

PARENT - STUDENT HANDBOOK
James Valley Christian Elementary

2009-2010

Welcome to James Valley Christian School and the 2009-2010 school year. It is our privilege to help you as parents carry out the God given responsibility of bringing children up “in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” Eph. 6:4 We pray that together we will embrace the challenges and opportunities that come our way as we strive to influence children to serve the Lord and live for Him.

This handbook is intended to be a guide for you as parents. Please read it carefully so you are familiar with the philosophy and policies of the school. Be sure your children understand those items that apply to them.

We are committed to providing your child the highest quality academic program in the context of a Christian environment that also provides opportunity for social growth and physical development. Our primary goal is to train each student in the knowledge of God, encourage each student in his/her relationship with Christ, and to help him/her integrate Christian principles into every aspect of his/her life. We appreciate your prayers and support as we work together for this common goal.

If at any time you have questions, suggestions or concerns in regard to the school, please call, email, or come in and visit with us. We need your input as we labor together in providing Christ centered education for our children. Our key verse for this year is “Let us love one another” 1John 4:7. It is our hope and prayer that we can continue to learn what it means to truly love God and then reflect that love to others.

Serving together,

Paula Kleinsasser
Elementary Principal

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MISSION STATEMENT

James Valley Christian School provides a K-12 state-accredited educational program that endeavors to provide a balanced education based on strong academic and spiritual standards. Our goal is to help students develop spiritual depth, academic excellence and moral integrity.

Our curriculum stresses the development of character, self-control and personal responsibility based upon Christian values. Christian principles are woven throughout the academic lessons taught at James Valley Christian School, providing focus and direction for students as they develop systems which will remain constant in a rapidly changing world.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE

James Valley Christian School exists to provide a well rounded education for Christian young people, regardless of race. Our purpose is to provide academic instruction, spiritual guidance, and opportunities for active student participation.

Spiritually, James Valley Christian School seeks to guide young people in their Christian lives. We believe that in order to reach the total individual, we must go beyond academic instruction. We must teach young people the Biblical principles that make life worth living. We want to see each young person make a personal acceptance of, and commitment to Jesus Christ. Then we want to help him make that commitment practical in his life.

Academically, James Valley Christian School seeks to help the individual student realize his potential. We endeavor to maintain a close relationship between the student and the teacher. Our purpose is not only to see each student acquire the basic knowledge that makes up an education, but also to help that student apply knowledge to his everyday life. We purpose to help each student develop skills that will enable him to succeed in college or in the vocation of his choice.

James Valley Christian School also seeks to provide opportunities for each student to participate in activities of his choice. We encourage young people to participate in musical groups, speech activities, and athletic contests. We believe that these experiences help develop talents and interests that will be useful in the future.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. We believe the scriptures, including both the old and new testaments, to fully be the verbally inspired Word of God, written by men in God's control, inerrant and infallible in the original manuscripts and the final authority in faith and life. (II Timothy 3:15-17; II Peter 1:20,21; Psalm 19:7-9)
2. We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; II Corinthians 13:14)

3. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary, in order that he might reveal God and redeem sinful man; that he accomplished our redemption through his death on the cross as a sinless and substitutionary sacrifice; and that our redemption is made sure to us by his literal physical resurrection. He is presently exalted at the right hand of the Father, interceding on our behalf. (John 1:1,2,14; Luke 1:35; Romans 3:24; I Peter 1:3-5; Hebrews 10:10-14; Hebrews 7:25)

4. We believe that the Holy Spirit is the divine person who convicts the world of sin; that He alone brings new life to those who are spiritually dead; that he baptizes all true believers into the true church, which is the body of Christ; that he indwells them permanently, seals them unto the day of redemption, bestows spiritual gifts upon them, controls those who are yielding to Him. (John 3:3-8; 16:7-11; I Corinthians 12:13; John 14:16,17; Ephesians 2:8,9; 4:30; I Corinthians 12:7-11; Ephesians 5:18; Titus 3:5,6)

5. We believe that the creation of the world was an instantaneous and supernatural act of God by which he brought the universe and all that it contains into existence. Man is a direct creation of God—spirit, soul, and body—not in any sense the product of animal ancestry, but made in the divine image. The Genesis account is the trustworthy, historical record of creation. (Genesis 1:1,2,26,27,31; Exodus 20:9,11; Colossians 1:16; I Thessalonians 5:23)

