



## THE COMEBACK SEASON



The mighty Rams football team is back again for another great year! Although last season did not go as planned, Coach Ox says that the team has put in the work and time to have a winning season. The boys are excited for the year and some of them have given us the inside scoop on the team.

The players we interviewed told us that the team has great chemistry and they move together as one. Damien Statham, a junior, states that his goal for this season is to better his teammates and lead them as well as he can. Since we have no seniors this year, it is up to the juniors to lead the

team. This year the team is changing from eleven man to eight man, and they also have more players this year. Last year the team struggled because they did not have enough players and some suffered from injuries. This year they have twenty-one players and hope to play smart and safe so

they can prevent injuries. The football team is excited for Friday night lights and having the stands packed with fans. We are looking forward to a great year.

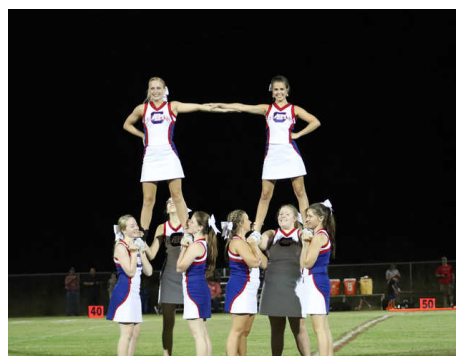
Go Rams!

By: Mary Beth Marchman and Lauren Pennell

### PRINCIPAL WITH A PURPOSE

The Upper School students were enthusiastically welcomed back to school by a man with a friendly, familiar face and a brand-new title: Mr. Johnston! Over the summer, Mr. Johnston shifted gears from math teacher and administrator to Upper School principal with a purpose. He doesn't seek dramatic changes in the horizon but instead intends to solidify, deepen, and further embody the identity of Covenant Academy and fulfill the mission. Becoming principal means having to let go of his teacher status, and Mr. Johnston expresses that he will miss the students the most in this change of positions. Specifically, he will miss forming the environment of classes and being involved in growth on a personal level in the lives of the students. Mr. Johnston also already misses daily, intentional interaction of getting students from where they are to where they need to be. Although saddened at some aspects of this transition, Mr. Johnston does look forward to taking a more active and personal role in forming relationships with the teachers. In his own words, "We have some pretty awesome teachers!"

By: Rayna Buher and Kea Chambless



### GO! FIGHT! WIN! RAMS!

CA's varsity cheer squad is off to a great start this season! The cheerleaders hope to get our school and teams pumped up for the games that are ahead of us. The cheerleaders also have exciting pep rallies and school spirit activities planned for the rest of the season. They will continue to decorate the hallways and lockers for the guys on the football team to show them love, spirit, and support. Co-captains of the cheer squad, Abby Chestnut and Allison Hughes said, "Our goal is to see our school have fun and show spirit for our teams!" Embodying more school spirit, our Ram mascot has an updated look this year, so be sure to watch for him at games and pep rallies. Also during games, Mr. Watson and his pep band will be sure to get the fans pumped up with band chants and music. Com on out to our football games and cheer on the guys under the Friday night lights!

By: Allison Hughes

### A GETAWAY: SENIOR RETREAT

This year's senior class, the class of 2020, started off the year with a retreat to Columbus, Georgia. The trip began at Whitewater Express, where they rafted down the Chattahoochee River. Next stop for the seniors was, of course, lunch; the students spread out at different restaurants around downtown Columbus. Lastly, they headed to Black Rock Park, which is a peaceful, pretty park down by a creek. The students all sat down by the bridge while Coach Matt Chambless gave a

very inspiring challenge to them concerning their senior year. He spoke to them about not getting caught up in what this short life offers us but to live with eternity in mind. He also told them to absolutely enjoy the moment and senior year, to cherish all the little things, and live senior year to its fullest; but to always remember "who you are and whose you are," and again always live with eternity in mind. This getaway and message were both appreciated by the senior class.

