



Important Dates in December

Please refer to the Weekly "In the Know" and website calendar for the most current information!

Thursday, 12/11
All School
Christmas Chapel

Monday-Friday, 12/22-1/2
No school,
Merry Christmas!



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Future Leaders Forge Their Path at Faith & Nation

Daniel Dietrich, Ruby Nelson, and Mr. Inion had the opportunity to participate in the second annual Faith & Nation Student Forum in Dallas, TX. This was organized by the Herzog Foundation (in association with Young America's Foundation). This four-day retreat gathers the top Christian high school seniors and homeschool co-ops from almost every state across the country.

The forum gave students the opportunity to learn apologetic tactics, defend conservative ideals, explore the foundational Christian and Constitutional principles of the United States, and learn how to lead courageously in this generation. **Ruby Nelson** noted that the event included speakers who explored different issues from a biblical worldview. We heard from Governor Scott Walker of Wisconsin, a member of the Virginia House of Delegates and social media influencer Nick Freitas, speaker and author Abby Johnson, and many more. Highly patriotic and faith-energizing, the forum was both engaging and encouraging!

In addition to the student forum, we were able to get lost in the labyrinthine Dallas freeway system, visit Buc-ee's, and experience an exclusive tour of The Chosen TV series backlot with views of the Sanhedrin, the Sea of Galilee, and Main Street Jerusalem. (We can't share pictures of certain things on the set because Season 6 has not come out yet!) Additionally, students were able to feed longhorn cattle, horseback ride, climb and rappel, and enjoy many more fun activities. And what's a trip down South without breakfast at the Waffle House?

Daniel Dietrich summed it up best: "It was a great experience! The event was very true to its title, 'Faith AND Nation.' As Christians we keep Christ first but can't abdicate our responsibility to participate civically and advocate for freedom. I also met so many awesome people."

The Herzog Foundation's mission is to accelerate the development of Christ-centered K-12 education by training leaders, teachers, and organizations around Christian values.



Third Grade FLEx Project: Helping Hands & Big Hearts!

Our kindergarteners have been busy learning how to tackle real-life problems—and they’ve had some amazing helpers along the way! With the guidance of **Mrs. Hennen**, **Miss Hoiberg**, and **Mrs. Jost**, our third graders, stepped into a leadership role they’ve absolutely loved. Mrs. Jost’s deep hope for her class is that they would encourage their classmates and others as they develop and appreciate their unique gifts. After meeting with the kindergarten teachers to learn what skills their younger classmates needed, the third graders teamed up to create simple steps, practice asking good helping questions, and plan out exactly how to teach their new strategies. Once their directions were ready, they presented their ideas to the kindergarten classes. They’ve even been visiting **Mrs. Boehning’s**, **Mrs. Fisher’s**, and **Mrs. Ryding’s** rooms to put their how-to plans into action!

The “real-life problems” they’re tackling are the everyday adventures of kindergarten: inviting others to play, asking to join a game, taking turns, tying shoes, apologizing, and mastering the art of putting on snow clothes all by themselves. Students then put their unique gifts to use. Third graders **Evie Isaak**, **Sara Cavender**, **Madison Bigaouette**, and **Emery Reznecheck** shared that sometimes—even with great directions—a problem doesn’t get fixed right away. “That’s when we tell them it’s time to ask a teacher or adult,” they explained wisely. And perhaps the most exciting part? The third graders are counting down to the first snowfall so they can put their “how-to” lessons into action and help the kindergarteners get bundled up for recess.

This FLEx project has been a snapshot of teamwork, leadership, and the love of Christ!



SED: Finding True Joy in Jesus

Pastor Ryan brought in a special guest **Luke Winger** — a juggler who didn’t just impress us with his skills but also helped us see powerful truths about our need for Jesus. Through juggling, storytelling, and some unexpected moments, we were reminded that true joy and hope are found only in Him.

Day One:

We learned that we can never experience true joy without Christ. When we “crash” — when life doesn’t go the way we planned — Jesus is always there to pick us up. **Lincoln Jost** shared that when the juggler crashed his bike, it was a good reminder that even in our own “crashes,” we can turn our eyes to Jesus and still find joy.

