A Quarterly Publication of
Trinity Oaks Christian Academy

the OAK LEAF

Spring 2025

Equipping future generations with wisdom, knowledge and character to impact their world for Christ with servants' hearts.

"We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain."

Hebrews 6:19 – 2024/25 Year Verse

Spring Calendar

Race for Education
May 2

Spring Golf Fundraiser
May 9

High School Banquet
May 17

Graduation
May 28

Honors Convocation
May 29

LEADING THE WAY

Dr. Paul Wrobbel
Head of School

The Eternal Investment of Christian Education

As I reflect on Christian education, I recognize many valuable benefits: an excellent and rigorous academic curriculum, a community of dedicated Christian teachers and families, and a caring, nurturing environment. While these are significant, the primary reason for choosing Christian education is to immerse children in a biblical worldview—training them to think "Christianly" and biblically while teaching them to love the Lord their God with all their heart, mind, soul, and strength. When we shape our children's minds, we influence how they think and, ultimately, how they live. J.C. Ryle wisely noted, "The heart is unquestionably the main point. But we must never forget that the Holy Spirit generally reaches the heart through the mind."

Christian education is sometimes criticized as sheltering children and teens from the "real" world. However, the truth is quite the opposite. Rather than isolating students, it equips them with wisdom and discernment, preparing them to navigate life with biblical truth as their foundation. It teaches them to analyze and engage with the world through the lens of Scripture—God's unchanging and ultimate source of Truth. This is especially critical in what many now call the "post-truth" era. Our prayer is that our students will grow in their love for the Lord, develop the mind of Christ, and be prepared to impact the world for Him with hearts dedicated to service.

Christian education is an eternal investment. Thank you for partnering with us in the vital and rewarding mission of equipping the next generation with wisdom, knowledge, and character to make an eternal difference for Christ.

CHRISTMAS GIFT CHAPEL

The Trinity Oaks Band, Choir, and Orchestra competed in IHSA's annual Solo and Ensemble contest at Harvard High School in February. Each of the students received the highest score possible for their pieces and among 43 other Vocal & Solo Ensembles, TOCA was also awarded 'BEST OF DAY' which is a HUGE honor! A hearty congratulations to these students on using their talents for the glory of the Lord!

ORCHESTRA

Left to Right: Dominick Nocchi, Brayden Bicknese, Carly Freeman, Ella Britton, Audrey Gerhardt, Natalie Freeman, Director Kira Boerman

CHOIR ENSENBLE

Left to Right: Whitman Ritchie, Kingston Fraser, Quinn Ritchie, Keller Ritchie, Pryce Ritchie, Jocelyn Etten, Ella Britton, Audrey Gerhardt

BAND

Sophia Carlson

ATHLETICS

Back Row: *Coach Kulans, Asher Rowe, Andrei Yakovlev, Maks Kulans, River Fraser, Cooper Klimek, Henry Riniker, Michael Lopatkin, Coach Parks*

Front Row: *Jase Bartholomae, Jett Brooke, Ryder Davis, Bennett Johnson, Carson Parat, Dean Englund*

Back Row: *Coach Parks, Colton Snare, Roman DeLaMora, Brooks Englund, Joey Nowosielski, Karter Kulans, Connor White*

Front Row: *Troy Brooke, Simon White, Eli Parks, Noah Horstman, Timothy Michalios, Isaac Searles, Sam Yarrington*

This season, both the 5th/6th and 7th/8th grade boys' basketball teams not only secured winning records but also gained something far more valuable—growth in character, teamwork, and perseverance. From the first practice to the final buzzer, the players demonstrated dedication and resilience, pushing themselves to improve their skills and work together as a team. They faced challenges with determination, learning to support one another both on and off the court. Their commitment to sportsmanship and integrity reflected the values we strive to instill at our school, making this season a true success beyond just the numbers. Congratulations to both teams on a fantastic season! We look forward to seeing how these experiences shape their future, both in basketball and in life.

