

SUMTER CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

The first days of school have gone well. Hopefully, you are settling into your routine. We began the year with 235 students, the same as last year. We thank all of you for entrusting to us your most prized possessions. We commit ourselves to helping you train your children both academically and spiritually. Your prayers for us are greatly appreciated.

DISMISSAL time is going smoothly. Please use the lane closer to the building for pick-up and use the other lane for through-traffic only. Park only in designated spaces, and do not leave your car if you are in the inside lane or if you are in the drop-off lanes behind the school. In the back, leave the center lane open, and cars in the line closer to the gym can use the center lane to exit if their children come out before those in the front of the line. Please remember to be courteous drivers, and watch for the safety of our children (and other pedestrians). **NEVER LEAVE YOUR CAR WHILE IT IS RUNNING.** We have had one run-away car in the past, and thankfully no one was hurt.

ATTENDANCE The state of South Carolina requires that students attend at least 170 days in order to be eligible to receive credit for the grade (K5-8) or the course (9-12). A doctor's excuse or death in the immediate family will not count against the ten allowed absences. For high school one-semester courses, students are allowed five unexcused absences per class. When high school students return to school from being absent, they must bring a written excuse, either from a doctor or parent. A doctor's excuse provides a legal excuse and the absence is not counted against the ten. A parent's excuse keeps the student from receiving demerits.

THE BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM has been supported well. Please continue to send the Box Tops to school. Classes compete during the year, and the winning class is rewarded.

ATHLETIC GAMES provide fun and fellowship for spectators. Single game admission is \$2.00 for students and \$4.00 for adults. Season passes for the family are included in the athletic fee for varsity players. The athletes appreciate your support. If you would like to help with concessions, please see Mr. Robinett or Mrs. Gibbs. Proceeds go to the athletics department. Spectators should cheer positively for SCS, but never negatively against the opponent. Booing, and other such unchristian conduct, is not allowed. The officials are the authorities in charge of the game. Parents who complain about the officiating are undermining their own God-given authority and are setting a poor example. Even if we disagree with a call, it does not warrant an unchristian response. Together we can teach these principles to our students.

YEARBOOKS will be all color again this year! The cost is \$41 each, plus tax and any extras you want to add, and must be ordered online. There is a link to the site on our homepage. The yearbook staff will send home detailed information soon. The yearbook staff sells ads to help defray the cost of the yearbooks. Many students will have family or friends who may like to advertise in our yearbook. Personal ads of congratulations, etc. may also be included. Contact Mr. Marritt, the yearbook sponsor, if you want to purchase a business or personal ad (matt.marritt@sumterchristian.org); or you may call the office and Mrs. Gibbs will have him or a yearbook staff member contact you.

THE SCACS TEACHERS' CONVENTION is September 22 -23. The school, the Day Care, and the office will be closed September 22-23 (as noted on your annual calendar) so our teachers and Day Care staff can receive further instruction required to maintain their certification.

PICTURE DAY is September 8. All students will have individual pictures taken for the yearbook. Senior pictures will be taken that morning, and fall sports pictures will be taken the afternoon of Sep. 14. You may purchase pictures from Lifetouch. They have been doing our pictures for many years, and we are satisfied with the quality of the pictures and their service. You must pay in advance for the pictures, and if you are not satisfied, they will refund the money or let you wait until the "retake day" (October 20). There will be several pricing options for you. Detailed information is sent home with the students.

DAY CARE is \$2.80 per hour for all students in grades 8 and under who stay after school or arrive before 7:45 a.m. The Day Care closes at 6:00 p.m. The rate after 6:00 p.m. is \$5.00 per quarter hour (\$20.00 per hour). Please be here by 6:00 to avoid this heavy penalty and to allow our Day Care employees to go home to their families.

CELL PHONE POLICY – Cell phones may only be used in the office during school hours (8:05-3:10). If cell phones are seen or heard outside the office during school hours, the phone will be confiscated for 3 days on the first offense, 1 month on the second offense, and 1 calendar year on the third offense. High school students receive demerits in addition to the confiscation. Only a parent may retrieve the phone.

NO SCHOOL
SEP. 22-23