



Tolle Lege

by Principal Melodie McKenzie

When Augustine was urged to "take up and read," his life was turned from darkness to light by our gracious Savior. While I am writing to an audience who has seen this same light, I trust the urgency of his call to "take up and read" still draws at your heart.

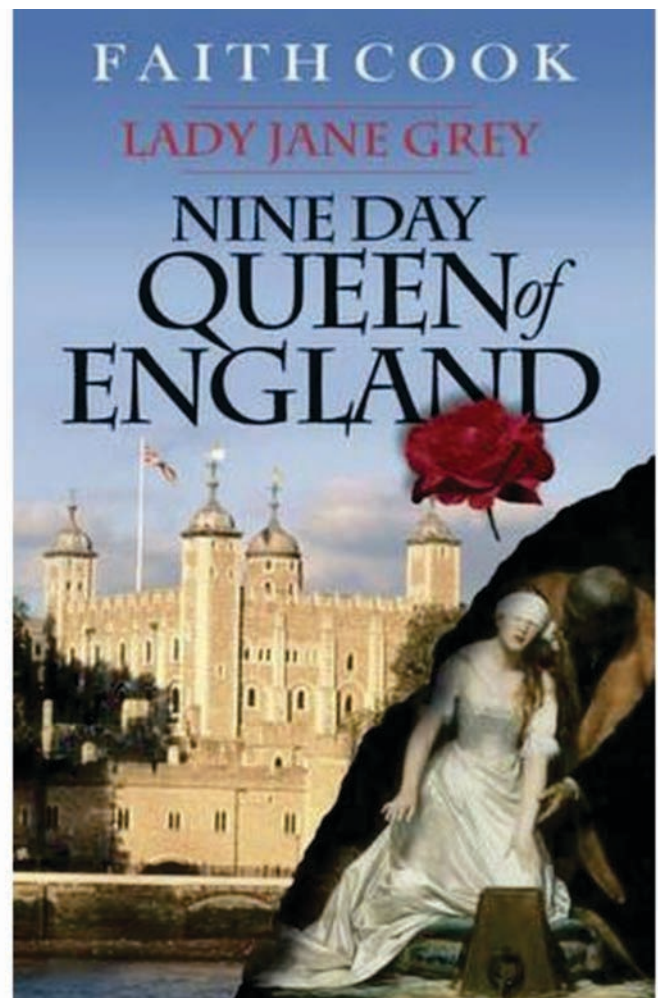
Our school has two main distinguishing characteristics. The first and most important is that we are Reformed in our theology. The second is that our philosophy which gives us our methodology of instruction is classical. In this article, I will share book recommendations with you—sometimes celebrating our Reformed unity, and sometimes from an academic and often classical approach.

In honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, I decided to read *Lady Jane Grey: Nine Day Queen of England*. This excellent biography by Faith Cook recounts Jane's background, childhood, conversion to Christ and the Reformed faith, the conspiracy to make her queen, and her trial and execution. Throughout her life, God brought people into her life who showed her examples of true faith and of clinging to the Scriptures. In some ways, Jane was a victim of other's greed and manipulation, but in another sense she was a strong, independent women who did not waiver in the face of adversity.

In Jane's final days, Queen Mary sent a priest to try to convert her. The full transcript of this debate between Lady Jane and the priest can be read. Her classical education is evident as she articulates her beliefs clearly, logically, and confidently. She was faithful to the end and was welcomed to glory as one of whom the world is not worthy.

It seems that 500 years is so long that it is like a different world between then and now. The interesting thing is that we, too, face threats to our beliefs—not like being beheaded, but still real. When I read about the men and women who have gone before us, it strengthens my faith. We are part of a great cloud of witnesses. Let us continue to be Reformed and always reforming to the likeness of our Savior.

Melodie McKenzie
Principal



Veritas Press Teacher Training

by Kim Darling

This past June, I attended the Veritas Press teacher training in Lancaster, PA. The sessions were well presented and thought provoking, and I met many wonderful people. The first night, I ate dinner at Marlin and Laurie Detweilers' house (founders of Veritas Press) and attended a dessert reception at Veritas Press headquarters. It was interesting to see the warehouse stocked with shelves and shelves of Omnibus books and other curricula. I enjoyed talking to Tom Garfield, superintendent and play director at Logos School in Idaho, about teaching drama and attended his session on *The Seven Laws of Teaching*.

