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The Sceptre

Summer
2021



A Letter from the Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

This has been a school year like no other. We've learned and grown in ways we never expected. Necessity led to creative uses of our technology, facilities, and human resources. Our traditions looked a little different, but children thrived in the school environment. Students learned to use Google Classroom with ease whether learning in person or remotely. Performances were recorded or live streamed for viewing by classes and families. Social Justice projects were completed on campus or through letter writing, but the spirit of service continued. Overall, students learned that if we can face something difficult and overcome it, we are better prepared to face new challenges with optimism. That is how students build resilience and grow in confidence. Students' spring Iowa Assessment results revealed their usual high performance and strong growth, certainly a consequence of being able to attend school in person the full year.



Eighth grade students enjoyed a modified, but entertaining class trip week in May with campus activities and local day trips. A class favorite was a bus tour of downtown Nashville, with tour guides Ricky and Rowdy, aka Tom Lord and Morgan Strobel, a duo guaranteed to hold one's attention and keep the laughter coming. They also visited the Tennessee Aquarium and Challenge STEM Center in Chattanooga. Then they turned their attention to the more solemn activities of exams, May Crowning, Academic Awards Night, and finally, Graduation. Ending the school year with these important traditions for our graduating students was indeed a satisfying experience.

Several teachers received accolades this year. Rachel McKenzie Mathew, Class of '91, was honored during Catholic Schools Week with the NCEA Distinguished Graduate Award. She has led our award-winning Pre-K program since its inception ten years ago. She is also an active member of the parish, serving as a Eucharistic minister, teaching RCIA for children, and volunteering for VBS each year. Rachel lives her faith and serves God and her community in a way that brings excellence to our school. Mr. Brian Knoop was awarded the 2021 Teacher Award of Excellence at Academic Awards Night in May. He was selected for exemplification of Christian values, dedication to students, compassion for all, creative approach for addressing a variety of learning styles, and loyalty to the school. Brian has strengthened our science program and motivated the students to think and question during their investigations. He has also inspired students to be people of strong character through classroom conversations and the example he models for them. Mr. Knoop is retiring after forty years of dedication to science education in the diocese.

I am also proud of our alumni, Emily Phan and Grey Wilder, Class of '17, who were named Valedictorian and Salutatorian of Father Ryan High School's 2021 graduating class. These two were exemplary scholars while at Christ the King and continued that distinction through their high school years. I will always remember their sweet faces when they were in my second grade class, but they've really grown up since then. I congratulate them and look forward to hearing of their future accomplishments.

One year ago, we did not know what the future had in store for us. Thanks to the support of our community we had a banner year for fundraising with new corporate sponsors, the Annual Giving Fund exceeding our goal by more than \$15,000, and achieving 86% parent participation in AGF. This enables the school to fulfill several goals in our strategic plan, including controlled tuition increases, support of teachers who pursue graduate degrees, and fortifying our school reserve. Additionally, refurbishing of classrooms and replacing furniture and equipment will take place where needed. An exciting benefit of the successful fundraising is the replacement of our main playground structure with a new piece that offers many options for climbing, sliding, and imaginative play while meeting modern safety standards. The children of the parish will enjoy this addition for years to come.

As 2021-2022 comes to a close, I realize that it has been a triumphant year. During the last weeks of school, numerous children remarked to me, "This year went by really fast." That tells me that students were engaged and happy. As I leave the office of principal in July and return to teaching as a CKS learning support specialist, I know that what has been achieved positions the school for a promising future. I transition with the confidence that my school is in capable hands with Mr. Alan Mila as its new leader.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sherry Woodman

Mrs. Sherry woodman
Principal

Leave a Legacy...

You can help make sure Christ the King School will always be here to serve the children of our parish community by providing a future gift through your estate to the Forever Fund. We would be honored to speak with you in confidence about a bequest in your will, a gift of appreciated stock, a beneficiary life insurance policy or other means that can save taxes and provide a major gift to the school. Contact Jennifer Harris at jennifer.harris@cks-nashville.org to discuss your desire to help Christ the King School for a lifetime and beyond.

Mrs. Woodman Honored



Mrs. Woodman and her Family



Mrs. Woodman with the Halloran Family



Mrs. Woodman receives gifts from the students



A Platter with fingerprints from Students and Faculty

Distinguished Graduate 2021



Mrs. Rachel McKenzie Mathew '91



Mrs. Mathew and some of her family

Mr. Brian Knopf Retires



Receiving the Teacher Award of Excellence



A plaque displaying the 9 schools he taught in

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On the Cover:

Mrs. Woodman speaks at the Reception to honor her on May 23rd.



Lunch with the Principal

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Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!



If you're receiving multiple copies of **The Sceptre**, or your Raider no longer resides at your address, please help us to update our alumni database by sending your corrected information to Jeanette Neuhoft Vogt '76 at jeanette.vogt@cks-nashville.org, or call 615-777-8976.

Introducing Mr. Alan Mila

Alan Mila, the Assistant Principal of St. Henry School for the past four years, will become the new Principal of Christ the King School on July 1.

