

SCHOOL LIFE

On October 9th we were blessed to host one of the nation's leading voices on Christian Education, Dr. George Grant. What a joy it was to see such a large turnout (almost 500 people!) and be able to enjoy God's blessings together. Before the evening began the teaching staff was able to meet with Dr. Grant where he prayed for all of us saying "Use these, my brothers and sisters, to impact a whole new generation in a way that will forever change the culture of Spokane and the world around us." We are incredibly thankful for the opportunity to be able to host Dr. Grant and that so many were in attendance. Thank you! The evening was videotaped and is available on our You Tube page—TheOaksSpokane.



Bible and science teacher, Erik Strandness's *The Director's Cut: Finding God's Screenplay on the Cutting Room Floor* ascertains that a biblical lens is the only way to truly understand common experiences and encourages Christians to share their faith with confidence.



Both are available on Amazon and would make a great Christmas gift!

ACADEMICS



This year, through the Inland Chess Academy, first through sixth graders have the opportunity to partake in The Oaks first ever chess club. Forty-eight students are developing their chess skills during these weekly meetings, making The Oaks team the 2nd largest in the Spokane area. Students learn through lectures, exercises, and tournament style play during these weekly sessions. They are also able to participate in area-wide tournaments offered every other week. Most recently, at the King's Clash Chess Tournament, Oaks students Benjamin Barret (1st) and Zachary Kapelac (6th) each placed 2nd in their grade level. Congratulations Boys!

Two of our illustrious teachers have newly published books!

A Small Cup of Light: A Drink in the Dessert is literature and art teacher, Ben Palpant's chronicle through his two-year physical, mental, and spiritual crisis. As the inside cover states "A Small Cup of Light is a bold invitation to face God in the darkness."



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LOVE, THINK, HONOR



November 2014

FROM THE OAKS CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

509.536.5955 www.theoakscsa.org

Psalm 78 synthesizes our goal as Christian parents and grandparents; we are to tell the generations to come "the praises of the Lord, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done." Over the past 18 years of Oaks history, God has done amazing works. How many of those amazing works can you think of? How many have you experienced?

As the incoming Headmaster of The Oaks, I challenged myself to answer this question. Beginning in the summer, I started meeting one-on-one with existing Oaks families. Each family answered the questions: 1) How did you come to The Oaks?; 2) What fruit have you experienced since being here?; and 3) What about The Oaks in particular has helped to produce that fruit? Your stories and your gratitude to the Lord and to our staff were too encouraging to stay in my office.

Two Oaks parents, Eric Thompson and Tiffany Wallach, graciously gave their expertise to help us retell some of these stories. At our Christmas Program in December, we will begin by sharing a video that will give you a glimpse into some of the great works of The Lord at The Oaks. I want to

encourage you to make note of both the date and location change for this event. We are excited to invite you to join us at The Martin Woldson Theatre at The Fox on Monday, December 15th at 7:00pm. Together, we get to marvel at God's most wonderful work in history: He Himself entering our story in the flesh.

As we live in the light of the Incarnation, we cannot help but tell our children about God's handiwork. Words are His work. Fractions are His feats. Dirt is His design. The Lord has done marvelous things at The Oaks as His people have proclaimed these praises to our kids in every classroom. I am excited to have the opportunity to lead the school forward in humble reliance on the continued blessings of The Lord. We covet your prayers. Also, if I have not had a chance to sit down with you and share my vision for The Oaks and hear the testimony of God's work in your family's life, please call the office (536-5955) and schedule an appointment. What a great God we serve. May the Lord bless you this holiday season, and see you at The Fox! The Lord's Blessing! Charlie Dowers, Headmaster

CAMPUS

A Dickens of a Dessert! The Oaks Junior High Theatre is proud to present our first ever dessert theatre, Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. There are only two showings and seating is reserved, so be sure to purchase your tickets early. Show times are at 2pm and 7pm on Saturday, December 6th. Tickets are \$10. For more information or to purchase tickets please call The Oaks at 509.536.5955.



A Christmas Celebration at the Fox—Mon., Dec. 15th at 7:00pm!

This year The Oaks is blessed with the privilege of holding our annual Christmas concert at the Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox. This venue allows us to host nearly twice as many people as last year. Please feel free to invite friends and family to join us for this free concert celebrating the gift of Christmas!



