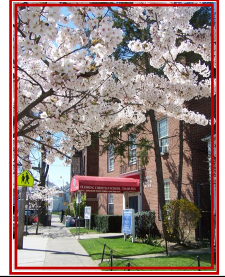




# Flushing Christian School Newsletter

Winter 2023

Vol. 91



Chantal Nelson  
Head of School

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## **A Message from the Head of School**

*Why, it is she who has got all Narnia under her thumb.*

*It's she that makes it always winter.*

*Always winter and never Christmas; think of that?"*

*Lucy immediately replied, "How awful ."*

*- The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, C. S. Lewis*

Indeed, winter is the season with a bad rap. Once the holidays pass, the winter season seems long, harsh, cold and barren for no particular reason. The occasional snowstorm might bring a hint of excitement, especially to children who don't have to shovel or plow through it and are awarded with a day off from school. Otherwise, **winter is usually synonymous with hardship** and can seem quite awful, as Lucy Pevensie observes.

Culturally, we appear to be experiencing a harsh, fruitless winter. The times we live in are troubling and confusing. The onslaught of false ideologies come pouring down like a dangerous blizzard, blinding us and obstructing our every effort. However, storms pass, **seasons do change** and we finally do emerge on the other side of things.

The joy is that **seasons are cyclical**. After a long, hard winter, we know spring hides just around the corner, and we begin to hope as we see the first buds appear. **What matters most is how we endure the current season we're in**. Do we throw in the towel and surrender because the labor is just too hard? Do we keep laboring albeit wearily and pessimistically? Or do we labor vigorously relying on the hope that Spring is around the corner? When our trust is in God who gives us wisdom through the stormy trials of life, **we can find joy even in the midst of a harsh winter season**. As Pastor James counsels, "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness" (James 1: 2-3).

We do not labor for business. Although our livelihood is important, **the harvest we are laboring for is far more valuable**. We labor for our children's minds and hearts. The innocence of our precious children's childhood and their development into healthy, competent adults are each at stake. **Now more than ever, we need the LORD's guidance** through the evil storms of the day for our sake and the sake of our children.

I am humbled at the honor of being involved in God's work everyday at Flushing Christian School. I with my God-fearing colleagues engage in God's Kingdom work so **every child who walks through our doors is greeted with the love of Christ and trained in the truth of the Scriptures**. Is the labor easy? No. Does winter seem too long to endure? Yes, but reaping the harvest of leading even one child to the truth of God's word into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ is worth patiently enduring through this winter season. As Anne Bradstreet once noted, "If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome."

As you read through the pages of this newsletter, I invite you to catch a glimpse of our dedication to God's work here at Flushing Christian School. I also hope that you join with us in prayerful support and rest assured that in each event, celebration, and everyday activity, we are patiently laboring together for the fruit of the harvest, one child at a time, until the Lord returns. To quote Pastor James again, "You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand" (James 5:7-8).

- Chantal Nelson  
Head of School

# Celebrating the Lord's Birth

## Operation Christmas Child

What better way to celebrate Christmas than to reflect our Lord's generous heart? Our students worked together to pack shoeboxes with toys, school supplies, and other vital items for children around the world. With every class contributing, we were able to pack a total of 153 boxes and raise 2x the amount needed to ship them around the world.

Our pre-packed boxes eventually reached needy children in South Africa, Honduras, and Colombia. Praise God for using us to spread His love!



## Christmas Parties!

Seasonal sweaters, secret angels, and decorations all added to festive scenes around the school. From class to class, students received gifts from their "secret angel" and made special memories in fun class parties. Some classes even traveled throughout the school, caroling from room to room.

Our staff also celebrated with a special dinner hosted by the PTFA. The games, delicious meal, and vibrant carol singalong reminded each one of God's Son, the greatest gift of all.



## Christmas Concert

With the theme "Christmas Around the World," our annual Christmas concert featured an international array of celebrations.



Students representing seventeen countries shared customs from their respective cultures. Musical numbers included "O Christmas Tree" from Germany, a Chinese fan dance, a Korean drum arrangement, and "Feliz Navidad" led by Mr. Vallejo, our resident mariachi musician. The concert culminated with students quoting John 3:16 in multiple languages and then singing the verse as a Gospel witness to all in attendance.



