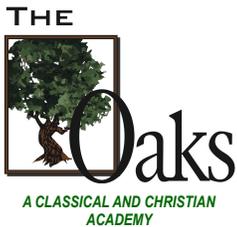


March 25, 2019



P.O. Box 141146
Spokane, WA 99214
Phone 509.536.5955
Fax 509.536.7877
www.theoakscsa.org

Charlie Dowers
Headmaster
Charlie.Dowers@theoakscsa.org

Corey McEachran
Head of Grammar
Corey.McEachran@theoakscsa.org

Dear 7th-10th Grade Parents,

The classical Christian education movement is growing. As a school, we are one of about 300 members of the Association of Classical Christian Schools (ACCS) and one of about 50 accredited schools. There are other associations of classical schools and of Christian schools as well. This growing national interest in classical Christian education provides the opportunity for new resources to become available to us here at The Oaks.

The Classic Learning Test (CLT) is just such a resource. Many members of the ACCS, as well as a large number of Christian and classical Christian colleges, have provided guidance toward the creation of new standardized test. This test, the CLT, is an online test aimed at evaluating the “reasoning, education, and academic formation of students.” The test evaluates a student’s ability to reason carefully by providing readings from books like the ones we read at The Oaks and asking questions based on those readings. The CLT also evaluates a student’s skill in the fundamentals of grammar and good writing, as well as a student’s mathematical reasoning.

Ultimately, the CLT aims to be an alternative to the SAT and ACT in the college admission process. Schools like Whitworth, George Fox, New Saint Andrews, Biola, Cedarville, Pensacola Christian College, Northwest Nazarene University, and many more, have adopted this test. In addition to this college entrance exam, the CLT organization has developed two other tests. CLT8 is for those entering high school, aimed at 7th and 8th graders, and CLT10 is aimed at 9th and 10th graders, serving as an alternative to the PSAT.

After learning about these two tests, we began to research the possibility of using CLT8 and CLT10 in grades 7-10. The tests provide better analytics, thereby enabling The Oaks teachers and administrators to more fruitfully evaluate our program. It is a test both developed and influenced by other folks in classical and Christian education, and it is a test that more closely aligns with our way of teaching.

In light of these benefits, we will administer CLT8 and CLT10 at The Oaks this year as the next step in evaluating how CLT fits into The Oaks program. We will administer the CLT8 to the 7th and 8th graders on Friday, April 5th and the CLT10 to 9th and 10th graders on Friday, April 11th. Both tests will be administered during the school day. Because the test is entirely online, your child will need either a tablet or laptop on which to take the test. Next week, we will send home a form with more information on technology needs. For more information on what the test covers, visit www.cltexam.com.

We are excited to try this new test and see how it helps us improve as a school. It is also a great encouragement to see these types of resources becoming available to our classical Christian school movement. To God be the glory!

Please let me know if you have any questions.

God Bless,

Charlie Dowers

“They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor.” Isaiah 61:3