

Mount Airy Christian Academy

"cultivating strong minds and passionate faith"

Parent Newsletter

29 January, 2016

What a crazy week this has been with the historic storm! Thank you for your patience as we worked each day to make inclement weather decisions with safety first in mind. I trust that your family made some great memories while snowed in. Now that school is back on track, we want to keep you well informed about school activities.

We want you to know that we do listen when you make suggestions about how we can be more effective. For the remainder of this school year, we will be emailing you our weekly communications each Friday, as well as sending it home via Communications Envelopes. We would like you to continue to use the envelope to send paperwork back to the school. For instance, Valentine flower order forms are coming home today, and we ask that you use the Communications Envelope to send your order form and payment back. We hope that this electronic and hard copy communication effort will be beneficial to your family.

2016-2017 MACA Registration Now Open

Re-enrollment packets have been distributed, which means registration for the 2016-2017 school year here at MACA, is now officially open. Re-enrollment step-by-step instructions have also been sent home. Current students must re-enroll through your existing RenWeb account and new siblings must register thru our website. Registration fees are discounted for you from January 15 - February 29. If you have any questions about the registration process, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

You Won't Want to Miss This

MACA families are invited to a new annual event, MACA Extravaganza, scheduled for Tuesday, February 2, beginning at 6:30 PM. This night will be a MACA family night with blessings for everyone who attends. Here's the scoop:

Upcoming Events:

- Feb. 2 Extravaganza (for returning families) 6:30-7:30 PM
- Feb. 2 Open House (for new families) 6:00-8:00 PM
- Feb. 5 Dress Down Day (first Friday of the month)
- Feb. 12 Elementary Valentine's Day Parties 1:45 PM
- Feb. 15 NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day
- Feb. 16 NO SCHOOL - Professional Day for Faculty

Attachments:

Valentine's Day Carnation Flyer

Wholesome Tummies Menu

- The first five high school students that come will receive a voucher for a free 2016 high school retreat.
- The first five middle school students that come will receive a voucher for a free 2016 middle school retreat.
- The first five elementary school students that come will receive a voucher for a free week at MACA 2016 summer camps.
- Only one voucher per family.
- The student must be completely re-enrolled (including payment of the registration fee) to be eligible for the voucher.

And that's not all! Any student coming to the Extravaganza (accompanied by at least one parent) who is completely re-enrolled for next year will receive a voucher for a week of dress down days in April 2016. Please enter via the main school lobby to claim your vouchers. After that, please visit the cafeteria where the MACA School Board will be hosting an ice cream social. It's a fun night for everyone. I hope to see you there!

Go Beyond

Mount Airy Christian Academy students successfully transitioned from wearing a T-shirt that said "ONE" on the front and "that the world may know" on the back, to making those words a reality. *Go Beyond* was a week set aside to do just that and the students responded - and responded well! The week opened with Chapels on Tuesday and Wednesday which focused on this theme. Pastor Tim Webster took the students through ten steps of sharing the Gospel message. He gave the students five reasons why we should be motivated to share on Tuesday and on Wednesday he presented them with five practical tips on how to share the Gospel. These challenges should help the students on any given day, not just during a week-long school project.

The Drama Club presented a skit each morning to tie it all together and they were spectacular. Both these skits were taped and can be viewed online. Tuesday's skit, "The Guy with the Cardboard Christ," is about 20 minutes long and can be viewed at: <https://drive.google.com/a/macamd.org/file/d/0B23Uc2cP5jryYWFjYjhnM3VKclk/view?usp=sharing>. Wednesday's skit, "Assignment: Witness," is about 14 minutes long and can be viewed at: <https://drive.google.com/a/macamd.org/file/d/0B23Uc2cP5jrydXd0VUJzeUxfZzA/view?usp=sharing>.

In spite of the two hour delayed start on Thursday, MACA was still able to take part in the meal packing program. What a day that was! I trust that your MACA student told you all about the experience they had working as teams in assembly lines. How exciting to know that the MACA students themselves raised \$3,638.00 to cover the cost of 10,000 meals! The actual packing event seemed to be quite a hit with everyone involved. Students were divided into two groups with elementary, middle, and high school students in each group. Group A worked for one hour and packed 5,000 meals and then Group B was able to do the same. The gong sounded each time they

packaged 1,000 meals and the kids cheered! Before each group left, the students prayed for the meals and the people who will receive them. The meals will be sent to 36 different countries in Africa, Asia, South America and Europe.

Friday's community service projects were postponed due to impending inclement weather. They have been rescheduled for Friday, April 1. A new permission slip will come home in March. A few projects will change, as the spring weather in April will allow certain projects that January did not.

Thank you for your support of this MACA endeavor as we worked to encourage the students to go beyond the walls of their home and school and go outside of their comfort zone to share the good news of Jesus Christ with others. We trust the impacts of this week will be long lasting for our students.



Sophomore students packing rice.



Juniors: Josh Ruddy, Kate Burrall and Mickinzi Clark



Seventh Grader, Tim Mallick, working with fifth grade students, Keira Burger, Melanie Mallick and Charlotte Leonard.



Sixth graders, Zach Brown and Jason Teixeira, working with first graders, Lauren Barrios and Grace Shockey.



Sixth Grader, Alex Kichline, assisting first graders, Morgan Winter and Lucas Brethauer.



Kindergarteners, Elliana Shockey and Eden Shinabery, ready to take food bags to be packed for shipping.



#macaONE Team working together to feed thousands.

