



CITY TREE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

First Presbyterian Church • 320 Date Street • San Diego, CA 92101 • (619) 232-3794 • Fax (619) 232-2447

Greetings Soon-To-Be CTCS Middle School Parents!

It is with great pleasure and anticipation that I welcome you to the world of Middle School preparation! Your child is likely already in the beginning stages of the amazing mental, emotional, physical, and often spiritual transformation that will take place as they become middle schoolers. These changes are challenging, but vital as children become young adults.

It is our goal, as a school, to walk beside you and work with your family throughout the next 3 years. If you have parented a middle school child in the past, you know that nothing can fully prepare you for the experience, but some preparation and planning definitely helps!

Attached to this letter is a Middle School preparation checklist that can be used by both you and your child this summer. Please take time to review the checklist and apply as many of the tips as possible.

The final weeks of this school year will also be a time when Mrs. Patria and the Middle School Staff work together to acquaint 5th graders more closely with future teachers and peers and start to prepare them for next year.

Upcoming Student Opportunities...

5th Grade Girls Friendship Study - June 7, 10, 11, 15 (lunchtime)

Fifth grade girls will meet with me to discuss and study interpersonal relationships, how to recognize and be a quality friend, and what God says about how we should love and relate to each other. As peer relationships becoming increasingly important, we hope to prepare and coach students to make good decisions about their friends. If you have any questions about this study, please don't hesitate to contact me!

5th-8th Grade "Guys, Games, and Grub" - June 15 (1:20-3:15)

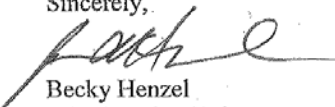
All 5th-8th grade guys will take a trip to the park with Mr. Nieman (Middle School Science, History, Christian Ed. and PE teacher) and Mr. Joe to play some games, get to know each other, hang out, and talk about Middle School life.

5th-8th Grade Girls "Chips and Chat" - June 15th (2:20-3:15)

All 5th-8th grade girls will get together for games, snacks, and some time to chat about Middle School with this year's middle school students, Mrs. Decker (Middle School Language Arts and Social Studies teacher), Mrs. Irwig (Middle School Spanish, and Music Teacher), Mrs. Rees (Middle School Math and Science Teacher) and Mrs. Henzel.

Please review the Middle School checklist and talk with your child about the ways he/she can be ready for what's ahead. We look forward to seeing you back in September as 6th graders!

Sincerely,


Becky Henzel
Middle School Director



Middle School Summer Checklist (for parents)

- Spend some time helping your child get organized*** before the school year begins. Identify a quiet study location where students can both store their materials and work at home with as little distraction as possible .
- Be sure to submit your Middle School Activity Fee.*** This payment (applied to 6th Grade Camp) is due July 1. You may submit payment to the school tuition box prior to June 22 or wait for your July 1 statements that will go out by mail.
- Take time to familiarize yourself with the changes*** that are happening with your child, and decide how you will respond. There are many good online resources that describe ways to help your child with the transition ahead. The CTCs website will soon feature a Middle School Parent Resource Page under the “Getting Involved” link. Check out this page during the summer for helpful articles and other resources.
- Consider reading the book “7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens”*** by Sean Covey or a similar book with your child over the summer. This resource provides a great description of what makes middle and high school students successful. Often experiencing a book like this with your child opens up lines of communication that will hopefully continue through the coming years.
- Check the mail for our Back-to-School Information*** in early August. There will be important information specific to Middle School included with this packet.
- Plan to attend our Back-to-School Morning*** on Friday, September 3. Students will receive their class schedules, meet all their teachers, and walk through a typical school day. This experience will be different than what you and your student might be used to from past Back to School Mornings so please make a point to attend. It is key for students to feel comfortable on the first day of school.
- Check out the new uniform options*** for middle school students in the Parent Handbook and order over the summer.
- Contact Mrs. Henzel with any questions*** you may have over the summer months. (619) 232-3794 or becky.henzel@citytree.org
- Enjoy the benefits*** that come with student maturity and independence!

Middle School Summer Checklist (for students)



Get lots of exercise this summer! Regular activity helps prevent some of the “sluggishness” that can happen at the beginning of a new school year.

Choose and read 1 novel before September. Your novel should be appropriate for your grade level. Ask your parents for help. This book will be used at the very beginning of the year in Language Arts. Plan to bring this book with you to class when school starts in September.

Participate in City Tree’s Summer Reading Challenge. Details will be available in the coming weeks.

Think about how you will organize your study time and space at home. Ask parents or older brothers and sisters to help you find a space where you will keep your school materials and do your studying. Remember, you want to choose a space that has as little distraction as possible! Organization and a good study space is very important for your success in middle school.

Write down any questions you have about middle school this summer. Ask your parents to send your questions to the office or save them until Back-to-School morning. The more questions you ask, the more comfortable you will feel next year!

Talk to your parents about middle school. Let them know how you are feeling, what you are looking forward to. Make sure you ask them for help when you need it! They are your best resource!

Be excited about what’s ahead! Middle school is great and you’re going to love it!