By: Mac McNeal

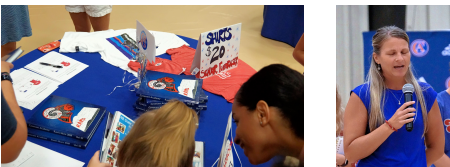




# BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Our annual Back to School Bash was a great experience filled with fellowship, new families, and prayer. The goal of this event is to carry the excitement from the summer into the school year. Speakers from the night spoke on the upcoming fall activities, the fundraisers throughout the year, and booster club opportunities. We came together to pray for the faculty, the students, and the seniors who are going to depart from our school in the upcoming year. We are excited for a great school year at Covenant Academy!

By: Mary Beth Marchman and Emma Durden



# FRESH FACES

Covenant Academy has had the opportunity to welcome new faces to the Ram family. Even though this has been an adjustment for everyone at the school, we are extremely excited to see their impact on students this school year! We are pleased to welcome new faces in the Grammar School. Laura Bartow, a former teacher, who moved back from teaching at Tattnall Square Academy has filled in the roll of teaching a 4K class. Mrs. Bartow stated “I came back because of the spiritual emphasis Covenant chooses to have within their education.” This seemed to be a common theme among the new teachers as to why they chose Covenant. She loves building relationships with the students and parents, and her goal for the year is to make a positive impact on her students and the school. Another teacher that has been welcomed to the grammar school is Mrs. Robinson. Mrs. Robinson came from Cornerstone Elementary and is teaching K3. Her reason for joining the Ram family was because she wanted a good Christian education for her children. This is her ninth year teaching kids and she loves seeing how the kids progress throughout the school year. Some newcomers in the Upper School are Mr. Gant and Mrs. Gordon. Mr. Gant came from Academy of Classical Education to teach middles school math and science. He says that he wanted to come to Covenant because of the change of environment it provides. Mr. Gant’s favorite part of teaching is seeing his students succeed. Mrs. Gordon came from Adel, Ga to become the new college counselor and to teach high school math. Her favorite thing about teaching is making relationships with students and seeing them fulfill their potential. After interviewing these new teachers we can definitely say that this school has a bright future. All of these amazing teachers love the Lord above all, as well as their students. Covenant could not have asked for better people to join its faculty. We are sure that these teachers will change Covenant for the better.

By: Lauren Mixon and Rachel Pennell



K4 students enjoy storytime with Mrs. Bartow.

# FINE ARTS DIRECTOR, LEWIS WATSON: HEAR AM II

*"Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me." Isaiah 6:8 (NKJV)*

Greetings to the community of Covenant Academy, I will be stepping away from Covenant Academy for a Military Leave of Absence at the end of January 2020 in order to enter Active Duty in preparation for Deployment to Afghanistan in early Spring for 9 months. I expect to return to the U.S. in February/March of 2021 and then to Covenant soon after.

Recently I shared this information with Upper School student body, provided them an opportunity for questions, and prayed with them. Many tears were shed, some by the students and some by me. I cannot speak to the complexity of their tears, but mine were shed not in concern or fear of the journey that lies ahead, but for the community and family of Covenant Academy that I will leave



Mr. Watson, fearless leader in all walks of life, prepares students for the Christmas concert.

behind. One of the hardest things to do is to leave an organization of which not only myself but my whole family has become a part. Please be in prayer for my wife and children during this time, and for my students as well. For many of them, this has already been a new experience filled with many emotions and questions. I would also ask you to keep me in prayer for my safety, but with this deployment I will be stepping into a Command Leadership position. It is my sincere hope and prayer that I am up to the task and responsibility.

As I prayed with our students, I thanked God for giving me both the opportunity, and the ability to serve our Country. Today, the idea and concept of serving and giving oneself to something of value in service to others is all but lost. I am thankful that our children go to a school that seeks to instill that service mindset for God’s Kingdom in all who would walk the halls of Covenant Academy. Until I return, may the following words direct your prayers in support of this effort:

*"Sincat is so likely that children will meet cruel enemies, let them at least have heard of brave knights and heroic courage." C.S. Lewis On Stories: And Other Essays on Literature (1966)*

*“Blessed be the Lord my Rock, Who trains my hands for war, And my fingers for battle—” Psalm 144:1 (NKJV)*

