

SENTINEL LIFE SUMMER ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 28, 2023

The CLASSICAL Mission

To develop the minds and nourish the hearts of our students through a content-rich curriculum in the classical liberal arts and sciences, with instruction in moral character and civic virtue

NEW & NOTABLE

State Test Scores for Our Inaugural Year

We are thrilled to share the outstanding news regarding our state test scores for our inaugural school year! The hard work and dedication of our teachers, coupled with the perseverance of our students, have led to remarkable achievements. Most notably, in terms of overall reading proficiency, we are delighted to announce that our school secured the top position in Hamilton County when compared with available official data from the 2021-22 academic year. This achievement is particularly noteworthy as we surpassed even highly regarded districts like Indian Hill, Madeira, and Wyoming. It is also instructive to note that 53% of our students in grades 3-6 received the highest proficiency rating of "advanced." The chart below provides a visual representation of our remarkable performance:

Reading Proficiency (grades 3-6)

94% Cincinnati Classical Academy

92% Wyoming

90% Madeira

86% Indian Hill

61% State Average

56% Reading

41% Cincinnati Public

Math Proficiency (grades 3-6)

86% Wyoming

86% Madeira

85% Indian Hill

82% Cincinnati Classical Academy

56% State Average

52% Reading

31% Cincinnati Public Schools

Science Proficiency (grade 5)

94% Cincinnati Classical Academy

94% Wyoming

94% Indian Hill

90% Madeira

63% State Average

55% Reading

38% Cincinnati Public

These outstanding results are a testament to the commitment and expertise of our teachers, as well as the hard work and dedication demonstrated by our students. We are incredibly proud of everyone involved in achieving this remarkable success. (These scores are calculated from ODE Report Cards at https://reportcard.education.ohio.gov)

School Uniform Snafu

We would like to address a recent uniform issues that has caused confusion and frustration among some of our parents. We want to assure you that it has never been our intent to replace the white long-sleeve polo with a navy blue polo for the boys K-4 winter uniform. Regrettably, a uniform change was made by a former staff member without the knowledge or approval of anyone else at the school. Due to his departure at the end of May, this change went unnoticed until after some parents had already purchased the new blue shirts. Since becoming aware of this issue, we have taken the following steps to rectify the situation:

- The proper uniform policy, which includes the white long-sleeve polos, is now in place on our school website and the DENNIS Uniform page.
- We have reached an agreement with DENNIS Uniform, who will accept returns of the blue long-sleeve polos and issue a full refund, even if the shirts have already been washed. Questions regarding returns may be directed to Anna Marie Brewer to amb@dennisuniform.com
- Blue long-sleeve polos may be worn on Spirit-wear Fridays as an option for those who have already purchased them and do not wish to return them.

We want to emphasize that it has never been our intention to change required uniform pieces or their colors. We sincerely apologize for any confusion or inconvenience caused by this situation and acknowledge the frustration it may have caused. Moving forward, we have addressed this matter with Mr. Johnson, who will assume the role of Dean of Students next month. He will be responsible for handling all uniform-related issues, ensuring clear communication and consistency in our uniform policies. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we work to resolve this matter.

Review the School Uniform Policy

Contact: Mrs. O'Callaghan | LINK

We would like to remind you to review the official uniform policy before placing any uniform orders so that you know what is required — and what is merely optional. You can download the PDF document from our website at the link above. Please note that the DENNIS website page for our school provides a wide range of items *beyond* the required uniform. These additional items are designated for Spirit Wear Fridays and offer an opportunity for students to showcase their school spirit. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the school uniform policy, please contact Mrs. O'Callaghan. She will be more than happy to assist you.

School Uniform Fittings

Contact: Mrs. Hauck | LINK

Uniforms can be tried on in the school office from Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Please review the uniform policies on the website first. Orders should be placed as soon as possible through DENNIS Uniform (Our school code is HCN). Questions about ordering should be directed to Anna Marie Brewer to amb@dennisuniform.com.

Student Book Fee Mrs. Hauck | LINK

The 2023-2024 School year will have the implementation of a fee of \$95 per student. The student fee will be allocated towards the purchase of curriculum consumables and new curriculum texts. By implementing this fee, we can ensure that our students have access to up-to-date and comprehensive resources that enhance their learning and support their academic growth. We understand the importance of responsible financial management and are committed to using these funds judiciously to benefit our students directly.

The Student Book Fee can be paid directly through your Final Forms account (FinalForms.com). To the left of your students name you will see \$ sign. Click on that sign and your Student Book Fee will appear. You can pay it directly online with a credit card. Once the payment is completed your dollar sign will change from RED to GREEN. If you prefer not to make payment online, you may bring or mail a check or money order into the school office. Please

mark the envelope "Student Book Fee". On the check or money order please place a post it with have your child(ren) name and grade for the 2023-2024 school year. Summer Office hours are 8am-12pm. The office will be closed July 3 – July 7, 2023.

REMINDERS

Recommended Summer Reading

Visit the Summer Reading Page: LINK

The recommended summer reading list is now available online. In addition to the grade-level recommendations, CLASSICAL also presents a recommended reading list for parents as well as John Senior's "The Thousand Good Books Incomplete Life-long Reading List" for those students (and parents) who'd like to dig deeper into classic "good books" this summer.

