

Faith Christian School PreK-12

The Paw Print

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Chick-fil-A Spirit Day fundraiser
- ◆ MLK holiday scheduled
- ◆ Jr. High Winter Athletic Awards

Headmaster's Letter

Dear Faith Friends and Family,

I sincerely hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. As always, I very much enjoyed the time with my church family and my own family.

Four years ago around this time, Elijah came home from the hospital after three months in the NICU. Although he had tubes and oxygen meters attached to his body, he was finally home. This year, watching my children open gifts, it was hard to believe it was like that four years ago.

January is cranking up to be very exciting. Our 2nd Annual Blackout game against Donoho will be on the 6th. The next week is homecoming against the Fayetteville Wolves, followed by the excitement of the Calhoun County Basketball Tournaments.

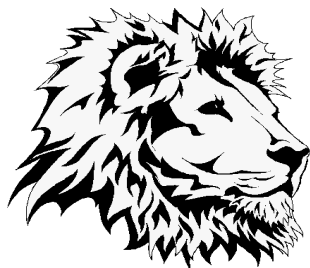
There is an article about Mrs. Taylor, our Spanish teacher. Hopefully, this short bio will help you get to know one of our two new faculty members.

I continue to be pleasantly surprised with our high school. The student who have taken the theme of "own it" for the year seriously. The idea was to encourage students to take hold of the mission and calling of the school and to make it their own. I have seen senior leadership, the student government, the cheerleaders, the junior class, and other individuals on campus all "own it" and they are changing the high school.

Our elementary school continues to live up to its reputation for excellence. I am amazed every time I visit a classroom and see what these students are able to do. Each teacher is committed to mastery learning for their students and our students are reaching those mastery levels every day.

In a time when we reflect on God's gifts to us, I am overwhelmed at all the gifts he has given us. Have fun this January. I hope to see you at our many school events this year.

Mr. Todt



LIONS EAT CHICKEN—EAT FOR A GOOD CAUSE

The junior class is preparing to host the 2011-12 FCS Prom and one way the entire FCS community can be involved is to support a fundraiser on **January 11, 2012 from 5:00-8:00 p.m.** at the free-standing Chick-fil-A. The company will donate 20% of every order that is specified for FCS. Please remember to say, “This is for the FCS fundraiser.”

Mrs. Griselda Taylor

Spanish Speaker; Spanish Teacher

Five years ago, when we needed a Spanish teacher, Mrs. Taylor applied for the job. Dr. Character was ready to hire her, but her life just did not allow for the part-time nature of the position. Last year, her life changed and she was now able to take on a part-time position. She came at just the right time for the school. As I got to know her, I came to understand why Dr. Character had wanted to hire her. She brings practical life experience, a thorough knowledge of the language, and most of all the desire to focus on the students learning to speak Spanish.

Foreign languages are more than credits for graduation; they are windows into different worlds. They are glimpses into other God-ordained cultures. Mrs. Taylor shares this passion and brings it to her teaching.

In addition to her passion, she brings to her position an innate teaching ability, exceptional dignity and a high level of professionalism. This article gives a glimpse into her background and how God has prepared her for FCS.

Mrs. Taylor is originally from Guadalajara, Mexico. Presently, she and her husband of 12 years reside in Talladega, Alabama with their three children Alexander, Daniel and Isabella. Her husband works at BAE systems.

Mrs. Taylor is from a family of 9 children. Her father farmed corn and sugar cane and she attributes her value of hard work to his example and expectations. She attributes her family’s religious stability and social etiquette to her mother.

Mrs. Taylor sang in the choir and played soccer in school. She says it is through love of her teachers that she learned of God’s love for her. Through their teaching, she also became aware of God’s involvement in all of His Creation. These two things laid the foundation for her eventual acceptance of Christ’s work in her life.

Her admirable work ethic and her multi-lingual abilities have served her well as she has held positions in marketing, international sales and import/export of goods. She considers herself fortunate to have been able to

learn from professional and successful business owners and worked with colleagues with quality moral character.

Mrs. Taylor first got a taste of teaching a few years ago when she started tutoring. She found she like it. That is why she has persisted in applying to teach here. She is so excited to finally be at Faith and has not regretted the decision. She loves this 10th grade class and enjoys seeing them learn this language and grow more proficient at speaking it. Like a true teacher, she gets excited at the successes of her students.

Mrs. Taylor has been to many interesting places. She says the most interesting place was the Xcaret (Cancun) Mexico. This park also has some archeological sites that she found amazing. And it has an underground river that she actually went swimming in. This is just one of her many life experiences that makes her such an excellent teacher.

Currently, Mrs. Taylor teaches Spanish I and intends to teach Spanish I and II next year. Her classes are highly interactive with a focus on conversational ability.

Homecoming court 2012

The following girls have been chosen by their peers to represent their class in the homecoming court of 2012. The court will be presented at the home basketball game on January 13th.

