

The Principal's Desk

NOVEMBER 2011

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

ISSUE THREE



FCA's 4th and 5th Grade Students represent at the State Capital.

FCA's March on Austin!

Each year, schools across the state of Texas and across the United States set a week aside to celebrate Red Ribbon Week. Red Ribbon Week is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country. Red Ribbon Week generally takes place the last full week in October, with the weekends before and following the last full week included as appropriate celebration dates. This year's celebration made a huge impact on FCA's 4th and 5th grade students.



Once again, the Drug Enforcement Agency of Dallas invited the 4th and 5th grade class of Fellowship Christian Academy Preparatory School

on its annual trip to the state capital in Austin, Texas to celebrate Red Ribbon Rally Week. It was a chance for the

students to experience Texas government up close and personal.



Students boarded their own charter bus at 6:00am in the morning bound for Austin. Each class had diligently prepared for the trip by studying the three branches of government as well as the bill to law process. Many students said they were excited to be a part of the anti-drug campaign. "We feel we made a difference by sharing information about being drug free" another student stated.

After participating in the "drug free" march and rally at the capital, students went into the House Chambers. Last

year only three students were asked to go down on the chamber floor, but this year was special. Fifteen of FCA's students graced floor of the House of Representatives. Excited and anxious students were given the opportunity to debate bills created by students from all over North Texas. Own 4th and 5th grade classes created a bill which was chosen for debate.



It's not too late to sign up for the Parent Teacher Fellowship!



Weekly Updates:

Please check out www.fcasoars.org for weekly updates that may come.

More on FCA's Red Ribbon Week Campus Celebration on page 2.

Red Ribbon Week cont.

Red Ribbon Week Activities

For the week of October 24th - 28th, FCA faculty and students had the opportunity to share their commitment to being drug free. The week was filled with activities that engaged students and faculty and brought about a fun atmosphere that taught students about the dangers of drugs. Each day had a different theme along with a slogan and scripture to support the day.



Above: "Sock it to Drugs" Day

Along with the different scheduled days, students got an opportunity to participate with their own drug free campaign. Students had the task to speak with family members, neighbors, friends, and church members to "Pledge to be Drug Free". Each class competed against each other to collect the most "drug free pledges" to win the class award. Many



Above: Red Ribbon Week closing ceremony

came close, but the ultimate winner was the 7th Grade class who collected over 380 individual drug free pledges! As a school, we were able to obtain over 1500 drug free pledges!

We ended the week with a huge ceremony and raffled off prizes to students and teachers.

FCA Kindergarten Trip to Green Meadows Farm



Mrs. McKinney's KB Grade class choose their pumpkins from the pumpkin patch from their trip to Green Meadows Farm.

As an enrichment activity to end the Science unit on Farm Life, the Kindergarten students took a field trip to Green Meadows Petting Farm. The farm offered an ideal country setting. The students learned about pigs, cows, goats, sheep, chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, donkeys, Asian water buffalos and more! The students even got an opportunity to milk a cow. The highlight was the Tractor-drawn hayride.

The students sat through a presentation that gave distinct details and descriptions about a few of the larger animals on the farm and even got the opportunity to experience a "pig race". Yes...a real pig race! Needless to say, the pig that was assigned to one of the sections with our FCA students won.

After the presentation, each student received a pumpkin, which they personally picked from a pumpkin patch. They had a great lunch and fellowshipped by the lake with

teachers, friends and family. On the way back to the campus the students were full of excitement. Their conversations were filled with details about their adventure at the farm and what to do with their pumpkin.

We would like to thank all the parents who joined us on this field trip. You all are truly a blessing to us offering support and guidance to all FCA students.



Student Spotlight: Kevin Garrett Jr.



I would like to take the time to give “kudos” to one of our very own students, Kevin Garrett Jr. Kevin is one of 5 boys who was selected to be a part of a youth group known as Young Educated Scholars or Y.E.S.

Y.E.S. was started in June 2010. It is an all make book club that meets once a month to discuss assigned books. Their slogan is “Greater, Better, Smarter, Different” and their goal is “Gentlemen in Training”. The discussions they have are based on reading strategies designed to encourage best practices for comprehension and fluency.

Again, kudos to Kevin Garrett Jr. for being a part of something that can not only benefit him, but can inspire others.

