



# Connections

Summer/Fall 2011

The Newsletter of Central Academy at Lake Park

## Letter from the Head of School

As we begin a new school year, it continues to be a privilege for our faculty and staff to partner with parents who value the importance of Christian education for their children. From our youngest kindergarteners to our graduating seniors, we were proud of our students' academic achievements, extracurricular accomplishments, and spiritual growth over the past year.

As our students were busy with their school work and activities, individuals from Central Academy's constituency representing faculty, staff, parents, and board members were also hard at work developing a school-wide strategic plan. This process resulted in six major areas of focus, including student development,

leadership and professional development, enrollment and retention, marketing, fundraising, and campus development. Key initiatives and benchmarks are being implemented as this strategic plan is integrated into our accreditation's school improvement plan. It is our Academy's goal to strive for excellence in the delivery and quality of our educational programs and services for our students.

Our strategic planning discussion resulted in identifying six unique attributes that answer the question, "Why should parents choose Central Academy at Lake Park for their child?" These attributes help define who we are and set our Academy apart from other schools.

Central Academy is FULLY ACCREDITED through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI) and the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). Additionally, we provide CHALLENGING ACADEMICS based on high standards and biblical principles, which prepare students for college and inspire them to learn. A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW is integrated in every aspect of learning, equipping students to defend their faith and reflect Christ in their daily lives. Our Academy provides a CARING FAMILY ENVIRONMENT by nurturing the whole child and providing desirable student-

teacher ratios, which result in personal attention and strong relationships. We encourage our students to develop HEARTS FOR SERVICE as they embrace the local community and world around them. Lastly, our AFFORDABLE TUITION makes a Central Academy education one of the best values in the region. God has blessed us with a beautiful campus and facilities to educate our students.

We believe that Central Academy is a special place where students have an opportunity to develop a biblical worldview while reaching their academic potential. This is a driving focus of our school. We are privileged to see this biblical worldview being manifested in the lives of our students through their daily living as they develop their relationship with Jesus Christ and see His plan for their life and how they can impact the world for Him.



Carrie Neller



Head of School

## Why Choose Central Academy at Lake Park?

At Central Academy we inspire our students to develop a passion for learning and a heart for service. We are committed to nurturing the whole child, as he or she engages in a personal relationship with Christ. Here are just a few reasons why you should consider Central Academy for your family:

- Fully accredited through SACS CASI (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement) and ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International).
- Provides a challenging college-preparatory academic environment based on high standards and biblical principles.
- Maintains a family atmosphere with desirable student-teacher ratios.
- Nurturing environment promotes service learning & character development.
- Affordable tuition rates currently start at \$4,720.
- Conveniently located just south of I-485 off Highway 74 in Indian Trail.

For more information contact Elrita Curry, Admissions Director, at 704-882-6267 ext. 223.

## Our Programs

<b>Elementary School</b>	<b>Middle</b>	<b>High School</b>
<i>Kindergarten - 5th Grade</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>9th - 12th Grade</i>
	<i>6th - 8th Grade</i>	



Photo credit: Jeff Siner



Central Academy ended the 2010-11 school year in the same tradition as the past three years –by sending a group of seniors into the world to impact the culture for Christ. As they departed, several earned notable honors. Dorus Stevens is deemed a Lifer, having completed 13 years at the Academy. Laura Allen and Annezelle Joubert are the first students to be inducted in the Academy's Society for Servant Leaders, for an outstanding commitment to serving their school, church and community. Joseph Manzewitsch, our 2011 valedictorian, is the first Academy student to receive a full 4-year scholarship to an institution of higher learning. These graduates, along with their fellow classmates, Danielle Greene, Gabrielle Kennedy and Whitney Pleasants, are all headed off to institutions of higher learning and are sure to be a blessing to others as they go forth.

We have been blessed to have many of our past graduates visit on a regular basis to offer words of encouragement to fellow Academy students and share with us how the Lord is using them. Several have reported that the challenges we knew they would face as Christians at secular universities have caused them to thoughtfully apply what they learned in their apologetics classes in a respectful and compassionate manner.

Our most important ambition has been to provide a solid biblical foundation upon which

our graduates would engage life, education and society, while providing an education that would prepare them to navigate the rigors of the collegiate environment. With God's help, we have been able to do that successfully. Following are a few updates on alumni representing each year we have graduated seniors.

### **Class of 2008**

Sara Paxton will be a senior at Pfeiffer University during the 2011-12 academic year and will graduate with a double major in criminal justice and psychology. Sara has made the Dean's list every semester, is in the honors program and is a member of two honors organizations, Psi Chi (psychology) and Alpha Phi Sigma (criminal justice). She serves as a peer tutor and a summer resident assistant.