Additionally, I attended workshops on composition, Omnibus, art history, and classical education in general. I left the conference thankful that my children and students have the privilege of attending a classical Christian school. For me, the biggest benefit from the training was a better understanding of classical education and the wonderful opportunity to network with the presenters and other teachers.



Solar Eclipse

by Lorissa Haveman

For a few minutes on the first Monday of the school year, the sky was our classroom. In the morning, all students received a scientific explanation of the solar eclipse. In the afternoon, the students and teachers went outdoors and donned eclipse glasses in order to safely observe the moon crossing over the sun. This event led to many questions and connections to their previous study of astronomy. Mrs. McKenzie also challenged the older students to consider why the shadow of the eclipse traveled east while the sun travels west each day. Only a few weeks later in History, the first and second grade class enjoyed hearing the Babylonian explanation for the eclipse. They were delighted when the author of the book noted that most children had never observed a solar eclipse!

PCA gets a taste of fall at County Line Orchard

by Jessica Hoekstra



This fall I had the privilege of chaperoning a field trip to County Line Orchard with the Kindergarten through 2nd grade classes. We enjoyed a beautiful sunny morning and afternoon with the bees and apples. We learned, we tasted, and we enjoyed the beauty of God's creation all working together perfectly.

We saw God's hand in pollination and the importance of the Honey Bee in this process. We learned about Photosynthesis and what trees need in order to grow fruitfully. We learned about apple harvesting and the children especially enjoyed a ride on the orchard's Picker-People-Picker-Upper (Tractor drawn trailer ride). We learned how to clean and sort the apples that are harvested and even got to watch an apple cider making demonstration ending in a lovely tasting of refreshing cider. We ended our day with a picnic lunch and a visit to the Kids Farm, and we can't forget a visit to the County Line shop to pick up dozens of doughnuts and goodies to bring home!

Grandparents Day 2017

by Pete and Diane Smith

On November 3, 2017, it was our pleasure to participate in Providence Christian Academy's second Grandparents Day. The day started with chapel and we were blessed by being invited to sing hymns with the students. The meditation led by Rev. Nick Alons was on The Belt of Truth from Ephesians 6. Rev. Alons encouraged us to use the Word of God to bind everything together in truth. Following the chapel time, we grandparents and great-grandparents shared a time of prayer with Mrs. McKenzie for the school and all of those associated with it. While the students and teachers prepared their classrooms, we enjoyed a smorgasbord of refreshments and had the opportunity to visit with the other grandparents. It was nice to visit with those we don't see often and to meet some folks for the first time. After coffee time, it was off to the classrooms to enjoy activities with the students. It is always great to see the excitement in the students' faces as they look forward to working with grandma and grandpa on the project or game they have planned for them. We had a wonderful time of fellowship with our fellow grandparents and sharing activities with our grandchildren during a jam-packed few hours on Friday morning.



- March 5: Kindergarten Preview Day
- March 15: Association Meeting
- April 26: Recitation Night
- May 29: Graduation

Evening of Thanksgiving

by William Regnerus

On Thursday, November 2, many family, friends and supporters gathered at Community United Reformed Church (Schererville, IN) for an evening of encouragement and fellowship along with a student program and raising funds for the future building of Providence Christian Academy. The student body opened the evening with a hymn and Rev. Paul Ipema led us in devotions. A delicious dinner by Scrementi's (Crete, IL) and homemade dessert buffet were enjoyed!

As is our practice, the student program involved recitation of Scripture and poetry as well as singing by the different classes. The evening concluded with Board member John Boersma providing an update on the status of our building project. John emphasized the continued need for support both prayerfully and financially for the building of the school. Generous donations from our supporters raised over \$127,000 for which we give thanks to our Heavenly Father as we see his continued faithfulness.





Providence Christian Academy

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"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

--*Proverbs 22:6 ESV*

To learn more about Providence
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www.providenceca.org

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We are currently meeting at:

First United Methodist Church
18420 Burnham Avenue
Lansing, IL 60438

**If you would like information about
setting up a classroom visit, please
contact us by phone or email.

