

# CROSSROADS NEWS

July 31, 2015



Crossroads Family,

I hope this letter finds each of you enjoying the last few weeks of summer break. It's hard to believe, but it's almost time to begin another school year, and in a few weeks we will be saying, "Welcome back!" to our students. While the staff and students are gearing up, I wanted to remind all parents of the integral role that you play in your child's education. Your children will receive the best education when you and our dedicated teachers work as a team. It's a parent's enthusiasm, support, and involvement that inspire a child to do his or her best and to develop a love of learning. Together we can make the 2015-2016 school year the best it can be.

## CCS is excited to introduce our new faculty members:

- Mrs. Tracy Parker – Kindergarten Aide
- Ms. Bonnie Hunter – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade
- Mrs. Evelyn Ballentine – 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grades English & History
- Mrs. Christina Salinas – Upper School English
- Mr. Jamie Parker – Upper School Science

Our school theme for this year is "**Stand Strong!**" Ephesians 5:15-17 encourages us to live out our faith daily and to make decisions according to God's will, even when they go against today's popular culture. Our desire is for students at Crossroads to live lives that are pleasing to the Lord, to "Stand Strong" at all times no matter what the situation is, and to share Christ with others.

*Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.*

– Ephesians 5:15-17

Thank you for your commitment to your child's education. The staff at Crossroads has been working hard to get everything ready for the beginning of a great school year! I look forward to seeing you at Open House.

*Jonathan E. Capps*

Headmaster

## Back-to-School Open House

The back-to-school Open House will be held on Tuesday, August 11, from 4 p.m. – 7 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. All upper school students need to come to the library first to obtain their class schedules. Lower school students can go directly to their classrooms.

## New Family Orientation – Open House

New families are invited to attend a new family orientation prior to Open House 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.

## Kindergarten Meeting – Open House

There will be a kindergarten parent meeting at 6 p.m. on the night of the open house with Mrs. Garriss, the kindergarten teacher, in her classroom (Room 201). The meeting will cover everything that parents need to know as their child enters kindergarten. Please bring the supply list items to open house to help make the first day of school less chaotic.

Kindergarten families do not need to attend the 3:30 new family orientation as the kindergarten meeting will cover the same information, but we ask that you do visit the library before the meeting if you want to open a lunch accounts, join the PACT program, etc.

## Sixth Grade Meeting – Open House

There will be two sixth grade student/parent meetings held on the day of open house. The first meeting will take place at 4:30 p.m. and the second at 6:00 p.m., with both meetings covering the exact same material. The meeting will be held in Mrs. Anderson's room (Rm 603). This meeting will cover the transition into middle school for both students and parents. Please stop by the library first before attending one of the meetings.



## 2nd Annual Tears & Cheers

After dropping off your student(s), join Mr. Capps (CCS Headmaster) and other CCS parents in the library for a celebratory reception on Wednesday, August 13, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. There will be coffee, juice, treats, tissues, and other parents just like you! This is a great opportunity to meet other CCS families.

## Be the First to Make a PACT this Year with CCS

Parents, please prayerfully consider adopting a teacher or faculty member for the 2015-2016 school year, and make a PACT to pray for that person and encourage them with small gifts throughout the year. This is the second year that the P.A.C.T. (Parents Appreciating Crossroads Teachers) program will be in place, and we are excited about how God will use families to encourage the faculty and staff at CCS.

To find out more information or to adopt a faculty member, please visit the PACT table at Open House, or e-mail Lisa Nelms at [pact@ccscolts.org](mailto:pact@ccscolts.org).

## 2015-2016 School Supply Lists

School supply lists are located on the CCS website. You can access the lists through the following link: [CCS 2015-2016 Supply Lists](#) Please check the lists before you begin your back to school shopping!

