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THE TALON

TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN



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FROM THE HEAD



If you have read a few of my Talon articles, you have probably wondered why this guy talks about baseball so much. Well, today is another one of those.

As a young kid, I spent afternoons after school in the spring watching WGN on a small, turn-dial TV. I watched WGN for one reason: the Chicago Cubs. The voice of Harry Carrey would greet me with the Cubs lineup, often pronouncing the names of the ballplayers backward, just one of Harry Carrey's oddities. Instead of diving into my homework for the day as I should have, I would watch the game, not necessarily for the outcome or even a particular player, although Mark Grace was one of my favorites. I watched the Chicago Cubs for the greatest personality and character in the organization, Wrigley Field. A stadium built in 1914, with ivy covering the brick outfield wall. There were characters in the outfield bleachers, not one or two, but an entire gaggle of people with their shirts off being the best "Bleacher Bum" they could be. Minor note: those "Bleacher Bums" were the original "Shirts Off" group in baseball. The stadium is nestled into the north side of Chicago, which appeared to be a residential neighborhood. On top of some of those nearby residential buildings, Cubs fans would sit on the rooftop to watch their "Loveable Losers" play on a spring afternoon.

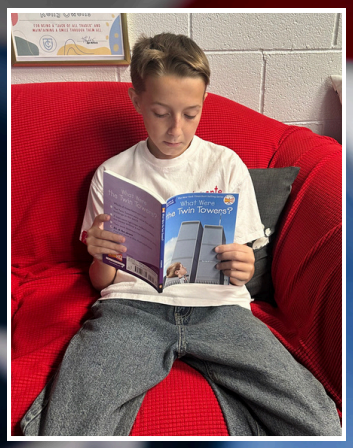
The flood of memories came back to me as I was gifted the opportunity to see the Chicago Cubs host the Atlanta Braves this week. Being at Wrigley Field, much as the field looked 100 years ago, is a remarkable experience. It is reassuring that a city and a ball club cherish the team's history alongside their greatest treasure, their ballpark. As a traditionalist in baseball, change comes with apprehension, suspension, and downright disdain. Seeing two teams that first faced each other in 1876 play in a classic environment that has aged so well warms my heart. While I did cheer wholeheartedly for the Atlanta Braves, and had no sense of remorse, it was nice to see the Cubs take one of the two games we saw.

But most of all, being at Wrigley Field with my dad, cheering on a Braves team that has been the perpetual and figurative background music of my life, was cherished. The cherished part is the time spent talking about politics, faith, family, and private Christian education. Wrigley Field provided the "Friendly Confines" for conversation about what matters. I would highly recommend it.

We REMEMBER

11TH SEPTEMBER

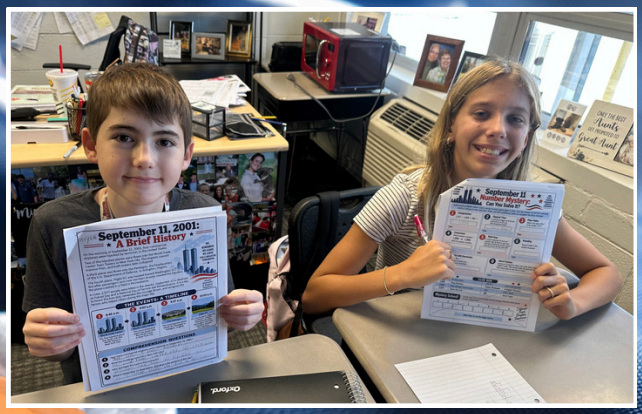
HONORING LIVES LOST & HEROES AMONG US.







On September 11th, Miss Owens' middle school math classes remembered this day in history with a special math lesson. Math class started out with Miss Owens sharing her memory of that day in history when she was teaching her 8th grade math class in public school and her principal walked in and whispered, " Don't turn the tv on, something really bad has happened!"



Miss Owens' students listened in curiosity, empathy, and prayer as Miss Owens followed up with a short synopsis of the events of that horrific day. The students then were led in math activities and investigations that covered the day in history through a timeline in the US, how the events connected the world, and the way the communities responded. A few books were made available by Miss Owens for students to borrow for more information and study. The math students had a great discussion and study of the day's historical events which in turn brought about acts of kindness, unity, and resilience. It was an important lesson in Tennessee Christian math classes for a very important day in history.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH · KELLY OWENS



We Sing

1 CORINTHIANS 10:31

"SO WHETHER YOU EAT OR DRINK, OR WHATEVER YOU DO, DO IT ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD."

We have started music class this year with a BOOM! (or should I say Boomwhacker!) Each week, we have been learning about different musical instruments, music terms, and of course... worship!