By: Lewis Watson

# SERVING OTHERS WITH A HUMBLE HEART

On Thursday, September 5, thirty students from the tenth and eleventh grade were inducted into the National Beta Club. Students who are in the Beta Club have to maintain a 3.5 GPA and display the characteristics of having a servant's heart. Each year the Beta Club elects new officers; this year Chandler White was selected to be the president of the club. Anna Watson was elected to be the vice president. The Beta Club Secretary, Lauren Mixon, gave a short speech on



The newly inducted Beta Club members pose for a picture with the rest of the group.

humility. In this speech Lauren stated that humility is a key attribute to have while serving others in a Christ-like

way. The Beta Club treasurer, Lauren Pennell, talked about service. Lauren said that as Christians we are called to love our peers and neighbors by serving them and putting others before yourself. The goal of the Beta Club this year is to go out and do service projects for our community and to show the love of Christ through our members in our everyday lives.

By: Lauren Mixon and Lauren Pennell



ADDITIONAL AUTUMN ATHLETICS

In addition to both football and cheerleading, students are participating in softball and cross country this fall. The varsity softball team is nearly undefeated in our region with a record of 2-1! So far, they have swept our rival, CFCA, for both games in the regular season. They practice hard and play harder, showcasing the Covenant Academy reputation! CA also has a middle school softball team this year. They are really coming together as a team. The girls say they try to keep their coach's words encouraging them to have "short term memory" in their

minds as they play to allow themselves to move on and learn from their mistakes as they happen during the game. The advice is working and they celebrated a win their first game and have had some great plays. The cross country team has been trying to find ways to beat the competition as well as the outrageous heat. Senior runner Emily Barnes says she enjoys cross country, because, "It's a great team building experience. Everyone is very encouraging to each other and we strengthen our relationships by building each other up."

By: Rayna Buher and Haylie Green

WELCOME NEW STUDENTS

Covenant Academy gained a few new students in the Upper School this year, and we decided to interview them to see how they feel. They have all said that Covenant has been enjoyable, welcoming, and friendly. One student said that he is enjoying Mr. Bedingfield's critical thinking class. Another has said that her favorite part of Covenant is her English teacher, Mrs. Holton, and eating lunch with friends. At Covenant Academy, we strive to be Christlike and kind. As the year starts out, one of the best things we can do is to reach out to new students and make them feel welcome. Transitioning to a new school is hard, but it will make it easier if they feel welcome and at home at Covenant Academy!

By: Greyson Fowler and Kristin Childers

GRAMMAR SCHOOL SNAPSHOTS:

Take a look at how the Grammar School has been learning! Field trips, classtime, projects, Hobbit Day, and more!



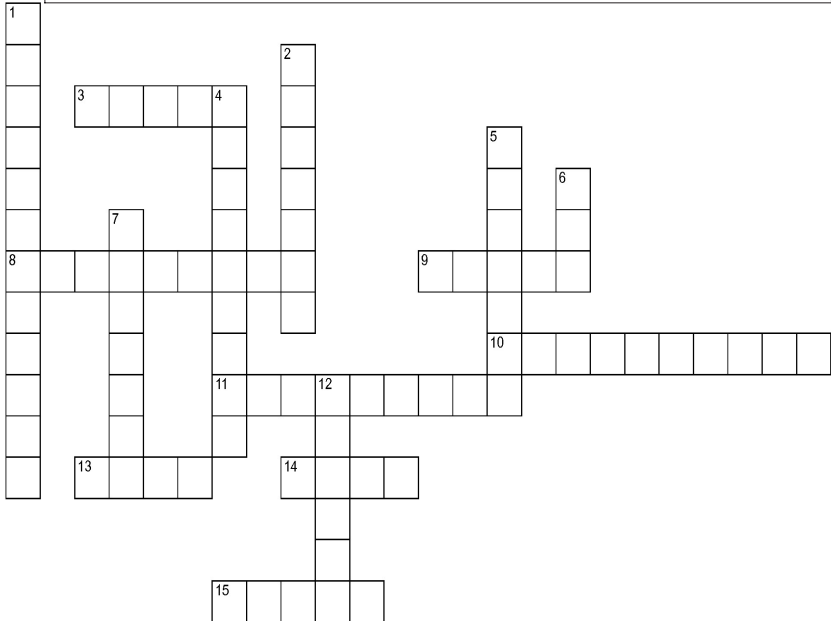
- ACROSS
- 3 How many new teachers are at Covenant this year?
  - 8 How many years has Covenant been a school?
  - 9 How many state championships did we win this past year?
  - 10 Which teacher has been here the longest?
  - 11 What is the name of the play One Act is doing?
  - 13 How many seniors are on the football team this year?
  - 14 We are the mighty mighty \_\_\_\_\_!
  - 15 What is Mrs. Landa's favorite soda?