## Dress Code Information (from our Student Handbook)

### General Dress Policies for Boys and Girls (1st – 12th)

- All clothing must fit appropriately (not excessively tight or baggy).
- **Tops:** All shirts/tops/sweatshirts/hoodies/sweaters worn by students are to be CCS wear, purchased through our school store, school groups (NHS, Yearbook, Student Council), or Land's End. (Land's End Preferred School Number: 9001-0713-7. All Land's End tops must include the Crossroads Christian School logo.) All tops must be worn as purchased; no modifications in fit are allowed (for example, cutting the shirts and tying in knots down the side, etc.). Athletic tournament shirts are not allowed unless specifically designated by the Athletic Director. Summer camp T-shirts are not considered CCS wear and are not allowed during the school year. Camouflage clothing is not allowed (including jackets or coats) at any time.
- **Pants, Skirts, Etc.:** Students may wear jeans every day. Jeans and twill/chino type of pants/shorts will be the only type allowed. Skirts and shorts must be no shorter than two inches above knees. Solids, plaids, stripes, and prints are acceptable. Jeans must be modest, neat, and appropriate in size and fit. The following styles are not allowed: skinny fit, hip huggers, and low riders. Jeans that are torn, frayed, and/or faded from excessive wear or have separated seams are inappropriate. Cut-off jeans are not allowed unless neatly hemmed – no ragged edges, no roll-ups. No overalls may be worn. Baggy pants, spandex pants, leggings or any type of athletic pants/shorts (including wind pants, sweat pants, athletic shorts, etc.) are not allowed. Camouflage clothing is not allowed (including jackets or coats) at any time.
- **Special Occasion Wear (for Athletic Banquets, Graduation, Homecoming, Etc.):** Dress choices must be modest. Dresses, skirts, shorts, and skorts should not be shorter than 2 inches above knees. No spaghetti straps are allowed. No visible cleavage is allowed. *Students who arrive at special occasion events inappropriately dressed will be sent home to change.*
- **Outerwear:** Three-quarter zip and hoodies must be CCS wear. Jackets and full zip-up hoodies worn throughout the school day must not have logos or designs larger than a dollar bill. This includes the logos that stretch across the entire chest or back or down the arm, etc. No skulls, skeletons, pirate images, or other offensive, distracting designs. Camouflage clothing is not allowed (including jackets or coats) at any time. Confederate flags or symbols, etc. are not allowed.
- **Jewelry, belt buckles, etc.:** Body piercings are discouraged and should not be visible. Girls may wear earrings. Boys may NOT wear earrings. Distracting, offensive, oversized, or extreme jewelry/belt buckles/misc. is prohibited (spikes, leather collars, etc.). Confederate flags or symbols, etc. are not allowed.
- **Hair:** Students should keep their hair neat, clean, and well-groomed with no distracting hair colors or styles. Male students must be clean shaven at all times – no mustaches, goatees, or beards. Male students should not allow their hair length to cover their eyes or their ears. Male students are not allowed to wear “pony tails” or “dreadlocks.” After one warning, students will not be allowed to return to school until the issue has been resolved.
- **Body Art:** Permanent or temporary tattoos are discouraged and must not be visible.
- **Shoes:** Appropriate footwear (tennis shoes, casual shoes, loafers, nice sandals, or flip flops, etc.) is required.

### Dress for Game Days

Game day attire for all teams will be the same for boys and girls—a designated team shirt and khaki, navy, or black long pants. Athletic shirts for game day will be available in the CCS School Store. The Athletic Director reserves the right to make final determinations on the appropriateness of game day dress.

### Dress for Picture Days

Students must follow school dress guidelines above for picture days. For those who desire to “dress up” for pictures, keep in mind modesty: Modest tops and pants/skirts; dress pants or khakis, collared shirts, skirts or dress shorts (no higher than two inches above the knee).

### Dress for Field Trips

Dress code guidelines may vary depending upon the type of field trip. The venue will determine the field trip dress. For example, a class visiting a theatrical production or symphony would need to dress differently than a class visiting the zoo. However, some basic guidelines apply:

- **College campus visits:** Modest tops and pants/skirts -- Dress pants or khakis, collared shirts, skirts or dress shorts (no higher than two inches above the knee), practical walking shoes (no high heels).
- **Other field trips:** Unless otherwise stated by the teacher, normal school dress code and modesty guidelines apply.

Students who do not follow dress guidelines for field trips will be considered “out of dress code” and will receive appropriate disciplinary action, which can include not being allowed to go on future field trips.

## Summer Reading Program

There is still time for students to complete summer reading! Educators consider summer reading very important for developing life-long reading habits, for maintaining literacy skills, and for promoting reading for pleasure. Studies show that children who continue to read during the summer months perform better when school resumes in the fall. You can access the summer reading lists through the following link:

<http://ccscolts.org/site/academic/summer-reading-lists/>

## SAT & ACT News



It's that time of year again for signing up to take SAT or ACT college entrance exams. The ACT is the only college entrance exam with a September test date, offering the earliest testing

opportunity for the school year. For seniors, this opens a window to retest in October, if necessary, and still receive scores in time for college admissions, financial aid, and scholarships.

