

# January Pioneer Press

F R E S T A V A L L E Y C H R I S T I A N S C H O O L

## CHRISTMAS MISSIONS

By Katherine Fisher



The day before Christmas break, the seventh through twelfth grades had the opportunity to go into the community to help others. The seventh and eighth grades went to the United Methodist Church to help the Fauquier Food Coalition prepare for a food distribution that would be held the following day. While there, the girls and boys participated in sorting food, clothing, and blankets. Mrs. Fitzpatrick took the eighth grade boys to collect blankets donated by the

Holiday Inn Express which filled the entire bus!

Mrs. Waller's English class and the high school orchestra had the privilege of singing Christmas carols at Warrenton Overlook and Oaks Springs for the elderly. At Warrenton Overlook we were able to sing happy birthday to two wonderful people. It was so amazing to watch their faces as we sang to them.

Another group stayed at the school to bake cookies with Mrs. Mercer. The cookies were made in the holiday spirit as a friendly gesture to be given to neighbors. Another group went to Noah's Ark in Bealeton. There, the students cleaned and organized one room which hung clothes on hangers in the showroom.

The final group, which went to the Boys and Girls Club, cleaned the facility and put up basketball hoops. The students also were able to set up a party that would be held for the girls and boys at the club that evening. Following these missions, the students came back to the school for a special chapel. The highlight was a game in which alumni, William Powell, gave a refined reading of the classic, *The Cat in the Hat*, followed by a message from Mr. Worsham.



### Spirit Week - Feb. 2nd-6th

The Junior/Senior High School will be celebrating Spirit Week on Feb. 2nd-6th. The week will include several home basketball games, various dress up days, the annual bowling trip, special guest speakers, as well as an all school pep rally. Details outlining spirit week will be coming home soon. Mark your calendars and show some school spirit!!



## VARSIITY BOYS' BASKETBALL

By Troy McArtor

After a few disappointing losses the varsity boys have maintained a winning record, the current record is 7-5. In the past month the team has been in two tournaments. The first was the United Tip-Off Tournament. In their first game Fresta came up just short in a tight game with Mt. Carmel, however, they bounced back and won their second game winning third place. Jimmy Bowen's performance won him a spot on the all tournament team. The second tournament was the Rappahannock Holiday Hoopla, which started out better for the Pioneers. They

beat Mountain View in their opening game, which got them a spot in the championship. The championship game against Rappahannock was hard fought and stayed close until the very end when Rappahannock took a commanding lead that they didn't give up. This time Jimmy Bowen was joined on the all tournament team by captain Ben Stocks. The varsity boys are hoping to put the tough tournament losses behind them and focus on the many games still left to play. Please join us for our home games during Spirit Week, Feb. 2-6.

## VARSIITY GIRLS' BASKETBALL

By Daniel Thoburn

The varsity girls' basketball team is still going strong after winning the Rappahannock Holiday Hoopla tournament over Christmas break. After going 1-1 on the first day, in the round robin style tournament, the girls made it to the championship. They were to face Rappahannock High

School again after losing to them by 10 points the night before. The girls still knew they could win either way, and brought their "A" game for the championship. After a hard fought game the girls were victorious with an impressive win of 21 points. Nicole Fortunato and Alexis Clark were named to the all-tournament team.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL

By Daniel Thoburn

The middle school boys' basketball team has had a tough start with only a few returning players from last year. This year's team is stacked with four 6th graders, who on January 15<sup>th</sup> showed true heart playing the full game. The team was down to only 5 players because the ski trip that Monday left the

8th graders catching up on school work. These four 6<sup>th</sup> graders and one 7<sup>th</sup> grader played valiantly but came up just short against Bethel. Although they lost, the team became closer and some true potential was shown from the young guys. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders better watch their backs; the 6th graders are hot on the trail.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL

By Evy Papadopoulos

December 15<sup>th</sup> was a very exciting day for the Fresta Valley middle school girls' basketball team. It marks the date of their first victory. The game was played after school at Emmanuel Christian School with a final score of 26 to 19. As of January 16<sup>th</sup>, they have a record of three victories and six losses. Through their continuous

practices and the leadership of Coach Steve Clark, the girls will be well on their way to yet another memorable victory. Good luck girls!



