

# SMALL CLOUD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRESENTS . . .

## SMALL CLOUD CHRONICLES

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

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### SCCS OPEN HOUSE

Open House was the major event this spring, taking place on April 14. Stories, poetry, and science experiments made this Open House very special. We were privileged and pleased to again have a reporter from the *River Valley Times* in attendance. She wrote up a nice report about Small Cloud (see page 4).

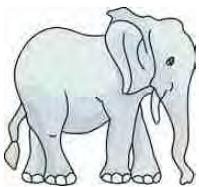
In this newsletter you will read about the special items



presented by the students at the Open House program. From fingerplays to poems, historical speeches to scientific demonstrations, we want you to get a taste of what the students presented that April evening. You will also discover that there are some newcomers to Small Cloud. One is pictured above. ■

### THE BLIND MEN AND THE ELEPHANT

(recited by Stephen Nelson, age 5)



It was six men of Indostan  
To learning much inclined,  
Who went to see the Elephant  
(Though all of them were blind),  
That each by observation  
Might satisfy his mind.

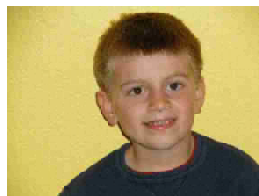
The First approached the Elephant,  
And happening to fall  
Against his broad and sturdy side,  
At once began to bawl:  
"Bless me! but the Elephant  
Is very like a wall!"

The Second, feeling of the tusk,  
Cried, "Ho! what have we here  
So very round and smooth and sharp?  
To me 'tis mighty clear  
This wonder of an Elephant  
Is very like a spear!"

The Third approached the animal,  
And happening to take  
The squirming trunk within his hands,  
Thus boldly up and spake:  
"I see," quoth he, "the Elephant  
Is very like a snake!"

The Fourth reached out his eager hand,  
And felt about the knee.  
"What most this wondrous beast is like  
Is mighty plain," quoth he.  
"'Tis clear enough the Elephant  
Is very like a tree!"

The Fifth, who chanced to touch the ear,  
Said: "E'en the blindest man  
Can tell what this resembles most;  
Deny the fact who can,  
This marvel of an Elephant  
Is very like a fan!"



The Sixth no sooner had begun  
About the beast to grope,  
Than, seizing on the swinging tail  
That fell within his scope,  
"I see," quoth he, "the Elephant  
Is very like a rope!"

And so these men of Indostan  
Disputed loud and long,  
Each in his own opinion  
Exceeding stiff and strong,  
Though each was partly in the right,  
And all were in the wrong!

## QUEEN ESTHER

by Nikki Seely, age 9

Esther was a queen, but first she was a little orphan girl. She was adopted and raised by her cousin, Mordecai.

When she grew up, she married the King of Persia. He liked her because she was pretty and nice. Mordecai told her never to tell anyone that she was a Jew.



One day a man named Haman, who worked for the king, got angry with the Jews and decided to kill them all. Mordecai told Esther that she needed to ask the king to save the Jews. Esther was really sad

and scared. She asked all the Jews to fast and pray with her for three days. Then she went to the king.

She invited the king and Haman to dinner at her place. At the dinner she told the king that she was a Jew and that Haman wanted to kill all the Jews.

The king got really mad at Haman. The king's guards tackled Haman down and hung him on gallows that were 75 feet high. And the Jews were saved.

I like Queen Esther because she was a queen. I also like her because she was pretty and nice and very brave.

## SACAGAWEA

by Megan Petrovich, age 8

Sacagawea was a Shoshone Indian. She traveled with Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery. During the trip she had a baby boy named Jean Baptiste, but Clark nicknamed him "Pomp."

Sacagawea helped Lewis and Clark by showing them which plants were good to eat and which plants were good medicines. She made moccasins for the men when their shoes wore out. When one of the boats tipped over, Sacagawea helped save some important maps and supplies. She also helped Lewis and Clark buy horses from her brother, Chief Cameahwait.

After the expedition was over, Lewis and Clark went back to St. Louis and Sacagawea went back to her home. She had a baby girl named Lizette. Before Sacagawea died, Clark adopted both of her children. She died on December 20, 1812, because of a fever. She was only 25.

Today we remember her for helping Lewis and Clark. I liked learning about her because she was a brave Indian, and I like learning about Indians.



