free to leave.

Reminder of dates for the rest of the year:

Testing—week of May 2—No RW classes May 6

May 9-11—Heartland Outdoor School

May 12—set up for Used Book Sale—HELP!!

May 13—14 Used book Sale—No RW classes

May 20—IS Field Day—Mr. B

If raining, we will have regular RW classes

May 27—either RW classes or Field Day depending on the weather. Awards Assembly will be at 1:00 that day. Please plan to attend.



Note: Anyone in the IS program can sell their items at the Used Book Sale without a 10% handling fee being

Volunteers Needed

Help!! All day Thursday, May 12 and Friday, May 13, I will be setting up for the Used Book Sale which opens Friday from 6-9 and Saturday from 8-10. I really do need your help. The other dilemma I have is that I have a daughter that is expecting a baby that week so I may be called upon to babysit. Pray for the timing of that. Before the May dates, there is much to do in marking books appropriately. Please call Marie or I if you have any time to spare.



Mansfield Christian School

Independent Studies

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Mansfield, Ohio 44907

Ranchwood School
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Lori Bourcier—IS K-6 Music tchr.
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*“Choose you this day whom you will serve
but as for me and my house,
we will serve the Lord.”*

The Homeschool Tool Bar—The Ultimate!

The Homeschool Toolbar brings you the best homeschooling resources the web has to offer! Great for homeschool veterans and new homeschool moms alike...there is something for everyone on The Homeschool Toolbar. Stay connected, encouraged and informed with the Homeschool Toolbar!

It's free of spyware or viruses, does not open pop-ups or hijack your searches, allows you to control your privacy features such as cookies and cache from the toolbar and no personal information is required. Includes an email notifier where you can add all of your emails accounts in one convenient place. Plus, you can access your Twitter and Facebook accounts and post directly from the Toolbar!

The Homeschool Toolbar features include:

- Top homeschool websites & resources
- Top homeschool blogs
- The latest homeschool & parenting news
- Email notifier to organize all of your email accounts.
- Homeschool communities and forums.
- Category browsing helpful to moms and homeschoolers.

- Organizing tools such as a To do list, notepad, calculator, conversion charts, maps and more



Hear what others are saying:

“I downloaded this and have really loved it. Built into it are many great

features that I am enjoying. There are homeschool blogs, fun sites for the kids and the Google Toolbar is homeschool mom specific!”

“I love the Homeschool News, Educational websites, and online library. I can do my own list, notes, calculator and my own email notifier! You’ve got to try this!”

“The tools option is very handy! I can add my notes and reminders right to my toolbar. This is so cool because I can jot down notes about articles I love and want to link to later in a blog post. The Web tool is also another spectacular feature! All my most frequented locations are all right there!”

Check it out!

Registration

2011-2012

I encourage you to send your registration packets back as soon as possible. It really helps us to plan for the following year when we know how many families are returning.

If you are unable to locate your re-enrollment paperwork, please contact Barb Long in the Central Office at 419-756-5651 ext. 213.

Tuition assistance is available and funds are limited. If interested, FACTS Grant and Aide application packets are available in the Central Office.

If you have a kindergarten student to add next year, please let me know and I'll get you the appropriate paperwork.

If you're not returning next year, please let me know as soon as possible. Thank you.

