

# Quisqueya Eagles Newsletter

<http://www.quisqueya.org>



Friday, November 14, 2008 A.D.

*The Most Excellent Way*

Dr. Bruce Lockerbie energized the faculty and staff on his one day workshop, leading the staff in discussing the "Distinctives of an Authentic Christian School," "Preparing Mature Christian Disciples," and all the while encouraging QCS to keep excellence as a goal. On Tuesday Dr. Lockerbie challenged the Board and Administration to hold firm to the Mission and Vision of the school, respecting the founders' vision, and taking care to implement "best practices" along the way. And a special thanks to the parents who came on Monday afternoon to listen to Dr. Bruce Lockerbie speak on "The Unity of All Truth under God."



QCS strives to evaluate and improve every facet of the school every year, and highly qualified consultants such as Dr. Lockerbie help make this possible. QCS staff and faculty are committed to professional development; they are committed to improvement; they are committed to fulfilling the mission of the school: to equip students with the necessary academic and spiritual training that prepares them to impact their world for the glory of God. Quisqueya Christian School provides a biblically integrated program based on and correlating with the American system of education.

Dr. Lockerbie, after returning to the States, commended QCS in an email: "I know almost nothing about the school's history. I will simply state that, seeing as many schools as I do, QCS is unusually stable and firm in its governing board . . . The tone among faculty and staff is wholesome, dedicated, unified, and hopeful of even better things to come. The surprising attendance by parents at the Monday afternoon meeting indicates their interest in and commitment to whatever will better their children's education and subsequent opportunities. And the reception I was given by students at this morning's chapel service speaks for their contentment—if not yet joy—in being at QCS to learn."

This affirmation confirms what many of us know, and I am filled with eager anticipation of where QCS can go with a dedicated board, a strong faculty, and interested, supportive parents. Thanks for joining us on this journey of excellence!

Blessings!

## Remember

Yes, I am a Canadian, celebrating Canadian holidays also in Haiti. I was reminded of Remembrance Day celebrated in Canada and Veteran's Day celebrated in the U.S. this past Tuesday. It is a day to commemorate the sacrifices of members of the armed forces and of civilians in times of war, specifically since the First World War. It is observed on the 11<sup>th</sup> month, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour. When I taught in schools in Canada, we would observe this day with two minutes of silence at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour - to help us remember.

The school flags are at half-mast today, as they were also yesterday. This too is a call to remember – to remember the families of the victims who perished with the collapse of the Haitian school in Petion-Ville. At the ES chapel, we also observed this tragedy with 60 seconds of silence – helping us to remember those in need, those who are suffering from injuries, and those who lost a family member.

To remember those who gave their lives for their country, to protect the freedoms the people enjoy, is indeed a noble deed. To remember the victims of the collapsed school and their parents and friends during this time of grief is showing honor and value to the short lives they lived. To collect funds in this time of need for the parents facing hardships traveling to and from the hospital is showing our love to them – service in action. We need to be the hands of Christ. If you did it to the least of these my brothers, you did it for me, Jesus tells us. We need to be His hands and His feet.



Jesus Christ came to earth not to be served, but to serve. Help us all to be Your servants, Lord, this day and every day walking in the most excellent way.

T. DeKoter

Dear QCS Family:

Jamie Cartright, mezzo-soprano and music teacher at Quisqueya Christian School will be performing her recital of well-known opera arias on November 22, 2008 at 5:30 pm. She will be accompanied by pianist Micheline Dalencour. This concert will take place at l'Auditorium Sainte Rose de Lima (Lalue). Tickets are \$25.00 USD and a portion of the proceeds will be given to the victims of this recent school tragedy (College Promesse Evangile).

### Introducing . . .

Jamie Cartright

New York-born Jamie Cartright moved to Haiti with her missionary parents and lived there until the age of 15. After having been home-schooled for 10 years, she then moved to Miami to finish high school.



She graduated from Stetson University (Bachelor of Music; minor in Education) in 2005 and her professional career includes two years in the chorus of Orlando Opera.

Since her return to Haiti in September 2007; she has been a soloist for the International Community Chorus of Haiti's performances of *Messiah* as well as their rehearsal conductor. She recently performed a solo recital at Ste. Trinité's auditorium in February 2008 and is planning another recital at Ste. Rose de Lima in November 2008. A portion of those proceeds will be donated to one or more victims of this recent school tragedy (College Promesse Evangile; November 7, 2008).

