



SCHOOL NOTES FOR JOHN CROSLAND SCHOOL FAMILIES

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March 1, 2017 Issue**A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL
CATHERINE SCHLESINGER**

Dear Crosland Parents,

The last two months have flown by and I have settled in nicely. I am feeling very confident about the direction of The John Crosland School and am delighted to be here.

In December, the Board of Directors asked for parent feedback to gauge your satisfaction with the school's performance as well as elicit suggestions about areas in which improvement could be made. I have found the results of this survey to be very valuable in determining areas of focus as I assume responsibilities as Head of School.

The most frequent area mentioned for improvement was communication. I hope you have noticed a more streamlined approach in receiving important information. We are using "In Orbit" every Wednesday as the main vehicle to keep you informed of school activities. Of course, the students continue to use their agendas and school information is available on the usual social media outlets. However, Wednesday is the day of the week for us to keep you up to date through "In Orbit" (online), and the packets sent home with your children that day. (cont.)

Upcoming Events**March 2**

Parent Council Committee Meeting 8:15 a.m.

March 4

John Crosland School Annual Gala

March 8-10

Upper School Field Trip Williamsburg, VA

March 13

Teacher Workday
No School for Students

Quick Links

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We are also working on improving communication in the ways we report student progress to families. At the teacher workday on March 13, we will devote time to the Education Management Plan as well as Rediker, the school management system. Because both of these programs were introduced to parents this year, we can now determine their success and effectiveness during these pilot years. There will be time for the teachers to share their perspectives as well as receive additional technical assistance if more training with Rediker is needed.

Other suggestions from the survey will be addressed in the coming months. Plans are being formulated for enhancements to curriculum, various leadership and social growth opportunities for the students, and training for parents who may wish for help in using the Rediker Parent Portal.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts and concerns through this survey, as well as those brought to me on a personal basis. I will keep you informed as we plan for and implement the improvements you request for the benefit of our students.

Sincerely,

Catherine A. Schlesinger

GALA INFORMATION

Dear Crosland Families,

We are excited to share with you a preview of our auction items for our Field of Dreams Annual Gala on Saturday, March 4th!

Instructions on how to bid on items if you are not attending Gala:

You can bid on items even if you are not attending Gala. Please register on the website: <http://bidpal.net/jcsfieldofdreams>. In addition, a tutorial of how to use mobile bidding is also provided on the website.

You can begin using mobile bidding on silent auction items on Friday evening, March 3rd. At this time the website will no longer be available and all bidding will be done on your smart phone. Silent auction ends at approximately 9:30 pm, Saturday March 4th. If you are the winner of a silent auction item please follow the check-out instructions on your phone and pay for your item by entering your credit card number. You will be able to pick-up your item at the school the week of March 6th.

To preview our auction items please visit: <http://bidpal.net/jcsfieldofdreams>

Thank you,

Jennifer Nichols

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Guidance Department is pleased to announce a visit from both **North Carolina** and **South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Services** on **Friday, March 3rd from 8:15-9:15 a.m.** Families interested in learning more about the services provided are encouraged to attend this information session and speak directly to vocational counselors. Even if your child is far from graduation, learning more about post-secondary options is helpful in planning for your child's future, so families from both Middle and Upper School are invited to attend.

Please contact Ms. Kathleen Gavin if you have any questions regarding the information session. If you plan to attend, please email Ms. Gavin at kgavin@johncroslandschool.org with your confirmation.

UPPER SCHOOL FIELD TRIP

The Upper School field trip to Colonial Williamsburg is 2 weeks away. Last week important information about the trip was sent home in your child's Wednesday packet. Please fill out and return the forms as soon as possible.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

The winner of the Box Tops contest was Mrs. Owensby's 4th grade class. Her class enjoyed an ice cream party provided by the Parent Council.

ADMISSIONS NEWS

Congratulations to Robert & Gaye Holmes, parents of Taylor, a rising 11th grader, for winning the drawing for \$500 off of next year's tuition.

PARENT COUNCIL

There will be a Parent Council Committee meeting on March 2, in the Boardroom 8:15 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE

Lower School:

- *March 17*
Grandparents and Special Persons Day will take place from 8:15 to 10:00 a.m. There will be a musical presentation by Lower School students and a visit to the classroom. A light breakfast will be served.
- *April 6*
Spring Celebration-Egg Hunt
- *April 24*
Hornets Book Bus will be coming to The John Crosland School. This will be for grades 1-6.
- *April 28*
Service Learning for Arbor Day

Middle School:

- *April 24*
Hornets Book Bus will be coming to The John Crosland School. This will be for grades 1-6.
- *April 28*
Service Learning for Arbor Day
- *May 2*
At 6:30 p.m., the Middle and Upper School will present a music program. There will also be an Art Exhibit displaying artwork of students in 1-12 grades.

Upper School:

- *March 8-10*
Colonial Williamsburg overnight trip
- *May 2*
At 6:30 p.m., the Middle and Upper School will present a music program. There will also be an Art Exhibit displaying artwork of students in 1-12 grades. More information will be provided as we draw nearer to the date.

CROSLAND NOTABLES

Students enjoyed Career Day activities and lessons. Students were encouraged to dress up for the career they would like to have in the future.

