

The Ram Reporter



Let's us ram our way into the truth!

A newspaper by the students and for the students

October 18, 2011

Volume 1, Issue 1

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Upcoming Events

- 7th Grade Texas Trip: October 20-21
- Chili Cook Off: October 29
- School Pictures: November 2
- Book Fair: November 7-11
- Family Day: November 22
- Thanksgiving Break: November 23-25
- Christmas Play: December 15
- Christmas Break: December 19-January 2

New Middle School Faces at Veritas

By Caroline Campbell

At Veritas Christian Academy, there are few new teachers this year.

Mrs. Neala Fogarty is now teaching literature to grades sixth-Eighth, drama to grades fourth and eighth, grammar to grades sixth- eighth , and creative writing to grades sixth – eighth. She has taught at both public and private schools.

She says, “When I’m not teaching, I love hanging out with my family!” In the past, she has been an NFL football Cheerleader.

Mr. Coney DeHart, who joined us at Veritas Christian Academy last year, is teaching sixth – eighth Bible as well as seventh –eighth math.

He wanted to teach Bible and math and saw Veritas as an opportunity.

Additionally, his favorite sport to watch is baseball. He is an Astros fan!

Miss. Ashley Jorlando, who is also new to Veritas, is teaching fifth – sixth English . She just graduated from college and loves to teach. “Something a lot of people don’t know about me is that I have a twin” she said.

She moved to Houston to be closer to her family and coaches lacrosse at St. Agnes Academy.

Mr. Chad Legare is the new office manager, as well as, the new Fifth grade bible teacher. He previously worked at HaMoreh

missions.

He studied theology at Houston Baptist University. He said, “If I had to describe my teaching style in one word it would be interactive.” He also has a one year old son named Jude.

One cool fact about him is that he has a blue belt in taekwondo.



New teachers at Veritas
 Photo By Maggie Davis & Schuyler Poage

New Elementary Faces at Veritas

By Autumn Nicholas

Did you know that Mrs. Todd got engaged on a hot-air balloon? She is pretty fascinating. A good friend of hers recommended Veritas, and the Lord opened the doors for her to work here.

Her parents live in Oregon,

she has an older brother who is married, and she has two nieces and one nephew. Also, she will get married in April to her fiancé, Luke.

In addition to Mrs. Todd, Mrs. Herring is the new second grade teacher. Mrs. Herring

has been teaching for 26 years, and she is friends with Mrs. Raad. Also, Mrs. Herring has a husband, a son who is 20, and a daughter who is 17.

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Photos:
New Elementary School Teachers

Elementary School Faces Continued from page 1

By Mary Sinclair

Mrs. Poage came to Veritas because the Thomas family highly recommended it. She was homeschooling and had a foster baby, and it was time for her children to go to school she said.

Mrs. Poage has a very interesting family. She said her father died in California, her mother and brother live in Florida, and her sister lives in California.

Mrs. Schneider, the new third grade teacher, said one of her best friends told her about Veritas. She loves living with her parents and she is engaged. Her fiancé is in medical school. Mrs. Schneider went to college at the University of Texas.

Just in the first quarter, her students were able to master their multiplication facts through daily speed drills. She is very proud of her students!

Rowdy Rams

By Elizabeth Partridge

The Veritas pep rally this year was opened with a prayer from Noah Trapolino. Next, the Veritas Cheerleading Squad did many interactive cheers throughout the pep rally. The cheers really helped the Veritas students get excited for the upcoming football game that day. Later, the JV and Varsity Volleyball teams were called up and introduced, followed by the football team. All of the Veritas students cheered for the teams. After this, Tristan Shahin closed in prayer. Veritas students agreed that the pep rally was a great way for the school to come together to support their teams.

2nd Grade Corner

By Regina Lopez

Have you ever wondered what a wonderful, cool, and exciting teacher would be like? Well let me introduce you to Mrs. Hering. She is the second grade teacher. She has started off the year by teaching her students to be authors. Throughout the year the second graders will be learning about Egypt. One of their many goals is to be as smart as they can be!

Deadly Drought...

By Lundy Opuiyo

Have you noticed our drought? The drought has put us in great need of water. Because of this, many wildfires have spread across our nation. Recently, there has been an increase of rain in the past week. One of our students commented on this. "There has been a lot of rain helping us and the plants" Elly said optimistically. From what I've seen, I predict that we might no longer be in such dire need of rain.

The cheers really helped the Veritas

students get excited for the

upcoming

football

game later

that day.



