

Laramie Christian Academy's Newsletter

One generation commends your works to another;...they celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness. Psalm 145:4a...7

OWNING CHORES TODAY HELP STUDENTS SUCCEED AS ADULTS

Why is it that a large percentage of today's high school graduates don't drive, still live at home, and have parents calling their college instructors with complaints at grading time? Or worse yet, have parents who complete college (or grade school) homework assignments for their students? Shocking? Yes. These things are actually occurring in real-time in our community as I sit typing.

One main cause is the message that often reaches parents that says that good moms and dads do everything for their kids. Sometimes in our effort to provide our kids with every advantage, we inadvertently rob them of a very essential skill: responsibility.

If we want to teach our children to be responsible, a good rule of thumb is: "Don't do for a child what they can do for themselves." Even children five years old and younger can do quite a bit more than most adults realize. Do older students using phones or cars, pay for them through chores/work or do mom and dad? What skills are today's students not being taught in their grade school years that previous generations learned as early as age five?

The seeds of responsibility we teach early, through the gift of ownership in chores/work/tasks, yield great results. Start small with your kindergartner packing backpacks and lunches. As children age, even more opportunities arise (paying for their own monthly technology bills, cars, insurance, etc.)

How does one teach a young child to pack their own lunch? Use a packing routine to teach responsibility. Do it with them the same way for several days and then allow them to pack on their own while you direct. Soon they will be responsible for packing their lunch all on their own with just a quick double check by you at the end, even with children as young as two years old! Set aside a few minutes either the night before or in the morning to pack

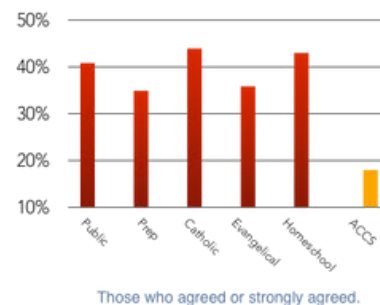
together. Or pre-pack lunches together on the weekend for children to grab-and-pack throughout the week. Some families even have siblings pack for each other trading off (with parent oversight). Packing lunch includes packing their food and all that is needed to eat their lunch at school. Mom or Dad's job becomes double checking/inspecting rather than doing. This shift empowers your student to own the task.

Teaching your student of any age to pack lunches, and to think through what they will need to eat it once at school is a great opportunity to gift your child with responsibility. Do they need a fork or spoon? Do they need a bowl, napkin, drink, etc.? If so, are those items in the lunch bag or does the student assume they can just grab something at school? At Laramie Christian Academy we are partnering with parents in teaching responsibility and do not put any school funds into providing utensils, bowls, cups etc. We've observed that when these things are provided to be handed out as needed, the unintentional result is irresponsibility.

Give your student ownership over their school bag. Let them pack and unpack their own backpack each day. Do they put their water bottle and lunch in their backpack or does mom or dad? For the most part, students should fill their own school bag. When returning home from school, is there an area of your home to set backpacks down to be emptied? Do your students pause to take time to unload the contents, bring out any paperwork needing signed or homework that needs to be done? Are there a few minutes set aside where your children can take out their school projects and show them to you? This is a great opportunity to ask them about what they learned, or about their favorite part of the day.

These are just a few ideas on how to get started if you find yourself (like many parents who are) doing too many things for their children. Other things previous generations taught children to do, as early as age five, were laundry, cooking, cleaning, caring for animals, helping neighbors, working to provide for family expenses, etc. While sometimes economic progress is stated in "providing for our kids what our parents couldn't provide for us," perhaps the fruit of children being able to do the tasks themselves was a blessing that today's students are missing? Could it be that the fruit of those tasks yielded higher functioning adults and the absence of these tasks ultimately sets up children for a harder transition to adulthood?

I FEEL HELPLESS DEALING WITH LIFE'S PROBLEMS



From a 2018-19 comparative study of 24-42 year old alumni from public, secular private, Catholic, evangelical Christian, religious homeschool, and ACCS (classical Christian) schools, on topics of life-choices, preparation, attitudes, values, opinions, and practices.

<https://classicaldifference.com/good-soil/>

When a child is blessed by the adults in their life requiring them to learn responsibility, they become better adjusted adults, confident and capable of facing the world in which they are growing up.

The next time you are tempted to feel guilty for having your child do a task like packing their own lunch/backpack, or later to work to pay for something they want like cell phones, subscriptions, or cars, remember the gift you are giving them through letting them own the responsibility. The gift of knowing one is capable is too great a gift to forgo. Building responsibility one small task at a time prepares your child for life success and gives a foundation for greatness.



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR -- 2024

SO THANKFULL FOR ALL GOD'S PROVISIONS

Once again, the LCA Christmas Bazaar was a tremendous success. We would like to thank everyone who made items, donated items, helped at the event, before/after with setup, purchased items, or gave donations.

"My favorite part is seeing everyone come together at once. I love the creativity expressed in the room through the different items. I love being able to chat with everyone. It's my favorite kick-start to the Christmas season, and I always leave so encouraged." was overheard.

Shoppers commented that the items this year were elevated and excellent quality. Others said that the display and set-up was top notch. LCA family folks reflected that with everyone pitching in and helping the load was easier to bear.

Special thank you to April Cleven for the heavy lifting in Bazaar coordination and to April Bateman for heading up the LCA board responsibilities for our Christmas Bazaar. We are so thankful for all who contributed.



Annual Goal **FUNDRAISING UPDATE**

\$105,338



Raised
\$53,117

Christmas
Bazaar

\$11,022

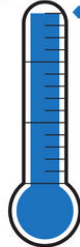
*Thank you for
your generosity!*

*Praise our Lord
for his provisions!*

To-Date Goal

\$48,279

Raised
\$53,117



DATES TO REMEMBER

- DEC 6 -- CHRISTMAS PARADE
- DEC 16 -- CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION - 6PM
- DEC 21 - JAN 5 -- NO SCHOOL -- CHRISTMAS BREAK
- JAN 15 -- FIRST SEMESTER ENDS
- JAN 20 -- NO SCHOOL -- STAFF DEVELOPMENT

THE BIG "3" OF LCA

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
BIBLE INTEGRATION
RESILIENT HOPE IN JESUS

LCA IS AN OFFICIAL

MEMBER OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF
CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS



2024 2025 LARAMIE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY ACADEMIC CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
08	09	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JANUARY 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	