

August 7, 2012

CCS Families,

I trust that you had a great summer and that the students have enjoyed their summer break. After a summer filled with planning, scheduling, handbook updates, and all of the various other things that take place over the summer, we are excited to welcome students for the 2012-2013 academic school year. Below are some essential bits of information you'll need to start the new year!

Important Dates Coming Up Soon...

Open House: The back-to-school Open House will be held this Thursday, August 9, from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. You can stop by any time during those hours to pick up student schedules, go to classrooms, meet the teachers, pay on lunch accounts, purchase uniform apparel, and much more. New families to CCS are invited to attend a new family orientation in the library from 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. to hear about morning drop-off, afternoon pick-up, RenWeb, attendance, dress code, bus service, lunches, etc. All Upper School students should report to the library upon arrival to obtain class schedules. Lower School students can go straight to their classes to meet their teachers.

First Day of School:

The first day of school is on Wednesday, August 15. Students may begin arriving any time after 7:30 a.m. Lower school students report to the library for morning care; upper school students report to the cafeteria. The first bell will ring at 7:50 a.m.; students may go to their classrooms at that time. Classes begin at 8:00 a.m.

New Faculty:

We are pleased to announce the following additions to the CCS staff:

Mrs. Adrienne Allen	Spanish & After School Care
Mr. Aaron Hale	Middle School Bible & P.E.
Mrs. Betty Jones	K3-K4 Aide & Lower School P.E.
Mrs. Laura Meisner	Upper School Math & Science
Mrs. Rhonda Page	Lower School Music
Mrs. Christina Steffensen	5th Grade

Spanish Additions:

CCS is excited to announce that beginning this school year, we will be offering a weekly Spanish class for students in 1st through 5th grades. Middle school students will also be taking a Spanish class as one of their quarterly electives.

Supply Lists:

The 2012-2013 supply lists are on the CCS website. You can access them under the academics tab, or by using the following link: <http://ccscolts.org/site/academic/2012-13-supplies-list/>.

Lower School Release Time:

Just a reminder that when school resumes next Wednesday, the new release time for lower school will be 2:40 p.m., so please plan pick-up times accordingly. This change will add nearly 30 hours of instruction time for our lower school students over the year.

Policy Additions/Changes:

Technology Acceptable Use – We have updated our technology acceptable use policy to include information pertaining to general and e-mail standards, network etiquette, reporting of inappropriate material, internet communications, and social media. This policy will be discussed with the students, and there is a form that will be sent home to be signed regarding this policy.

Bullying Policy and Bullying Pledge – It is the policy of Crossroads Christian School to maintain a safe learning and work environment that is free from bullying, including cyberbullying. Students, staff, and the school community are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful, Christian manner, and demonstrate a level of respect and dignity towards others. To that end, we have developed a “No Bullying Policy.” The policy will be presented to the upper school students in an assembly, and to the other grades in separate meetings to ensure that everyone is familiar with the policy. Following the meeting, a bullying pledge will be given to the students that must be read and signed by the student and a parent/guardian. Bullying incident report forms will be available in each classroom for students and in the office for parents to report bullying behavior.

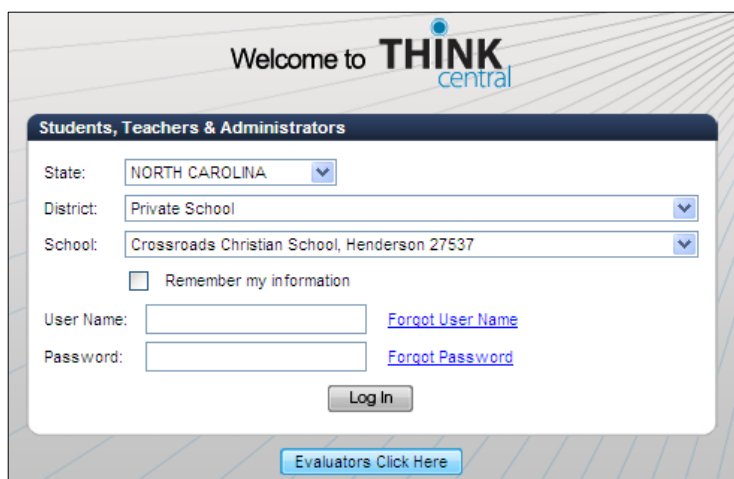
New Math Curriculum:

We are proud to announce that CCS has adopted the Common Core State Standards for Mathematical Content. With this adoption, we are implementing a new textbook series for the elementary and middle school grades, and in the upper school through Algebra II. We are excited about the changes, and we look forward to their impact over the next few years.

Go Math! (Kindergarten – 5th):

Go Math! is an exciting program that incorporates hands-on activities with real-world problem solving. Best of all, students will be able to write their ideas and answers right in their books. By writing and drawing on the pages, students will be able to think deeper about what they are learning, which in turn will help them understand math in more depth.

Temporary log-ins have been created for each grade level so that parents can go online and view the Go Math! series. You can access the textbook for each grade level by using the following link: [https://www-k6.thinkcentral.com/ePC/start.do](https://www.k6.thinkcentral.com/ePC/start.do) . Once you open up the website, you will have to provide state, district, and school information, as well as a user name and password. Use the screen print below to choose the school information from the dropdown menus.



The user names are as follows:

Kindergarten:

user name – studentk password – crossroads

1st Grade:

user name - student1 password - crossroads

2nd Grade:

user name - student2 password - crossroads

3rd Grade:

user name - student3 password - crossroads

4th Grade:

user name - student4 password - crossroads

5th Grade:

user name - student5 password – crossroads

Big Ideas Math (6th – 8th):

Big Ideas Math is the only research-based program developed using the common core standards for mathematical practice. The series recently received the 2012 Texty award in the K-12 mathematics category by the Text and Academic Authors Association for its excellence as a copyrighted textbook. With the adoption of this series comes an online student edition. You can access the student edition by using the following link: <http://www.bigideasmath.com/> . If you click on the student tab, you can look under the “Home Edition” heading and choose the Common Core Curriculum from the drop down menu. Once you choose go, you will be able to access the textbooks. The green book is for 6th grade, the red book is for 7th grade, and the blue book is for 8th grade. Students in Pre-Algebra will be using a book not associated with this series.

Upper School Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II:

CCS has adopted the common core editions from Holt McDougal for Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. Students will be given access codes to view the textbook and tools online.

Thank you for your commitment to your child’s education. The staff at Crossroads has been working hard to get everything ready for school to begin and to make sure that the 2012-2013 school year is our best year yet. We look forward to seeing you at Open House!

In Christ,

Jonathan E. Capps

Headmaster