Back Row: *Sydney Johnson, Emerson Shaykin, Alyssa Soto, Lydia Wilkins, Drea Anderson, Annelise O'Brill*

Front Row: *Ella Junge, Violet DeLaMora, Catalina Perez, Quinn Snare, Claire Hamilton, Vivian Gregga*

Back Row: *Coach Snare, Lydia Apostal, Mia Wager, Jordyn Nielsen, Lyla Turman, Alaina Ebel, Coach Junge*

Front Row: *Larkin Fraser, Brooklynn Davis, Sophia Apostal, Emma Petrovich*

The 7th and 8th grade girls compiled an impressive 13-2 record, while the 5th and 6th grade girls were 13-0. Both teams took 1st place in their tournaments as well! We are so proud of our girls and their dedication to the team. We can't wait until next year!

HONORABLE MENTION

High School Boys Basketball

Left to Right: *Judah Rowe, Josh Barak, Matthew Vazquez, Brayden Bicknese, Micaiah Apostal, Kingston Fraser, Sean Mork, Josh Wager, Collin Kitchen, Whitman Ritchie*

Back row: *Assistant Coach Jack Freeman, Coach Tim Fraser*

This basketball season was an amazing journey of growth and perseverance for our entire team. From the first tip-off to the last game, everyone showed huge improvement through their hard work and dedication to the team and to themselves. They stuck together through the ups and downs, proving how much heart they have. Our team truly lived by Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Learning that this verse is not just about some superhuman strength we can receive from God, but how we can persevere through the good and bad times. Watching their faith and determination was inspiring. Their skill, character, and unity made us incredibly proud. We will miss our seniors Sean Mork and Whitman Ritchie, but we are incredibly excited for next season!

SCIENCE FAIR

Excellent presentations were displayed by our student scientists at the annual Trinity Oaks Science Fair. Ten of our students advanced to the Illinois Junior Academy of Science Regional Science Fair as well!

RHETORIC RECITAL

The judges were impressed by the recitations at this year's Annual Rhetoric Recital. Speakers from grades 3-12 delivered a variety of selections of dramatic poetry, Bible prose, and persuasive essays. We are so proud of these students and pray they will continue to become excellent communicators for Christ!

Back Row: *Jillian Camphouse, Larkin Fraser, Jordyn Nielsen, Brenna McCarrell, Timothy Michalios, Karter Kulans, Troy Brooke, Selah Obien, Bella Augustynski, Hannah Krucek*

Back Row: *Larkin Fraser(7), Jersey Irwin(9), Jocelyn Etten(9), Kimberly Gonzalez(8), Bella Augustynski(8), Ella Junge(5), Whitman Ritchie(12)*

Front Row: *Reagan Shaykin(4), Melanie Petraglia(3), Evie DeLaMora(4), Vivian Gregga(6)*

MISSIONS

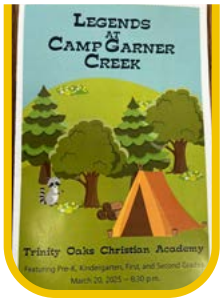
HIGH SCHOOL WINTERIM MISSION TRIP

The first full week back to school in January, the 10-12th grade students had the opportunity to serve the community in Paducah, KY with Praying Pelican Missions. This trip was definitely one for the books! The weather tried to put a damper on what they could accomplish, but the Lord had other plans. From serving food to the homeless, to rehabbing an old hotel for a future battered women's shelter, to painting/laying flooring at a center that serves the community, to removing obsolete duct work from the crawl space at the Pastor's house, the participants worked extremely hard in the few short days they had. The students and leaders all wished they had more time, but were happy to see what the Lord would allow them to complete during their week! We look forward to partnering with Praying Pelican Missions in the future!

PRAYING PELICAN MISSIONS

PK-2ND GRADE MUSICAL

The Pre-K -2nd grade students had a great time at Camp Garner Creek!



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Our Mission:

The mission of Trinity Oaks Christian Academy is to partner with the Christian home and church in the training of children, maximizing their potential to lead Christian lives according to biblical standards.

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STEM CLASS

The 4th grade classes were able to create and tune in their FM Radios!