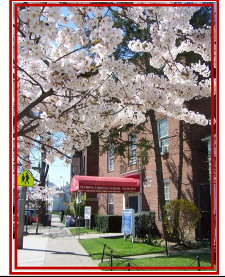




# Flushing Christian School Newsletter

Spring 2023

Vol. 92



Chantal Nelson  
Head of School

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## A Message from the Head of School

*Fresh air is as good for the mind as for the body.  
Nature always seems trying to talk to us  
as if she had some great secret to tell.  
And so she has."*

- Sir John Lubbock

Indeed nature does have something great to tell. It is not a secret, however; **nature shouts God's wisdom and goodness in a variety of ways.** Psalm 19 tells us that nature communicates God's glory through the majesty of sunrises and sunsets. The glories of the night sky chime in agreement (Psalm 8) and we learn of God's beauty, creativity, order, and tender care through the vastness of the biosphere (Genesis 2:9, Proverbs 8:6-8, Matthew 6:26-30).

After the stillness and barrenness of winter, **spring announces the arrival of a new season** with the buds of colorful flowers, the increased warmth of the sun, and the cheerful greetings of the birds every morning. Springtime invites all who lay dormant and have become hermits over the winter to go outside and enjoy nature's beauty once again. Enjoying the beauty of nature through our different senses allows us to draw closer to God. Nature is designed to point us back to the Creator as the One who not only made this world but made each of us individually and intimately. **We grow more grounded with a renewed perspective when we grow attuned to nature.**

As a staff, we've been reminded that **nature is another source of wisdom** God has given us to draw closer to Him. Through our book study, *The Wisdom Pyramid*, author Brett McCracken has helped us rediscover the reason why being connected with nature is so important for us: in one sense, **we ourselves are also part of nature.** We can better understand our own selves as part of God's creation when we study nature and discover God's attributes through it. As nature consistently adheres to the natural laws God has made, we realize that our lives are more fulfilling and joyful when we submit to God's laws as well.

We look forward to accompanying our 7th & 8th Grade students on an overnight retreat to Spruce Lake on May 10-12. **We invite you to pray with us for this trip out of the city and into God's creation.** We have an opportunity for each student to draw closer to their Creator, and as a result, to find better harmony within themselves and with one another. **True joy and stability is achieved when every aspect of our life is tied to our Creator.** Our desire for everything we do at Flushing Christian School is to teach our students this vital lesson.

- Chantal Nelson  
Head of School

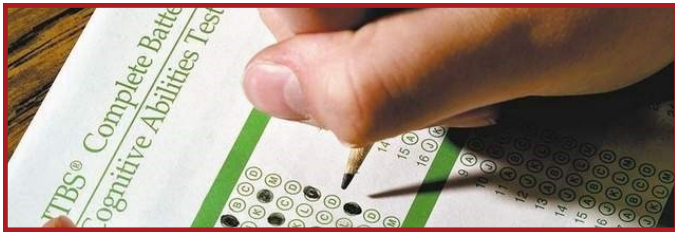
# Learning for Life

## Iowa Standardized Tests

The glorious excellence of Christ appears in every aspect of our school, including in our stellar academics. Alumni consistently attend specialized high schools, with all graduates reporting that they have been adequately prepared for the high school setting.

A co-valedictorian from the class of 2022 shares that his time at FCS instilled high expectations and academic integrity in him, **Christlike traits that have led him to excel at Stuyvesant High School.**

Academic excellence also appears when we compare our standardized test scores with national averages. **Our students consistently score one and often two grades above their peers.** This is a credit to our gifted teachers and our supportive learning environment.



To help with preparations, we review test-taking procedures and consider practice questions the weeks leading up to our tests. We also host a fun “Are You Smarter Than the Iowa Test?” game show with student contestants modeling how to walk through sample questions. Against the backdrop of this accountability, however, **our teachers do not teach for tests; we teach for life.**

## Middle School Electives

Twice a week, our middle school students disperse throughout the building for a time of discovery and fun. **Each elective class allows students to explore new facets of life,** learning different skills in music or a variety of communication forms.



