## Newsletter

## Thanksgiving Lunch: Feasting Together

VVAA will be hosting a special Thanksgiving lunch on Friday, November 22nd, starting at 10:00 AM in the school gymnasium. We invite all students, families, and members of our school community, including those from church, to join us for a joyful celebration of gratitude and togetherness. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather, share a delicious meal, and create lasting memories with friends and family. School will dismiss once the celebration and clean up are complete, so we can enjoy this time together without worry.

Each grade has been assigned specific dishes to bring: TK and Kindergarten will provide vegetable dishes, relish trays, and fruit trays; 1st and 2nd grades are responsible for mashed potatoes, gravy, and sweet potato dishes; 3rd and 4th grades will bring casseroles, Special K loaf, dressing, spaghetti, pancit, lasagna, rice, enchiladas, mac and cheese, and other pasta dishes. 5th and 6th grades are tasked with dinner rolls, butter, and Thanksgiving desserts, while 7th and 8th grades will contribute stuffings, salads, cranberry sauce (four cans), and teacher-assigned items. The 10th grade will be bringing apple cider and juice. This event will be exciting for all, and we can't wait to celebrate this special time with you all!



-Robert Castro



Going to the Jazz Matinee at The Smith Center was a cool experience. The concert was held in Reynolds Hall, which made the music sound incredible. You could hear every note clearly, no mat where you were sitting. The performance started with an introduction to the basics of jazz. First, they showed us the drums, which are the foundation of jazz. They also explained how rhythm drives the whole genre. Then, they brought in the bass, which tied in perfectly with the drums and created this deep, rich sound. Finally, the violin joined in and played the melody of the song "Let It Shine" beautifully, adding a smooth touch to the music. The jazz band was awesome and you could tell they were having a lot of fun. It was amazing to see how the musicians worked together, especially since jazz is all about improvi<u>sation</u> and creativity. What made it even better was the educational part. We learned a lot about the history of jazz and how the instruments work together. The musicians eve talked to us about how they play and what makes jazz unique. It really made me appreciate the music even more. Overall, it was a great experience, and I'd definitely recommend going. The Smith Center is the perfect place for live music, and the jazz matinee is a fun way to learn about jazz while enjoying a fantastic performance!

-Marié Enterina

Walk and Talk with Jesus: Lessons from Creation, Faith, and the Ten Commandments

This week at chapel, Pastor Johnson from Centennial Hills Church shared a few powerful stories. He started by telling us about a time he came home to visit his wife and kids. His daughter, Jalen, was looking at the sky because she had read about a comet. Pastor Johnson said he also started looking and saw a fuzzy cloud. He decided to drive closer and finally saw the comet, which looked like glowing rocks clumped together. He explained that while the devil fills the internet with bad things, God shows us the beautiful nature He created. Pastor Johnson also shared a special moment when he gave a custom-made staff to Pastor Navarro, the new pastor in Las Vegas, something he always does for new pastors.

Pastor Johnson continued with another story about Pastor Neri's sister-in-law, who was injured at the airport while traveling from New York to Las Vegas. Even though she wasn't very religious, Pastor Neri decided to pray for her, and she was miraculously healed and able to walk again.

Finally, Pastor Johnson talked about how he wanted to make a replica of the Ten Commandments like they were made in ancient times. It took him a lot of money and effort, including buying sandstone and using special tools that kept breaking. He showed us the finished product, explaining how in Exodus, it says God carved the commandments with his own fingers, but for people like him, it takes a lot of time and hard work.

-Robert Castro

## **Upcoming Events**

FRIEND TODAY!

- Nov. 22 Thanksgiving Family Lunch
- Nov. 25-29, 2024 Thanksgiving Break, NS
- Dec. 5 CHIPOTLE & CHAT
- Dec. 7 Church Visit
- Dec. 19 Christmas Extravaganza
- Dec. 23 Jan. 3 Christmas Break





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