- DOWN
- 1 What time period does second grade study?
  - 2 We go to Covenant Academy a \_\_\_\_\_ school.
  - 4 How many seniors are in the graduating class?
  - 5 What is Mrs. Freel's favorite type of pizza?
  - 6 How many seniors are on the cheer squad?
  - 7 Which teacher actually owns a real ram?
  - 12 What can boys at Covenant not wear?

By: Mary Beth Marchman

CA TRIVIA CROSSWORD

US Students who turn in a completed, correct crossword puzzle (one per student) by Sept. 24 will earn 25 points for their House Group. The first Grammar School student and the first Upper School student to turn in a completed, correct puzzle to the office will earn a free dress coupon!



CONGRATULATIONS 2019 HOMECOMING COURT



Back Row L to R: Caroline Adams, Anna Freeman, Abby Chestnut, Elise Rodriguez, Victoria Landa, Laney Taylor, Lauren Pennell, Ashley Mays  
Front Row L to R: Evie Abbott, Sarah Bibb, Kea Chambless, Ciana Godfrey, Emma Durden, Madison Walker.





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Portland:

- Tristan Sotella

New York City:

- Kea Chambless
- Peyton Moore
- Eli Saunders
- Myles Brown

Myrtle Beach:

- Lauren Pennell
- Rachel Pennell
- Jon Paul Green

Salt Lake City:

- Allison Hughes
- Lauren Pennell
- Rachel Pennell
- Tristan Sotella

Guatemala:

- Jake Douthit

Macon:

- Allison Hughes
- Sam Hudgins
- Tristan Sotella

Haiti:

- Kate Sims
- Sam Hudgins
- Jacob Moore
- Joely Moore
- Silas Moore

New Orleans:

- Emma Lee Johnson
- Evie Abbott
- Kristin Childers
- Kerri Johnson
- Powell Fowler

By: Rachel Pennell  
Artwork by Sarah Thompson

In addition to the many mission trips taken by CA students this summer, vacation trips to the beach, camps, and other states and church events were enjoyed by many as well. We talked to students who were happy to share all about how their summers went.

Abigail Montgomery went to Hilton Head Island with her family and stated that it was the highlight of her summer. In her free time she did lots of artwork, such as painting a village, a sunset, and a GA bulldog. Abigail also rode horses and helped with VBS at her church.

Jenny Jaffe from the 8th grade had a great summer. She went to the beach,

## THE SUMMER SCOOP

once with her family to Daytona and another time with her church to Panama City. She also attended Mercer's soccer camp, but she said her favorite part was going to the beach with her church friends.

We also got to talk to a new student, Aubryn Fritz, who is in the 8th grade. She went to Annamarie Island. Aubryn also went to Sea World and saw lots of interesting sea creatures.

Hayes Fry from the 10th grade had a summer full of traveling. He went to many places outside of Georgia, including Washington D.C., New York, and Pennsylvania. He stated to us that his favorite time was spent sightseeing in New York at places he had never seen before and watching the plays.

Not only did students have fun this summer but teachers did as well. Ms. Nottingham had a full summer and went to many places including a Braves game, the GA Aquarium, the World of Coke museum, and to the beach. Ms. Nottingham stated that going to beach was overall her favorite as it was to celebrate her completing her master's degree!

Mr. White spent much of the summer working hard. He lives on a ranch and says that there is always work to be done, much of which involves tending to his sheep with his wife. Mr. White said that he was able to find time to relax and read while on a trip to Tybee Island. Mr. White stated that the work he did was hard, but that he was happy to get the work done. He also was able to attend a men's conference at his church and a Tony Evans book event.

Overall, it sounds like the students and teachers had fabulous summers full of lots of fun and exciting events!!

By: Emma Durden and Carly Dobson