Financial Aid Information Session Helpful to College-Bound Seniors and their Parents

MACA hosted a Financial Aid Information session on Tuesday, January 19. Ms. Amanda Levin, Financial Aid Counselor from Carroll Community College, shared general information about financing college as well as very specific information about how to create a FSA ID and how to complete a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form. Seniors and parents in attendance learned about the value of completing a FAFSA form early and accurately. They also learned how to create a FSA ID, which is needed to complete the FAFSA form, and were walked through the process of completing a FAFSA form on-line. Those in attendance left with all they needed to apply for financial assistance for next year!

One important piece of information shared at the session is that many families falsely assume that since they are unlikely to receive any needs-based financial assistance, they do not need to fill out a FAFSA form. This is simply not true! Completion of the FAFSA form qualifies students for consideration for numerous forms of financial assistance that are both needs-based as well as merit-based. In order to qualify for federal AND state funds available based on various criteria (including student loans, grants and some scholarships), all college-bound students should complete a FAFSA form.

If you have any questions about the MACA information session, please contact Dr. Lori Sefton, Academic Dean.

Spirit Week and Homecoming 2016

As MACA students returned to school from Christmas break, they welcomed in the New Year with Pajama Day – the first in the annual series of themed dress up days as part of MACA Spirit Week. Nearly all MACA students and staff participated by wearing their most comfy apparel to school that day. It was a great way to begin a week which went on to include “Twin Day,” “Look-Like Day,” Favorite Sports Team Day” and “MACA Colors Day.” Students in homerooms with Mrs. Finch, Mrs. Woolverton, Mrs. Ondulich, Mr. Rust and Mrs. Korn maintained 100% participation in every themed day all week, and were awarded a dress down day as a result. Way to go students!



Pajama Day; Mr. Oliver is ready for a long winter's nap.



PK3 Students, Macklyn Edwards, Noah Brewer and Elia Mullikin, posing for Twin Day



The Colombian Soccer Team??? Cristian Gomez, William Braden, Judge Russell and Chris Hulse together for Twin Day.



Favorite Sports Team Day; Ben Hickey, Ashlyn Bouslog, Jonathon Shipe, Austin Finch and MacKenzie Hunt show their spirit.



Look-Like Day; Mrs. Minor and her little dwarves (PK3 class) standing with the wicked queen, Mrs. Schuetz.



Look-Like Day; Beautiful Princesses



Look-Like Day; Characters from Star Wars.



Look-Like Day; Mr. Kagle with his right-hand man, Clay Hovermale "Kagle"



MACA Spirit Day; Alyssa Schrader showing her MACA spirit!

Spirit Week culminated in Homecoming Festivities, held at Glenwood Community Center, on Friday, January 8. All four MACA MS and HS basketball teams competed during the evening, resulting in a win over Banner for the undefeated MS girls, a hard-fought loss for the MS boys to Frederick Force, a sizable victory for varsity girls over Rockbridge and a competitive victory for the varsity boys over Rockbridge. Mighty Lions, MS and Varsity cheerleaders entertained the

crowd with their halftime performances during the girls and boys varsity games. During the boys' varsity halftime, the National Honor Society also announced the winners and results of their raffle to raise money in support of cancer sufferer, Dominic Perrotta, and his family. The group collected \$900 to assist this family with their expenses associated with Dominic's illness. The MACA Athletic Boosters were also busy during the evening taking admission sales and selling concessions during the games. They were able to raise nearly \$1500 to be used to support MACA athletics.

Following the Varsity boys game, MACA recognized the 2016 Homecoming Court. This year's court included freshmen Mark Webster and Rachel Sefton, sophomores Jonathan Shipe and Jessie Markley, juniors Will Braden and Mackenzie Hunt and seniors Matt Holly and Missy Staley, Ethan Barlow and Sara Reitz and Teddy Thompson and Alena Shaffer. Alumni King and Queen, Bailey Finch and Emily Braden, finished the ceremony with the crowning of the 2016 MACA King and Queen, Matt Holly and Alena Shaffer. Immediately after the crowning, high school students closed the evening with the After Party, hosted by the MACA Student Council Association in the MACA gymnasium.

A big thank you goes out to all the students, faculty and parents who participated in all the Spirit Week and Homecoming events and helped to make them a success. We couldn't do what we do without you!



Entire Homecoming Court Representatives: (from left side) Mark Webster & Rachel Sefton (9th), Jonathon Shipe & Jessica Markley (10th), William Braden & Mackenzie Hunt (11th), (Front row), Teddy Thompson & Missy Staley, Matt Holly & Alena Shaffer, Ethan Barlow & Sara Reitz.



Senior Homecoming Court Representatives: Teddy Thompson, Missy Staley, Matthew Holly, Alena Shaffer, Ethan Barlow and Sara Reitz.



2016 Homecoming King, Matthew Holly, and Queen, Alena Shaffer.

MACA Study Skills Lab Opens

Mrs. Melissa Shaffer, Director of the MACA Learning Edge Program, will be offering a study skills lab open to all MACA secondary students. The lab will be open Tuesday of each week during secondary lunch (12:45 – 1:10) in Mrs. Shaffer’s room. Students needing extra help in any subject area (except high school math) can take advantage of this opportunity. This will include assistance with proofreading, test review and general study skills techniques. Students can drop in during lunch break and should bring their lunch with them. Mrs. Shaffer will assist all students who attend the Lab and, for this reason, students are encouraged to not save their work for this period. Please use this opportunity as a way to get additional help when needed, not for finishing homework that is due. If you have any questions about the MACA Study Skills Lab, you can contact Mrs. Shaffer at Melissa.shaffer@macamd.org.