

March 10, 2009

Hey everyone,

I was planning on writing something about re-enrollment in this email, but Tricia Marble one of our second grade teachers said it better than I ever could. Tricia writes:

I have spent a lot of time this weekend in prayer and contemplating this upcoming next school year. I feel as if I can be honest with you as I write this note. Please know that this note is as much about encouraging you as it is to encourage myself. I spent this weekend thinking about why we chose to send our children to Seven Rivers. Ephesians 6:4b comes to mind: bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. Deuteronomy 6:7 says, "Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up". This is not always an easy task. When you partner with Seven Rivers a comfort to us is knowing that when we send our children to Seven Rivers they are receiving this instruction.

In today's economy many of us are having to face difficult choices and one of those choices is where to send our children. This week is the last week for early re-enrollment for next school year. After this week, the amount needed to re-enroll goes up by \$50.00. I urge you to pray over your decision as I am sure that you already are. If you are struggling to commit to next year due to finances please don't hesitate to speak to Mr. Satterly, Mrs. Whitchurch or Pastor Cortese. They often know of different plans, or solutions that others may not know about. Please don't be embarrassed to come and seek help. Those in administration want to hear from you. If you have never applied for any of the scholarships or other programs this might be the year to do that. If you have thoughts like me, you won't apply because you feel that you won't qualify for the scholarships or other programs because you "make too much money". That may be true but you never know until you apply. I am in prayer for all of you as I hope you are also uplifting my self and the school. My comfort is a verse the children have learned this year and we keep repeating in the classroom when difficult situations arise. Jeremiah 29: 11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord. "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future".

On Friday afternoon, I plan on sending out the accreditation self-study to the members of our visiting team. The CSF team will arrive on March 31 and leave (hopefully with a good report) on April 2. Not only does this team represent Christian Schools of Florida, but they will also submit a report to SACS since we have recently been recognized by that prestigious agency.

Just on the heels of our accreditation, we have the privilege of hosting four teachers (3 ladies and one man) from our sister schools in Belize. It is a unique opportunity for our school to learn from our brothers and sisters – they are even coming on their spring break. We are looking for three host families (two of the ladies would like to stay together) to house our friends. They will be here from April 4 – April 16. If you are able to assist us with this project, please contact Flo Julias at fjulias@sevenrivers.org.

Blessings,

Joel