



From the Principal

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation...I can do everything through Him who gives me strength. (Phil. 12-13)

This summer, I have been studying the life of Paul, and all of the situations that he went through. It has been encouraging to see someone who faced challenges but continued to persevere and endure through them, like we all have done while going through this pandemic. While we try to stay safe and healthy, we have had to take actions that we never thought we would ever do. Yet, we are called to be content in all of these circumstances.

I have attached Central Maine Christian Academy's return to school plan that was mandated by Gov. Mills last week so that we can open on August 17. Please read it carefully, as there are lots of changes to our normal school day, including the hours, classroom structure, recess and lunch plans, and social distancing guidelines. But also remember, this is a fluid plan and will probably be changed numerous times before school starts. I have been working on it for two weeks, and had it almost finished until last Friday's mandates came out for all schools to incorporate. I am thankful that when I am overwhelmed, which has happened quite often lately, I can cling to that promise above. I can do everything through Him who gives me strength. I have faith that this year is going to be an unforgettable one, and that God is going to do amazing things!

From the Principal and Faculty

Enrollment and Social Distancing Guidelines

We have set up our classrooms following the social distancing guidelines, as outlined in our return to school plan, and because of this, most of our classrooms are full. If you have not contacted us concerning your child's return to school, there are no longer any spots open, unless those who have registered drop out. If you would like, we will place your child's name on a waiting list until a place is open. Preschool and daycare are the only programs with limited openings. Preschool parents are asked to email information concerning what days their child is attending.

School Supplies

Some of the teachers will be emailing lists or sending them out the first week of school. Students are asked to come to school with the basics-notebook, art supplies, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, and other general supplies, but to not overdue...just a pencil box filled, please. We are also asking for hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, tissues, and water bottles, as you will read in the guidelines

School Policies

Please review the rest of this newsletter, going over school and classroom policies. These policies are put in place so that all of us can have a peaceful learning environment. The registration fee of \$40 preschool, \$90 kindergarten, and \$150 grades 1-12 should be paid by the first week of August. Checks may be mailed to school. The first month's tuition is due the first week of school.

Dress Code Policies

Even though school rules have not changed these past years, please review the school handbook and rules together as a family. Modesty, balance, safety, and moderation are what are stressed, not fads or new fashions. We need to remember that our behavior and appearance will either draw attention to the Lord or away from Him to us. These are some of the following policies that seem to need to be reviewed each school year:

- Boy's hair length needs to be at or above the collar level, neat, and with shaved sides and faces.
- No unnatural hair coloring, please.
- Girls dress lengths should be modest, no higher than two inches above the middle of the knees.
- Halter and tank tops, low necklines, open backs, camies, sheer blouses, tight pants or leggings, sandals, and shoes without socks and back straps may not be worn to school.
- Girls only may wear 2 single earrings in their lower ear lobes, not ear clips. No other piercing or tattooing is allowed for either girls or boys.
- T-shirts and jeans may be worn at all times and they need to be neat, without frays and holes. Pants should be loose, and not tight fitting, or long tunic length shirts need to be worn over them. They can not be too loose that they sag unnaturally. T-shirts should be in good taste, displaying Christian mottoes, sports characters, not rock group members, beverages, inappropriate characters and sayings. White undershirts alone are not appropriate, as well as excessive dressing in black.
- Modest Bermuda length shorts, (no more than 2 inches above knee may be worn on the first two weeks of school and other pre-announced days, but should not be tight fitting. Otherwise, gym shorts or clothing from the school closet will be worn or parents will need to bring a change of clothes.
- Students who have questions about the dress code need to speak with their teachers before purchasing any new fad and wearing it to school. Those who are unwilling to follow our moderate dress code will be asked to call parents for a clothing change or wear something from the clothes closet.

Behavior Considerations

The school board and staff have worked together through the years to develop some of the following school rules. Parents will be notified if their student is having difficulty following school rules and will be expected to work with staff to aid the student in improving their behavior. Any student who causes disruption in the classroom or on the playground to the extent that it affects other students' safety, learning environment, or Christian character development will be placed on probation for improved behavior or will be dismissed from the school's enrollment. These are some of the general rules for students in the classrooms at CMCA:

- Be ready for class, quiet, prepared with pencils and learning materials.
- Respect teachers and other students.
- Raise hand to talk. Peer teaching is allowed in some cases, as long as it is done with permission and in a quiet manner.
- Quiet behavior is needed in the bathrooms, hallways, and other school areas.
Lockers, desks, and cubbies are school property and need to be kept clean and in good condition, as well as other areas. Any destruction to school property will be paid for by the student.



Behavior Considerations (Con.)

- Profanity, obscene materials, inappropriate literature, inappropriate use of the internet and inappropriate e-mails, disrespectful remarks, and malicious gossip are not honoring to the Lord and will not be tolerated, as well as any bullying, aggressiveness, uncontrolled anger, harassment or violent actions, either expressed physically, verbally, through phone calls, texting, e-mails, or written. Parents will be contacted to discipline and find effective counsel for their student with removal from the school. During this time, it will be the responsibility of the student to do all school work at home. Enrollment will be terminated if actions warrant it and legal authorities will be contacted, if necessary.
- Student use of cell phones and personal electronics is prohibited in the classroom and school areas, as well as the use of other listening devices, unless staff approved for classroom use.
- Total abstinence and absence (use and possession) from all alcohol, tobacco, and non-prescribed use of drugs is expected of students at all times. No clear forms of abuse will be tolerated in or out of the school environment. CMCA will fully investigate any incident suggesting any involvement of students in the usage of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco, with termination of enrollment. Guns, knives, and any thing that might constitute a weapon are illegal at school. In the case of legal implications, the parties will be reported to the authorities and place that student on probation or immediate enrollment termination.
- Parents who are late in picking up their students will be asked to pay a daycare fee.
- CMCA has a behavior management system as a part of its curriculum. Each classroom has a form of behavior management to help students know how they are doing with classroom behavior and class work. Parents are also kept aware of this and are asked to assist the teacher when their child's behavior or work is not up to the standard. Special activities are scheduled for those students who do well or show improvement.

Prayer Closet

- Pray that God will renew our vision as we start this new year., and praise Him that, as a small school, we are able to put state guidelines into practice for social distancing!
- Praise the Lord that He is working all things out for His honor and glory!
- Pray for families who are struggling financially, that God will provide for all of their needs.
- Pray for the health and protection for our students. Staff, and their families. Praise Him for all of the support that the staff has from our CMCA families.

****Thank you for your prayers and continued support as we continue to work out the plans for reopening school this year. We greatly appreciate your patience and thoughtfulness as you read the attached reopening plans.