Day Two:

The gym went dark, and the juggler began to tell a story through his act. He juggled three glowing blue balls, representing Adam, Eve, and God. Everything was balanced and worked perfectly. Then, he added a fourth red ball — Satan. Suddenly, everything fell to the floor. It was a striking picture of what happened when sin entered the world. When sin comes into our lives, everything falls apart. Idolatry Discerning

Jonah Bach shared afterward that when he is tempted, he’s reminded that we need God’s help to remove sin from our lives — because only with Him can things truly be made right again.

Through laughter, lessons, and juggling, we were reminded this week that even when we fall, God’s grace is greater. True joy, hope, and restoration can only be found in Jesus Christ.



Created for a Purpose: Students Share Joy Through Song

In **Mrs. Watson's** classroom, ensuring each child knows they are loved, seen, and created for a purpose by an AWESOME God is at the center of everything she does. She considers it a privilege to be their teacher and prays daily that the Holy Spirit equips her to help nurture each child's unique academic and spiritual strengths.

Joy and learning go hand in hand in her room, and this year her students have embraced a special way of sharing that joy with others. Together, they've created a birthday tradition of surprising classmates with singing telegrams—complete with costumes, laughter, and big smiles. This simple act of celebration connects beautifully to their deep hope: to delight in the Lord, encourage one another, and remember that the joy He gives never changes, no matter the circumstance.

Mrs. Watson has been especially encouraged by the way her students build one another up each day. Through small but meaningful acts of kindness, they are shining His light in the classroom and beyond. Community Building



Encouragement in Action

In **Miss Norby, Mrs. Vogt, and Mrs. Watson's** 4th grade FLEx project, students are learning to put their faith into action through the power of encouragement. This month, the class has been writing thoughtful letters to pastors—thanking them for their leadership, praying for their ministries, and expressing appreciation for the ways they serve God's people. Students have also been sharing handwritten notes with teachers and staff throughout the school, spreading joy and reminding others that their work matters. In living this out, they are embracing the truth of 1 Thessalonians 5:11: *"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up."* Through these simple yet meaningful acts, our 4th graders are discovering how their words can strengthen and build up the body of Christ. Servant Working



Sharing Life and Learning with Mrs. Striker

Mrs. Striker has had the privilege of having her children and two of her grandchildren here at Park Christian with her.



She enjoyed going to the Bison games with her class this fall.



Mr. Inion and the JH Worship Arts class leading Elementary chapel.

Operation Christmas Child: Sharing God's Love Through Shoeboxes

Each year, Operation Christmas Child becomes a special tradition in our school—one that brings our students together in service, generosity, and joy. Under the faithful guidance of **Mr. Hansen, Miss Rogness,** and **Mrs. Weinberger,** our sixth graders help collect, organize, and facilitate the packing of shoeboxes filled with gifts and the love of Christ.

For many students, the highlight is getting to assist the younger grades as they pack boxes for their classrooms. There's something special about seeing older students help younger students choose toys, hygiene items, and school supplies—simple gifts that carry a message of hope around the world. Both Bigs and Littles pray over the boxes and for the child that will receive that box! In the days that follow, younger students often spot their sixth-grade helpers in the halls, waving and saying hello with big smiles, grateful for the kindness they received.

One sixth grader was thrilled to learn that a box they helped pack ended up in Mozambique—a beautiful reminder that the impact of their service reaches far beyond our school walls.

We are thankful to everyone who played a part in this ministry and for the community building and the desire for service that is instilled in our students.



Science in Action

Our 7th graders explored cellular respiration and fermentation by making bread! Students mixed flour, water, sugar, and yeast to see how living organisms produce energy. As the yeast consumed sugar, it released carbon dioxide, causing the dough to rise — a fun and tasty way to see science in action!



“Held Together by His Hand”

Colossians 1:17 reminds us that Christ holds all creation together! Our students explored how photosynthesis reflects God’s sustaining power—how He designed every leaf, every process, and every bit of creation to work perfectly in His care. Their leaf projects celebrate the beauty of God’s handiwork in science!



