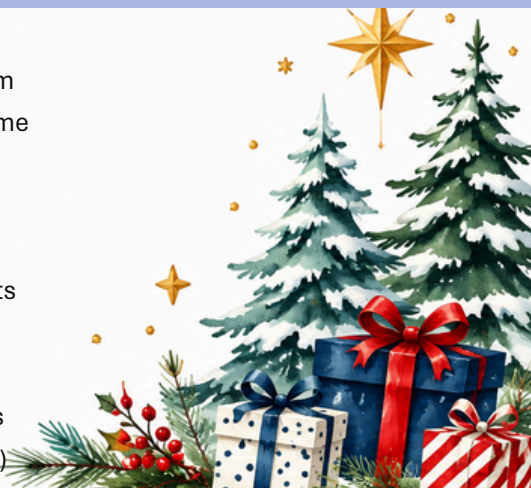
CALVARY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

DECEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER



Upcoming Dates:

- Dec 10 - 7th-12th Grade Christmas Concert - 7:00pm
- Dec 11 - Jr./Sr. High Q2 Progress Reports mailed home
- Dec 18 - HALF DAY - 12:00pm Dismissal
- Dec 21 - Jan 1 - NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break
- Jan 4 - School Resumes
- Jan 4 - Start of Middle School Boys Basketball Tryouts
- Jan 18 - NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan 20 - Jr./Sr. High Q2 Ends
- Jan 21 - 22 - HALF DAY - Jr./Sr. High Mid-Term Exams
- Jan 21 - 22 - NOON dismissal both days (Full School)



Christmas Concert

The Jr./Sr. High Christmas Concert will be held in the Sanctuary on Thursday December 10th at 7:00pm. Our bands and choirs will be performing for your listening enjoyment.

Progress Reports

Jr./Sr. High School Q2 Progress Reports will be mailed home on Friday, December 11th.

Christmas Break

December 18th is a HALF day - NOON dismissal for all students. School will be closed December 21st - January 1st for Christmas break. Classes will resume on Monday, January 4th.

2026-2027 Yearbooks

The deadline to order is Friday, December 11th

Jr. High (7th & 8th Grade) - $22.00
Sr. High (9th - 12th Grades) - $57.00

There are a few 2025-2026 Yearbooks still available for purchase at the High School Office. Sr High $20/ Jr High $10

Senior Ad for the Yearbook

Information regarding the Senior Ad was mailed home to all parents of seniors. You may contact Mrs. Penny Woolston by emailing pwoolston@ccphilly.org.

Mid-Term Exams - Noon Dismissal

Mid-Term Exams for Jr./Sr. High students are on Thursday, January 21st and Friday, January 22nd. Please note that the full school (Elementary & Jr./Sr. High School) will have NOON DISMISSAL on both days.

Bensalem School District will NOT provide afternoon transportation on these days.

Neshaminy School District will NOT provide afternoon transportation on Thursday, January 21st

Candy Grams

Each year during the Christmas season we provide the students and parents the opportunity to send the gift of a Candy Gram.

The Candy Gram is a little note on which the students (and parents!) can write an encouraging message and send it to a friend (child) accompanied by a candy cane.

This has been a fun tradition and a blessing to our student body (and faculty as many students send Candy Grams to their teachers).

Please turn in the form and $1 to the High School Office by Tuesday, December 15th so that we have time to process and create the Candy Gram. All Candy Grams are distributed to the students on Friday, December 18th during Homeroom.

Senior Ski trip to Jack Frost Mountain

The senior ski trip is scheduled for February 24th-26th and will cost $300-$325 to ski/snowboard; $200 if not skiing or snowboarding. Group lessons available but optional (no addistional charge). Information and Permission slips have been posted in your PowerSchool Parent Portal. Permission and payment are due by Friday, January 8th.

SAT Test Dates for 26-27

The following are the dates for the SAT Tests being given during the 2026-2027 school year:

Dec 5; Mar 6; May 1*; June 5
*Indicates the dates the SAT test will be given at CCA.

Students need to register online at www.collegeboard.org. The deadline to register for the May 1st SAT at CCA is April 16th.

FASFA

If you need financial aid to help you pay for college, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form. The 2026-2027 FAFSA form is open NOW at studentaid.gov. If you have any questions, please contact Theresa Reber at treber@ccphilly.org.

Jr./Sr. Class Formal

The Junior/Senior class formal is on May 6th. There is NO SCHOOL for 11th & 12th grade students on Thursday May 6th or Friday May 7th.

Senior Final Exams

Senior final exams will be on May 27th & 28th.

