



Portland Christian School

QUALITY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SINCE 1924

Winter Edition 2014





Portland Christian School
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“...of good report”

Philippians 4:8 (ASV)

The Price of Freedom

On November 11th the PCS K-12 student body gathered to celebrate the most expensive free gift ever given. The event was our Veterans Day chapel service. In attendance were thirteen U.S. military veterans who were introduced to us and given a thunderous applause in appreciation for their service.

Mr. Tim Caldwell, Junior High Principal then reminded us of John 15:13, “Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” We acknowledged that our brothers and sisters in the Armed Forces have volunteered to put themselves in harm’s way for the sake of our freedom, and many have paid the ultimate price with their lives. But we also recognized that the greatest example of laying down one’s life is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As we celebrate the gift of the Christ-child this Christmas, let our hearts be reminded that the baby in the manger was ultimately sent to die so that we could receive freedom in Christ.

PCS Student Life

Included in this winter edition of the *PCS Of Good Report* mini-magazine is the most recent copy of *The Broadcaster* student newspaper so that you can get a glimpse of PCS student life through their eyes. Here are some other exciting recent events that we would like to share with you:

- Our very own science, math and Bible teacher, Jason Mackey, recently became Dr. Mackey upon successfully defending his doctoral thesis at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. We are very proud of him and honored to have him on our faculty.
- On November 24th the elementary students held their bi-annual Colonial Day. Students were able to observe and participate in demonstrations of butter-churning, wool-spinning, chair-caning, beekeeping, candle-making, wampum-necklace making, toy-making, story-telling, square-dancing, quill writing, and Colonial games. Many of the students and teachers came dressed as Native Americans or Colonialists.
- The high school art classes, taught by Susan Brooks, drew portraits of Ethiopian orphans for a non-profit called Eyes That See. Each child whose portrait was made will receive the drawing. A link to a Louisville Courier-Journal article and video about PCS’s participation in this project can be found on our website at www.portlandchristian.org.

What Others Are Saying About PCS

“During my year as Miss Kentucky I visited about 175 schools and was able to share a positive message with about 60 thousand students. But I don’t think I was ever as impressed with a group of individuals in a school then I was when I went to Portland Christian. I think I got more out of going there and seeing that school environment than I probably was even able to give in my speech to the children. When I came to Portland I was so encouraged in my walk of faith by the students, by the teachers, by the individuals who had created this amazing Christian community where they holistically educated their students, where they cared about their students inside and outside of the classrooms.”



~Jenna Day, 2013 Miss Kentucky, speaking at the PCS Celebration Breakfast in September about her visit to Portland Christian this past spring.

Please pray for Portland Christian School

“Dear brothers and sisters, I urge you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to join in my struggle by praying to God for me. Do this because of your love for me, given to you by the Holy Spirit.” ~ Romans 15:30

You are invited to join Parents In Prayer to pray for the needs of the school each Tuesday morning from 8:05-8:55 in the high school library. Please contact Dan Wilson at dan.wilson@portlandchristian.org or (502) 429-3727 to add your name to the PIP visitor’s list.

PCS Profiles: Hunter Mitchell, Class of 2014

Dan Wilson, PCS Director of Development

Hunter's connections with Portland Christian School go back so long before he was born. His great-grandfather briefly attended PCS, and his grandparents, Danny & Kathy Taylor, and parents, Ray & Dana Mitchell, are all graduates, making him a fourth generation PCS student. I recently had the privilege of interviewing Hunter to find out how this 2014 graduate is doing and what advice he has for current PCS students. Here are excerpts from the interview:



What are you doing these days?

I'm a freshman at the University of Kentucky majoring in broadcast journalism and minoring in French and photography. It's been a big change going from PCS to a big university, but I love it at UK. I want to go into sports broadcasting some day and was recently blessed by getting a job as a photographer at the independent student newspaper, the Kentucky Kernel. I have gotten to shoot several sporting events already, including the UK vs Mississippi State football game.

Tell me about your experience at PCS.

I loved it at Portland! I loved the relationships I had with all the teachers and that all of them knew me by name. I loved my friends, some of whom I've known since kindergarten. I've enjoyed growing up with them and seeing the men and women that we have become.

I liked PCS being small. I liked that you know every person in the graduating class. And I was able to have a great relationship with some of the underclassmen as well. Because Portland is smaller I got to do things like go to leadership conferences and media camps at colleges before I graduated. And because it is small, it got me out of my shell and helped me become more social.

What are your best memories of PCS?

I loved play weeks. I was never nervous because I wasn't one of the actors. I was involved in stagecraft and sound and loved watching all the work come together in the plays. I also loved senior trip because after spending all those years growing up with my classmates, I got to live with them for several days.

How did PCS prepare you for the future?

Organization is a big one. A lot of my friends at UK are really disorganized. Senior paper [at PCS] teaches you to be organized because if you are not you won't do well on it.

Most importantly it grew my faith in God. I was raised in a Christian household, but Portland allowed me to grow because I was surrounded by these teachers and friends who shared the same beliefs. It prepared me to not be afraid to show what you believe. That's probably the biggest thing. When you go off to college you're going to be challenged by people who don't share your beliefs. I've found that already at UK. I have Christian friends, but there are a lot of people too who don't believe what I believe, and Portland prepared me to answer those questions when someone asks you why you believe what you believe. In senior year when you have Christian Worldview class you cover all that, so it definitely shaped my faith for sure. There's a verse in the Bible that says, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel" [Romans 1:16], and that has actually been going through my head a lot recently.

Is there any advice would you like to offer to the current PCS high school students?

Get to know upperclassmen. They have been through what you're going through and can help you. When you become a senior, get to know underclassmen.



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PCS Sixth Grade Hosts a High Tea

Ragena Mullins

Have you ever been to a high tea? Believe it or not, I, an octogenarian, had never attended one until I was invited to a high tea several weeks ago by the sixth grade classes. Mind you, I have traveled to several foreign countries and had the pleasure of many social teas, but nothing called a “high tea.”

The Sixth Grade High Tea was scheduled to begin at nine a.m. Among the guests were parents, relatives, residents from the nearby Parr’s assisted living homes, and PCS staff members. Each guest was announced and then escorted to their table and seated by a young gentleman. Already seated at each table was a sixth grade hostess.



There was no talking for the first several minutes after all were seated. This, we were told, is traditional. Then trays of petite finger sandwiches and sweets prepared by the families of the students were brought by our host to our hostess, who then passed them around to the guests at her table. Then the young gentleman served tea. On the first day of the tea our Elementary Principal, Mrs. Barbara Jacobs, was dressed in Scottish plaid and shared with us of her experience of high tea in Scotland.

This was a very formal affair. The young gentlemen wore white shirts and ties and the young ladies had on very “dressy” dresses. It was a delightful time and I am very thankful that I can now tell you that I have been to a “high tea” hosted by very gracious PCS sixth graders.

Visit us online at www.portlandchristian.org. Please contact Dan Wilson at (502) 429-3727 or dan.wilson@portlandchristian.org if you would like to request additional copies of this mailing, change your contact information or be removed from the mailing list.