First Step of a Great Journey for the Football Team

By Michael Weber

First Step of a Great Journey

Kicking off the season to a good start, the Rams have indeed won their first football game. Although hindered by a younger team than we have had in the past, the Rams have successfully

outworked the opposing team with strategy and wit, winning a close game 7-6. Ultimately, proving to have the spirit and the Christ like attitude we need to achieve victory. We are the salt and light of the world in representing Christ and

Photo:

Cy Smith about to throw a completion

leading by his example. In conclusion, the Rams have proved a productive season is ahead of them, and that they will represent God everywhere they go. Go Rams Go!

Student Council Elections by Samir Lahoud



"I'm honored that the students of Veritas voted for me..." says Jeanette Lahoud.

The competition was rough for student council here at VERITAS. Below are the conversations I had with the candidates:

Before Election Day

How does it feel to run for president?

Jeanette: I'm a little nervous but I do trust that the kids will come through to see that I can make a change

Noah: I know I'm not going to win. I'm just doing it for the fun of it .

After Election Day

How do you feel about the outcome of the election?

Jeanette: I'm honored that the students of VERITAS voted for me and Tristan to be president and VP.

Noah: It wasn't fun at all. I shouldn't have run...

Veritas is proud to have Jeanette and Tristan as our leaders and anticipates a productive school year.

The Veritas Student Council is a member of the National Association of Student Councils. Students will be electing a Student Council Representative from each middle school class to serve a one year term.

This year the Middle School students voted for Christian Williams, Caroline Hughes, Levania Morales, Tristan Shahin and Jeanette Lahoud.

A Morning of Prayer: See You at the Pole

By Elizabeth Partridge

In 1990, a handful of students felt the urge to pray before school. They prayed for the government, the soldiers, and the school. Matthew 18:20 says, "For where two or three come together in My name, there am I with them." On Wednesday, September 28, 2011, Veritas' students, teachers, and parents gathered around the flag for See You at the Pole. Mrs. Raad opened with prayer, and then warmly welcomed the students and their parents. Next, Mrs. Fogarty led the sec-

ond graders in a preview of the Christmas songs for the Christmas play. After, Emma Fairfield read a verse, and Mr. Fairfield prayed for the government. Following this, Mr. Dehart sang "God of the City." Bethany Ostrowski read another Bible verse, and Mr. Ostrowski prayed for the families of Veritas. Then, Mr. Dehart sang "Shout to the Lord." Later, Cole and Michael read verses, and their Father, Mr. Simpson prayed for all of the schools. Pastor Streger closed this morning with a blessing for the Veritas students.



**Veritas gathered around the pole
Photo by Mr. Sewell**

Black Belts Spotted at Veritas

By Jeanette Lahoud

Have you ever been in a situation where you needed to defend yourself but didn't know how?

Luke Yuan is a 6th grader who, six months ago, reached a giant achievement; he was the first Veritas student

to become a Black Belt through Veritas Tae-Kwon-Do. He said, "It can be hard sometimes but in the end its really fun." It's taken him about 3 years to reach this point in his class. He does his practice in the After School Care but when it comes to testing he does it in Cypress. One of his

favorite moves to do, is to hit with the back of his hand when it is in fist form. He is not the only person who has a Black Belt. Thanks to the Taekwondo program in after school, **Warren Oriahi and Jack Pickett** also earned their black belts this year! Congratulations guys!

Poetry Contest Winner: The Brave Captain By Michael Weber

Audacious he was, a daring young lad
So eager and inspired some thought
he was mad.

His plan was laid out with the confiscated paper
His eye patch of cloth showing proud
of his labor.

He'd hire the meanest, the brave and the bold
To sail with their captain to lands still untold.

Up, up he'd climb till on the mast he stood
One foot in the crows nest staying balanced as he could.

And out he'd pull his lens so he could scout out the ocean,
to fault any other clever pirate's bad notion.

Incompetent? Not so! He would prove them all wrong
He'd fight the bad pirate and prove he was strong.

Drink whiskey and rum, maybe deal

out some lashes
Play music and laugh over huge treasure stashes.

Mutiny? Not an option they'd die in a blink
Too good was their captain with sword to defeat.

He was dashing and brave and strong but kind
Firm and commanding with authority untried.

He'd never give up or be killed or surrender
A valiance and will that none could hinder.

Then the captain set sail a blanket his ship
Bucket for a crows nest, plastic sword at his hip.

And through dangerous ocean and living room he sailed

Proving well of his valor, by kings he

was hailed.
His valiant hamster and bold little mouse
Proved well as his crew when not chewing on the couch.

When danger there came smaller brother and cat
He sent them off easily for greater troubles he had.

And through storm and through heat and sickness and famine
The brave captain prevailed wit pirate hook and good cannon.