### ELEMENTARY LESSONS

By Samantha Alger

With the New Year finally here, new experiences are introduced in the Elementary classes! Kindergarten is taking an adventure around the world to learn how other children live. Mrs. Tolley reports that they will begin in Mexico. While in Mexico they will make a piñata, while in Peru they will visit a llama farm, and while in England they will have a tea party. Other countries on their stop include Holland, Italy, Kenya, China, Japan, and Australia. The kindergarten likes to count the days they have been in school. On the 100<sup>th</sup> day they will have a big celebration and bring in 100 items. This special day is due to arrive in February. Other things they are learning include: 1-5 addition families, counting by 5's and 10's, reading with

expression, Psalm 23, and they will now begin learning to write capital letters in cursive.

In the second grade, Mrs. Fries will teach her students how to use a glossary which aids in dictionary skills. Along with learning how to use a glossary, they will be learning multiplication and division. They will also begin their science book where they will learn about their bodies, animals, plants, machines, and planets.

The fifth grade will be introduced to Algebra. In grammar, they will learn the eight parts of speech and how to use them correctly. They will also do their first research report. In addition, they will learn about the European countries and the stars. Mrs. Abell asks, "Are you smarter than a fifth grader?"

In the sixth grade, Mrs. Shollenberger will be helping the students with their research papers. On January 16, they have a music field trip to the Kennedy Center. In science, they will study the planets and in math they will learn about decimals and percents. The New Year is an exciting time to introduce new concepts and new experiences to the Elementary students.

### December's Outstanding Students

- K3  
LIA TURNER
- K4  
CAROLINE THOMPSON
- K5  
HANNAH TOWERY
- 1ST  
BRYNN MURPHY
- 2ND  
JENNA PLACE
- 3RD  
CAMERON COLLART
- 4TH  
GRANT KEITHLEY
- 6TH  
LAURA HAILEY

### MY TWO CENTS

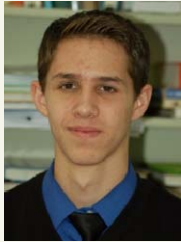


What was your favorite Christmas Present?

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 Mrs. Hohenberger's favorite gift was an insulated water bottle and a Sony video camera.  
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 Samantha Alger's favorite Christmas gift was 96 different colors of eye shadow from her parents and a new camera.  
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 Mrs. Budd's favorite Christmas gift was a daughter-in-law!  
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 Tyler Phillips' favorite Christmas gift was an American Eagle gift card and an American Eagle scarf.  
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## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT— KATHERINE FISHER

By David Authur

Katherine Fisher has taken the spotlight for this month's senior article. Katherine is a very inspired eighteen year old girl whose love of life is animals. Katherine has faithfully spent thirteen years of her life dedicating herself to Fresta Valley. She has participated in many of the school's activities such as two drama productions (*The Sound of Music* and *The Music Man*), and has played volleyball since sixth grade in the position of setter for all the seven years she's played. Katherine also has many goals to achieve when she graduates from Fresta.

One of her goals in life is to be a successful business owner and also to be faithful in her walk with God. But to be able to hold her own business, she wants to attend community college for two years, and then plans to spend another six years at Virginia Tech to finish her undergraduate and graduate degree. After that she wants to open her own business as a professional veterinarian. But when Katherine isn't studying at school, what is she like when at home?

At home she lives with her parents, Dale and Alma Fisher, who inspire her as her role models. She said, "My parents are my role models

because they both are really hard workers, and having them as my parents, they are able to teach me a lot about being able to hold myself accountable." Her favorite quote that she holds to is, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."



## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT— JACOB FRIES

By Samantha Alger



The next senior to be featured in the senior spotlight is Jacob Fries. Jacob has attended Fresta Valley since he was in preschool. Jacob has played baseball, basketball, and soccer. He has played baseball since his freshmen year, but he has played on county teams since he was seven years old. Jacob has played basketball for Fresta since he was in the fifth

grade. He started soccer his junior year. Jacob is not sure about which college he would like to attend, but he does know that he would like to pursue a career in sports medicine.



## JV BOYS BASKETBALL

By Troy McArtor

Head coach Shawn Sumrall has the JV boys off to a solid 4-2 start going into their Christmas break. They won their only conference game so far in dominating fashion and have high hopes

after their quick start. The team participated in the Temple Baptist Invitational. In their first game they were defeated by only 6 points by the Loudoun Patriots. They went on to win the

consolation game, which gave them third place. The team is looking forward to their chance to avenge their loss to the Patriots when they play again later this year.

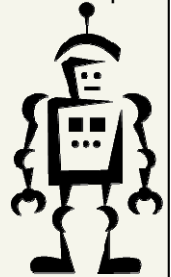
## ROBOTICS 2009

By Evy Papadopoulos

The Fresta Valley Robotics Team had its first meet on Saturday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. It was the official kick-off, open to all those interested in being on the team and, of course, the members themselves. It was hosted at the King's house on Nightingale Lane. At the meet, captains Levi Leppke and Daniel King intro-

duced everyone to the task that their robot would be assigned. The task this season is based, in the words of Daniel King, "on a kind of simulated mars rover idea." The robot will drive on a slick surface with equally slick wheels. Each robot will have a trailer attached to it which the other robots will be aiming for

with "moon rocks," or hollow balls. Because the team sent in their application fee early, they received their task six weeks ahead of time and received a new computer system for their robot. Best of luck for the upcoming season!



## FRESTA VALLEY UNITES!

By Tyler Phillips

Sacrifice is sometimes necessary for the success of a team. Sometimes, if the whole team is to succeed, members may have to give up what they are good at for the betterment of the team. That was the case for the final forensics meet of the season, Thursday, January 8, 2009, at Harrisonburg High School. The team was in a tight spot. Several members had

only one chance left to reach membership status in the National Forensics League. Although the results of the competition were not as spectacular and "golden" as previous meets, the overall goal of the team was, in fact, achieved. Every student on the Fresta Valley forensics team is now a qualified member of the NFL! This means the entire team

is now eligible to participate in the State Competition and the National Qualifier on January 23-24 at the University of Virginia. God has richly blessed this team, not in the conventional gold medal sense, but in giving the team a spirit of unity and sacrifice for the greater good. The competition results are as follows:

### January Competition

Student Congress:

Kelsey Graling: tied for 5<sup>th</sup>

David Ross: tied for 5<sup>th</sup>

John Phillips: tied for 5<sup>th</sup>

Original Oratory:

Danny King: 3<sup>rd</sup> place

Dramatic Interpretation:

Gabby Beals: 1<sup>st</sup> place

Duo Interpretation:

Tyler Phillips and Elliot Powell:

5<sup>th</sup> place

Evan Pierce and Isaac Witt: 4<sup>th</sup> place

### December Competition

Debate-Student Congress:

Tyler Phillips: 2<sup>nd</sup> place chamber A, presiding officer.

Jack Grotenhuis: 2<sup>nd</sup> place chamber B.

David Ross: 4<sup>th</sup> place chamber A.

Kelsey Graling; 5<sup>th</sup> place chamber A.

Speech- Individual Events:

Danny King: 2<sup>nd</sup> place, original oratory

Gabby Beals: 3<sup>rd</sup> place,

dramatic interpretation

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# January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	Robotics Kick Off <b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	Back to School <b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	Booster Club Meeting Speech and Debate <b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	Ski Trip Parent/Teacher Conferences <b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	2nd Grading Period <b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	Speech and Debate Team <b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>