

# TCAS



# Connection

## March 2024



### March Upcoming Events

- **2** – TCAS Performance at Pasco Riverview SDA Church
- **4** – “Love Your School” campaign ends
- **6** – WWVA visits TCAS
- **7** – WWVA Day - TCAS visits WWVA (grades 7-10)
- **13** – SWLC School Pictures
- **16** – TCAS Performance at Kennewick SDA Church
- **22** – End of 3rd Quarter
- **25-April 3** – **No School** - Spring Break & Professional Development

Happy Easter



### High Level Updates

- **“Love Your School” campaign!** God opened the floodgates. Thank you to everyone who participated and supported generously while our children shared their passion for TCAS. Although a fundraiser, the heart of this event is/was spreading Jesus’ love. It has been a reciprocal blessing in so many ways. Most importantly, it is a reminder to our students and community of the privilege and value of Christian education. Sharing the need and speaking to others about our school has served to increase unity in the school and has allowed us to make connections with our neighbors, area churches, and greater Tri-Cities community. The happiness and smiles on campus have been contagious.
  - Paper chain links and hearts decorate the hallways outside each classroom and represent how much has been brought in (\$10 value for each link and \$50 value for each heart). Below are some fun updates and stats about how things are going:
  - The school-wide celebrations (so far) have included: bubble walk and donuts, staff pink hair day and silly string at dismissal, chalk your walk and fork the lawn.
  - Total raised so far = \$6,624.75, 43.7% participation (school wide).
  - Stay tuned for more. We will keep you updated.

### Announcements

- **Upcoming retirement:** Teacher Betty has made the decision to move forward with the next chapter in her life. At the end of this school year, she will be retiring from her 40 YEAR teaching career at TCAS. We will miss her, but know that she and God made this decision together.
  - **Save the date:** May 19 we will celebrate teacher Betty’s lifelong mission of sharing God’s love with our children. Watch for further details.
- **Open Enrollment** - Now! For fall 2024-2025 school year:
  - TCAS - mytcas.org or call the school to schedule a tour.
  - Small World Learning Center (SWLC) - info@smallworldpasco.org
- **Prayer:** Please lift the following needs to our Heavenly Father with prayer and thanksgiving:
  - Enrollment -- praying over next year’s students and their families.
  - Volunteers for the school (see “Volunteer Opportunities” below)
  - Wisdom, guidance, and endurance for our Administration, Staff, Board and Committees
  - Relationship with Jesus for our students and entire TCAS family!

“For this world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to a home yet to come.” Hebrews 13:14 (NLT)

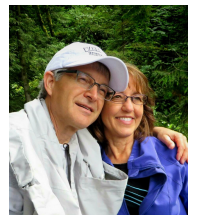
Mission: To show children Jesus, nurture their love for Him and others, teach them to think, and empower them to serve.

Vision: To enable all students to achieve their God-given potential.

### Principal Gayle Norton’s Message

In 2019 there was a college admission scandal where parents used their wealth and status to get their children into prestigious universities. It is true the wealthy can use their wealth to send their children to the best schools, hire tutors, and pay for test preparations. But there is one factor that is available to all: HOPE. Shane Lopez of Gallup Student Poll surveyed nearly one million students, grades 5-12, from around the world and concluded, “Hope predicts which students show up for school and how well they do.” Unfortunately, they found only half of the students were hopeful.

How can we inspire our students to be more hopeful? Shane Lopez says, “What really matters to our students—the future.” Of all people, our students should be the most hopeful because we have this great hope, Jesus Christ, who gives all the brightest of futures. Our children are like kites—all they need is the wind of hope to soar.



In His Name,  
Gayle Norton

## Student Spotlight

(by Chloe Austin, 9th grade)

### Carson and Harper Munden



**Harper** is in 4th grade. She says her favorite tradition is when she and her family go to Silverwood during the summer. She likes it because it is a fun thing to do with her family. Some of her goals for this year are getting good grades in school and leveling up in gymnastics.

She has 3 dogs: 1) Spanky is a very large dog, 2) Bebe is soft and cuddly, and 3) Zoe is energetic and playful. Harper said her favorite Bible verse is Genesis 1:1, "Because it is the very beginning of life, and it is about creation." When asked what led her to TCAS, she said her friends that already went here recommended it.

