



Dear Parents,

The school year is off to a great start! I can see that students have settled into their classrooms, as they get comfortable with a new grade, a new teacher, and new expectations. The teachers are getting familiar with their students and working to set a positive tone for the school year. It's so impressive to see how quickly teachers learn each student's name, and make each one a part of the class. The first few days of school center on building relationships and establishing expectations. With that foundation, the teachers can move forward to a year of rich learning. Let the fun begin!

At our first chapel of the school year, I talked about some simple expectations we have throughout the school. I told the students about two important words to remember. The first word, I said, "starts with an 'R' and rhymes with 'shmee-speckt'." (Somehow, they figured out the word was "respect".) I talked about the simple ways they can show respect at chapel, walking in the halls, working in their classrooms, or being in lunch and recess.

I went on to tell the students that there is a word even more important than "respect" – "love". The important point I made with the students was that "love" is more than something you feel, it is something you do. In other words, love is an action. We talked about the ways we can show love toward others in our school, like sitting with someone at lunch who may be feeling left out. We talked about how sometimes it is hard to show love toward someone, like when you think they don't deserve it, or when someone has hurt you. Still, we are commanded by our loving God to show love to each other, as He already loves each of us. What a great school King's Way can be when we are showing love to each other!

I can tell you that I truly have been encouraged and impressed by our students, your sons and daughters, and the love and respect they show each day. I have seen this already on the playground when a student cares for a classmate who is sad. I have seen this in longtime King's Way students who go out of their way to welcome students new to our school. I see this when they pray for each other in class. When I see this kind of love in action, I know how blessed I am to be a part of this great school.

Parents, I want to thank you for the way that you teach and model love and respect to your children. I'm sure you can see ways your child still needs to grow even more loving toward others (as I can for my own kids!). I want you to know that I can see ways the hard work of parenting is paying off. We will strive this year to partner with you in those efforts. Our desire is that people would know the staff and students of King's Way for our love.

Sincerely,
Steven D. Jensen
Elementary Principal

Meet the New Teachers of King's Way Christian Schools

We are pleased to introduce you to the four new teachers here at King's Way Christian Schools. Each new teacher has been paired with a mentor teacher who has written the following introductions of our new teachers. If you haven't met these new teachers yet, please stop by, say hello, and help to give our new teachers a friendly King's Way welcome!

Marge Swearer

I would like to introduce you to a new friend of mine – her name is Marge Swearer. She is our new elementary music and middle school band director. Marge and her family recently moved here from Lincoln Nebraska. Her husband Bob is a pastor at St. John's Lutheran church here in Vancouver. They have four wonderful children that keep them very busy, but Marge says she enjoys spending time with them in all of their activities.

Marge has a double major in elementary education and music education, which helps her to be a well rounded teacher. She has taught a variety of subjects in grades pre-K all the way to high school. She chose King's Way because of the Christian education, and because the job offered her exactly what she was looking for in both elementary and instrumental music.

When asked what her goals were for her work here at King's Way, Marge responded "to help grow the instrumental music program up through the high school, and to continue to work with the wonderful program already in place for the elementary students."

As busy as Marge is with her work here at King's Way, she still finds time to read, do crossword puzzles, host meetings at her house for church, and cheer on her kids in their sports (after a full day of teaching and curriculum night to boot!!) One of her greatest desires is to see all of her children grow up to love the Lord, and serve his purposes for their lives.

I am looking forward to getting to know Marge better over the years – Welcome to King's Way Marge Swearer and family!

Luke Neff

A new addition to both our English and History departments, Mr. Luke Neff comes to us by way of Arkansas and Arizona. Mr. Neff is a graduate of Wheaton College in Illinois. He has taught previously at Christian Schools in Little Rock, AR and Scottsdale, AZ. An avid white-water rafter and guide, Luke resides with his wife Megan in Portland.