RESOURCES

As we approach the end of the calendar year would you please prayerfully consider donating to The Oaks? Each year your donations help Oaks families in need of additional financial aid to cover tuition for their children. This year our goal is to raise \$60,000 by the end of December and every donation received helps in reaching this goal. If you would like to know more about how you can support The Oaks please call the office at 509.536.5955 to set up a meeting with Headmaster, Charlie Dowers.

STAFF

Please join us in welcoming our new staff members. We are excited and blessed by the gifts and talents each of them bring to The Oaks!

Melody Kind, our new kindergarten teacher, her husband, Peter, and their daughter, Elizabeth (8th grade), moved back to the Spokane area this summer from Topeka, Kansas, allowing them to be closer to their three older sons in the Seattle area.

Colin Williams, our new 4th grade teacher, has a history with The Oaks as a parent to 3rd grader Davy and 1st grader Elli as well as husband to Renee Williams, our past PE teacher and volleyball coach.

Marcia Harken, grandmother to Carson (8th grade), Ellyssa (6th grade), Kayden (4th grade), and Cole (2nd Grade), is our new bookkeeper. Marcia and her husband Brent moved back to the area from Tennessee (where she worked for Dr. George Grant), allowing her to be closer to family.

If you stop by the office you are bound to see a new friendly face. **Dawn Tallman**, mother of Megan (5th grade) and Matthew (3rd grade), **Trudy Oye**, mother of Sophia (5th grade), and **Sheryl Spratt** have taken on the secretarial duties in the office.

ATHLETICS

The Oaks Soccer team, coached by Dick Cullen, Erik Strandness, and Pete Clancy, finished the season beating the #1 seed and taking 5th place in The Mountain Christian League tournament. Two of the team's seniors, Timothy Fisher and Jordan Strandness were chosen for the All-League Teams and Philip Tate was given an honorable mention. Way to go, boys!

As a part of The Mountain Christian League, the Jr. High Volleyball team placed 1st while both the Varsity and JV Volleyball teams placed 2nd in their respective tournaments. Three varsity players were named to the All-League team: Kalianna Lundin (1st), Naomi Kim (1st), and Baylee Schneider (honorable mention). Well done, girls! And thanks to the coaching staff—Peter Kind (Varsity & JV), Jennifer Florence (Varsity & JV), Amanda Hyman (Varsity & JV), Renee Williams (Varsity & JV), Stacey Miller (Jr. High), and Brian Collins (Jr. High).

The Cross Country season concluded with three runners, Westin Madden (2nd), Beatrice Wiens (2nd) and Sam Shubin (4th) qualifying for the Bloomsday All-City Meet and the junior high boys team placing 3rd at the Parochial Championships. Thank you to the coaches—Dave Christensen and Glenn Madden.

ALUMNI

Save The Date! The Oaks Annual Alumni event is Saturday, December 27th. All alumni, alumni parents, staff (current and past), seniors, and senior parents are welcome and encouraged to attend this once a year event. This year's event will be an open house with different venues throughout the day. There will be book readings, musical performances, and more (featuring several familiar faces)! Stay tuned to The Oaks Alumni group on Facebook and your email for more details.

Riley Wall ('10) recently gave us an update on his Biola University experience as part of the Torrey Honors Program and his new job since graduation:



"The combination of the Torrey program with the Intercultural Studies major was a great blend of rich philosophical and theological development with a missional zeal to bring the love of Jesus to people from many cultural backgrounds. I would encourage more Oaks students to go to Biola; it's a natural stepping stone into the Torrey program. When my dad told me about a job opening at World Relief the week of graduation, I had no idea I would be working there a week later. My phone was ringing during the graduation ceremony from the manager at World Relief wanting to set up an interview! Helping refugees with their employment needs has been challenging and rewarding, yet I'm always the most joyful when I am able to go deeper into their lives and establish a meaningful friendship."

THE OAKS BOARD

Many thanks to The Oaks Board who volunteer their time to The Oaks. This year's board members are:

Arik Tedrow, President	Tim Ansett, Vice-President
Travis Harken, Secretary	Merrill Miller, Treasurer
Jerry Cimijotti, Member	Richard Damiano, Member

post scriptum...

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." - John 1:14

The Lord has already overwhelmed The Oaks with blessings this school year. As we enter the Advent season we are again reminded of His greatest gift to us and would be remiss to not celebrate in this, His largest gift, first and foremost. "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory." Christ came to earth in humanly form, experienced our experiences, was tempted by our temptations, suffered our sufferings, and overcame it all for us! There is no greater cause for celebration!