We began the year by reading the book We Sing by Kristyn Getty to spark the hearts and minds of the students to think about how singing is more than just making music, it is worship!

Everything that we do, inside and outside of class, should be worship to the Lord. When we listen the first time, it is worship! When we are kind to our friends, it is worship! Whenever we are having fun singing songs, playing games, or playing the Boomwhackers, or playing any other instrument, it is worship. When we do our very best, it is worship!

When I ask my students, "what is worship?" they say back, "EVERYTHING!"

I am so excited to see these students grow in love for both each other and for the Lord!

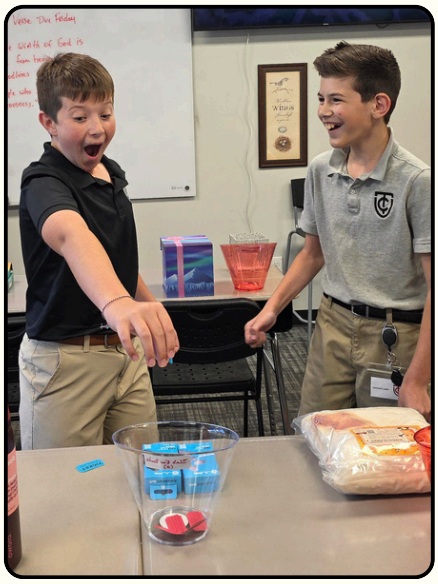


LOWER SCHOOL MUSIC - BROOKLYN PACE



cool kids READ BOOKS!





Over the summer, our upcoming 7th - 12th graders spent time on independent reading - a lot of time on a lot of books, actually! Participants in the Summer Reading Challenge read a collective 186 books. The students gained stress reduction, better focus, an improved vocabulary, stronger writing skills, greater empathy, and prizes.

Thanks to the generosity of the FTO, students who entered the Summer Reading Challenge earned raffle tickets for a chance to win a variety of prizes from bookmarks, ear buds, and Starbucks gift cards, all the way up to a JBL Speaker, a Kindle, and a brand new pair of Birkenstocks from Elliot's Boots.

Congratulations to all of our participants, winners, and our grand prize winners: Carolina Machacek and Ari Baker!

recipe

How to Make Pie in a Cup







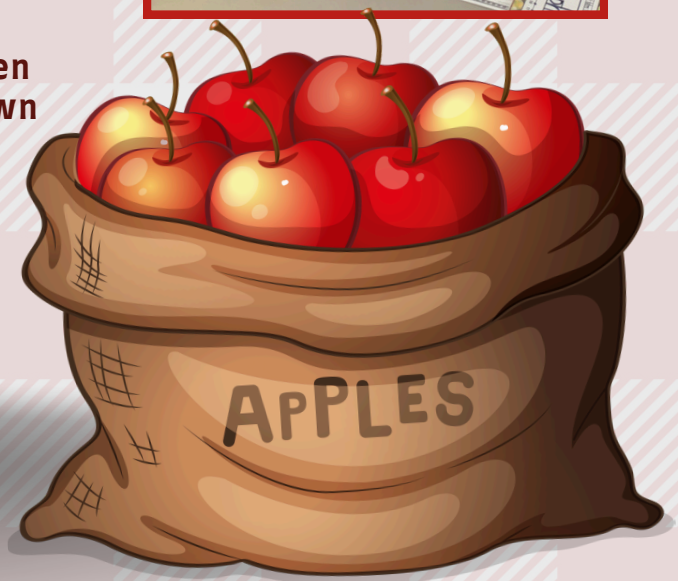


September has always made me think of apples and all the yummy desserts you can make with them. First Grade read the story "How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World."

In the story the main character is traveling all over the world to collect her items to make a pie. We discussed how the setting changed throughout the story and all the countries she visited for her ingredients. Students made their own version of apples pies, however we called it "pie in a cup."

Students had to use transitional words and figure out which ingredients came first for their pies. Then they assembled their pies together, wrote their own recipe cards, and the best part...ate their yummy pies in a cup!

This lesson tied together social studies, math, and writing in a fun, creative (and tasty) activity. First Grade is excited to go on our field trip to Apple Valley Orchard at the end of this month, and to continue learning about apples throughout the month of September!



1ST GRADE · REBECCA HAKE

Athletics
TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN







There is something special about sports at a small school.

You may show up because your child is running or playing, but it doesn't take long before you realize you aren't just cheering for one anymore.

In no time at all, you know the favorite candy of the lower school student who is trying a sport for the first time, the middle schooler working toward a personal best, and the upper school athlete you remember being knee high to a grass hopper.

Our youngest Hawks watch the older ones and imagine themselves in those big shoes someday. Our older students have our little ones cheering them on with big eyes - the way the big kids compete, the way they respond, the way they lead.