6. We believe that man, a direct creation of God, was originally sinless and in perfect fellowship with God. By personal disobedience to the revealed will of God, man became a totally sinful creature, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God, and of himself has no possible means of recovery or salvation. (Ephesians 2:1-3;12; 4:18; Romans 1:18-32; 3:10-23; 5:12; John 8:42-44)

7. We believe that salvation is a free gift of God's grace, offered to us on the basis of Christ's substitutionary death on the cross. It is received personally by repentance for sin and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and is in no way obtained or increased by human effort. (John 3:14-18; Acts 20:21; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8,9; Titus 2:11-14)

8. We believe that Satan is a real person, the enemy of God and man, the god of this present world; that he was defeated at the cross, and his eternal doom is sealed. (Matthew 4:1-11; John 12:31; 16:11; Revelation 12:9,10; 20:10)

9. We believe in the imminent, personal and physical return of the Lord Jesus Christ, to take His church to be with Him, and that He will physically, literally return to this earth to set up His reign which is prophesied in the Word of God. (Acts 1:11; I Corinthians 15:51-57; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Titus 2:14; Revelation 3:10; 19:11-16; 20:1-6) We also believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life, and the unsaved to eternal judgment and everlasting punishment. (Matthew 25:46; John 5:28,29; 11:25,26; Revelation 20:5-13)

ATTENDANCE – DISCIPLINE

ATTENDANCE

Whenever a child is absent the school should know where the child is for the protection of the child.

Therefore, if you plan to take your child out of school, (to go to the dentist for example) let the teacher or the school secretary know ahead of time with a note or phone call. School work should be completed prior to leaving. If the absence is not planned, (such as for sickness) call the school by 8:15 a.m. or send a note with a brother or sister.

If a child has been absent for any reason, he must bring a written explanation from a parent when he returns to school or have the parent contact the school by telephone.

A child who comes to school after 9:45 a.m., or leaves before 1:45 p.m. will be marked absent for one-half day.

No child will be excused early except with parental request.

All students must sign out at the office before they leave. Students who arrive late must check in at the office upon arrival.

DISCIPLINE

The school and the home must be parallel in their disciplinary philosophy to be effective. Some guide lines to the disciplinary philosophy as based upon the revealed Word of God are:

1. The responsibility and authority to discipline come from God. (Eph. 6:1-4)
2. Discipline has moral content and is based on God's standard of righteous conduct.
3. Christian love is at the heart of all discipline. The dark side of love (correction and chastening) is an essential part of the firmness of love. They must be balanced. Firmness without love becomes harsh; whereas love without firmness is sentimentality. Both lead to problems instead of solving them. (Proverbs 3:11-12)
4. All discipline is designed to show the child his sinful nature, lead him to trust Christ, and to become a self-disciplined person who desires to do God's will. (Gal. 3:19-24).

In order to operate a well disciplined school we will employ such discipline as it seems wise and necessary for each situation. Infractions of the above guidelines will result in discipline measures that may include: verbal or written warnings, withdrawal of privileges, isolation from activities, or referral to the principal. In many instances and prior to more serious discipline, the parent will be notified.

FINANCIAL POLICIES

1. Pre-payment - 3% discount will be applied to any account that is paid in full for the year on or before the first day of classes.
2. Tuition is due on the 15th of each month (August through May). The monthly fee is listed in the table below. This fee includes tuition (insurance, activities, etc.) and meals. Discounts are given to families with 3 or more children in school. Discounts do not apply to preschool children. A \$25 or more donation is suggested to help offset transportation costs for athletic participants.
3. Late payment
 - 1st of the following month - \$5 late fee will be charged to each student whose tuition is not paid. A letter of explanation and request for payment will be sent to the family.
 - 15th of the month - "2nd NOTICE" letter will be sent. A phone call from the business manager will be made.
 - 45 days late (30th of the month) – A phone call will be made from the administrator asking the family to please remit.
 - 60 days late - delinquent payments beyond 60 days will result in a mandatory meeting with the treasurer, business manager, administrator and parents. The parents will be asked to submit an acceptable payment plan or there will be administrative action that may include dismissal from JVC. Families will not continue to the next semester without using electronic funds transfer for payment.
 - Outstanding tuition will be paid before current tuition.
4. Any outstanding tuition on June 1 will be charged a 1.5% per month finance charge on the outstanding balance.
5. All bills will be paid before moving to the next grade.
6. No student will be permitted to return for second semester unless his or her account is current.
7. All exceptions to the above are subject to Executive Board approval.
8. Registration Fee: A non-refundable registration fee of \$150 for K-12 grade is due with the application. A \$25.00 discount is given to returning students whose payment is made by the re-application deadline and new students within 30 days of inquiry.
9. Tuition will be pro-rated, no less than monthly, according to attendance. Attendance for one day or more in a month constitutes that month's tuition due on the 15th of that month.

