



JANUARY 27, 2006

HEADMASTER'S NOTEBOOK

*“taking every
thought captive to
the obedience of
Christ.”*

II Corinthians 10:5

**LS FAMILY MOVIE
NIGHT**

FEB. 3, 6:00PM

**FEBRUARY 1
RE-ENROLMENT
BEGINS**

**NO SCHOOL
FEBRUARY 8, 9
AND 10**

**OPEN HOUSE
FEBRUARY 7
6-8:00 P.M.**

During my absence the Headmaster's Notebook will generally be written by an ACA administrator. However, in light of reenrollment, we felt that an adaptation of Michael Collie's recent article in "WNC Parent" on funding private education would be especially helpful. We recognize that choosing ACA is a financial commitment and a sacrifice for many of you. Michael is an ACA Board Member and a Certified Financial Planner. His article is longer than normal, my hope is that you will be encouraged and benefit from his expertise in this area. - Bill George

Fellow ACA families,

I recently wrote an article for "WNC Parent" that discussed the benefits of a private or Christian education and how families could implement steps that would help offset the costs. As an ACA parent, you already know the irreplaceable value of the education your children receive at ACA. You recognize your obligation to be a steward of the children God has entrusted to you. You understand that this means partnering with an institution committed to helping Christian parents provide their children with an excellent academic education distinguished by a Biblical perspective resulting in a thoroughly Biblical world and life view. Thank God that ACA and its staff continue to fulfill this mission!

We do, however, face challenges in paying for this education. It means financial sacrifice on our part, and it isn't always easy. Implementing the financial steps below can help reduce the financial challenges we face as ACA parents.

Start a Coverdell Educational Savings Account (ESA). The Coverdell ESA, formerly known as the Educational IRA, works similarly to a Roth IRA, except it is geared toward education. Parents can contribute a total of \$2,000 per child per year to this type of account. Like a 529 plan, distributions are tax-free as long as they are used for qualified education expenses, such as tuition, books, fees, etc., at an eligible educational institution. 529 plans and Coverdell ESA's differ in that 529 plan distributions can only be used for post-secondary education (college); Coverdell ESA distributions can be used to fund any public, private or religious school that provides elementary, secondary or post-secondary education.

For example, let's assume that a newborn's parents begin to contribute \$2,000 each year to a Coverdell ESA, and the account earns an average annual rate of return of 8.00%. When the child reaches 6th grade the parents will have made total contributions of \$26,000 and the account will be worth an estimated \$46,430. Let's further assume that beginning the following year, 7th grade, the parents stop making the annual contributions and start taking an annual distribution of \$10,000 to pay for each remaining year's tuition. By the end of 12th grade, the parents will have thus depleted the account balance. Over this period of time, the parents would have contributed \$26,000 (newborn thru 6th grade, \$2,000 per year), taken distributions of \$60,000 (7th grade thru 12th grade, \$10,000 per year) and had tax-free earnings of \$34,000. At a total tax rate of 35%, this results in tax savings of nearly \$12,000!

Review your monthly spending. Financial Planning is defined as the allocation of limited resources to unlimited alternatives. This means that we have only so much money and unlimited choices to spend it on. By ordering your monthly and annual expenses based on your values and priorities, then starting at the top and allocating your income as you go down the list, you ensure that you cover the most important areas first and skip

MOMS IN TOUCH

Monday mornings,
8:30-9:30 a.m.
in the ACA library

**FATHER'S
PRAYER TIME**

Friday mornings,
7:00-8:00 a.m.
in the ACA library

**SUPPORT ACA
WITH YOUR
SHOPPING**

Bring in your **GENERAL MILLS BOX TOPS**. There are collection boxes in each building.

Use your **INGLES ADVANTAGE** card through the Tools for Schools program. Be sure to register so ACA is credited for your purchases.

SCRIP—Because the week of February 6th is a short school week **no SCRIP order will be placed on February 6th**. Orders will be placed on Monday January 30 and Monday February 13.

