

HOW SAFE ARE STUDENTS @ VALLEY HEIGHTS?



Go ahead – pick up a newspaper. Look at social media. Turn on your TV or computer. Our world continues to change, and in many ways it's changing for the worse. Without starting a wildfire of political viewpoints and arguments, Do you think we can all agree that the violence and hatred throughout society is simply heartbreaking?

How safe are my children at Valley Heights? It's a question that if you haven't asked out loud, you most likely have thought about. Parents all across our country are struggling with the sad reality that schools are being targeted like never before. And every parent wants to know what proactive steps their child's school is doing to hopefully prevent tragedy from coming to these institutions that once were some of the safest places for children to be at.

The school board, administration, and staff at VHCA are, and continue to be, committed to maintaining the safety and well-being of our students and each other every day. Procedures and policies are always being evaluated in order to provide the safest environment for everyone in our school. VHCA administration is also working diligently, in conjunction with a local district principal, in a concerted effort to both heighten awareness and strengthen security right here at Valley Heights Christian Academy. The leadership at Calvary Baptist Church is also reviewing and evaluating their security measures and practices.

Your child's safety is a high priority of all of us here at VHCA. Please continue to pray that God will have His hand of protection over our ministry. He has been so very good to us to this point and we expect Him to keep us safe in the days and years ahead of us.

"I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety." (Psalm 4:8)

Mark Your April Calendar

- 2 Easter Monday
- 4 Casual Dress Day
- 4 3rd Quarter Report Cards
- 5 Budget Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- 10-12 Iowa/CogAT Standardized Testing
- 26 Spring Picture Day
- 26 Jump Rope for Heart
- 27 No School

Online Payments & Donations Accepted

We take tuition payments right on our website. Click on the "Parents" Tab and go down to "Make a Payment." You just have to put in your child's name and enter your credit card information. We can also take payments over the phone or in person.

We accept cash, checks, or credit/debit card payments.

Remember, payments are due on the **10th of each month** from August thru June. There is a \$25 fee if late payments are made.

There is also a "Make A Donation" Tab all the way to the right of the "Parents" tab for anyone lead to do just that...Make A Donation!



Mr. Hodge was enjoying lunch at the K4 - 2nd grade table last week!



HOME MEMO

March 21, 2018

Valley Heights Christian Academy

75 Calvary Drive, Norwich NY 13815 - 607-336-8422

Another Successful Spring Fling!

THANK YOU to all those who supported the 12th Annual Spring Fling on Friday, March 16th.

Whether you made a donation or bought chicken; baked or bought for the bake sale; donated items or bid during the Silent Auction; volunteered your time to plan, serve, or work in any other areas of the event; VHCA thanks you!

We had a fun event and appreciate all the support from everyone! Mark your calendar for next year's event on **Friday, March 15, 2019!**

If you have large clean baskets sitting around, would you think of donating them to the school for the Silent Auction? You can send them in to the school office any time!



It was a busy event! There was a pretty constant stream of people coming through the lines either purchasing chicken, bidding on baskets, picking up their food, and visiting the bake sale.



There was a nice variety of baskets to bid on for the Silent Auction. There were 14 baskets on display with a total profit of \$762.00 raised.



There was a great amount of volunteers who helped bag up the chicken and get the dinners put together and served. We had many students who also helped to get their Christian Service Hours.



Brenda Lowie and Shelly Evans were helping to greet those coming to purchase tickets. Shelly has coordinated this event for us for the past 12 years! We couldn't do it without all the help everyone gives.

There are still a few BBQ chicken halves left that have been frozen. If you need a quick meal, contact the school. We will continue to sell them for \$6 each or 4 for \$20 until gone!

Just a
THOUGHT
from the Administrator's Office

What makes a school "Christian?" This has been the topic of the last three segments from my office to you. Today we'll look at the next two areas a Christian school should be focusing on. But first, let's be reminded of the ones we have seen so far:

A Christian education will teach your child:

1. **How to be saved. (John 3:3)**
2. **A love for God's Word. (Psalm 119:9)**
3. **How to lead another person to Jesus Christ. (Proverbs 11:30)**
4. **To fear God. (Job 28:28)**
5. **To be holy. (Ephesians 1:4)**

In the last Home Memo, I mentioned that we would examine the final three things your child will be taught at a "Christian" school. Number 6 on the list is that students will be taught **Christian stewardship of life**. Stewardship is the idea that we are to use the things we have wisely. Christian stewardship goes farther and teaches that everything we are given is given to us by God, AND we are responsible to use it to glorify Him. Whether its money, possessions, or the talents we possess, everything we have comes from God and is to be used for God. *"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."* (Galatians 2:20)

