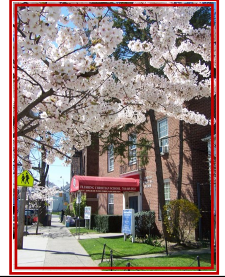




Flushing Christian School Newsletter

Fall 2023

Vol. 94



A Message from the Head of School

Chantal Nelson
Head of School

Board of Trustees

Alfredo Fredericks
President

Michael Herbert
Vice-President

Tom Murray
Treasurer

Anli Koo
Secretary

Eddie Dhanpat
Trustee

Alexandra Sasha
Potes
Trustee

Chartered by:

*The New York
State Board of
Regents*

Accredited by:

*The Middle States
Association (MSA)
&
The Association of
Christian Schools
International
(ACSI)*

*"In him you also are being built together into
a dwelling place for God by the Spirit"
- Ephesians 2:22*

Queens is the most culturally diverse neighborhood in the world, and Flushing, Queens is historically the most religiously diverse community in the nation. Some people view the city's diversity as a challenge, and many avoid public discourse about matters of faith, especially as our society continues to unravel and grow more polarized. Yet for me, **the rich diversity of Queens reflects the heart of our Creator.** In His wisdom, God has made every person on the earth from one family and invites each one into a relationship with Him, regardless of ethnicity or past beliefs (Acts 17:22ff). Also **in His wisdom, God chose to place Flushing Christian School in the center of it all.**

The ethnic diversity of Queens appears in our own school. Staff and students collaborate across diverse backgrounds and communicate through language barriers as a testament to the Christ who brings all together into one body. The religious freedom that we cherish in America and the diversity that we find in Flushing allows FCS to fulfill its mission: **to graduate students who think critically, love learning, and can engage their generation with the truth of the Gospel.**

I was reminded recently of the importance of our mission when I met with a parent relocating to the United States with her child. As we reviewed the school's statement

of faith, educational philosophy, and expected student outcomes, I stressed the core Biblical beliefs that have recently come under attack. This parent is coming from a country with a different cultural climate that is free from many of the toxic ideologies that have become popular in the States. **She resonates with our FCS mission** because she recognizes the negative influence of popular culture and the misplaced values of the public school system. She values an education that would encourage her child to flourish into a confident, well-educated adult, full of integrity, and able to think independently of the populace.

We are not perfect, but we endeavor to fulfill this parent's desire, a desire held by every parent entrusting their child to Flushing Christian School. **We take our mission seriously** and consider it an honor to supply an academically rigorous education with a strong Biblical worldview in our diverse community for the sake of the Kingdom.

As you read through this newsletter, **you will see evidence of God's goodness** through our staff and students. We celebrate the success of recent alumni and give thanks for a fruitful summer. We do all this looking forward to another year of growth, overcoming obstacles, and dependence on the one God who makes all this possible.

- Chantal Nelson
Head of School

Summer Updates

Alumni Praises

“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth” (3 John 4). Nothing delights us more than to hear that our alumni are embracing their faith and actively leading others to Christ. This is the case with two recent graduates, Class of 2022. Now in 10th grade, both Daniel Caal and Ryan Xiong have stepped forward to be baptized in their respective churches.

Each young man is also leading a Christian club in his respective high school, Stuyvesant High School



Hear Daniel's story here:
fcsnyc.org/danieltestimony

and St. Francis Preparatory School. Each club encourages Christians and also confronts unbelievers with the claims of Christ.

Let's pray for fruit!

Buildings and Book Reports

The summer season offers a break from the intense routines of the school year. But this doesn't mean we didn't make progress. On site, our janitors Victor and Brenda Torres do an exceptional job of maintaining the classrooms and learning spaces. They upgraded the interior design for several offices, while giving the entire facility a fresh coat of paint or wax.

Meanwhile, students maintained their mental sharpness with summer reading and book reports. At least one of the three reports must cover a biblical book (Genesis or Luke, for example), and one can be a creative presentation about the story.