VISITING AUTHOR

The ACA Library will be hosting a visiting author during March. Stay tuned for more information!

HEADMASTER'S NOTEBOOK, CONTINUED

out on the less important areas. Is this challenging for most families? Most definitely! However, you will never regret having used your resources to meet your God-given priorities. After all, our money is a tool that God gives us to help carry out His purpose in our lives. Most of you went through this process when you initially committed to ACA. Be sure to review these priorities regularly; it will help you remember the value of ACA and reduce the stress caused by the financial challenges.

View it as a financial investment. Each year, millions of dollars are given out in the form of scholarships. Your child will ultimately be more successful and have a greater likelihood of receiving scholarships if they are educated in an environment where they can thrive. ACA employs a guidance counselor to help students explore college scholarship opportunities. With smaller graduating classes, she has the privilege of knowing each of the students personally and has more time to individually guide them in their scholarship search. Ultimately, if the value of the education you are paying for makes your child more likely to obtain scholarship aid, then the expense of the education can be viewed as an investment (because you may pay more for the education now yet pay less for a college education in the future, due to the scholarship aid received).

Inquire about Financial Aid. 33% of ACA families receive financial assistance. The standard procedure requires filling out a confidential financial aid application. Be sure to inquire with the school office early because the aid process usually requires meeting certain deadlines for both re-enrolling and new students.

Educating our children is unquestionably one of our primary objectives as parents. This education doesn't begin or end at school; it begins and ends at home. The ACA family, including both teachers and fellow students, will however have a huge impact on their development. Parental involvement and selecting an educational partner that shares your values and beliefs, as well as a commitment to outstanding educational achievement, as we are blessed to have found in ACA, are critical factors in guiding your children to their full potential.

In Christ, Michael Collie, Certified Financial Planner™ and ACA Board Member

SCHOOL NEWS

2006-07 PRESCHOOL, PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN

ACA parents, will you be enrolling a new child next fall? Now is the time to complete the brief paperwork. Please contact Kristine Buckwalter to request an application at Kristine.Buckwalter@ACALion.org or 581-2208.

SCHOOL WIDE OPEN HOUSE

For Current and Prospective ACA Families

Tuesday, February 7, ACA is hosting a School Wide Open House from 6:00-8:00 P.M. Our faculty and staff are looking forward to meeting next year's students/families as well as welcoming new families considering ACA. Our varsity basketball teams will be playing The Asheville School that evening (5:00 and 6:30). We hope you will make plans to enjoy this Open House as a family as well as invite friends to explore ACA.

HAIRDRYERS

Mrs. Briggs is in need of new or used hairdryers to use for drying student artwork. Please contact her at 581-2200 if you can help. Thanks!

**ACA BAND STUDENTS
COMPETE AT THE
DISTRICT LEVEL**

On January 19th and 21st, several ACA band students went to Tuscola High School to audition for chairs in the 2006 All-District Band. They competed with students from public schools throughout Western North Carolina. Four ACA students earned places in the All-District Band at their respective grade levels: Luke Carter (trumpet), Graylyn Loomis (horn), Betsy Price (flute), and Thomas George (tuba). Congratulate them on this achievement!

**WNC REGIONAL
SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS**

Congratulations to the five ACA students who received recognition in this competition which included 39 area schools.

Christiana Gatti and **Ellie George** received Honorable Mention, **Phillip Mojonnier** received a Silver Key, **Micah Hillard** received a Gold Key, **Kate Harrison** received a Gold Key and was an American Visions Award Nominee. Kate and Micah will have their work sent to New York for the national level competition. You are invited to view an exhibition of award-winning student work in the Pack Place Gallery from Jan. 21 through Feb. 17.