Students benefit from our electives in several ways. They expand their academic and extracurricular portfolio as they head into high school. They can interact with multiple grade levels and relax from intense core studies. Whether interviewing a teacher for an Eaglets’ View newspaper article or practicing a new instrument in band, **each student will hone new skills for life.**



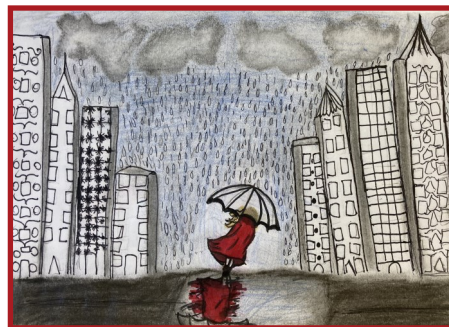
Scan to read  
*The Eaglets' View!*  
[tinyurl.com/eagletsview](http://tinyurl.com/eagletsview)

- Advanced Art
- American Sign Language
- Band
- Blogging/Creative Writing
- Chorus
- Film
- Health & Etiquette
- Journalism
- Spanish Enrichment and Cultural Games

## Subject Spotlight: Music & Art Electives

God designed this world with beauty and variety, and He declared it very good. As humans created in the image of God, then recreated into the image of Christ, we too can delight in beauty.

**Beauty’s natural habitat is art,** both visual (art) and aural (music). In



**“Light in the Darkness” by Camila**

our all-school electives, students survey different genres of artistic expression, learning both the classical and modern forms. **They can then participate in annual competitions—like the [New York State School Music Association](http://www.nyssma.org) (NYSSMA)—or display their artistic skills in our seasonal concerts.**



# Making Connections



## Christian School Leaders

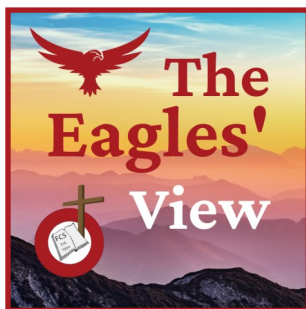
The calling to Christian education is a high and often a challenging one. For this reason, we are committed to the broader network of Christian schools who exist to support Christian parents around New York.

Our school was honored to host school leadership from several regional Christian schools for brainstorming, support, and prayer. The breakfast and sharing brought encouragement to everyone involved.

If you know of any Christian schools who could offer experience or could use some support, let us know!

## Spreading the Word

As God continues to work through FCS, each person's story is worth spreading. One new avenue for telling these stories is our brand new **The Eagles' View** podcast! With a new episode every month, we hope to share more stories and offer helpful resources to support the Christian parents in our NYC community. For our inaugural episode, you can listen as Ms. Nelson shares her story and vision for the school.



[tinyurl.com/fcspodcast](https://tinyurl.com/fcspodcast)



[tinyurl.com/fcsstudentvoices](https://tinyurl.com/fcsstudentvoices)

We also asked students what they most enjoy about FCS. As you would expect, some gave deep answers, some were... goofy, and all were blessings! Enjoy watching and sharing with friends!

## Donor Appreciation Brunch

For the first major event since the COVID shutdown, we connected in person with the valued supporters of our school. Personal updates, wonderful testimonies, and a tribute to long-time board members all helped to create a memorable time together.



## Prayer Themes with the PTFA

How should we pray for our children? This vital question prompted our PTFA to develop a 21-week series of prayer themes. We pray for the Lord to give our children salvation, protection, wisdom, and purity, among many other vital ideas. You can follow each week's theme on our website or through our social media channels. Let's pray for our children!



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Since 1950

## Jogathon!



**JOGATHON**  
**FIELD DAY**



**FRIDAY**  
**JUNE 2, 2023**

**RAISING FUNDS**  
**FOR TUITION ASSISTANCE**

[tinyurl.com/jogfcs23](http://tinyurl.com/jogfcs23)



Our annual jogathon fundraiser is here! Our goal is to raise the highest amount ever for our tuition-assistance fund: \$30,000!

This fund allows interested families to enroll their children without financial limitation. Because **our school gladly grants tuition discounts to needy families** (up to \$200,000 total every year!), we see God provide the needed money to fill that important gap.

Would you help us promote this important event? Would you consider supporting us and praying for God to overwhelm our school with His abundant provision?