Mr. Mila brings 16 years of educational experience as a teacher, coach, and administrator to the leadership position at Christ the King, which will begin its 85th school year in August. He succeeds Sherry Woodman, who is returning to the classroom at Christ the King.

“I have known Alan for a number of years, and have worked with him on various diocesan educational initiatives,” Mrs. Woodman said. “He brings a broad perspective to the school and a commitment to Catholic education that will enhance the programs and experiences at Christ the King. I look forward to working with him as we enhance the mission of this wonderful school.”



Mr. Mila came to Nashville in 2005 and began his educational career at Pope John Paul II High School as a Mathematics teacher and the soccer boys team head coach and girls team assistant coach. He became Athletic Director in 2012, serving in that position for four years before becoming the Director of Student Activities. He moved to St. Henry as the Assistant Principal in 2017 where he led the expansion of the school's technology and facilitated its recent accreditation process.

“Christ the King School is a special place with a tremendous reputation throughout the diocese,” Mr. Mila said, “and I look forward to working with everyone in this community as a partner in these students' formation and education.”

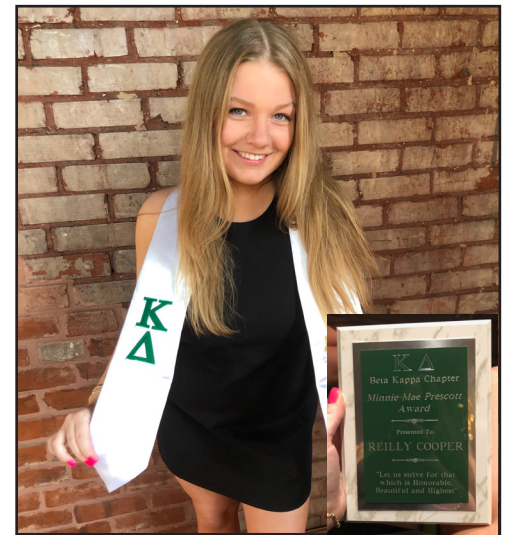
A native of Chicago, Mr. Mila earned his Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Illinois Wesleyan University and went on to earn his Master of Education in 2007 at the University of Notre Dame through the school's Alliance for Catholic Education.

Eighth Grade Trip





Congratulations to the CKS Class of 2017! Announcing just some of the accolades received by our Raiders: Emily Phan, Valedictorian of Father Ryan High School, Grey Wilder, Salutatorian of Father Ryan High School, Brooke Cullison - Charlie Green Service Scholarship and Bishop David R. Choby Christian Service Award; Ben Strobel - Excellence in the Arts Award for Men and selected for WGI's Future Leaders Program; Emily Phan - Excellence in English Award and Bishop David R. Choby Service Scholarship Award; Grey Wilder - Excellence in Social Sciences Award; Reilly Cooper - Kappa Delta Minnie Mae Prescott Award at UTC.



Spring Happenings - Field Day, May Crowning, Spring Play & More



Class of 2021 Graduation Day



We clapped the Class of 2021 down the driveway; Class President, Matty Gomez, and Class Vice President, Mya Emmanuel, gave the Memory speech; Audrey Rose Hulse and Mark Mullins won the Jim Derrick Sportsmanship Award; Colleen Alvis was awarded the Knights of Columbus Service Scholarship; Graham Baskin was awarded the Tommy Bateman Memorial Scholarship. We are so proud of our CKS Class of 2021!





The Pat Holzapfel Strobel Legacy Grant, presented for the first time at graduation, celebrates the legacy of Pat Strobel, who passed away in April and who had been part of the Christ the King community almost since its founding. She was baptized at the church in 1942, made her First Communion there in 1949, graduated from CKS in 1956, was married in the Church in 1965, and sent all six of her children to CKS. The inaugural recipient of "Pat's Payoff" is the Kim and Randy Hulse family, to pay forward the many blessings she received from the school, church, and our community.



DATES TO REMEMBER

July

19-23 Vacation Bible School

August

2-6 Teacher Inservice

5 Expo Day

9 First Full Day (1st-8th); All of Kindergarten
11:30a Dismissal; 1st Half of PreK - 11:30a Dismissal

10 2nd Half of PreK - 11:30a Dismissal; First Full Day for Kindergarten

11 First Full Day for All of PreK

13 Room Parent Meeting

25 6:00p Back to School Night

27 Last Day for Band/Music Change

September

3 Professional Development - No School

6 Labor Day - No School

11 CTK Carnival (Tentative)

13 Fr. Dexter's Birthday

17 8:30a Raider Rep Meeting

20 Diocesan Inservice - No School

27-30 ERB WrAP Writing Assessments (3rd-8th)

October

1 ERB WrAP Writing Assessments (3rd-8th)

3 Parent/Teacher Conferences

4 Conference Holiday - No School

6 Open House

11-15 Fall Break

25-28 Red Ribbon Week

28 Middle School Showcase

29 Halloween (Observed)



A new tradition of a tree being planted annually in honor of the graduating class started this year. Congratulations, CKS Class of 2021!