## REMEMBER ALLERTON

by Alyssa Seely, age 7

My name is Remember Allerton. I came to America on the Mayflower when I was six years old. I came with my father, my mother, my older brother Bartholomew, and my little sister Mary. We got on the Mayflower on September 6, 1620.

It took us sixty-six days to come from England to America. The journey was terrible. Many people got sick, and one of the passengers and one crew member died. When we got to America, we had to stay on the Mayflower for one month. During that month my mother had a baby boy, but it was born dead. A little later my mama died too. I was so sad.

That first winter was hard! But God sent Squanto to help us. One year later we celebrated the first Thanksgiving with Squanto, Chief Massasoit, and ninety other Indians. I was happy that God had helped us so much!



## \$20, ANYONE?

by Andriana Seely, age 16

April 14 is a night I will never forget. My stomach was in knots as I gazed in terror at the sight of so many people arriving. My thoughts were interrupted with the call that sent chills down my spine: "Come take your seat!" I went in and sat down. It felt like every eye was on me. When the time came, I went up and asked for a volunteer to donate a \$20 bill.

My face was hot as I reached for the \$20 bill. I dipped the money into a mysterious solution with tongs, pulled it out, and held a lighter to it. The crowd went silent. Through the flickering flame I could see the anticipation on the faces of those in the audience. Gasps broke out. As the flame died down and the \$20 bill remained unharmed, looks of relief spread across their faces. My face also cooled because I knew I had done well.

But what had I done? I had dipped the money into a solution of rubbing alcohol and water. When I lit the bill, the alcohol burned, causing the water to evaporate. The evaporating water caused the bill to cool and not catch on fire. This amazing experiment shows how molecules react differently in the same situation. In the presence of fire, the alcohol burned and the water evaporated.

April 14 is a night I will never forget. My stomach was in knots at the beginning, but when I had finished I felt great!



# ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE

by Mikey Petrovich, age 13

As I stared at the night's schedule, the tension began to rise. The next speaker would be me, and I wasn't too excited about it. When the previous speaker's story came to a close, my legs started getting stiff. Finally, she finished and stepped off the stage. Now the moment I dreaded was upon me. How could I have gotten myself into this? I thought to myself.

Every year Small Cloud Christian School (SCCS for short) has an event called Open House. At this event students demonstrate different projects to entertain and educate attendees. My project was to show how the atmosphere has pressure pushing down on us. I was to prove this by putting a generous teaspoon of water into the bottoms of three soda cans. I would bring the water to a boil. Then, with a pair of tongs, I'd plunge the cans one by one into a bowl of icy water. It was supposed to implode. But that's not exactly what happened.



As I stood up and walked to the front, I could feel everyone's attention turn upon me. I set up my experiment in the exact manner my instructor had taught me. My stomach felt like it was all tied up, and my mouth was as dry as could be. Despite this, I tried to keep calm and give my speech as fluidly and eloquently as possible.

"Do you feel the atmosphere's pressure pushing down on you?" I began. "Well, actually it is. And here is an experiment showing the effects of atmospheric pressure." After the first three sentences, the words came more easily to me.

"All you need is a soda can, a burner, a pair of tongs, and a bowl of icy water. What I have done first is put a generous teaspoon of water into the bottoms of three cans and brought them to a boil. This next part is going to happen quickly, so I'll explain it first. What I will do is pick up the hot cans with the tongs and plunge the cans into cold water. . . ."

All had gone well up until this point, but suddenly something went wrong. As I plunged the first can into the water, nothing happened. I plunged the second. Again nothing happened. I let the third one stay on the burner a little longer. It was my last chance, and it had to work. If it didn't, my doom would be sealed. I reached for my last can and with the tongs quickly grabbed it and plunged it into the cold water. It didn't work as well as it should have, but it was good enough to impress the audience. I breathed a sigh of relief. Now for the conclusion, I thought to myself.

"What caused the can to implode?" I asked the audience. "Actually, it didn't implode. The atmosphere crushed it. The only reason the can wasn't crushed before is that the air inside the can was pushing out against the sides of the can. But when I plunged the cans into the cold water, the air inside the can escaped. Since

the internal pressure of the can was gone, the atmosphere's pressure crushed the can. And now you know that the atmosphere really does have pressure pushing down on us."