SCHOOL NEWS, CONTINUED

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 2006 MISSION TRIP

At 6:30 p.m., Monday, January 30th, in the library conference room there will be a planning and information meeting about summer mission trips to the Dominican Republic. This year's trips will be from August 2 through August 8, and from August 8 to August 14 to work with Dominican Crossroads in their mercy ministries. Middle school students (with at least one parent traveling with them), upper school students, parents, teachers and staff are all welcome. If you can't make the meeting but are interested in the trip, or need more information, call Brad Burlingham at 628-6220.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR THE ACA FAMILY TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.?

There is still room but you must sign up soon! Enjoy a worry-free family vacation in the nation's capital from June 19 through June 24. \$50 per person will hold your place. Call Gordon Meiners, Licensed ACA D.C. tour guide, at 273-1497 or email gordon.meiners@acalion.org.

LOCK DOWN DRILL

As part of ACA's crisis management plan the school is required to hold one lock down drill each year just as we are required to hold one fire drill each month. A lock down would take place if there was a potentially dangerous situation where students needed be contained within their classrooms. While we do not anticipate ever needing to have a lock down, our staff and students need to be prepared. This drill will take place on Wednesday, February 3rd and school entrances will be locked during the drill.

BEST KEPT SECRETS

Due to Annette Wilcox retiring, Best Kept Secrets closes January 27 while the ACA Board evaluates long term options for the store. Opportunities to purchase used campus wear will be made available at the school. Look for details in future *Between the Lions* publications.

RIVERWOOD ROAD CONSTRUCTION

For one week in late March Riverwood Road will be under construction. Crews will be widening and paving the road. They do not anticipate starting before 8:30 in the morning. Look for further details in *Between the Lions*.

MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOL NEWS

ALL SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS, AND THEIR PARENTS need to reserve the evening of Thursday, February 2, to attend the ACA College Planning Workshop. The workshop will take place in the auditorium at 7:00 p.m. It is highly recommended that **ALL** attend as this is your opportunity to find out vital information concerning college expectations and deadlines. Every year we have parents say they are not aware of college application deadlines. Don't let this happen to you! Lots of helpful information will be handed out which will answer those tricky college questions!

**M.S. SPIRITUAL
EMPHASIS WEEK
FEBRUARY 13-17**

On Thursday and Friday we will be served by a team of Bible college students. **Host families are needed for Wednesday and Thursday nights.** This is a great opportunity for our students to be exposed to Christian young people who have committed themselves to serving the Lord. If you can host any of them for two nights and provide lunch please contact Mr. Forester at school, extension 154, or by email. Thanks for partnering with us in this important week.

**SUMMER
ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION
OPPORTUNITY AT
MONTREAT COLLEGE**

CLIMBE is an environmental training and research center which provides young scientists with hands-on field data collection and analysis experience. The program is FREE for gifted 8th-12th grade students who have an interest in science and outdoor pursuits. For more information visit www.montreat.edu/climbe or contact Brackin Kirkland at kirklandjb@montreat.edu or 669-8012 x3405.

MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOL NEWS

REPORT CARD UPDATE

Please note that Honor Roll determination is determined by grades in core classes only (math, science, language, history, etc). Honor roll status in no way affects the weighted GPA or unweighted GPA which is sent to colleges and determines who is valedictorian and salutatorian.

DRIVER'S ED THIS SUMMER – JUNE 5 - 16, 9:00-12:00 PM

Once again this summer we hope to offer classroom driver's ed instruction for students. The dates are Monday, June 5 through Friday, June 16 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Your student is eligible to attend if he/she will be 14 ½ years old by June 5, 2006. Call the school office to sign up. Tell your friends! Cost is minimal if we have 36 or more students.

LOWER SCHOOL NEWS

REPORT CARDS

You should have received your child's report card last Friday. Please sign and return to your child's teacher by Monday, Jan. 30.

LOCKDOWN information can be found on page 3. Just a word concerning our approach in LS. We are very conscious of not frightening the children with this unusual event. Please help us by keeping it very low key at home. I would suggest not even mentioning it unless your child says something to you. With the younger children, we are approaching this as a game. Remember we want to protect your children by practicing, but we certainly don't want them to be afraid.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The following students will be representing ACA at the Math Olympics sponsored by the Association of Christian Schools International.