9th grade- Abbie Shiflett
 Ryleigh Freeman
 Hannah Turner
 10th grade- Madison Hadley
 Sela Bay Miles
 Peyton Camp
 11th grade- Kylee Shiflett
 Jessica Doering
 Chessa Halpin
 12th grade- Carly Dethrage
 Kristen Fargason
 Kaelyn Crowe

The Homecoming Queen is selected from the three candidates in the 12th grade. The announcement will be made at the game on the 13th. See you there.

2011 FADS sponsors
 (signs in gym)

AXA Advisors
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 Buster Miles
 Young & Wollstein
 RMS, LLC
 Abbey Carpet & Floor
 McCord Communications
 Walker Ortho
 Oxford Tire
 Top O' the River

Re-enrollment Time

January is here and that means it is priority enrollment time. Current families who re-enroll in January and February or enroll new siblings will not have to compete with new families for a spot at our excellent school. We hold all new family applications until March 1. Once March is here, priority is given on a "first-come-first-serve" basis.

The month of February does not have a tuition payment. We do this to relieve some of the financial burden involved with re-enrollment. You should find the enrollment form in your most recent mailing. You have January and February to turn in the form and fee to receive priority enrollment.

We also have our financial aid application forms available in the school office for the 2012-2013 school year. Our school only gives "need-based" scholarships. The board tries to be as objective and discreet as possible and therefore uses a third party service to help determine financial need. The deadline for this form is March 15th and it does require tax information. If you intend to apply for financial aid, you will need to have prepared your taxes for 2011. The information is sent directly to the service, so the school does not receive or have access to your private information.

School Improvement

As indicated in the orientations at the beginning of the school year, a one-time committee for school improvement was formed. This group's purpose was to help Mr. Todt with a concerted effort to formally gather parent feedback. Mr. Gary Milner volunteered to chair the group and they have met several times in carrying out their mission. They have devised an online survey. This should bring the maximum return and it is the best way to preserve privacy and quickly compile the data.

They will be releasing this survey in January. It is an online survey, so look in your emails for the link to the survey with the instructions. Especially with an accreditation year coming up, this survey will be invaluable to the school as it moves forward with a new five-year school improvement plan. Thank you to all the men and women who served our school by participating on this committee.

Schedule of Events for January 2012

January 2--Return to school; Junior high hosts Weaver at 5:00 p.m.

January 3--Varsity at Sacred Heart at 5:00 p.m. (two games only)

January 5--Sword Drill 8:00 a.m.; Junior high at Donoho at 5:00 p.m.; Varsity at home vs. Jefferson Christian at 5:00 p.m.

January 6--Dress approval at 3:15 p.m.; Blackout vs. Donoho at 5:00 p.m.

January 9--Final dress approval at 3:15 p.m.

January 10--PTF meeting in library at 3:15 p.m.; Junior high vs. Wellborn at 5:00 p.m.; Varsity at Ohatchee at 5:00 p.m.

January 11--Chick-fil-A FCS Spirit Day 5:00-8:00 p.m. (prom fundraiser)

January 12--Junior high at Ohatchee at 5:00 p.m.; Varsity hosts JCA at 5:00 p.m. (two games only)

January 13--Homecoming vs. Fayetteville at 5:00 p.m.

January 14--Calhoun County Tournament begins

January 16--No School/MLK Day; County tournament continues

January 17--Tournament continues

January 18--Kindergarten Teddy Bear Day; tournament continues

January 19--Tournament continues

January 20--Elementary chapel at 8:00 a.m.; End of 1st semester; Tournament continues

January 23--No School/Semester Break; Junior high county tournament begins

January 24--Varsity at Fayetteville at 5:00 p.m. (change from original schedule); Senior class pizza sale until Feb 3rd; junior high tournament continues

January 26--Varsity hosts Wellborn at 5:00 p.m.; tournament continues

January 27-- 2nd grade Coffee House 9:00 a.m.; Varsity away at Pleasant Valley at 5:00 p.m.; tournament continues

The Refrigerator Page



January 28--Scholars Bowl district meet. Location TBD
January 30-- All basketball teams play at home against Victory Christian at 4:00 p.m.

January 31--Junior high Winter Sports Awards at Top O' the River 6:00 p.m. dinner/ 7:00 p.m. ceremony

Faith Christian School is a ministry of Faith Presbyterian Church of Anniston, Alabama.

Its purpose is to give the youth of the church and the vicinity quality instruction in subjects usually taught in public schools, together with specific Bible instruction and Christian standards for life. It is a board-operated school accredited by SACS and is a member of ACSI. Faith Christian School participates in AHSAA and Calhoun County athletics. The pastor of FPC is Rev. Rick Searle.

The chairman of the school board is Dr. Boyce Callahan. The headmaster of FCS is Mr. Ryan Todt.

"From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked." Luke 12:48b