AMERICAN CLASSICAL ACADEMY

RUTHERFORD

The Rutherford Weekly

NEWS FOR THE FAMILIES OF ACAR · WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16, 2026 · VOL. 1, NO. 5

THANK YOU · THE CLASSICAL FALL FESTIVAL, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

Dear Families, **thank you for coming.** On Saturday the assembly area filled three times over — at noon, at three and at six — and it was, from first session to last, the best afternoon this school has had. Thank you for bringing your children, for the costumes, and for staying to talk to one another.

Thank you to our **PTO**, who built it; to the **parents who signed up** to set up, run the three sessions and take it all down again; and to the **teachers and staff** who came on a Saturday, as guests, because they wanted to be there. None of them was asked to be.

I am back on campus this week, and glad to be.

Warmly,
Dr. Thomas Covington
Assistant Head of School

VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

Friendship

"Friendship is a single soul dwelling in two bodies."
ATTRIBUTED TO ARISTOTLE

Our pledge: I will treat everyone with respect and seek friends who make me better.

THE FESTIVAL, IN SHORT

Three sessions by grade, free from the door to the last bag of popcorn: a **costume parade and awards**, games and races, selfie and 360 photo booths, face painting, a DJ, and popcorn all afternoon.

Thirty-one children entered a costume card — a figure out of history or a character from a book they had met at school, with a sentence on why that person matters. **Fifty-nine families** told us in advance they were coming, for **105 adults and 108 children**, and a good many more simply arrived.

Every dollar raised goes to the **co-curricular programs** — Music, Art and PE — as instruments, supplies and equipment. It comes back to the children who earned it.

CAR LINE REMINDERS

- Drop-off: **7:30–7:50 AM**. Arrivals after **8:00** are marked tardy.
- Please display your car tag prominently.
- Remain in your vehicle at pick-up.
- **No car line Nov. 23–27** — school is closed.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Nov 19	PTO Thanksgiving Lunch — students and staff
Nov 20	Fall Festival giving closes
Nov 23–27	Thanksgiving break — school closed
Dec 1	Musicals & Plays fund closes
Dec 18	End of semester — ½ day for students

THIS WEEK AT ACAR

MONDAY · NOV 16
A normal school day. Grade 4 recites *The Village Blacksmith*.

THURSDAY · NOV 19
The PTO Thanksgiving Lunch, 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM. This lunch is for students and staff only. It is prepared by the school's regular food service, and one of our families has generously offered to pay for every meal.

FRIDAY · NOV 20
Last day of school before Thanksgiving break, and the **last day to give** to your child's pumpkin. A **Roman soldier visits Grade 3** at 10:30 AM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Help on Thursday. The PTO is still looking for hands for the Thanksgiving Lunch — serving, setting up and clearing away. One morning, and no experience needed. Sign up at:
theacaraccount.com/volunteer/nbtXCnjxm4oD9qf4WnbiPAjq

Giving closes Friday. No homeroom has reached **$300** yet, and the pumpkins stay open until the end of **Friday, November 20**. Sign in at **theacaraccount.com** and open the **Fall Festival** tab to give to your own child's class. Grades 3–5 still earn a can of silly string for every **$25**, and grades 6–7 a pie for every **$50** — your child picks whether it is aimed at Dr. Covington or Dr. Norton.

Raise the Curtain. The School Musicals and Plays fund pays for set design, sound, production and rentals behind Bel Canto, the Christmas Concert and every show in between. **$260** raised toward **$5,000**; the fund **closes Dec. 1**.

Scan to give any amount, or visit
theacaraccount.com/give/775a356a23ba45ed

What the giving earned. Fifteen cans of silly string in grades 3–5, and **four** pies in grades 6–7. Dr. Norton and I are told we are to stand still for them.

LEADING THE WAY

Teachers have now logged **963** virtue wins since August, up from 839 a week ago. Leading the school:

Ryan Mastalski Grade 5 — **12 wins**

Jonas Edwards Grade 5 — **11 wins**

Payton Dunlap Grade 5 — **11 wins**

A week of reciting: **Grade 2** gave *When Johnny Comes Marching Home* and *Bed in Summer*, **Grade 4** the *Marine Hymn* on Veterans Day, and **Kindergarten** *I Do Not Mind You, Winter Wind*.

Our **6th and 7th graders** were commended for moderation in Assembly — for carrying themselves, their teachers wrote, as leaders for the younger students.

FESTIVAL GIVING — THE BOARD

$1,760 raised: **$1,385** from **39 families** giving on their accounts, and **$375** taken by card at the door over the three sessions. **Nineteen of our twenty homerooms** are on the board.

K Morrison — leads K–2	**$200**
6th Gedeon — leads 6–7	**$175**
1st Youngblood	**$175**
4th Raybon — leads 3–5	**$160**
3rd Niedzielski	**$150**
6th Andrade	**$110**
K Hoffmann	**$80**
2nd Cross, 2nd Hazzard, 4th Shelton, 5th Young, 7th Johnson	**$75 ea.**
1st Potter, 2nd Booker	**$60 ea.**
1st Grimwood	**$55**
5th Grayson, K Day	**$50 ea.**
3rd Fox	**$35**
7th Clark	**$25**

The homeroom raising the most in each band wins a **pizza party**, decided on the board as it stands at the close of **Friday**.

AROUND THE GRADES

K	A new phonogram daily, with *Peter Rabbit*; the Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving; gravity and Isaac Newton.
1st	Literacy Essentials Week 14; an introduction to Islam — mosques, prayer, Ramadan and Eid; Singapore Math chapter 5 tested, then chapter 6; sound and pitch.
2nd	Spelling list 2C and the Greek myths; Ancient Greece — Athens, Sparta and the Olympic Games; subtraction with regrouping; the properties of matter.
3rd	The Norse myths, then *Squanto and the Miracle of Thanksgiving*; the death of Julius Caesar; four-digit addition and subtraction; weather and climate.
4th	*Robin Hood* begins, with *King Arthur* 17–22; adjectives quizzed, predicate verbs introduced; the chapter 5 retest, then fractions.
5th	Conservation, with a test; the Second World War, and a test across both wars; the chapter 5 math test.
6th	*The Children's Homer*, Part II; Ancient India, days 8 to 11, then the unit quiz.
7th	*A Christmas Carol*; the Articles of Confederation through the Constitution and the Bill of Rights; the chapters 4–5 math assessment; electricity and magnetism.