



Summer 2017 Home Bulletin

We hope everyone is having a great summer! Here are a few reminders and informational items you need to know before the start of the 2017-2018 school year.

Our school theme this year will be "Soli Deo Gloria" (to God be the glory) based on several key passages of the Reformation, which celebrates its 500th anniversary this year!

Please Note: This Home Bulletin has been emailed and mailed to each household. If you did not receive the email version, please let the office know so we can confirm your email address, and please check your email program to see if the school is marked appropriately for you to receive the emails and not sent to your spam folder! During the school year all families will receive a printed copy that will be sent home with the youngest child. Home Bulletins will also be emailed and posted on the school's website. These bulletins are a way for everyone to stay informed on the many things happening at school.

Board News:

- The Board would like to strongly encourage our families to come and participate in the Campus Clean-up Day before school begins. Please note the complete announcement below.
- Summer campus projects update: a new fence has been installed at the east end of the soccer field for safety; plans are still being discussed for the outdoor cement play area/"sport court"; new insulation was installed under the lower parts of the elementary school building; a new copier was purchased for the school. The Board thanks all who helped in any way with these items, but in particular we thank the **Eagle Boosters** for their generosity in funding these much-needed things!
- Transportation Update: Recently the Board sent an online survey to families seeking input for decisions regarding transportation needs for our students. Please take some time and fill out the survey! Your input is needed, necessary, and desired by the Board as it considers options.
- Fair Parking: The Board wants to thank Chris and Kara Boyd and Ron and Julie Falcone for organizing and managing the Fair Parking fundraiser these past several years. If you get a chance, thank these kind and diligent servants! Both the Boyds and the Falcones have informed us that this is their last year working with this fundraiser, so we are letting our ECS families know well in advance that we will be seeking new people to manage this important event next year. Again, thank you to Chris and Kara, and Ron and Julie! Well done, good and faithful servants!

Summer Society Meeting: Thanks to the many people who attended our recent Society Meeting held on Tuesday, July 18. It was great to see so many of our new families and existing families getting to know each other and enjoy some fellowship together.

New Staff: We want to warmly welcome our new staff members joining our teaching team this year. Gin Bosman will be our new Kindergarten teacher and Katie Snyder will be our middle school teacher. The Education Committee and School Board are thankful that the Lord has led these qualified and gifted people to our school to serve our students and families. When you get a chance, say hello and welcome them to our ECS family!

Welcome New Families!: The School Board, Faculty, and Staff welcome these new families to the Ebenezer Christian School community:

Jason and Martha Bons, son Liam (Kgtn)
Ryan and Stephanie Bosman, son Beau (Preschool)
Geoff and Rosanne Broersma, daughter Ashley (Preschool)
Mark and Sarah Feenstra, daughter Abby (Preschool)
Josh and Kim Howell, daughter Psalm (Preschool)
Joe and Darcy Meyer, daughter Ashley (Kgtn)
Courtney and Heidi Polinder, daughter Brooklyn (Preschool)
Steve and Michell Regnerus, son Steven (5th)
Kirk and Heidi Rensink, son Mac (Kgtn)
Kevin and Amanda Roberts, son Coleson (Kgtn)
Brady and Kate Ryks, son Case (Preschool)
Ryan and Vivian Smith, son Shackleton (Kgtn)
Kyle and Lindsey Van Dyken, daughter Veda (Kgtn)
Ian and Tracee Van Ry, sons Jack (Kgtn) and Lincoln (3rd)

Also, current family Tim and Stephanie Broersma are enrolling their older daughter Addison (7th)

There are still other families who are in the admissions process. Please be in prayer that the Lord will bless us with even more new families.

Summer Drive: Our annual summer drive to help defray the costs of running the school is still in progress. We appreciate the good response to the letter that was sent out in June and once again Ebenezer Christian has truly been blessed! If you have not yet responded to the Board's letter and would still like to, we ask that you do so within the next few weeks.

Fair Parking! Thank you to all who have already volunteered to help out with fair parking during the upcoming NW WA Fair, August 14-19. We couldn't do it without you! We still have slots available. Please call or email Chris & Kara Boyd (305-1742) or karaboyd21@gmail.com, who are coordinating the schedule, ASAP if you can help out. We also want to thank Ron and Julie Falcone for coordinating this fundraiser with the Boyds! Be sure to park your car at the lot on the Kok Road while visiting the fair...you'll be supporting Ebenezer at the same time. **Remember, weekly passes are available!**

Immunization/Report of Physical Examination Reminders: Washington State Law requires that all children have a completed certificate of immunization status on file at school. Preschool, Kindergartners and new students must show proof of having had a physical examination signed by their physician and a current immunization record. Also, for all 6th Grade students, a Tdap vaccination is required if your child has not received a Tdap or Td vaccine in the past 5 years. All students entering Kindergarten and 6th grade need to show proof of having had chicken pox or been administered TWO vaccinations (Varicella) for chicken pox.

If your child is starting Preschool or Kindergarten or is new to Ebenezer, we **MUST** have this information by the first day of school. If you didn't hand these forms in at registration you may mail them directly to the school, or hand them in to the office starting the week of August 15. If you have any questions please contact school nurse Kelly Tolsma at 927-4438 or the office at 354-2632.

Clean-up Days: There will be two opportunities this year to take part in our annual time to "spruce" up campus and classrooms before the start of the school year. We encourage all our Ebenezer families to come help out...many hands make light work!

On **Thursday evening, August 24**, clean-up will start at 6:00p.m. focusing mainly on the classrooms and inside the buildings. The school will provide the cleaning supplies for this evening.