Next on the list is a **dedication to excellence**. At a Christian school, your child will learn the importance of doing everything that they do in the most excellent manner possible as unto the Lord Jesus Christ. We are reminded of this in Colossians 3:23-24 - which just happens to be our 3rd & 4th grade Bible verse this week! - *"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Jesus Christ."*

Last, but certainly not least, your child will be taught to worship God. Worship comes in all shapes, sizes, and varieties. Students in a Christian school are taught how to worship God - how to fall into reverence alone before Him, praise Him, commune with Him, meditate on what He is doing in their lives, and all around how to build and foster an intentional relationship with the God of all Creation. *"O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our maker."* (Psalm 95:6)

All of these principles lead Christian schools back to the main goal - *"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it."* (Proverbs 22:6) The Christian education your child is receiving will be priceless to your child and to you as their parent(s). While your child is being taught foundational Biblical principles and practices upon which to base life, you and your child will be laying up treasures in life that can never be duplicated. Thank you for making this important investment!

Not a sermon...just a thought.

Mr. Hodge

Helping to Support Missions Trip

The penny war during the Spirit Day's showed great return! With the total amount collected at \$244.72 it helped Zane Lowie reach his goal for his mission's trip to Italy coming up later this spring. Zane is a VHCA Alumni who graduated with the class of 2015 and is currently attending Malone University in Canton, Ohio.



The students in Mrs. Lowie's 5th & 6th grade class were excited to have the opportunity to award Zane with a "check" while he was home on Spring Recess a week ago.

Budget Meeting April 5th

PLAN TO ATTEND the evening of Thursday, **April 5th** at 6:30 p.m. in the VHCA cafeteria for a Presentation of the proposed 2018 - 2019 VHCA Budget & Tuition Schedule. The school board will be present to give details and answer any questions parents may have. We hope to have a good turnout from our families!

Re-enrollment Discounts and Tuition Assistance

This is the time of year we start announcing the early re-enrollment deadlines and dates to apply for the Tuition Assistance. This information will be given out after the Budget Meeting on April 5th. Keep watching for the important deadlines to take advantage of these important savings opportunities.

Next Year's Busing Form

Do you use, or is there a chance your child(ren) will use, public school transportation next year?

We need to have your **"Request For Transportation"** Form completed and in our office.



These forms are enclosed with a quick deadline to have them returned this **Friday, March 23rd**. If you do not get your form returned by Friday, you may need to request busing transportation on your own.

Basketball Awards Night TOMORROW

Plan to join us for Basketball Awards Night! It will be held in the gymnasium **TOMORROW NIGHT, March 22nd at 7:00 p.m.** Families are asked to bring a dessert to share.

Family Service Program Reminder

Many families have been working throughout the year to get their required volunteer hours for the Family Service Program. Please keep in mind, as we get closer to the end of the school year, that those hours need to be fulfilled before June 10th or there will be a \$10 fee for every hour that wasn't filled. We still have many opportunities coming up that include our Annual Walk-a-thon and many year-end fieldtrips. If you are wondering how you can get your volunteer hours in, please call the school office and we can give you some ideas. Don't wait until it is too late!!!

April 4th is Casual Dress Day

Wednesday, April 4th is Casual Dress Day for those who have not lost their Casual Day privilege.

Senior Class Heading on Trip

Our Senior Class will be traveling over Spring Recess for their Sr. Trip to the Washington D.C. area. Please pray for the safety of the group as they travel, participate in activities, and provide Christian Service throughout their trip. The seniors would like to thank all those who supported them by purchasing breakfast items, hot lunches, ice cream, and other fundraisers they held throughout the year. The seniors have set aside enough money to purchase Bibles for the K5 graduates; and a class gift that will be given to the school at their graduation in June. They are excited to pass on the opportunities to the Jr. Class who will start fundraising for their trip and gifts next year.

Spring Recess Next Week

The school will be closed for Spring Recess from March 26th - April 2nd. The office will be open from 8:00 - 1:00 Monday - Thursday and closed Friday, March 30th & Monday, April 2nd. We hope you all enjoy the break and have a blessed Easter!

Third-Quarter Report Cards Go Home

The 3rd Quarter ends this Friday, March 23rd. Report cards for all grades will go home on **Wednesday, April 4th**.

Pre-order Your 2017-2018 Yearbook NOW!

Yearbooks are on sale for **\$20!**

Don't wait and take a chance because the price could always go up...order one (or more) NOW!

To place your order, please see a yearbook representative or send your money into the office.