



# Grapevine

## Prayer Kids

Monday - Caleb W. (6), Leilani D. (7)  
Tuesday - Christian F. (7), Mikayla N. (7)  
Wednesday - Samantha N. (7), Alexis B. (8)  
Thursday - Ruby E. (8), Valeria M. (8)  
Friday - Hunter M. (8), Micah N. (8)

## Chess Club

We will continue a Thursday afternoon chess club this Thursday from 3:15 - 4:15 after school. We will be learning together chess strategy and tactics while having fun playing each other.

## What are Prayer Kids?

At the start of each day as a part of our morning prayer, we as a staff will pray for the two students listed for each day. We also ask our parents to join us in praying for these students each day. Let's utilize the power of corporate prayer for our students and watch the Lord work in wonderful ways!

## Dates to Remember

Jan. 15 - End of 2nd Quarter  
Jan. 18 - No School, MLK Day  
Feb. 4 - Teacher Training, Noon Dismissal  
Feb. 15 - President's Day, No School

## Principal's Corner

### "On Being a Flawed Human"

Many years ago I took a year out of college and taught 8th grade to 35 students on the island of Majuro in the Marshall Islands. I lived in an upstairs apartment on the end of the elementary school building. An outdoor stairway led to a raised hall or balcony that ran the length of the building. Entry doors leading to upstairs classrooms and apartments opened along the length of the balcony. My apartment being on the end of the building, the stairs ended right at my apartment window and door.

One Sabbath afternoon I was relaxing with a friend in my apartment when we noticed the face of a small boy, 2 or 3 years old, pressed up against the large window of my apartment

that faced the end of the stairway. The general rule was that the upstairs balcony was off limits to students and other children when school was not in session. A bit annoyed, I chased him down the stairs to where some of his older friends were egging him on and told him not to come up again. He did not understand my words, but I hoped he caught my meaning.

A few minutes later there he was again, his face pressed up against the window, smiling and giggling as if he was playing a funny joke on us. Again I chased him downstairs. Again, I told him not to come up. While my words were not understood, I'm sure he caught my drift.

This continued three or four more times and every time he came back up, laughing with his older friends downstairs about the fun they were having as I chased him back downstairs. I, on the other hand, was beginning to lose my patience. After about the fifth time I had had enough.

I waited inside at my door as I heard the boy coming up the stairs yet again. When he reached the balcony I rushed out and grabbed him up under his arms and lifted him up to my eye level. Nose to nose I expressed my frustration with him. I don't remember what I said to him, but it was obvious my rage needed no translation. After venting I looked down at the boy's dangling toes as liquid fear dripped down, forming a puddle under his feet. His cup of courage now as empty as his bladder, I set him down. He fled down the stairs to his buddies and off they darted. We didn't see them

again.

I lost my patience that afternoon and I didn't like it. It wasn't the first time and it certainly wasn't the last. It's one of my many flaws.

I don't like being flawed. Much as we don't like to admit it, this being flawed is a condition we all live with. There are days, good days, when we can almost forget about them. There are other days, however, when they sneak up on us, surprising us when we least want them.

I still, at times, find myself losing my patience, at home and with my students. I don't like it.

"I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. . . What a wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God - Through Jesus Christ our Lord!"

Romans 7:15, 24-25

The Christian life is a process, not a destination. It's a bit like an education that never ends, with a Teacher who never loses patience, with flawed classmates who are growing right along with us, learning to be patient with each other as well as ourselves. We should not expect it to be any other way.

God bless,

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