### ACT facts...

- The ACT is accepted by *all* US colleges and universities.
- The ACT test score is based on the number of correct answers—no points deducted for guessing.

## Calendar of Events

<b>August 3</b>	Volleyball practice begins: Middle School - 5:00-6:30; Junior Varsity – 3:00-4:00; Varsity – 4:00-5:00 p.m.
<b>August 3</b>	Soccer Practice: All teams 5:30-7:30 p.m.
<b>August 11</b>	Open House 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. New Family Orientation 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
<b>August 13</b>	First Day of School
<b>September 7</b>	Labor Day – No School

## Remind

One of the fastest ways that you can receive information from the school regarding delays, closings, and important announcements is through Remind. Remind sends messages via text and/or e-mail. If you signed up for Remind last year, you do not need to register again, as you are still on the school's list. If you are a new family or you did not sign up last year, please use the information on the following pages and sign up for the accounts that pertain to you.

- The ACT writing test is optional—not all colleges and universities require a writing test for admission.
- Students will receive personalized career information based on strengths and interests.
- Test dates and registration info: [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

### SAT facts...the "new" SAT is coming!

- The biggest change on the new SAT is the addition of an entirely new, scored section on the test that covers grammar and English sentence construction.
- The Mathematics section is slightly harder, including topics from Algebra II and a bit more geometry. Students should be familiar with topics up to Algebra II including factoring, simplification, and solving for roots of quadratics.
- The College Board replaced its use of analogies with sentence completion questions. Sentence Completion questions test a student's knowledge of vocabulary in context, which is considered more appropriate and indicative of a student's knowledge.
- The new test takes effect March of 2016.
- Test dates, practice, registration info: <https://sat.collegeboard.org/home>

Mrs. Choplin will be available to help students register for these tests or to answer college admission questions after school on most days. See her to make an appointment!

# How to sign up for Mr. Capps's Crossroads messages:



To receive messages via text, text **@66124** to 81010. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @66124'.



\*Standard text message rates apply.

Or to receive messages via email, send an email to **66124@mail.remind.com**. To unsubscribe, reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.



# How to sign up for Mr. Capps's Lower School messages:



To receive messages via text, text **@c506f** to 81010. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @c506f'.



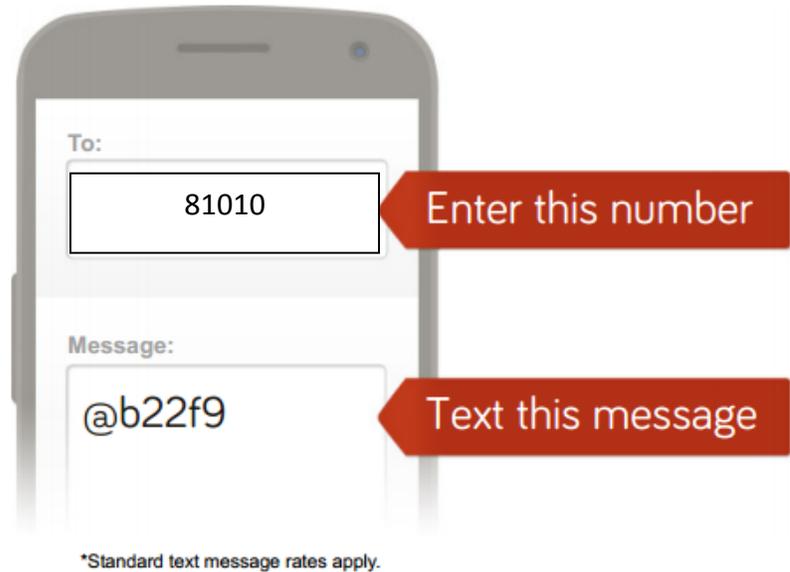
Or to receive messages via email, send an email to **c506f@mail.remind.com**. To unsubscribe, reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.



# How to sign up for Mr. Capps's Upper School messages:



To receive messages via text, text **@b22f9** to 81010. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @b22f9'.



Or to receive messages via email, send an email to **b22f9@mail.remind.com**. To unsubscribe, reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.