Saturday, August 26 at 8:30a.m. is the second opportunity. We will spend our time focusing that morning on the outside clean up. Bring gloves and any yard tools you like to use; weed eaters and pressure washers are needed as well; if you have window-cleaning tools they are always a welcome addition! We will provide the general cleaning supplies. If you have any specialty tools you think might be helpful call the school office. We work until we're finished, usually around noon. Thanks for your help!

Eagle Boosters: The first Eagle Booster Meeting of the new school year will be held on Monday, September 11, at 8:45a.m. here at school. We extend a warm welcome and invitation to all the new moms and dads to come. This is a great way to get acquainted with other supporters and help the school out at the same time! A nursery is provided for those of you with little ones. If you have any questions, please feel free to give Eagle Boosters president Jenn Apps a call at 510-8274.

From the Finance Committee: There will be no mailed statements this year. You will receive an email after the first of the month indicating your current amount owed. That amount will be withdrawn from the account you chose on the auto withdraw form in your enrollment packet. Payments are due by the end of the month. Any questions, please contact Bob Stiles, Treasurer at ecstreasurer@ebenezerchristianschool.org.

Bus Information: Our faithful bus drivers for the upcoming school year will be Femie Rutgers (Lynden route) and Gary White (Western route). As stated previously, the Board is diligently working to address the increase in transportation needs.

Your child's bus driver will be contacting you before school starts regarding the approximate time your child(ren) will be picked up. If you have any questions please feel free to call the school, or you may give Femie a call at 354-4176, or Gary at 366-0201.

Buses will be running normal routes on the first day of school but if you plan on taking your children to school, as a courtesy, please give your bus driver a call to let them know. Students will be assigned seats on their buses and be required to remain in those seats for the duration of their ride. This is in keeping with our emergency and safety procedures, as well as helping keep down distractions for the drivers. Please encourage your children to abide by the rules of riding the bus. For a complete list of the rules, see the newly updated Handbook, available to all families the first week of school.

Parents, please have your child(ren) ready for the bus on time to help maintain this tight schedule.

First Day of School & Convocation: The 2017-2018 school year will begin on **Wednesday, August 30, at 8:45a.m.** with a convocation service to be held in the school's gym at **9:00a.m.** We invite and encourage all parents and grandparents to attend this service where we'll spend time together dedicating the new school year to the Lord. A reminder that **school will be dismissed at 2:00p.m.** and that the buses will be running their normal routes after school.

Ebenezer Directory: A reminder to all parents that if you have any address/phone/email corrections in your family information, be sure to call the office. Our current information is taken from your application (new families) or the 'Family Information' report (existing families) that was in your enrollment packets. The information is used to create our school directory which will be published soon after school begins. Information contained in the directory is intended only for school use. When you receive the directory, please do not give out any information without the express consent of the person(s) involved as well as the permission of the principal or School Board.

Milk Program: Both white and chocolate milk will once again be available to students during the school year. Details are still being finalized, but we hope to begin on Wednesday, September 6. Order forms will be sent home with the youngest child of each family the first day of school with all the updated information and are due back to the office right away on Friday, September 1.

Coach needed: We are in need of a soccer coach (or coaches) for our co-ed soccer team this fall. Usually this team begins practices the week after school begins, having practices generally one-two times a week. Games are being scheduled already, and a typical season has six games: three home games played at Bender Fields, and three away games. The season runs through October. If you are interested in coaching soccer or would like further information, contact our Athletic Director, Stephanie Brooks, via email at sbrooks@ebenezerchristianschool.org.

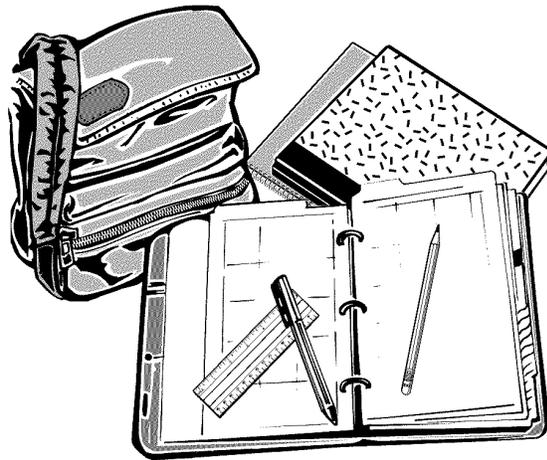
Shopping for school supplies? Want to know a way you can benefit Ebenezer? By shopping at Office Depot, a percentage of your purchase will be credited to our school. What a great way to support your school while buying supplies needed anyway! ☺ Ebenezer's school ID number is: 70106743. School supply lists can be downloaded off of the school's website on the "Parents" page.

Permission to Post Reminder: All parents who send their children to ECS automatically give permission for the school to use pictures of their children for promotional purposes (website, newsletters, etc.) Parents who *wish not* to have pictures of their children used by the school need to sign a 'Photo/Media Non Release' form each year. Please call the school office if you have any questions or need a form.

Ebenezer Christian School Website: Our website is being updated regularly and includes news, upcoming events, and many of the forms that parents often use throughout the year. The "Parents" page includes some of the more current information parents may need: forms for the beginning of the school year, classroom supplies list, SCRIP forms and more! Go to www.ebenezerchristianschool.org and bookmark it into your favorites today!

Ways you can volunteer:

Recess Duty Helpers Needed: We are in need of moms or dads or grandmas or grandpas to help out with recess duties. This service is very much appreciated by the teachers as it frees them up to prepare for upcoming classes or to be available to students that need extra help. Besides, it's just fun to play with the kids at recess! If this is something you feel you could volunteer to do, please contact Mr. Buss at school for more information. If you helped out last year and would like to keep your same time slot, contact Mr. Buss as well. Come and see what it's like to play like a kid again! Free training, free coffee, free hugs from kids!



“Thus far has the Lord helped us”

1 Samuel 7:12