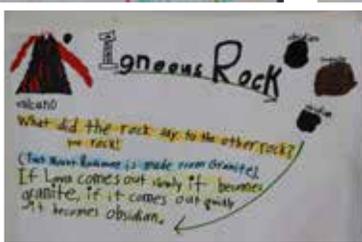
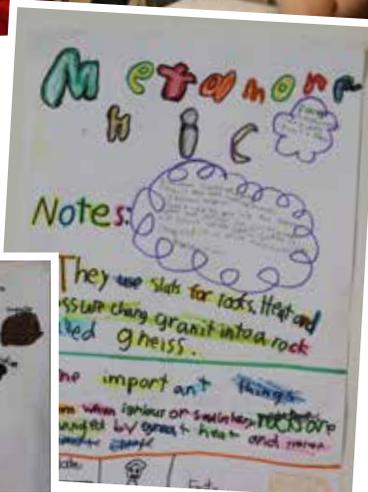
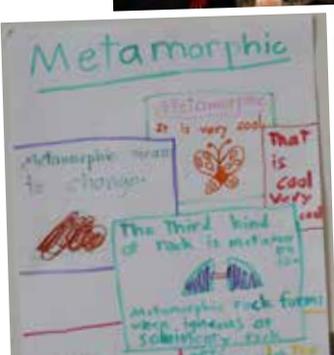
Mrs. Kalina and Mrs. Scheid attended some of their students’ activities



God Our Rock and Creator

Mrs. Erica Jost's third-grade class visited Mrs. Krista Holter to learn more about one of God's remarkable creations—rocks. Mrs. Holter shared her personal rock collection and explained the different types of rocks and how they are formed. From a Biblical perspective, rock layers can form quickly and the layers of rock we see today are the result of a global flood. Yet as people of faith, we recognize that these natural processes are part of God's divine design and sustaining power in creation.

The third graders were excited to see fossils, feel different rocks, and learn about the differences between the different kinds. They were fascinated to learn that lava is molten rock that comes from a volcano. When it cools and solidifies, it forms igneous rocks, such as basalt or obsidian. Following their visit, the students created posters to illustrate what they had learned, reflecting both the wonder of science and the majesty of the Creator behind it all.



Mrs. Hanson is in her 22nd year teaching at Park Christian

She shared a few pictures from over the years.