The concert was designed as both a live performance for our families and also a video recording for our school community. You can relive the concert experience by visiting [tinyurl.com/fcs22concert](https://tinyurl.com/fcs22concert) or by scanning the QR code below.



Scan to watch!



# Staying in the Know

## Middle School Midterms

Students in grades 6-8 returned from Christmas break prepared to begin reviewing for midterms. These midterms cover the material taught over the first half of the year. While teachers do not teach merely for test



*Study session in progress*

scores, it is no surprise that students show their mastery of class content through assessments like these midterms.

## Peer Tutoring

One way that students support each other is through our peer tutoring program. Supervised by Mrs. Jean-Pierre, students may stay after school twice a week for additional support or homework help from a peer tutor. Tutors then receive credit for their service hours. This program often benefits twenty or more students.



*An 8th grade tutor works with 4th grade students*

## Open House Success

Our school's annual enrollment season starts every January with an open house for prospective families. This year, we were astounded to host a historic number of families interested in our school, in particular our kindergarten class. To have such a high number of families show such earnest interest was humbling.

We are grateful to be positioned to serve so many families with our "SWAG" of family Support, biblical Worldview, stellar Academics, and stunning Generosity. May God expand our influence for His kingdom!



*Smiling faces await guest families at open house.*

## Parenting Resources

A recent quarterly PTFA meeting focused on mental health and how it impacts both students and their families. We recognized the value of healthy relationships, both with God and with each other, as foundational to our mental health. Parents also discussed how the brokenness permeating our sin-cursed world can still be overcome by the joy-giving hope of the Gospel.

For helpful resources on raising children, scan the QR code or visit: [tinyurl.com/fcsparehelp](https://tinyurl.com/fcsparehelp).



## Subject Spotlight: Spanish

Students begin learning Spanish beginning in first grade. Mrs. Salas focuses on all aspects of communication, with an emphasis on the cultural context of the Spanish language.

Students can expect to place into AP level high school Spanish upon graduation. More importantly, students prepare to use their language gifts as ministers of the Gospel.



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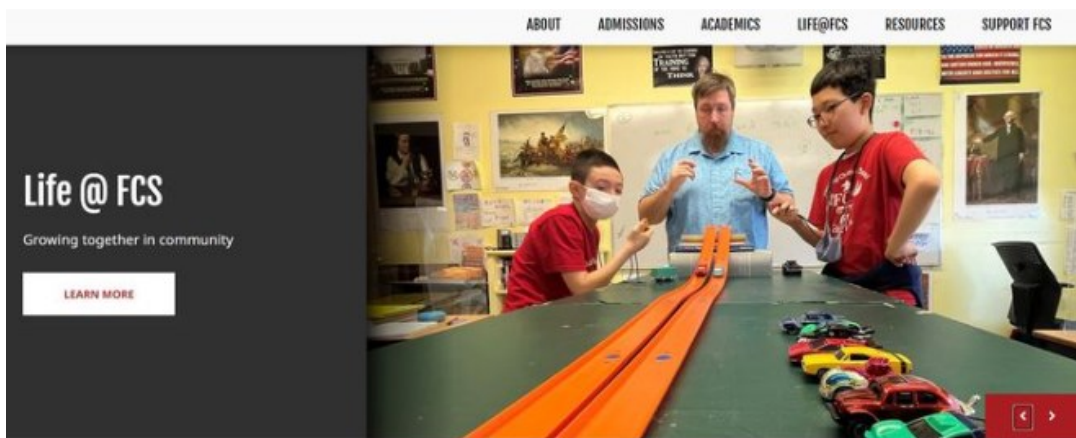
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## New Website!



Explore God's work at FCS through our **new and improved website!** New families can find information about the admissions process as well as academics and community life. Fresh resources and voices will offer continued support. You'll also find ways to donate and support our mission:



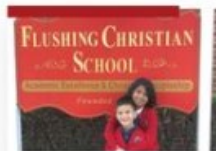
### Spiritual Formation

We are committed to forming disciples on the foundation of God's Word. [Read More](#)



### Curriculum

Forming students as thoughtful citizens and faithful witnesses. [Read More](#)



### Give to Our Mission

Your gifts enable each family to give their children an essential Christian education. [Read More](#)



### I-20 Students

FCS is authorized by SEVP (Student Exchange and Visitor Program) to issue I-20 forms. [Read More](#)

[fcsnyc.org](http://fcsnyc.org)