### **Class of 2009**

Kristen Allen is a junior at UNC-Charlotte, where she recently made the Dean's list. She serves as a teaching assistant for the campus community service outreach class and will be a peer advisor beginning August, 2011. Kristen works part-time at CVS and interns in the counseling department at Central Church of God.

Natasha Firooznia is majoring in psychology and will be a senior this fall at Liberty University. She has served as a Prayer Leader and will be a Spiritual Life Director during the 2011-12 school year. Natasha has made the Dean's list and is a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society. She has served as a volunteer with CauseLife and during the summer of 2010 went on a missions trip to Kenya. Her plans are to spend time overseas after graduating in 2012.

Tyler Jones is attending Wingate University, where he is majoring in psychology. He is the founder of the Wingate University Gaming Group, a social group of students and professors that meets weekly to strategize and play the latest in video game technology.

Emily Paxton is a junior at UNC-Charlotte,

majoring in marketing. She is excelling in her classes and considering adding accounting as an additional major. Emily works part-time for Chick-fil-A where she has been promoted to marketing assistant. In addition, she serves as an intern working with the Chick-fil-A Charlotte Market Coordinator.

Irma Stevens is a math major at UNC-Charlotte, where she has been on the Dean's List every semester. As a freshman, she was selected for the University Honors Program and has been elected as an officer. Irma has served her campus community as a peer mentor and disability services note taker. Also, she has volunteered with campus food drives, Crisis Assistance Ministries, Relay for Life and Fashion for Peace.

Isaac Woodall is a full time student at Central Piedmont Community College. He is working towards an associate degree with an emphasis in English as he pursues his goal of becoming an English professor.

### **Class of 2010**

Adam Paxton spent his freshman year at Wingate University where he was on the Dean's List both semesters and nominated by his professors to take part in the Wingate Honors Program. Adam was active as a student athletic trainer and participated in intramurals. For the 2011-12 academic year, he is transferring to UNC-Charlotte where he will study exercise science. His desire is to be a physical therapist or physician's assistant. Given that he made the highest grade in his Biology class, he is well on the way to achieving his goal.

Rikki Crider is in her sophomore year at UNC-Greensboro, majoring in psychology and social work. She was on the Dean's list and Chancellor's list both semesters of her freshman year and will be a member of the honors college beginning August, 2011. Rikki is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta national honors society and served as an intern in the psychology department, participating in research. She is also a Young Life leader at Grimsley High School.



Congratulations Class of 2011!



Daniel Polsgrove takes time to smile for a photo before beginning his first day of kindergarten at Central Academy.

but most importantly, we are blessed by his spiritual growth. Daniel amazes us with the details he has learned about Bible stories at school. From knowing the number of stones David collected to being aware that Zacchaeus was not liked by the people in his town, he is clearly learning and understanding the Bible. Within a few months of the school year beginning, Daniel gave a description of the Trinity that has amazed all who have heard it. He has learned to pray for all of his needs. One day while doing homework, he asked if we could pray for God to give him patience to complete his assignment! Recently, Daniel accepted Christ as his savior. He was so excited when he came home with a brand new Bible that Mrs. Neller had given him to celebrate the occasion.

## Off to a Great Start

As we look back and reflect on our son's first year of school, we couldn't be more pleased about our decision to make Central Academy our home! We visited the Academy for an open house when Daniel was just three and knew immediately that this was the school for our family. Our only obstacle was the 35+

mile commute from our home. During Daniel's last year of preschool, we visited various Christian schools in our area, but all roads led us back to Central Academy. After months of prayer, we decided to move to Matthews to make the commute more bearable.

Throughout his year in kindergarten, Daniel was excited to go to school each and every day. He loved his classmates and his teachers. We are pleased with his academic progress,