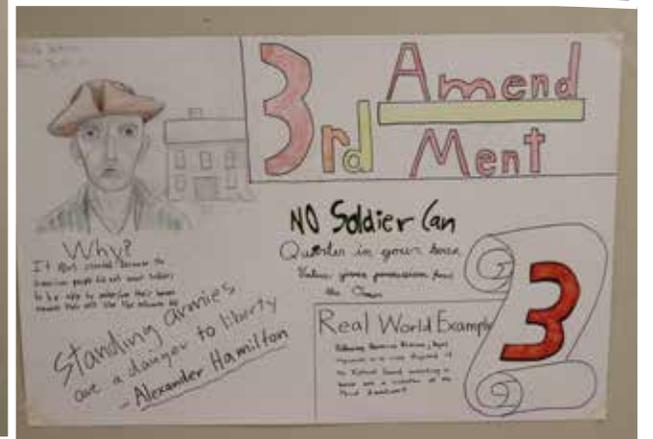
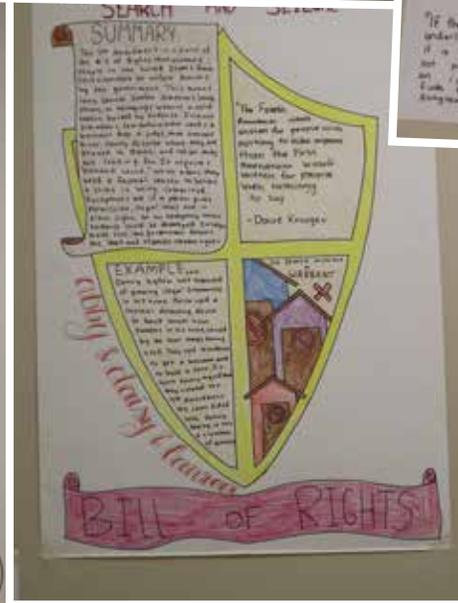
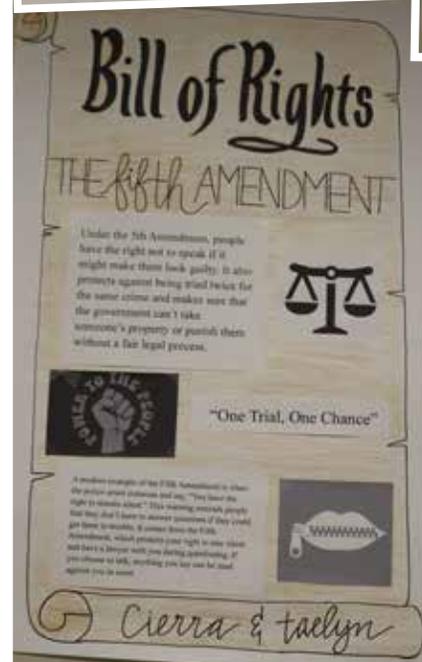
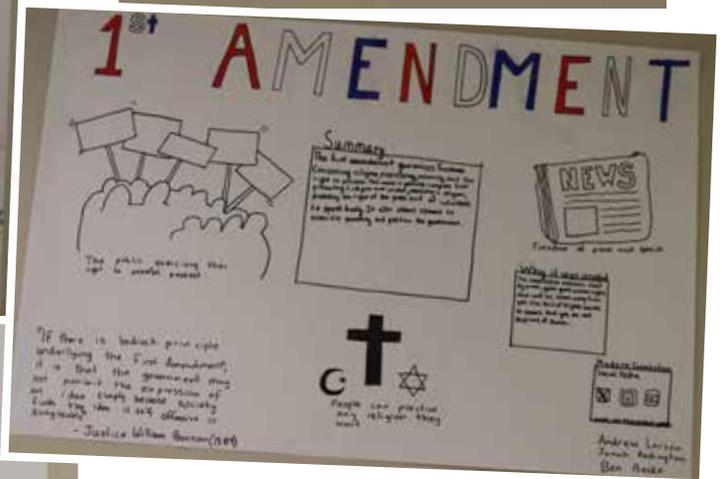
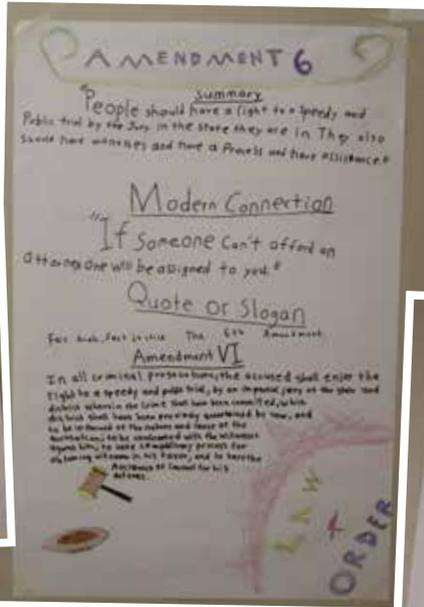
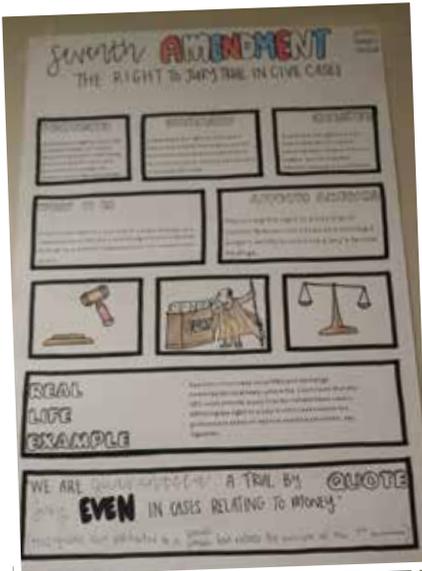
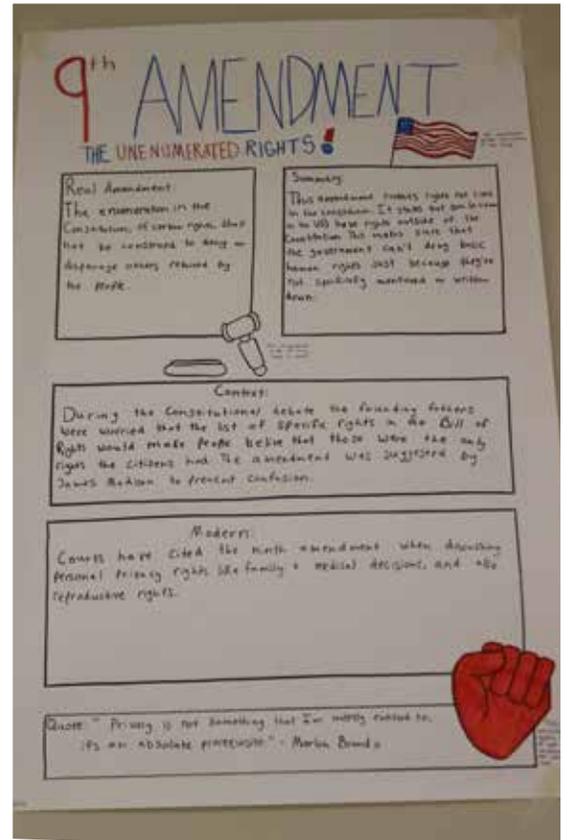


