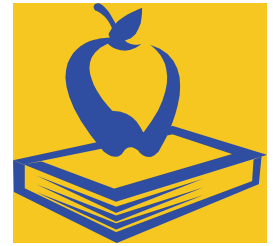


# PTF TIMES

Ready to Soar!



## BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION!

**WELCOME to all Cornerstone Christian School (CCS) students and parents – new and returning.** We pray that you have had a marvelous summer... with a few days remaining to get it all in!

August 2009

The 2009-2010 school year is about to begin and the CCS Parent Teacher Fellowship (PTF) is gearing up for a fun, exciting and fulfilling season.

Volume 3, Issue 1

The PTF's mission is to create a framework in which both the parent and school work together in unity to form a common bond between home and school. When created, the outcomes from this mission are undeniable, unquestionable and unforgettable success for everyone – students, teachers & parents. A Triple Crown win!

It won't be any fun without YOU! Returning parents join us for another "fun-omenal" year! New parents come on and join the fun!

On the back of this newsletter you will find listed the PTF committees. Take a moment to reflect, pray and commit to where God desires you to use your gift, skills and talents to support Cornerstone Christian School. It will take action to make this happen... remember to sign up for a committee.

We'll see you in September! God Bless. - PTF Committee

### P.T.F Pledge

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient; bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one spirit just as you were called to one hope when you were called—one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

- Eph 4:2-5

## Upcoming School Events

**Improving School Success for your Child** ing in the PTF and CCS events this year. We are only successful when your are involved. **Remember there is only one YOU!**



### 30 Minutes-Make a Difference!

I read an article recently that caused me to pause.. The article stated "We have so many commitments and so many things bidding for our time, sometimes it is difficult to prioritize.... Though we make every effort to make the most of the time we spend with our children, seldom do we spend time in the place they spend most of their time-at school." While this may not apply to you it caused me to think, what would happen if every parent, grandparent or guardian gave a minimum of 30 minutes a month to CCS? What difference would that make to the lives of our children and the impact to the school. Imagine the energy, the excitement, the community that would be created within CCS. Please consider how you can support your children by participat-

### September

**1st:** Pre-K and Kindergarten Open House

**9th:** 1st Day of School! 12:45 Dismissal

**14th– 30th:** School Wide Fun - raising ! Have "fun" Fundraising for CCS. The top "Fun-raiser" wins a \$100 gift card.

**22nd:** Back to School Night @ 7 PM

**29th:** School Picture Day

### October

**31st:** Harvest Festival

### December

**7th - 11:** Holiday Christmas Shoppe

### Inside this Issue

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### Inspiration

"Suffer the children to come unto Me such that learning in the classroom becomes a stepping stone to excellence in the Kingdom."

- Submitted by  
Cornerstone Parent

## Back to School Tips

### The First Week

**Clear your own schedule.** To the extent possible, postpone business trips, volunteer meetings, and extra projects. You want to be free to help your child acclimate to the school routine and overcome the confusion or anxiety that many children experience at the start of a new school year.

**Make lunches the night before school.** Older children should help or make their own. Give them the option to buy lunch in school if they prefer and finances permit.

**Set alarm clocks.** Have school-age children set their own alarm clocks to get up in the morning. Praise them for prompt response to morning schedules and bus pickups.

**Leave plenty of extra time.** Make sure your child has plenty of time to get up, eat breakfast, and get to school. For very young children taking the bus, pin to their shirt or backpack an index card with pertinent information, including their teacher's name and bus number, as well as your daytime contact information.

**After school.** Review with your child what to do if he or she gets home after school and you are not there. Be very specific, particularly with young children. Put a note card in their backpack with the name(s) and number(s) of a neighbor who is home during the day as well as a number where you can be reached. If you have not already done so, have your child meet neighbor contacts to reaffirm the backup support personally.

**Review your child's school books.** Talk about what your child will be learning during the year. Share your enthusiasm for the subjects and your confidence in your child's ability to master the content. Reinforce the natural progression of the learning process that occurs over the school year. Learning skills take time and repetition. Encourage your child to be patient, attentive, and positive.

**Send a brief note to your child's teacher.** Let them know that you are interested in getting regular feedback on how and what your child is doing in school. Be sure to attend back-to-school night and introduce yourself to the teachers. Find out how they like to communicate with parents (e.g., through notes, e-mail, or phone calls). Convey a sincere desire to be a partner with your children's teachers to enhance their learning experience.

**Familiarize yourself with the other school professionals.** Make an effort to find out who it is in the school or district who can be a resource for you and your child. Learn their roles and how best to access their help if you need them. This can include the principal and front office personnel; school psychologist, counselor, and social worker; the reading specialist, speech therapist, and school nurse; and the after-school activities coordinator.

*From: [www.nasponline.org](http://www.nasponline.org)*

## P.T.F. Committees —A Brief Summary

**Parent Teacher Gatherings (P.T.G.):** Helps the Administration, develop, plan and implement creative monthly meetings with guest speakers, workshops, and times of sharing, review suggestions.

**Prayer Committee:** Join other parents in prayer for the needs of the students, faculty, staff, school & church.

**Decoration Committee:** Help keep CCS decorated and visually refreshing to all who walk our hallways. Help maintain the beautiful, colorful look of our school. This is a great committee for grandparents to be involved!

**Fundraising Committee:** Opportunity to create fun & innovative ways to raise money for various activities, events or projects of CCS. This may include 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade overnight class trips, playground renovation project, etc.

**Ministry Outreach Committee:** Help CCS make a difference in the NJ community through the Blessing Basket Food & Toy Ministry, Nursing Home Ministry, Hospital Ministry and Mission Outreach!

**Special Touch Committee:** Let the CCS staff know that we care! This ministry provides special caring touches for the CCS staff by recognizing birthdays, staff anniversary milestones, illness, bereavement and Teacher/Staff Appreciation week.

**Class Moms/Dads:** Teachers truly appreciate parental help with classroom parties, special art projects, school activities and involvement in Teacher/Staff Appreciation.

**Communication Committee:** Keep us all connected! This ministry ensures that parents are connected to the great things that are going on at CCS through P.T.F. Newsletter, email blasts, phone calls, create event flyers.