And when ended the journey, so ended the day
He would thump to his bed contented and gay.

Then in dreams still he'd sail over sea and harsh storm,
The brave little captain under blanket safe and warm.

What Would Jesus Do? Dear Solomon and Esther...

Dear Solomon,

How can I make sure my eighth grade year is the best yet? - Mr. Goodyear

Well Mr. Goodyear, if you want your classes' last year here at Veritas to end with a bang, you came to the right person. Now the trick to making your

last year the best ever is not making a huge explosion and having a bunch of colors, but rather focusing on the memories you had and the fun times you had with your friends. Maybe one day you should invite all your classmates over and have a party, or, plan trips to the movies or other fun places on weekends. If you have a phone,

text your friends frequently and ask them what is their favorite thing is about Veritas or their class. If you follow these tricks and tips, I guarantee that you last year at Veritas will be the best year ever! - Solomon

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Mrs. Moton's Recipe

Asian Hot-Sweet Pickle Salad

Level: Easy; Serves 4

Ingredients: 6 small Kirby cucumbers, sliced on an angle or, 1 large seedless cucumber, thinly sliced on an angle, 1 small bunch scallions, cut into long, thin slices on an angle, 2 bay leaves, 1 red chili pepper sliced on an angle, 1/4 cup chopped dill leaves, 1/2 cup sugar, 2/3 cup rice wine vinegar, 2 tablespoons tamari sauce.

Directions: Layer the cucumbers, scallions, bay leaves, chili pepper and dill in a storage container with a tight fitting lid. In a small saucepan over low heat add the sugar, vinegar and soy sauce. Simmer until the sugar dissolves. Pour the hot brine into the cucumber mixture and cover with a lid. Let marinate for 10 minutes. Stir the mixture every few minutes.

Contest Winners

By Kelly Thomas and Chloe Davis

We are pleased to announce the winner of the newspaper name contest, Bronwyn Fogarty! Bronwyn entered the contest because she thought it would be a lot of fun. When she heard that she won, with the name *The Ram Reporter*, she said she felt "excited!" Her friends congratulated her afterwards.

We are pleased to announce the winner of the newspaper logo contest, Lundyn Opuiyo! Lundyn entered the contest because she likes to draw a lot. When she heard that she won, she was very surprised and happy.

Her friends thought that her submission was very good and knew that she would win.

WWJD—continued from page 4

Dear Esther,

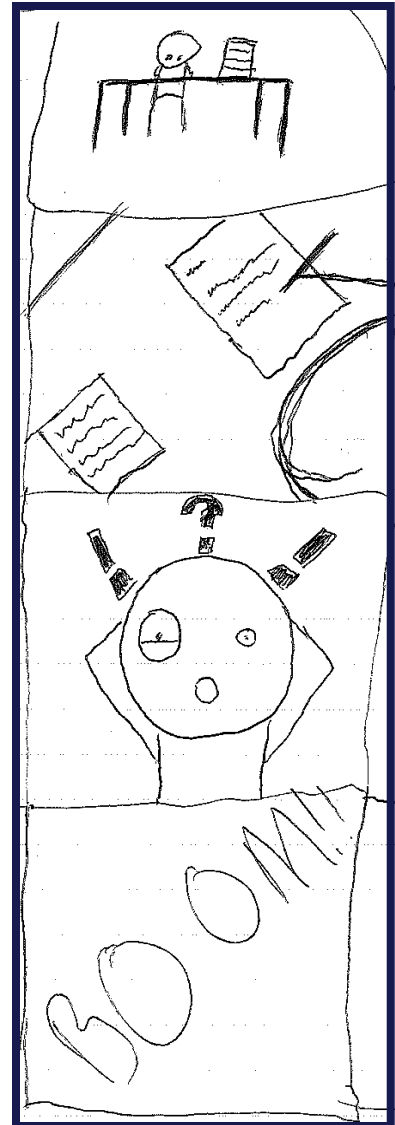
I am feeling very stressed and lonely because I am making the hard adjustment to middle school. Please give me some advice on how to make this change positive.

—From Stressed and Lonely

Dear Stressed and Lonely,

Been there, done that. It will get better; you just need to find a comfortable homework schedule that suits you. You could do math first, then Spanish/Latin, & your reading assignment in bed. Being lonely is the worst! I should know; I've been lonely many times! You just need to be a friend to have a friend. Find someone you have something in common with and get to know him or her better. Make sure you're there when your friend needs you the most, rain or shine. - Esther

Homework



By Josh Jonesia
& Harris Rosenblad

The Ram Reporter is a quarterly newspaper created and written
by the Middle School students of **Veritas Christian Academy of Houston**.

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