Senior Class Graduation

Senior Class Graduation will take place on Saturday, June 5th at 3:00pm in the Sanctuary.

CCA Winter Athletics

Please visit **cca.ccphilly.org/athletics/** for information regarding the 26-27 winter sports season.

Outstanding Fees

If your child is currently enrolled in one of our Advanced Placement Courses, your fee is overdue.
Advanced Placement Exam Fee - $110

If your child is currently Dual-enrolled in an Advanced Placement Courses outside of CCA, your fee is also overdue.
AP Dual-Enrollment Proctor Fee - $50

Please place cash or check payable to CCA in an envelope to the attention of Dr. Eckert and turn it into the Jr./Sr. High School Office ASAP. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

Mid-Day Snow Dismissal Procedure

In the event of a mid-day dismissal, when students are dismissed, they must sign-out and indicate the method of transportation they are taking home i.e.: walk, school bus, Septa, drive themselves, drive w/someone else, pick up.

If there is a method of transportation that your child is not permitted to take (drive home with someone else, etc.), please inform the High School Office at 215-969-2404 x256.

Student drivers/Septa/walkers are dismissed as soon as possible to ensure their safety. As surrounding school districts close mid-day, they will send their buses to pick up our students. Please check the website of your local school district to see if they are closing mid-day.

For example: If your child rides a Neshaminy bus, and Neshaminy closes mid-day, your child will be dismissed to go home as soon as the Neshaminy bus arrives at CCA.

When inclement weather threatens, parents can come at anytime to pick up their children.

CCA Yearbook

2026-2027

On Sale Now!

Costs are as follows:

Jr. High (grades 7-8) - **$22**

Senior High (grades 9-12) - **$57**

Order online by going to

yearbookforever.com

Jr. High Book

$22

Senior High Book

$57

If you are not able to order online, orders can be taken at the HS office.
Please make sure your cash or check (made payable to CCA) is clearly marked with the **student's name and homeroom.**

The deadline to order is

Friday, December 11th

✦ A SWEET CHRISTMAS SURPRISE - Sponsored by CCA Student Government ✦

Give a Candy Cane Gram this Christmas!

Cost: $1.00 each **Due: Tuesday, December 15th, 2026** **PLEASE WRITE FIRST AND LAST NAMES!**

To: **Homeroom:** _____

From:



❄ THE STORY BEHIND THE SWEETNESS ❄

History of the Candy Cane

One of the most often seen symbols of Christmas is the candy cane. Not only are candy canes used as a sweet Christmastime treat but they are also used for decoration. How did this seasonal candy get its familiar shape, and when did it become part of Christmas tradition?

When the practice of using Christmas trees to celebrate Christmas became popular in Europe the people there began making decorations for their trees. Many of the decorations were food items including cookies and candy. The predecessor of our modern candy cane appeared at about this time in the seventeenth century. These were straight, white sticks of sugar candy.

Part of the Christmas celebration at the Cologne Cathedral were pageants of living creches. In about 1670 the choirmaster there had sticks of candy bent into the shape of a shepherd's crook and passed them out to children who attended the ceremonies. This became a popular tradition, and eventually the practice of passing out the sugar canes at living creche ceremonies spread throughout Europe.

The use of candy canes on Christmas trees made its way to America by the 1800's, however during this time they were still pure white. They are represented this way on Christmas cards made before 1900, and it is not until the early 20th century that they appear with their familiar red stripes.

Many people have given religious meaning to the shape and form of the candy cane. It is said that its shape is like the letter "J" in Jesus' name. It is also in the shape of the shepherds' crook, symbolic of how Jesus, like the "Good Shepherd" watches over his children like little lambs. It is a hard candy, solid like a "rock", the foundation of the Church. The flavor of peppermint is similar to another member of the mint family, hyssop. In the Old Testament hyssop was used for purification and sacrifice, and this is said to symbolize the purity of Jesus and the sacrifice he made.

Some say the white of the candy cane represents the purity of Jesus and his virgin birth. The bold red stripe represents God's love. The three fine stripes are said by some to represent the Holy Trinity: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Others say they represent the blood spilled at the beating Jesus received at the hands of the Roman soldiers.

From its plain early beginnings to its familiar shape and color of today, the candy cane is a symbol of Christmas and a reminder of the meaning of the holiday.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 29	*Nov 30*	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 7th-12th Christmas Concert @ 7:00pm	11 Jr/Sr High Q2 Progress Reports mailed home	12
13	14	15 Last day to purchase a Candy Cane Gram	16	17	18 HALF DAY- 12:00pm Dismisal	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	*Jan 1*	*Jan 2*

No School - Christmas Break!

No School - Christmas Break!