**Carson** is in 8th grade. His favorite tradition is when he and his dad go hunting in the fall. He likes it because it is time that he gets to spend time with his dad. He says his favorite day of the week is Monday, "Because after the weekend you get to go to school and see your friends." One thing that Carson and Harper have in common is their favorite Bible verse, Genesis 1:1. Carson's reason is because it is the main foundation of the Bible. His favorite season is spring because it is the perfect temperature: "Not too hot, not too cold, and of course it is the perfect time to go bass fishing." If Carson could travel anywhere, it would be South America to experience that type of weather and the animals. "It's just different," he says.



**Harper and Carson, we're so glad you're here at TCAS!**

**Praying Parents!** Join us Mondays at 2:30 p.m. at the school (when in session) to pray for our school, students, and staff. All are welcome! Prayers from afar are also needed!

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Interested in helping TCAS? Some current needs:

- **Monthly teacher appreciation:** baking treats, writing notes of encouragement, bringing in lunch, etc. (Email Home and School if you would like to help.)
- **Tutors** for reading and math. Flexible time(s)
- **Lunch monitor(s)** for grades 7-10, (M-Th 12:30 – 1:10 PM)
- **Recess monitor(s)** (10:00 – 10:20 AM, 12:00 – 12:30 PM, 2:00 – 2:20 PM)
- **Looking Forward:** Breakfast Team for next year (8:00 – 8:30 AM, M-F)

### Contact Information:

TCAS Office: (509) 547-8092 | [office@mytcas.org](mailto:office@mytcas.org)  
Treasurer: [treasurer@mytcas.org](mailto:treasurer@mytcas.org) | Website: [mytcas.org](http://mytcas.org)

## Staff Spotlight

### Mrs. Karen Lawson

(Aide in Mrs. Smith's Kindergarten Classroom)



Mrs. Karen Lawson is fondly known at TCAS as "Ms. KD." She and her husband John moved to the Tri-Cities from Aloha, Oregon in 2021 to be closer to family.

Five of her eight grandchildren live locally and attend TCAS. When her daughter, Jennifer, told her about the open aide position in Teacher Betty's first grade classroom last year, she felt the pull to return to the classroom.

A few little-known facts about Ms. KD:

1. She has a degree in teaching and began her career (as a teacher) in a small two-room school. She taught for two years before transitioning to a new position -- stay-at-home-mom -- when she had children of her own.
2. Later, a new career opportunity came along to work in finance. It suited and served her well until retirement.
3. Hobbies include: time her with her grandchildren, travel, cooking, baking, music, and crafts. One of her unusual hobbies is Legos! She has incredible and extensive builds, one of which is an amazing winter village. Some of her builds/modulars stay up year-round.
4. Cats are her favorite animal, and she has two Ragdoll kitties (Jean Pierre and Nigel).
5. Her favorite time of year is between Thanksgiving and Christmas; and she loves decorating, going all out for themed Christmases each year.

When asked how she feels about TCAS, Ms. KD's response was instant. "I love it! I love interacting with young children and helping them through the learning process. It is so rewarding to see them learn and special to witness when they finally understand something new! My goal is to help the teachers, so they don't have to stay until 7:00 p.m. at night. A teacher's life is hard, and it doesn't end at 3:15 p.m."

Ms. KD, your heart of service to the Lord and kindness is evident. Thank you for blessing and inspiring us. We love having you at TCAS too!



## Fundraising Opportunities

- **Love Your School Campaign** – Fundraising for H&S through the entire month of February 2024. Find a TCAS student and see how you can help them meet their goals.
- **Yokes** grocery store will donate a percentage of your purchases to TCAS. (See office for card.)
- **Donations** are needed and appreciated for student assistance! Donations can be sent to the office with a memo ("student assistance") or contact Celeste Graves (TCAS Treasurer).

If you are a current student at TCAS, have something to share, or would like to be featured, please email [Homeandschool@mytcas.org](mailto:Homeandschool@mytcas.org) with the subject heading "Content for TCAS Connection"