



# The Courier

The Geneva School Parent Newsletter

November 2003

## Nota Bene

**November 7: Report Cards Sent Home  
(Grades K - 12)**

**November 10: GPA Meeting - 7:00 PM  
in the Music Room**

**November 17: NO SCHOOL -  
Parent/Teacher Conferences**

**November 24: Picture Retakes**

**November 26: Noon Dismissal**

**November 27 & 28: THANKSGIVING  
BREAK**

## Announcements

**MOMS IN TOUCH:** Moms meet every Monday at 8:15 AM for approximately an hour to pray for The Geneva School - students, parents, teachers, staff and Board. Come as you are to the Media Center.

**PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES -  
Monday, November 17:** Scheduling for Parent/Teacher conferences will begin on Monday, November 10. Conferences can be scheduled through Amelia Kapur (ext 207) for any time from 8AM - Noon and 1PM - 4PM. Babysitting is being made available by the senior class - donations will be accepted towards their senior trip.

Parent/Teacher conferences are not required if you are maintaining good communication with your child's teachers. Kindergarten parents should call ext 219 and schedule directly with the kindergarten faculty.

**The Geneva School**  
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www.genevaschool.org

## *Lira Celebra: the Heart of Learning's Celebration*



Part of the vision for The Geneva School when it was still a dream in the minds of its pioneers was to be a place that would both restore in students a lost zeal and wonder for God and His creation and celebrate learning.

What is meant by "celebrate learning?" What is meant by "celebrate," and what is meant by "learning?"

Celebrate comes from the Latin word *celebrer*, which means, fundamentally, "to visit frequently." Learning comes from the Latin word *lira*, a "furrow" or "tract."

What we hope ourselves to embrace and to instill into the children entrusted into the care of The Geneva School is a celebration of learning that would encourage students and equip them with the tools whereby they may continually and frequently visit the furrow of classical Christian education we are ploughing for them.

What is that tract, that furrow, that we want them to frequent, not only here while they are in grades K-4 through 12, but also for the rest of their lives? This furrow is composed of three grooves made by the blades of the plough.

First, we want to inspire dreams. We want to see graduating students whose dreams have been inspired. Walk into the classrooms at school, listen to the conversations, sit in on the pontifications and dialogues in their classes, and if you are not inspired by the dream of higher, faster and stronger, then we are not serving our purpose.

The second groove is made by engaging quests. The Geneva School is not merely about learning how to apply the skills and recovered tools of learning to the material of the classroom. It is also about arming students with the wherewithal to engage in the great quest of knowing God and making Him known, discovering His creation and spreading His Name abroad - not to our glory but to His. If we are



not engaging quests, if we are not encouraging students to don the armor, to put on the helmet and take up the sword, to challenge the world, the flesh and the devil on quests for God and His kingdom, then we have failed.

The third and final groove in the furrow to be visited frequently is that of seeking to instill virtue. We may communicate vision, we may inspire dreams and we may engage quests. But if we are not instilling virtue in this vision, setting before the students a model - our example of all that is good and true and beautiful, set forth in the virtuous scholarship of teachers, staff, board members and parents, then we have failed them, and we cannot expect them to rise to the occasion.

The Geneva School is about recovering the lost tools of learning, to be sure, but it is also about recovering the lost zeal for learning. It celebrates an environment of learn-





ing, so that those who having ploughed the furrow will pass on to the students tools and inspirations to return to that furrow often.

Let us all pray and work to the end that The Geneva School may inspire dreams, engage quests and instill virtue. May we see realized that vision that began eleven years ago. And let us pray that by God's grace, eleven years hence we will still be on quest.

**Lira celebra.** May we all continue to visit classical Christian education's "frequented furrow."

*Taken from the speech given by Mr. Michael Eatmon during the dedication ceremony on Monday, October 27, 2003.*

*Photographs courtesy of Mr. Owen Matthews.*



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# Geneva Parents Association

TO ENRICH THE LIFE OF THE GENEVA SCHOOL THROUGH PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

by Gordon Cloke - GPA President

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## GPA Class Representatives 2003-2004

Grade	Teacher	GPA Representative
K-4	Mrs. Stewart	Martin and Susan Hering
K	Mrs. Reaves	
K	Mrs. Frame	Debora Lisle
K	Mrs. Candeto	Lindsay Heffron and Anne Vercheski
1	Miss Ralls	Dawn Byrne
1	Mrs. Phelan	Sharon Mackay and Gretchen Roberts
2	Mrs. Sullivan	Angela Robinson and Lynn Hilborn
2	Miss Reeves	Marleen Cusack
3	Miss Seymour	Laura Riley
3	Mrs. Bingham	Claire Newlin
4	Mrs. Lewis	Kim and Larry Shepherd
5	Mr. Sweet	June Huggins
6	Mrs. Mawhinney	Suzu Harris
7	-	Shannon Campbell
8	-	Barbara Sikes
9	-	Mary Jean White and Shelly Bradon
10	-	Elise Maynard
11	-	Cindy Stevens
12	-	Marie Shafe

We are very grateful to all the parents who have stepped forward to take on the role of GPA representative for their child's class.

If any parent in Mrs. Reaves' kindergarten class would like to consider filling the only empty spot then please get in touch with Gordon Cloke (407-673-451).

At the next GPA meeting on Monday, November 10, we will hear from Mike and Mary Beates as they reflect on their ten years as parents at The Geneva School. Their children have experienced every grade at Geneva (with the exception of K-4) and they have been a part of the Geneva family since the school's humble beginnings in 1993.

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## MOMS IN TOUCH PRAYER GROUP

All parents and friends of The Geneva School are invited to join Moms in Touch in prayer every Monday morning from 8:15 a.m. until 9:15 a.m. in the Media Center. Come and enter God's throne room on behalf of the teachers, families, administrators, and especially, the students of The Geneva School. It is a truly powerful time of praise, confession, thanksgiving, and intercession.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.

*Philippians 4:6 (New King James Version)*

"In one battle," he related, "An enemy plane dropped a bomb onto the deck of our ship. Instead of exploding, however, to everyone's astonishment the bomb bounced off the deck and into the water, just like a rubber ball would!"

This minister went on to say that in battle after battle, they and the ship were miraculously spared.

A great illustration of what Mom's in Touch is all about is found in Dutch Sheet's book, *Intercessory Prayer*. The author tells the account of a minister who served on a ship during WW II. Everyday he and a few other sailors would pray and seek God's protection for themselves and the ship. The book goes on to say:

Just as a few faithful sailors sought God's protection for their ship, so too, Moms in Touch seeks God's protection, guidance, wisdom and healing hand for those within the Geneva family.

If you have questions, or, if you would like to be lifted up in prayer, please contact Julie Tressler by phone at 407-658-0310 or by email at [jktressler@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jktressler@cfl.rr.com)