Gr. 3 – Hannah Thornburg, Nathaniel Phelan, Amy Frink, Rob Sulaski, Emilee Lord, and Sarah McDonald.

Gr. 4 – Joshua Tourtelote, Madison Mitchell, Hannah Teo, Celesta Edge, Savannah Hightower, and Darlene Luper.

TIME TO BRUSH UP ON OUR COLORS!

The 2006 National Children's Dental Health Month Coloring Contest is now open to all artists grades K-5. Look for information to come home with your child the week of January 30. ACA artists have won first and second place awards in the past. Thank you, Dr. Becker, for sponsoring this and bringing us an opportunity to creatively smile.

PIZZA, POPCORN & A PICTURE SHOW

Join us for a Lower School event for the whole family, Friday, February 3 at 6:00 P.M. There will be a double feature shown in the auditorium: The Absent-Minded Professor & Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. Admission is \$1.00 and pizza and popcorn will be served. Invite your friends and neighbors. Don't miss this nostalgic night of family fun!

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

January 30 at ACA

- 5:00 MS Girls vs. Kipp Academy
- 6:15 MS Boys vs. Kipp Academy

January 31 at ACA

- 4:30 JV Boys vs. Rabun Gap
- 6:00 Varsity Girls vs. Rabun Gap
- 7:30 Varsity Boys vs. Rabun Gap

February 2 at ACA

- 4:00 MS Girls vs. Mitchell Road Christian
- 4:30 JV Girls vs. Erwin
- 5:15 MS Boys vs. Mitchell Road Christian
- 6:00 JV Boys vs. Erwin

February 3 at ACA

- 4:30 MS girls vs. New Leaf Academy
- 6:00 Varsity Girls vs. Spartanburg Day
- 7:30 Varsity Boys vs. Spartanburg Day

February 6, away

- JV Girls vs. Hendersonville Christian

February 7 at ACA

- 3:45 JV Boys vs. Asheville School
- 5:00 Varsity Girls vs. Asheville School
- 6:30 Varsity Boys vs. Asheville School

ATHLETIC NEWS

BASKETBALL

The boys and girls varsity teams are working hard to earn a spot in the NCISAA state playoffs. There are a few more home dates left. Come out and cheer on the LIONS as both varsity teams challenge for conference and tournament championships!

Senior Athlete Recognition – On February 7, the ACA Athletic Department will honor winter senior athletes and their parents between games against Asheville School. Plan to attend and encourage these fine athletes towards a strong finish and future.

The Carolina Athletic Association Conference Basketball Tournament is at Asheville School on February 16-18 for varsity boys and girls.

The ***middle school basketball*** teams will play in a basketball tournament at Carolina Day School on February 11!

SPRING SPORTS will be starting soon. Make sure sports physicals have been completed and turned in before tryouts begin as listed below:

Varsity and JV Baseball:	February 20
Varsity and JV Girls Soccer:	February 20
Varsity Golf:	February 20 (Must set a tryout tee time with Coach Morris)
Middle School Baseball:	February 27
Middle School Girls Soccer:	February 27

SPRING SPORTS EXCEL volleyball and boys soccer will begin in March. Stay tuned!

REMINDER: The nature of basketball provides a unique competitive atmosphere; one in which great opportunities exist to demonstrate maturity, enthusiasm and class. At ACA, we expect our athletes to compete with the heart of a warrior, yet in such a way that respects the game, the opponent, the officials and our Lord. The same is true of those who participate as spectators! Respect the game, the opponent, the officials and our Lord in what we say and do. ***Remember to CHEER FOR – NOT AGAINST!***





**ASHEVILLE CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY**

P.O. Box 1089

SWANNANOVA, NC 28778

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.ACACADEMY.ORG