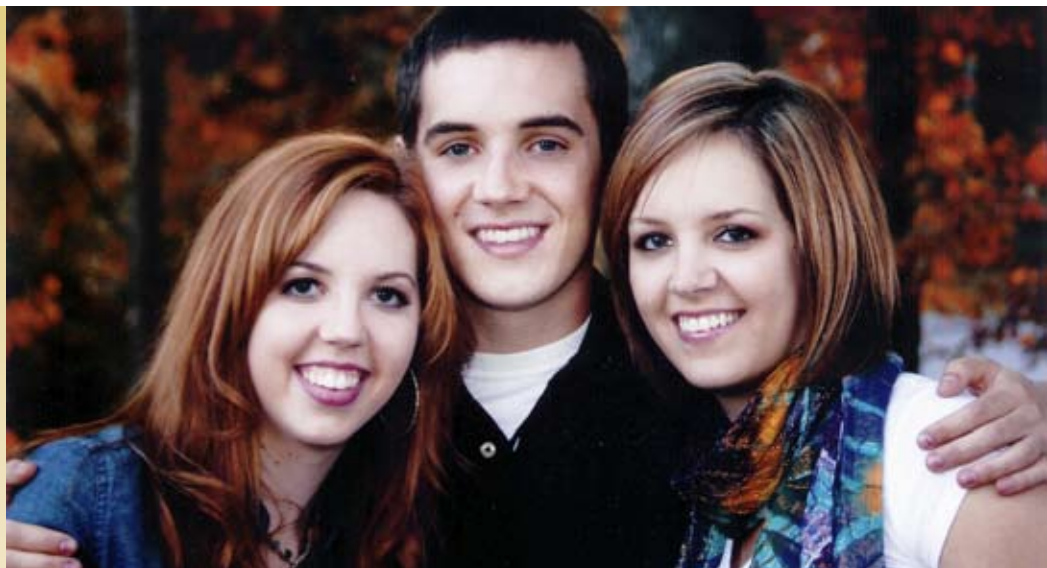
As parents, we teach our children biblical principles, and we also know they are instructed at church. But we are especially thankful that the Academy incorporates godly principles in all areas of academics. As a result, we are certain our boys will be well equipped to meet the challenges of society.

Aaron and Wendy Polsgrove

Parents of Daniel (class of 2023) and Gabriel (class of 2024)

## Three Cheers FOR Three Grads IN Three Years

Recent graduates Sara ('08), Adam ('10), and Emily Paxton ('09) have been building on their Academy education at three different universities.



Our daughter, Sara, was a member of the Academy's first graduating class in 2008, followed by Emily in 2009 and Adam in 2010. Our years at Central Academy were one of the best gifts we have ever given to our children. Having the opportunity to give them a Christian education has proven to be a blessing in their lives. Throughout their high school years they were challenged academically, spiritually and athletically. As they prepared for college, they received the guidance they needed to achieve not only academic scholarships, but

the foundation needed to keep their faith in everyday life at college. From the teachers, to the administrators, to the coaches, each one not only cared about the academic welfare of our children, but truly loved them and cared about their spiritual well being.

Today, as they continue their journeys at three different universities, they each strive for the academic success taught at Central Academy. We see them making godly decisions, not based only on being raised in a Christian home, but using the strong Chris-

tian education that was taught at school. They have taken this knowledge and have applied it to their choices as they face life in more secular surroundings. As parents, we appreciate the many Christian leaders at Central Academy who helped us raise and prepare our children to be individuals that live their lives for the Lord.

Terri and Ike Paxton

Parents of Sara ('08), Emily ('09), and Adam ('10)



Central Academy at Lake Park  
 3624 Lake Park Road  
 Indian Trail, NC 28079

Phone 704-882-6267

Fax 704-882-4651

Email [info@centralacademyatlakepark.org](mailto:info@centralacademyatlakepark.org)

Website [www.centralacademyatlakepark.org](http://www.centralacademyatlakepark.org)

## Our Mission

Central Academy at Lake Park exists to equip each child to reflect Christ and pursue a distinct life and vocation in obedience to God's calling.

## Soaring Higher Fund Contribution Form

We are committed to the mission of Central Academy at Lake Park.

- Enclosed is our gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- We pledge a gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ payable by\_\_\_\_\_.
- My company, \_\_\_\_\_ will match this gift. (Please include matching gift form.)

Please include us as a member of the following Soaring Higher Fund Gift Club:

- |                       |                      |                   |                    |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| _____ \$10,000 +      | Golden Eagle Society | _____ \$500 - 999 | Spirit Club        |
| _____ \$5,000 - 9,999 | Founders Circle      | _____ \$100 - 499 | Red and Gold Club  |
| _____ \$2,500 - 4,999 | Trustees Circle      | _____ Up to \$99  | Friends of CA Club |
| _____ \$1,000 - 2,499 | Honor Circle         |                   |                    |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip and mail to the address at the top of this page.

## Board of Trustees 2011-12

- Mr. Greg Baker, Chair
- Mrs. Carol Anderson
- Mr. Brad Crotts
- Mr. Steve Poston
- Mr. Jim Roberts
- Mr. Walter Sikes
- Ms. Shelley Young



Connections is published by the Development Office, Central Academy at Lake Park, 3624 Lake Park Road, Indian Trail, NC 28079.

For information about the Soaring Higher Fund, contact the Development Office at 704-882-6267 ext. 226.

Summer/Fall 2011

Editor: Shari Tuz, Development Director

Accredited by SACS CASI and ACSI