

# Lion's Roar 4-29-20

## Musings with Mrs. Stout

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

"Whenever trouble comes your way, let it be an opportunity for joy." (James 1:2)

These past 6 ½ weeks we have had plenty of opportunities for joy, right? To look back over the frustrations, fears, and false steps and see them as opportunities for joy, are you kidding me? No, not kidding. What kind of opportunities am I referring to? Brother James tells us, "When your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow." (James 1:3). Why would I want my endurance to grow? Well, James says fully developed endurance results in strong character, ready for anything. Isn't that what we want for our children? For that matter isn't that what we want for ourselves? Distance learning may just be the opportunity for developing endurance, building strong character and finding joy when we look for it.

Are you ready for some encouragement? I think we all are in constant need of it – kids and adults. We need affirmation that the steps we are taking are leading us to a goal. We certainly do not want to be simply treading water. (Although a swim party sounds pretty fun right now, doesn't it?) I know there have been times since we began social distancing that we have felt we are in a holding pattern waiting for it all to be over. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 9:26, "So I run straight to the goal with purpose in every step. I fight to win. I'm not just shadow-boxing or playing around."

We are not playing around. We have a goal and we are purposefully pursuing it. It's hard and challenging to be sure. But we are seizing this opportunity for joy and giving it all we've got through the Spirit's power. We are halfway to the finish line. 6 ½ weeks are done. 6 ½ weeks to go. Do you see it? There's light at the end of the tunnel. Your faithful commitment to God, your children and Centralia Christian School will be honored by our gracious heavenly Father. Stay the course, it will result in amazing rewards only He can design.

## Financial Assistance

Financial Assistance applications are available upon request after your returning family registration form has been returned, your application fee is paid and your tuition account is current. Financial Assistance applications are due completed and verified by May 31. They take a couple weeks to complete, so if you plan to apply please do so right away. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school office.

## **Parking Lot**

Work is being started on our parking lot and we are so blessed and so excited! However, schoolwork pickup will look a little different on Friday. The old blacktop is being ground up and dumped in the grassy area in front of the K/Pre play area on the south end (garbage dump end) of the property. Gates into the parking area that we normally use will be closed, but there is a gate to that grassy area that will be opened and you will need to carefully park in that grassy area, avoiding the piles and then walk along the sidewalk in front of the school to our main entrance to pick up and drop off schoolwork. We will have a sign that says "Check In" by that gate. Yes, interesting words, but we already have that sign, so we thought we might as well use it. J Please be careful of any trucks and equipment and keep your children in your car. Work will continue into next week, so please be aware you may still need to use that grassy area for entrance and parking.

## **ACSI Parent Town Hall Event**

We'd like to invite you to a special Town Hall event on Facebook Live titled *Kingdom Parenting Meets COVID-19: The Importance of Routines and Rituals*.

The event will take place this Thursday, April 30, at 11:00 AM on Facebook Live. We'll be hearing from ACSI President and Christian parenting book author, Dr. Larry Taylor, who will share a brief devotional before a panel of parents share their experiences navigating this unique situation and distance learning.

Our school will host its own Facebook Live Watch Party of the event on our main Facebook page, which you can access here:

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/CentraliaChristianSchool>

If you do not have Facebook, you can register for the virtual event via [Zoom](#), and please feel free to access the ACSI posting of the Town Hall event for more information:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/644618542762478>. You may watch either through the ACSI Facebook page or through our own CCS page, though the event will not be live on our page until it has gone live on theirs.

## **CCS Sweatshirt for sale**

We have an extra CCS 2XL heather blue hooded sweatshirt that was ordered a few months ago if anyone is interested. The cost is \$27.

## **Shout it Out**

Do you have a message of encouragement to share with our community? The free KACS app has an option in its menu to record a message of encouragement to share with others. If you have a brief message or lesson God is teaching you, consider

sharing it with others as a **Shout Out**. The stay at home order can be a discouraging time for many people in our community, and your **shout out** may just brighten someone else's day. A couple of our students have had fun doing **shoutouts** on the KACS app. Listen for them as you listen to the radio and then think about what encouraging words you have to share with listeners.