

SMALL CLOUD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRESENTS ... CANDLE LIGHTS

"With God all things are possible." Mark 10:27

December 2004 - February 2005

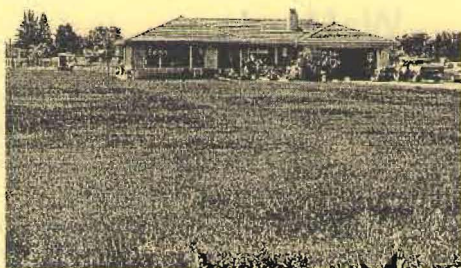
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INTRODUCTION

It has been a very interesting quarter—a bit challenging, to say the least!

First, let us tell you about the school premises and the residence next to it. The improvement is so dramatic you won't recognize this place anymore.



Weeds gone! Nice green lawn in front of the Nelson residence, next to the school.

In place of a field of weeds as you drive into the driveway, there is now a beautiful lawn with a sprinkling system. The grassy play area behind the school has also been enlarged.

We are very grateful that Mr. Schendel provided these improvements. Much time was spent getting rid of the weeds and grading everything with his tractor. He and Mr. Nelson worked hard putting in the sprinkling system and then grading the whole area before having someone come in to hydro-seed. The large flowerbed in front of the house has been nicely landscaped, with river rock placed on top of plastic to keep out the weeds. (Our former students will be happy to hear this, since they used to have to weed this area.)

Also, we have been richly blessed to now have an orchard planted in the circular area directly in front of the school. A kind friend allowed Mr. Nelson to use his back-

hoe to dig holes for the trees, and thirty-eight fruit and nut trees were donated by Sierra Gold Nurseries in Yuba City. So far the trees look like only dead sticks stuck in the ground, but we have faith they will produce foliage soon.

And now an update on Mrs. Nelson. The first trimester of her pregnancy was really hard for her. Morning sickness kept her in bed most of the time, and once she had to be taken to an emergency room for rehydration. She also had to take medication in order to keep any nourishment down at all.

Meanwhile, her absence in the classroom put a real strain on Mrs. Seely. Taking charge of the whole school, with the help of Mr. Nelson, was very fatiguing, although she didn't realize how weary she was becoming. She became ill with pneumonia, which put her completely out of commission for three weeks. So Mr. Nelson "stepped up to the plate" and ran the school during that time.



The flowerbed in front of the Nelson residence, located next to the school, which our former students weeded from time to time.

By then Mrs. Nelson was getting a little of her strength back, so she helped Mr. Nelson as she was able. Mrs. Schendel did the cooking and helped where she could.

We are happy to report that the Lord has helped us through this challenging time. Mrs. Nelson feels much better and has been able to slowly get off the medication. Mrs. Seely has recovered, for which we praise the Lord. Mr. Nelson has, thankfully, stayed well, and Mrs. Schendel is doing well also.

Due to the circumstances, our anniversary program was scaled down this year, but several of us did gather to reminisce, praise the Lord, and pray for Small Cloud. We would appreciate your continued prayers too! ■



Mrs. Nelson at 6-1/2 months into her pregnancy.



SPELLING

by Sean Swarouth, age 13

We recently watched "Spellbound," a documentary about kids who went to the National Spelling Bee and competed for first place. The winner got a trophy and \$10,000.

We have spelling and vocabulary words every week. Mrs. Seely has us write the words ten times each. We also have to write sentences with our words. Every Friday we have a test. That's what we do in spelling.



PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

by Jazzmin Pluto, age 15



Parent-teacher conferences? Oh, no! Not again! Actually, conferences aren't so bad . . . unless your grades are.

What really happens at a conference is that your parents and the teachers sit and talk all about you. The teachers talk about how you have improved in your work habits and what you still need to improve on. See, conferences let your parents know what's going on when you're not at home.

Your teachers want you to do great in school. They also want you to succeed in life. My teacher, Mrs. Seely, says that progress is not made by giant leaps, but by many small steps. So even though your grades may be bad, making little improvements will result in success when your parent-teacher conference comes up.

JUST DUCKY!

by Paea Inukiha'angana, age 15



How many of you like ducks? The school just got new baby ducks, which were a couple of days old. There were six of them, but one died.

I was sad when I found out one of them had died. It was a little gray one with black feet that Jazz had held when we first got them. But there are five other little ones, and I'm glad we still have some. I hope we have these ducks forever.

LIFE IN ANCIENT ROME

by Stephanie Knezovich, age 17



How would you like to have to follow rules that you didn't have any say in making? This is how life was for the plebeians in ancient Rome.

In ancient Rome there were two classes of society. They were the patricians and the plebeians. Their rights were very different from each other. The patricians had all the power over the people, and they were nobles. But the plebeians were poor and had no say in the government. They also had no rights.

The plebeians didn't like having the patricians rule over them and threatened to leave the army. The patricians were afraid that the plebeians would leave, so the patricians finally let the plebeians have their own laws, a voice in the government, their own assembly, and their own elected officials. Then the Council of Plebeians elected ten men to the office of tribune. The Council put together their laws in The Law of Twelve Tables. Finally the plebeians' assembly got to be called the Tribal Assembly.

Now you know how different the plebeians and the patricians were and how the plebeians gained power in Rome.

THE PATH OF MOSES

by Shabad Jammu, age 12



Moses was a Jewish man who lived in Egypt. Born in a family of slaves, Moses thought about how he could help the Jews get out of slavery. He saw an Egyptian man beating an Israelite slave. Moses came up to the Egyptian and killed him. Then Moses said, "Oh, no! The king will find out!" Moses quickly buried the Egyptian man and ran away from Egypt.

Moses ran away to a place called Midian. He met a family with seven daughters. He married one of the seven daughters and had two kids. Moses became a shepherd.

One day Moses heard a voice. He saw a bush burning, but it didn't burn up. God talked to him from the burning bush.

God told Moses to throw his staff on the ground, and the staff turned into a snake. God said, "Pick up the snake by the tail."

But Moses said, "I can't! It might be poisonous! Won't it bite?"

"Calm down," said God. "Just do as I say."

So Moses picked up the snake by the tail, and the snake turned back into a staff. God told Moses to go back to Egypt and free the Israelites. And Moses obeyed.

WaMoola

We've just found a hassle-free way to raise money for our school. It's free to enroll in, easy to do, and it will help us accomplish some amazing things. Best of all, our school can use the money wherever we need it most.

The program is called **WaMoola for Schools**, and it's sponsored by Washington Mutual. Once you've enrolled, every purchase you make with a Washington Mutual Visa Check Card automatically supports our school.

Using your card for groceries can help raise funds we desperately need. Every time you make purchases with your card, you'll earn points for our school, so the more you use it, the more you'll help. At the end of the year, Washington Mutual will convert the points to a donation, and we'll receive a check that can go toward supplies, books, events and more!

Enrolling is easy. If you're already a Washington Mutual checking customer with a Visa® Check Card, just go to wamoolaforschools.com and choose our school. Or call 1-866-WAMOOLA. Enrollment in the program is absolutely free. If you need a Washington Mutual Visa® Check Card, you can open a checking account at any Washington Mutual Financial Center. To find the one nearest you, call 1-800-788-7000 or search on-line at wamu.com.

This is an easy way for you to help our school every day. Please take advantage of this opportunity, and enroll in **WaMoola for Schools** today.



Small Cloud Christian School is a nonprofit organization dedicated to leading children of every race, color, nationality, ethnicity, gender and creed to the knowledge of a living God.