



December Newsletter

Dear Families,

Christmas break is quickly approaching, and the students of Classical Academy have been working hard these past few weeks getting everything done in time for break. The students' curriculum this semester has not been easy, yet each of our students have admirably risen to meet the challenge, and I am very proud of them for all of their hard work and effort, especially over these this past month in which they have had many tests and projects keeping their hands full.



One of these tests was a standardized test which was administered to the students two weeks ago and which lasted almost an entire week. The test covered a wide range of subjects and the students spent 2-3 hours per day completing various subsections of the test. Below is one picture of the high school students while testing.



The students have also been engaged in a physics project involving toothpicks. After studying the physics of trusses and vectors, the students were required to build a bridge solely out of toothpicks and glue using truss designs that would hold a minimum load of 6 pounds for a duration of 30 seconds across a 1-foot space.

However, this project turned out to be quite the competition among the students who each strove to outdo the other and so pushed them to do there very best. And the results certainly reflect their

efforts, for their bridge designs ended up holding over twice the amount of weight required, surpassing all expectations. Yet, while everyone worked hard, Morgan and Garrett's bridge proved to be the most structurally sound, reaching a load capacity of over twenty pounds!



But perhaps the greatest achievement of our students this month was their Cozy Day Bake Sale event. This event was a fundraiser which took place on December 4 as part of the students' entrepreneurship class. The students were instructed to design and implement a fundraiser from start to finish entirely by themselves; they were to do the brainstorming, the designing, the financial figuring, and the management of the event and its preparations. This was a massive project which took the students almost two months to prepare for and which turned out to be very successful and a lot of fun. Also, a big thank you goes out to Sharon Sandberg who guided and supervised the students over the course of this project. Below are some pictures of the students at the Bake Sale:



And while the Bake Sale may have been the students' largest endeavor this month, it goes without saying that the Christmas decorating was by far their favorite! Portions of two school days were set aside for the students to decorate the school while listening to Christmas music. The students brought in many of their own ornaments, lights, and decorations, and turned the school most nearly into the North Pole! Lights were set up around the entire outside perimeter of the building, along every wall and bookshelf, along with stockings; snowflakes, snowmen, and gingerbread man cutouts were hung every which way; the students even pitched in and purchased a Christmas tree! Needless to say, the decorations have not failed in summoning the Christmas spirit!



We even had a couple of friends pop in to help us decorate...



Students will be having a Christmas party this Wednesday, December 22. It is a potluck, and so students are invited to bring in a dish to share. Note also that all of the students have elected to participate in a Secret Santa, and so students may purchase a gift with a value not to exceed \$15. Following their Christmas party on December 22, students will commence their Christmas break and will return to school on Monday, January 3.

With that being said, I would like to wish all of you a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Nicholas Johnson'.

Nicholas Johnson

School Principal