Exploring Freedom in Mr. Powers' History Class

In Mr. Powers' history class, students have been learning about the Bill of Rights—the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Through their lessons, they explored what each right means and how these freedoms continue to impact our lives today.

To show their understanding, students created colorful and thoughtful posters illustrating the different rights and their significance. This project not only allowed them to demonstrate their comprehension but also showcased their creativity and artistic talents.

It's inspiring to see our students connect history to the present and recognize how these foundational principles reflect the importance of freedom, responsibility, and respect for others—values that align closely with Park Christian's faith and mission.



Teaching with Purpose

Engaging Minds for God's Glory

Mr. Jeremy Nelson teaches AP World History and AP Psychology, challenging students to think critically and deeply about the world God has created. His engaging teaching style fosters active participation, thoughtful conversation, and meaningful learning.

Student **Ian Wood** shared, *"It forces me to recall and retain information. I'm learning for content."* Fellow student **Annika Aakre** added, "AP classes are more focused on learning the important things." **Isaac Dunkel** noted, *"I like the lecture-style teaching and being able to go deeper into the topics we are covering."*

Students appreciate that their AP courses go far beyond memorization. The rigorous study and lively discussions help them gain a deeper and more detailed understanding of the material. In the process, they are not only preparing for exams but also growing in wisdom—cultivating minds that reflect curiosity, discernment, and a desire to see God's truth in every subject.

While students value the opportunity to earn college credit, they consistently shared that it is the rich, engaging learning experience that matters most.



Mr. Mark's Deep Hope

My Deep Hope is that my second graders will learn to see and celebrate the special gifts and talents God has given them. I want them to understand that these gifts are part of who they are and that they can use them to help, encourage, and make a difference in the lives of others as we each live out our part in God's big story.



Celebrating the Heart of our School

As we enter this Christmas season filled with gratitude and joy, we're excited to dedicate the December Falcon Flier to our wonderful teachers—the heart of our school. Their kindness, care, and Christ-like example brighten each day and help our students grow in both knowledge and faith. We thank God for each of them, for the light they bring to our community, and for the Christ-centered leadership they share in every classroom.

Mrs. Fisher's Deep Hope

My deep hope is that my students will
KNOW
the Truth of who God is
GROW
in who God made them to be
and
SHOW
the world God's love as they work

MY DEEP HOPE...

...that we would find delight in God's truth, cultivate relationships with Him, and encourage our classmates and others as we develop and appreciate our unique gifts.



MRS. JOST
3RD GRADE