You cheer for someone else's child. You take pictures because you know their mom will want them. You celebrate that first serve over the net, the first touchdown, the personal record, and the senior playing one of their last games. You hurt for them when things don't go their way and you encourage them with tears in your eyes.

Before you know it, you become a little bit of a momma to all of them.

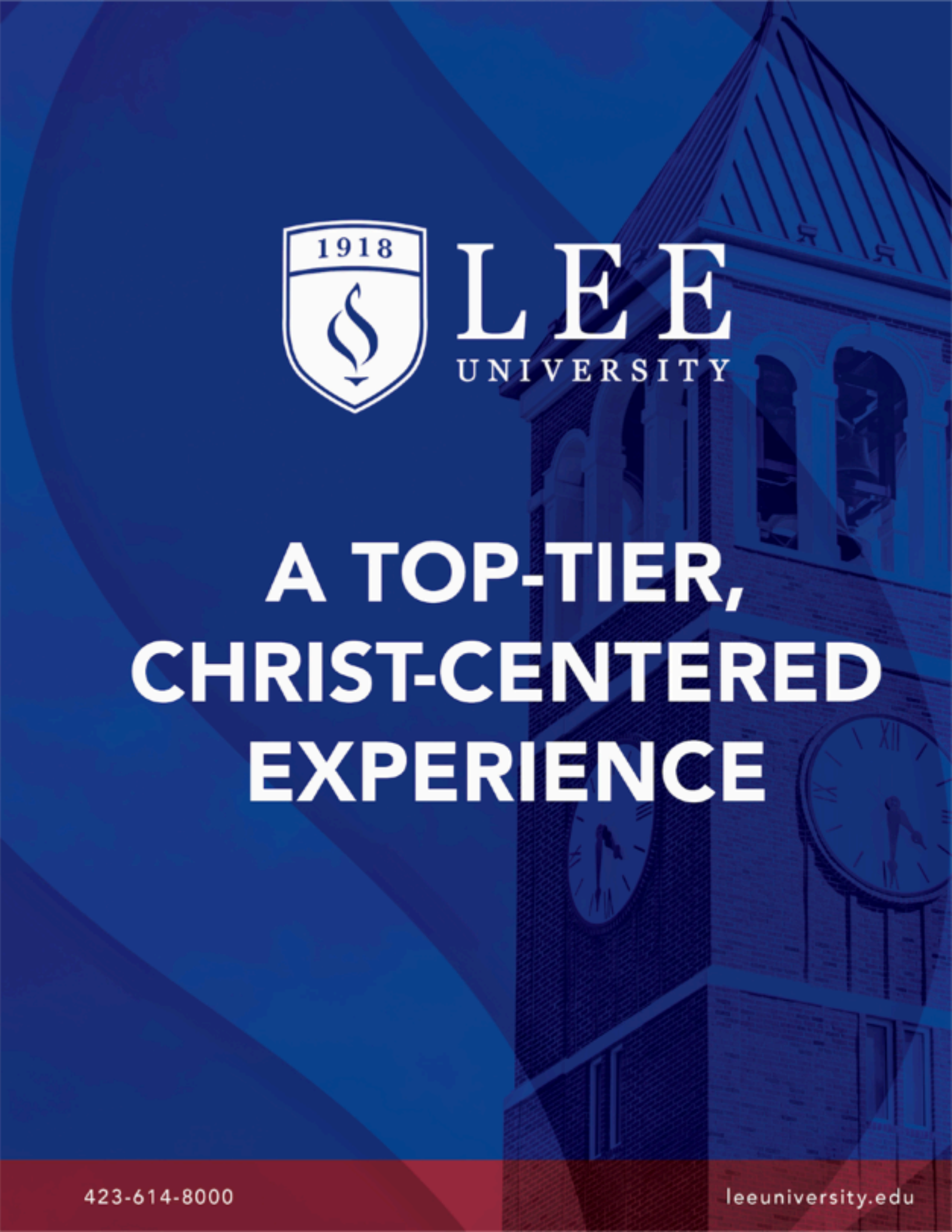
This is taking care of our nest.

During Camp Hawk, we teach our lower school students that our "nest" is bigger than one classroom. The same is true in athletics. Our nest is bigger than one grade, one team, or one family.

Taking care of our nest means showing up for each other. It means cheering just as loudly when it isn't your child. It means reminding our older Hawks that someone younger is always watching.

Yes, I may have come to cheer for mine. But somewhere along the way, they have all became ours.

I think that's one of the very best things about being a Hawk. I may not know much about the athletic world, but here's what I do know: the way our students, families, and teams show up for one another, that is something I can get behind.


1918
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