As I headed back to my seat, I felt tired but relieved that my demonstration was finally over. It is probably going to be a long time before I have to do that again, I sighed happily. It was all over, and I was finished—for now at least. ■

## JONAH RAN AWAY

(recited by Maya Seely, age 5)

God sent Jonah to Ninevah;  
Told him just what to say.  
Jonah didn't want to go.  
He ran the other way.

Down went Jonah.  
Up came the fish.  
In went Jonah,  
With a big swish!

On swam the fish,  
Till at God's command,  
It spit Jonah out  
On the dry land.



Maya Seely holding a little chick

## ABRAHAM LINCOLN

(a writing assignment)

by Alyssa Seely



Abraham Lincoln lived in a log cabin in Kentucky. When he grew up he became president of the United States of America. He liked to read books, and he was honest and brave. He read the Bible. He died when he was 56.

## THE PARENTING CORNER

The training of the young is a matter of highest importance. Every child born into the home is a sacred trust. God says to the parents, "Take this child, and bring it up for Me, that it may be an honor to My name, and a channel through which My blessings shall flow to the world." - Ellen G. White, *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students* (Review and Herald Publishing Association), p. 145.





## NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

*River Valley Times*

May 4, 2011

by Barbara Edwards  
*River Valley Times* Reporter

**A**s the school year slowly winds down, the teachers of Small Cloud Christian School in Wilton asked the students to reflect on the past year's studies and pick a favorite person from history or a past science experiment to present at the school's open house held on Thursday, April 14. Students could choose a famous figure from a Bible story or poem or conduct a science experiment.

Students from kindergarten through high school acted out tales from the Bible on storyboards and recited stories in costume. One such presentation included the story of Sacagawea presented by eight-year-old Megan Petrovich. As Petrovich explained, Sacagawea was a Shoshone Indian who accompanied the Lewis and Clark Expedition, acting as an interpreter and a guide. Dressed as an Indian maiden, Petrovich concluded her oral presentation with, "She was a brave Indian, and I like learning about Indians."

Students also treated family members to several scientific experiments including a presentation by David Petrovich, 11, who demonstrated the different levels of the atmosphere by alternately layering honey, dish soap, corn syrup, and

vegetable oil to represent the atmospheric layers as he identified each one.

Much to the delight of the students, the school has also recently welcomed several new members to the country campus in the form of baby chickens, ducks and a one-month-old exotic sheep that the students have named "Sheepums." Its mother had rejected the baby sheep, leading to its adoption by the staff and students.

To contact Small Cloud Christian school, please call 916-687-8329.

*Three pictures accompanied this article: (1) "Small Cloud Christian School student Megan Petrovich, 8, presents the story of Sacagawea at the school's open house held Thursday, April 14." (2) "Student Andriana Seely, 16, holds Sheepums—a one-month-old sheep and the newest member of the Small Cloud Christian campus." (3) "David Petrovich, 11, produces a visual model of the different layers of the atmosphere by layering several different liquids."*

## SMALL CLOUD'S WEB SITE

**W**e are pleased to announce the development of Small Cloud's new website. Here you will find resources for students, parents, Christian schools, and home schools. You will also find news and pictures, as well as teacher and student blogs. If you wish to keep current with what is happening at Small Cloud, this is the place to look.

We are very grateful for the services of Rob Watts and the team at [tractionsys.com](http://tractionsys.com), who set up this website for us in a way that we can personally edit it as needed. Check us out at [www.smallcloud.org](http://www.smallcloud.org). If you like what you see and wish to set up your own website, consider giving [tractionsys.com](http://tractionsys.com) the opportunity of serving you.

## BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

**T**hank you for continuing to send in Boxtops for Education, the little coupons found on the boxes of many products. Each little coupon is worth 10 cents when we send it in.

This may not seem like a lot of money, but it does add up. Since 2002, we have received a total of \$460.00.



L to R: Veronica Seely (Nikki) holding Snickers and Stephen Nelson holding Oreo (formerly named "Sheepums"). Oreo was generously donated to the school by a neighbor, who was going on vacation and could not care for the little black lamb. Its mother had refused to nurse it, and the neighbor felt sure the lamb would die without special care. The students fell in love with little Oreo, putting disposable diapers on it, bottle feeding it, and caring for it in the classroom. Snickers, a miniature baby goat, was obtained to be a playmate for Oreo.

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 the living God.