New Teachers and Electives

God has blessed our school with an excellent new set of staff this year. **Mrs. Alicia Torres** (second from right) joins the faculty with 40+ years of teaching experience in several



school settings. She will be leading the elementary PE and music classes and enjoys watching the students pour their energy into creative activities.

Mrs. Lisa Chan (far left) assumes responsibility for the 2nd grade classroom. Among all of her “favorite” subjects, she especially enjoys assisting the students in their reading and English skills. Since she became a Christian as an adult and has developed her teaching skills in a church setting, she recognizes the importance of forming a child's strong faith in God.

Ms. Kimberly James (second from left) teaches middle school ELA and leads the 6th grade Bible and social studies classes. She comes with several years of experience teaching in high school

and collegiate classrooms, so she often sets higher expectations for her students. Her stability and confidence make her a perfect fit for middle school. Ms. James is also leading two new electives: liturgical dance and financial literacy.

Students are benefiting from meeting with our school's new counselor, **Mrs. Yvette Fadli** (far right). Mrs. Fadli joins the staff at FCS in partnership with the Pastoral Counseling Center of Flushing, a vital support and sister ministry.

Fall Food

Fresh Hot Lunches

Starting this year, we are connecting with Vincenzo's, a local restaurant in partnership with Schooleatery.com, to allow parents a hot lunch option for their children. Two days a week, parents can submit orders at \$8/item, which are then delivered to the school for free. Many families (around 20%, to be more accurate) take advantage of this option.



Our traditional Friday pizza orders and PTFA fundraiser lunches continue without any interruption. We are grateful to provide another quality lunch option for our families.



**hot food + low effort =
a winning combination!**

Applebee's Community Breakfast, October 28



Let them eat pancakes!

The status of our annual flapjack fundraiser breakfast was a little uncertain over the summer. What's the reason? The Bayside Applebee's which traditionally hosts our event had closed. But thankfully, after some communication with their headquarters, we reserved a different location, this time in Fresh Meadows, albeit at a slightly earlier time (7:30-9:00 am).

Student servers polished their skills and families met up at the restaurant for a great family experience. Every ticket sold benefits the PTFA, which supports both school and parents in many meaningful ways. Our annual gift basket auction also allowed us to raise funds for our Zitzmann tuition-assistance program. Full of donations from area businesses (thank you to Chick-fil-A, Panera, Trader Joe's, and more!) and student families, these gift baskets will help our winners do some early Christmas shopping!

Pastor Breakfast, November 1

A student should graduate from school, but no Christian student should graduate from church.

The mission of FCS fits within a broader mission shared with families and churches alike: to raise the next generation of Christian disciples. We value the network of churches represented within our school community. One way to foster healthy support and collaboration is through our annual breakfast for pastors and youth ministers. This is a time for encouragement, offering fresh resources, and establishing deeper connections as a Christian community.



Flushing Christian School

41-54 Murray Street

Flushing, NY 11355

Phone: 718-445-3533

Fax: 718-445-7546

E-mail: info@fcsnyc.org

Website: flushingchristianschool.org

Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FLUSHING, N.Y.
PERMIT NO 210

**Academic
Excellence
&
Christian
Discipleship
Since 1950**

Share your thoughts?

Calling all alumni!

We want to hear from you! What was your experience like at FCS? Do you have a favorite teacher or special memory you care to share? What suggestions can you give for our continued improvement?



fcsnyc.org/alumnisurvey

Return the card?

We want to share what you want to know. Would you kindly take a few moments to complete the enclosed card and return it to us? Your feedback will allow us to offer the updates and stories that you most appreciate. Thank you in advance!

Increased Transparency

In a society of declining trust, it is vital to demonstrate our validity and viability as a nonprofit ministry. While our accreditation with both the Middle States Association and the Association of Christian Schools International helps us maintain the highest standards of Christian academics, we seek additional transparency for our financial and organizational benchmarks.

You can browse our updated profile here to learn more.

**Gold
Transparency
2023**

Candid.

fcsnyc.org/guidestar