

## Developing Christlike Students

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Cuke 2:8-11

Dear DCS Families,

The amazing passage of scripture from the Gospel of Luke was shared in our staff meeting this morning, as we took time to reflect upon the true message of Christmas. Despite the excitement over tinsel, twinkling lights, and the jolly old elf with his reindeer, the most wonderful Christmas gift was the birth of our Savior ... the very incarnation of God in human form.

At Delaware Christian School, we are blessed to be able to share the true meaning of Christmas and proclaim the joy of the gospel message every time we open our classroom doors. As we endeavor to accomplish this lofty mission, we seek to build strong relationship with students and partner with parents to promote academic excellence that has been infused with Biblical truths.

As the parent of young children, I often share stories with my kids at the close of the day to usher them off to sleep. As we bring the first semester to a close, I want to share a few memories with each of you.

## Favorite Memories of the DCS Faculty and Staff Fall 2015

- I loved our Open House. There was so much excitement throughout the whole school. The support of parents and anticipation of students purchasing spirit wear and planners, picking up their schedules, the positive attitudes and desire of parents to partner with DCS was powerful.
- My favorite memory is when one of my students said, "I love being in a place where we talk about God all day!"

- Across the board I am encouraged when the students "light up" as they see God in what they
  create. He loves them so much that He allows them to not just experience His creation for
  themselves, but be able to represent His blessings on paper and help others understand Him
  more.
- Pre-K discovered how much fun it is to give to others! We began by reading <u>The Sparkle Box</u> by Jill Hardie. This story taught us, when we help others, we are giving a gift to Jesus. They were so excited as they named ways they could give Jesus a gift for Christmas.

I will give Jesus love. I will give Jesus my heart.

I will give Jesus my happy face. I will give food to someone who is hungry.

I will shine my light for Jesus.

I will share my toys with my friends.

I will give my friend a hug, if they are sad.

We will make candy canes to give away.

- One of my favorite memories from this year was at the spiritual retreat. I had two suitcases, my pillow, my blankets, and my school work trying to make it to my car. One of the high school boys came darting out of the conference center and grabbed my load for me. He took it all the way to my car for me. This happens in the hallways too. Young gentlemen (and ladies!) throughout the school are constantly grabbing doors for the teachers and students. I love working in a place where students are so considerate.
- My favorite memories are of all the beautiful music that the students shared at the performances during the first semester.
- My favorite memory was when a second grade student bounded up to me in the hall one day after school and with huge, ear-to-ear grin shared that she had prayed with her teacher to accept Christ as her Savior!

The last shared memory still gives me chills, as I ponder the eternal impact of Christian education. In Christ, we find the redemption from our sins, and the dirt of sin and shame is washed away as we become restored to accomplish the true purpose for which we were created. When we come before the throne, we are no longer condemned, but counted righteous through Christ.

The true mission of Christian education is to view our students through the eyes of our Heavenly Father, so we endeavor to see the best in every student and work to help them discover and achieve their true potential in Christ.

Thank you so much for being a part of the DCS community.

On behalf of all of the teachers, staff, coaches and administrators, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

In Christ,

John Stubblefield Head Administrator Delaware Christian School