Upcoming Events for the Month of November



EVENT	DATE	TIME
PAC/Officer Meeting - FCA Library	Nov. 10th	6:30 - 7pm
PTF Meeting - 1st Floor Youth Chapel	Nov. 15th	6:00 - 7pm
Thanksgiving Break (No School)	Nov. 21st - 25th	-----
High School Preview - FCA Library	Nov. 29th	6:00 - 7:30pm

NOVEMBER AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM (A.S.P.) EVENTS

Thanksgiving Break Events:

Monday, November 21st - IT'Z Eules, Texas

Tuesday, November 22nd - Movie Theater (TBD)
Redbird Skate Land /Duncanville

Wednesday, November 23rd - Dallas Arboretum
Armstrong Park /Duncanville (**Sack Lunch Required**)



Total package price: \$25.00 (excluding drop-in fees)

Events are subject to change.

Parents/Guardians must sign student(s) in. No “drop-offs”.

Early Re-Enrollment

This year FCA’s student re-enrollment procedure will take place on-line and via e-mail. All parents with an updated e-mail on file with FCA will receive an e-mail with the instructions for re-enrolling on-line. The e-mail with re-enrollment information will allow you to download a PDF file. Parents are to complete this file and submit it to FCA. In an effort to ensure a seamless re-enrollment transition, parents please take a moment to read through the instructions and submit the forms accordingly. The re-enrollment procedures are as follows:

- 1). The re-enrollment forms are to be submitted electronically via e-mail by clicking on the submit button of the on-line PDF re-enrollment form. For your convenience we have attached a Re-Enrollment Checklist.
- 2). The re-enrollment form is then sent to the Enrollment Office.

3). Once the Enrollment Office receives the PDF re-enrollment packet, parents will be contacted to schedule and complete a Parent Finance Meeting. All Parent Finance Meetings must be completed by Friday, March 30, 2012 to be eligible to receive the early registration discount.

If a parent fills out the paper based forms rather than an on-line PDF form, a calendar schedule is available for you to sign up for your appointment at the front office.

4). At the Parent Finance Meeting, you will do the following:

- a). Update & sign your child’s Student Profile/Emergency Contacts
- b). Submit payment in full for all fees in the form of a money order or cashier’s check. (**No personal checks or cash**).

East Side Traffic Re- Routing (Playground Side)

As you know, several signs have been posted around the FCA campus and have also been included in the monthly newsletters concerning parking in the fire lane. The fire lane includes parking under the awning adjacent to the playground.

We know (and understand) that in the past, parents were allowed to stage under the awning prior to student pickup. This is no longer the process.

The after school pick up direction has been re-routed in order to remain in compliance with the fire code. Now, instead of coming around the building and pulling directly under the awning, cars are staged on the side of the playground facing the back of the building. Once students are released from classes and dismissed at 3:15pm, a teacher and or security personnel is assisting with the dismissal of the students. Our faculty uses 2-way radios to communicate which parent is in line for pick up and that student is called to the



door. Parents are then pull up to the door and students are placed in the vehicles.

Many parents have already experienced this process and we thank you for your support and compliance. Please know and understand that student safety is always one of our top priorities. Many have asked "what if I remain in my car...is this still ok?" The answer that question that came directly from the fire marshal is "no". Whether you remain in the car (running or not) or get out of your vehicle, it is considered parking. If you are deemed in violation according to the county fire code, you can be cited by the City of Dallas.



Citations fines start at \$115 per citation. Please be aware of the new procedures to eliminate potential citations.



The **Box Tops** winners for the Fall deadline is Mrs. Wordlow's 2nd grade class. The winning Box Tops classroom will enjoy a pizza party this November. This year's goal is \$1,000. As of today, FCA is only \$345 away from reaching the \$1,000 goal. Keep collecting and turning in those Box Tops! There is Spring Box Tops deadline scheduled for March of 2012. The preschool and K-8 class with the most Box Tops will win a surprise party. Box Top collection sheets are available on-line at fcasoars.org under the [Donate](#) section of the web-site. Box Tops can be dropped off at the front office drop box or can be given to your child's teacher.

Student Records Request

To obtain student records, a parent/guardian must fill out a Record Request Form available at the front office. The form must then be submitted with a \$5.00 payment for all record requests. This fee will apply to all current and previous FCA families and must be paid at the time the request is made. Requests must be submitted in person, by mail, or fax. Request will not be fulfilled if payment has not been received. In addition, all fees, fines and/or account balances owed to FCA must be paid in full before your request will be fulfilled. This fee does not apply to tuition statement requests. Families with a student graduating from the 8th grade will receive **one** complimentary copy of records per child through June 30th of the graduating year.



For more information concerning records requests, contact Janet Santana by phone at (214) 672-9200 or by email at jsantana@ochfchurch.org