Final Forms for 2023-2024

Contact: Mrs. O'Callaghan

Beginning May 31, 2023, you can begin completing your Student's Final Forms. Please refer to your account. Most of the forms remain the same as 2022-2023 school year, but we have added a few new ones; so, please be diligent when reviewing. Please note these three points.

- All information currently in FinalForms will rollover to the 2023-2024 year but please review each section in case there is missing information. All forms will need an updated electronic signature and date. All Forms will be RED until completed. Once completed the form will turn GREEN.
- We ask that you complete and sign the first form Contact Information by the end of the day, May 31, as well as uploading a current Proof of Residency. The remainder can be filled in throughout the summer with the deadline of **Monday**, **July 17**, **2023**.
- Fall Sports (Girls Volleyball Grades 3-7 and Co-ed Cross Country Grades 5-7) will have open registration starting June 12. You can do this through Final Forms. A reminder, once you sign up for a sport, additional paperwork will be required in your Final Forms.

School Tool Box School Supplies

Contact: Mrs. Hauck | LINK

For the 2023-24 school year, CLASSICAL is partnering with School Tool Box to supply school supplies for those who are interested. Using the link above, parents can choose to purchase a box, specific to each grade, of supplies for next year that will be delivered straight to the school. The box will include everything that your student will need for the year. The order deadline to have the box shipped to the school is July 2. After that, the box will be shipped to your home. **This is an optional service.** You will still be able to access school supply lists and shop for them separately is you wish.

CLASSICAL Reds Night Out - August 8

Contact: Mr. George Kimura | LINK

The Cincinnati Reds are proud to offer discounted tickets to the Cincinnati Classical Academy! Bring your family and friends down to the ballpark on Tuesday, August 8 at 6:40PM against the Miami Marlins -- and be sure to wear your CLASSICAL swag! We are all sitting together in a reserved section of the ballpark. To purchase tickets, visit the link above.

Summer Grade-level Meetups

Contact: Mrs. Hauck

Meetups will be happening again for each grade this summer. These meetups are a great chance to meet other current and new CLASSICAL families, for children to meet friends in their grade, and to begin forming connections over the summer. Meetups are a continued effort to build community at CLASSICAL and include a variety of activities including, but not limited to: spending time on the school playground, meeting at parks, splash parks, or family picnics. You will soon be hearing from your child's grade level coordinator(s) with meetup plans and

dates. We encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities to connect with others before the school year begins.

New Families to Classical Academy

Contact: Mrs. O'Callaghan | LINK

If you haven't done so already, please schedule a Registration Appointment with our Enrollment Manager to complete your new student's enrollment. To do so, please click on <u>Final Forms here</u> and create an account. Then add your student. In the first form titled New Student Registration Process, you'll see a link to schedule an appointment with Mrs. O'Callaghan.

Medical Forms for 2023-24

Contact: Mrs. Di Nino | LINK

Please read Mrs. Di Nino's letter to parents regarding medical forms for the 2023-24 school year, <u>linked here.</u> All medical forms you will need to fill out will be required by August 29, 2023, and can be found in Final Forms.

The 400-Hours Outdoors Challenge

Are you up for the challenge? Mr. Rose and School Nurse Mrs. Di Nino have challenged all of our students to spend 400 hours outdoors this summer—without any screens, in an effort to encourage mental and physical well-being. Mr. Rose asked students to think of their favorite outdoor activities and hobbies, and to tell him what they are when they see him in the morning. Your child will be coming home with a <u>letter about the challenge</u> as well as a <u>sheet to track their hours</u> throughout the 93 days of summer.

Carpool 2023-24

Contact: Jenn Lewis | LINK

If you are interested in participating in carpool for the 2023-24 school year, please complete this <u>Google Form</u>. All carpooling families must indicate interest, even if you participated in carpool this past year. This form indicates your interest in carpooling for the 2023-24 school year at Cincinnati Classical Academy. Completing the form does not guarantee a carpool match but is a starting point to make connections with families who live or work near you who could help facilitate transportation to or from Cincy Classical. If you have questions, please contact <u>Jenn Lewis</u>. Bi-weekly updates will be sent starting mid-June through mid-September.

Current Parents with New Students at CLASSICAL

Contact: Mrs. O'Callaghan

Don't forget to upload your new student's Birth Certificate and a current Proof of Residency to their FinalForms account.

Changes of Address

Contact: Mrs. O'Callaghan

Reminder: If you have moved, please update your address in FinalForms and email Mrs. O'Callaghan, our Enrollment Manager, at jocallaghan@cincyclassical.org. Thank you!

Current Families Resources Page | LINK

Did you know that the Cincy Classical website includes a one-stop info page for Current Families? <u>Here</u>, you will find our school events calendar, along with links to the transportation page, the spirit shop, school uniform information, summer reading recommendations, and a contact list so that you might know best whom to contact about various school-related issues.

Follow us on Social Media!

Do you want to keep up with what's happening at CLASSICAL? Follow us on social media! Find us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u>. Be sure to tag us in any posts with your Sentinels!