Hal Ueland

Hal Ueland joins King's Way from Heritage Christian in Oregon. This year, he is teaching history and chemistry in our high school. Hal has been married to Julie for 28 years, raising two boys: Dane (22 yrs old who just graduated from college and lives in Seattle as an aspiring musician) and Kent (18 year-old sophomore at Whitworth college in pre-law). Hal and Julie live in Hood River. He began his career with a BS Chemistry and a teaching certificate. He then earned his BS Electrical Engineering which permitted him to work for years as an engineer. He returned to teaching and has started his MA History. Hal has taught in both public and private schools over the years. He found King's Way last year after good friends recommended he interview; the rest is history! Hal loves teaching history because he is enthralled by stories of those who lived by Christ when life was really hard. He hopes to instill in our students a love of history by making it meaningful and come alive in his classes. Hal is very active in his church and loves good food and music. We are excited to have Hal as a new member of the King's Way family.

Breann Baldwin

Breann Baldwin joins King's Way High School staff this year teaching our students Spanish. Breann attended school in Pullman Washington at Washington State University...Go cougs! She received her bachelor's in Spanish and minored in education.

Breann went to Alicante, Spain as a foreign exchange student during her senior year in college. She lived in Alicante, Spain for almost 6 months. Alicante is a small coastal town below Valencia on the Mediterranean. Breann says it was an amazing experience and she hopes to go back to Europe to see her host family soon.

Breann grew up in Vancouver and attended Felida, Alki and Skyview schools. Part of her family lives in Texas where she has twin 6 year old sisters.

We are very excited to have Breann and we know you will feel the same way once you get to know her.

A Few Important Items to Remind Parents About.....

◆ **Learning Center Registered/Non-Registered Students**

Learning Center charges \$100 registration fee and then charges \$8.00 per hour. Partial hours are treated as whole hours. For non-registered students who are admitted to the Learning Center because of arriving before 8:15 a.m. or being left after 3:15 p.m., parents are charged \$16.00 per hour. Partial hours are treated as whole hours.

◆ **Field Trip/Activity Fee:** \$40.00 per K-5th Grade Student due by September 30th.

◆ **Parent/Student Handbook:** Parent Signature Form was due to the office Sept. 18th.

◆ **School Hours**

School will begin each morning at 8:30 a.m. and students will be dismissed at 3:00 p.m. Students may arrive as early as 8:15 a.m. **Students arriving before 8:15 a.m. or left after 3:20 p.m. will be admitted to the Learning Center and charged an hourly rate.**

◆ **Calendar**

You can find the King's Way month-to-month calendar at **www.kwcs.org** to see what is happening each month. Be sure to check it monthly for new additions.

From The Elementary Library

There are some new pictures of our students on our Library Homepage. Our Library Homepage is a great way for all of us to share information. There are activities and contests for your child to access. I hope you will join in the fun by visiting it today.

Mrs. Johnson
Librarian

Here's how to access our Library Homepage:

1. Go to <http://www.scholastic.com/classhomepage>
2. A new page will appear with a Login box.

Enter our Class User Name: **kwcslibrary**

Followed by our Class Password: **king**

3. Click Submit.

Vancouver First Church of God Presents:

Dr. Geoffrey Simmons, noted author of *What Darwin Didn't Know*, will speak at the First Church of God on **Wednesday, October 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** A physician who has studied the human body and evolutionary theory for more than 40 years, Dr. Simmons presents fascinating medical facts that clearly speak for Intelligent Design. "Darwin might have thought twice about publishing his theories if he had had access to today's medical and microbiological discoveries," he contends. Dr. Simmons is a director of Physicians and Surgeons for Scientific Integrity, and has authored nine books. The presentation is open to the community and it is free of charge.



Roller Skate with your friends at Golden Skate.....

Our schools times are from 3:30—5:30 pm on the following dates:

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Tuesday, November 10, 2009

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

Healthy Smiles at King's Way

Dr. Connie Brown, Orthodontist, Drs. Pete, Peter and Joe Lubisich, Pediatric Dentists and Dr. Wanda Palena, Cosmetic and General Dentist, are very pleased to announce a partnership with King's Way Schools. As part of a donation made to last year's school auction, we will be assisting the school with developing age-specific programs to help parents and their children with their dental needs.

As part of our sponsorship, we will keep you informed of the latest trends and treatments in dentistry, provide services such as making mouth-guards for the sports teams, and provide educational materials to assist your children in maintaining a healthy mouth.

Watch for our monthly news column in which we spotlight issues such as fluoride in our local community, sealants, acid content in "healthy" drinks, and topics specific to your child's age. We are looking forward to our partnership and wish everyone a successful start to the 2009-2010 school year!