



Dear RCS Families,

December, 2020

When RCS opened its doors on September 9, I felt confident we could stay open if everyone did their part. Thank you staff, students, and families for adhering to the CDC/DoH health guidance. For the most part, RCS has kept the doors open for in-person learning. Being able to stay open for learning is praiseworthy and testifies to God's provision and everyone's cooperation.

Please keep up the great effort families! We share a common purpose to maintain in-person learning and protect our hardworking staff. A sick child must stay home. If in doubt about the origin of an illness, get a COVID test. RCS will stay the course with face coverings, temperature checks, and social distancing. Thank you again for your partnership to keep our school doors open.



As a middle-school student, I bumped into a fascinating literary device. The antimetabole. Antimetaboles use the same words in both phrases or sentences but reverse the order for a rhetorical impact. It's a clever way to get a point across. Recently, an old Southern preacher thundered away at his congregation, "Some of you need to stop telling God about all your problems and start telling all your problems about God."

The preacher's literary twist creates a paradox. Perhaps the exhortation reminds us that problems are not bigger than God. However, the apostle Paul encourages this way, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4: 6,7. The passage implies adversity is a given. However, God's peace protects hearts and minds. Think about how important that idea was 2000 years ago. It is just as relevant for 2020. I am thankful we worship and serve a living God.

Staying with the theme of thanksgiving, let's celebrate our auction results. Sarah Rickel, RCS Auction Coordinator, and her wonderful team of helpers reported back



that the Fund-A-Need raised \$50K! Well done, donors. Your generosity shattered our \$30K goal! The F-A-N dollars are earmarked for well-deserved pay raises of support staff and teachers. Thank you for blessing them. Bravo! RCS is a very generous community.

For the RCS community, there are two invitations to add to your calendars. Consider the following Søren Kierkegaard quotes as a segue to the first invitation. "Prayer is like a gyroscope, a practice that balances us come what may." As a former physics teacher, the gyroscope connection to prayer makes a lot of sense. Secondly, "The function of prayer is not to influence God," he said, "but rather to change the nature of the one who prays." Please join me for the next president's prayer meeting on Tuesday, **December 15** at 6:30pm.

[Click here for the prayer meeting.](#)

To the families of 6th -11th grade students, our town-hall meeting returns for a



repeat performance on Thursday, **January 7**. Starting at

6:30pm, principals Dave Rehnberg (RCHS) and Don

Garnand (RCMS) will host a discussion and answer

questions about relocating the middle school, grades 7 and



8, to the high school. Stand by for the link to the Zoom meeting in the campus newsletters or [access it here](#).

Have you heard about the changes to RCS' Christmas programs? This year's approach responds to King County's health guidance. On December 16, undeterred elves swoosh in to deliver Christmas gift bags to each PreK -12th grade child. To peek at the details, tap anywhere on the following image.



Speaking of Christmas gifts, are you looking for something to show your RCS spirit? If so, the Spirit Store may have what you're looking for in mens, womens, and youth sizes. Order today for delivery by Christmas. Link:

[Spirit Store](#).



On the Christian calendar, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, trumpets grand celebration and worship. I'll close this month's letter with a mix of something old and something new. St. Theresa's 500-year-old prayer, pregnant with hope and encouragement, is followed by an embedded link to one of my favorite Christmas songs, Little Drummer Boy, by King & Country.

	<p>St. Theresa's Prayer</p> <p>May today there be peace within you.</p> <p>May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be.</p> <p>May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born in faith.</p> <p>May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.</p> <p>May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.</p> <p>Amen.</p>
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May God's favor richly bless you and your family this Christmas season. Thank you for partnering with Rainier Christian Schools.

My best,

Bruce Kelly

Bruce Kelly
president, Rainier Christian Schools