Ms. Cartright is very excited about the opportunity to serve the Lord at QCS by teaching music and mathematics this year.

In celebration of Thanksgiving, the National Honor Society at QCS will be collecting **non-perishable** food items from each class, Pre-K through 12th. Starting **November 17<sup>th</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>** we will collect these items to be organized into boxes and presented to the national workers on November 26<sup>th</sup>. While we appreciate all food donations, please refer to the following list. These are the most needed and easiest foods to separate equally among the workers:

- ✓ Oil
- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Pasta (of any sort)
- ✓ Beans
- ✓ Tomato Paste or canned tomato sauce
- ✓ Flour
- ✓ Sugar
- ✓ Salt
- ✓ Canned goods (corn, beans, peas, etc.)
- ✓ Oatmeal
- ✓ Powdered milk
- ✓ Peanut butter
- ✓ Packaged cookies
- ✓ Crackers

The contributions need to be brought to the homerooms in the MS/HS and the classroom teachers in the ES.

### From the ES Library

We currently have 9016 volumes in the library, 944 that have been added since school started this year. We still have approx. 200 - 250 more to enter into the system.

We have had 999 books checked out as of today.

The most popular books:

1st place - Junie B. Jones, *First Grader Dumb Bunny*

Tied for 2nd- *I Spy Extreme Challenger* and *The Spatulatta Cookbook*



Be sure to set an example for your children and be caught reading each day ☺

## School Calendar

Mon/Wed - soccer practice for boys 14+  
Tues - soccer practice for boys 11 – 13

The senior class continues to sell ice cream at the snack shop on Fridays after school for \$15 HT. First come first served ☺

### The Food Drive is coming up - the dates are November 17- 26. Did you see the announcement?

Tuesday, Nov 18<sup>th</sup> - holiday – no school  
- THE BATTLE OF VERTIERES GOES ON  
Thurs/Fri, Nov 27<sup>th</sup> /28<sup>th</sup> - Days of Thanksgiving  
Saturday, Dec 6<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Bazaar  
Tuesday, Dec 9<sup>th</sup> - Georgiana Methodist Church Choir  
Friday, Dec 12<sup>th</sup> - Start of the HS exams  
Mon/Wed, Dec 15 – 18 - HS exams continue in the AM  
- school in the AM only

Next week is the last week to buy cheesecake **before** Thanksgiving.

We are also offering a Triple Chocolate Bundt Cake for the same price - 30 USD (60 oz).

Please talk to a Senior if you would like a cheesecake or chocolate cake.

## Goals of Reading Instruction

Reading is the process of constructing meaning from a written text. Effective early reading instruction enables all children to become fluent readers who comprehend what they are reading, can apply and communicate their knowledge and skills in new contexts, and have a strong motivation to read.

There are three main goals for reading instruction:

- ▶ Fluency is the ability to identify words accurately and read text quickly with good expression. Fluency comes from practice in reading easy books about familiar subjects. These texts primarily contain familiar, high-frequency words so that the child will encounter few unfamiliar words. As children develop fluency, they improve in their ability to read more expressively, with proper phrasing, thus gaining more of the text's meaning.
- ▶ Comprehension is the ability to understand, reflect on, and learn from text. To ensure that children develop comprehension skills, effective reading instruction builds on their prior knowledge and experience, language skills, and higher-level thinking.

- ▶ Motivation to read is the essential element for actively engaging children in the reading process. It is the fuel that lights the fire and keeps it burning. Children need to be immersed in a literacy-rich environment, filled with books, poems, pictures, charts, and other resources that capture their interest and make them want to read for information and pleasure.



Encourage your children to read each day. Why not read aloud bedtime stories to those in the primary grades.? Set a reading time aside for the whole family, that every member in the family must stop what they are doing and spend 20 minutes of uninterrupted reading.

Try it. You might enjoy a good book.



Plan now to attend the QSC annual Christmas Bazaar!

Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

1 - 6 pm

The QCS Senior class will benefit from the sale of vendor tables this year. Do you or someone you know desire to have a booth to sell items? For applications, contact a senior or a member of PAC, go to the QCS front office or log onto our website at [www.quisqueya.org](http://www.quisqueya.org)

PAC is looking for volunteers to work a 1 or 2 hour shift the day of the event. If you would like to help and have not yet been contacted, please leave your name at the QCS front desk or ask for a PAC member.