Age	2009-10 Rate	JVCS Monthly Tuition rates - 10 month pay					
		Meal	Tuition 1st-child	2nd- child	60% 3rd- child	10% 4th- child	10% 5th- child
Sr Hi	\$370.00	\$ 30.50	\$339.50	\$339.50	\$203.70	\$33.95	\$33.95
Jr Hi	\$350.00	\$ 30.50	\$319.50	\$319.50	\$191.70	\$31.95	\$31.95
Elem	\$335.00	\$ 30.50	\$304.50	\$304.50	\$182.70	\$30.45	\$30.45
Kindergarten	\$201.00	\$ 18.30	\$182.70	\$182.70	\$109.62	\$18.27	\$18.27
Pre-school 4			\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
Pre-school 3			\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	\$45.00	\$45.00

STUDENT SUPPLIES

Students are given a list of supplies which they will need for their specific grade level. Please purchase only the required items in the specified sizes. Students must handle textbooks and library books carefully. Failure to do so could result in a book fine. In addition to classroom supplies students need a pair a gym shoes to be kept at school. They also must have boots and warm winter clothing when needed.

MEDICINE

If you want your child to take any medication during the school day, send a note along with him/her. Cough drops may not be considered medication, but to prevent them from being used simply as candy, we ask that you send a note if you are sending cough drops with your child.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

The KIJV and KOKK radio stations and KSFY and KELO television stations will carry the news if JVC is closed due to inclement weather.

SCHOOL VISITORS

All school visitors during the school day **must** check in at the school office with either the secretary or principal. Visitors may not visit students while they are in class. Parental consent, either by telephone or note must be given the principal before any outside visitor may remove a student from the school.

Parental visitation at school is welcome, but prior arrangements with the principal and teacher must be made. If you wish to visit school, please contact the office preferably a day in advance so the class isn't planning activities away from school. When visiting, report to the office before going to the class.

Parents who plan to eat lunch with their child need to notify the school the day before they visit.

SCHOOL HOURS

School will begin at 8:15 a.m. and dismiss at 3:30 p.m. Playground supervision will not begin before 7:55 so adjust your driving time accordingly.

HOMEWORK

James Valley Christian School seeks to be sensitive to the family and to church activities. While we have an obligation to the home to help train each student and make him/her academically fit to advance to the next level of training, we try not to unnecessarily interfere with home activities. Students in the primary grades should expect to spend time at home for daily reading practice as well as preparing for weekly spelling tests, and occasional other tests. Upper grade students can expect to have some homework as well as taking time to prepare for tests. Book reports and special projects will also be assigned occasionally. If your child consistently has an excessive amount of homework you may find it helpful to check with the teacher.

MESSAGES

Many times communication with the home is made via special notes, letters, calendars, and receipts sent along with the student's take home papers. In order to keep informed of activities and your children's progress in their daily class work make it a point to ask for their papers and/or check their schoolbags.

FIELD TRIPS

Our classes will take educational field trips as part of the learning process. Only children who are members of the class taking the field trip will be allowed to participate. The purpose of the field trip is one of educational experience for the students within the class. Parents will be notified prior to any field trip taken.

TELEPHONE

If you must use the phone ask permission. No child will be allowed to use the phone for the purpose of having a friend stay overnight or other personal matters between parent and child which should have been handled at home. These arrangements should be made before the student leaves for school.

GENERAL SCHOOL GUIDELINES

1. All elementary students will enter and exit through the east elementary entrances. Only when students are tardy will they enter in the front (south) doors so they can check in at the office. Parents can use the drop off area provided for elementary students or park and let the children walk around on the cement to the east doors.
2. Play in playground area only, unless special permission is given.
3. Walk quietly and remain silent once you line up after recess.
4. Be considerate of others.
 - Control hands and feet while in line.
 - Be careful how you speak to others by cheering rather than booing, and complimenting rather than calling names.
 - Wait your turn - no budging or cutting the line (it's called cheating).
5. Take pride in your work and be on time.
6. Treat all teachers, school staff, and volunteers with respect.
7. No eating candy or chewing gum unless special permission is given.
8. Use good table manners.
 - Be polite in speaking to the cooks.
 - Compliment them when you like your meal.
 - Say "please" or "no, thank you".
 - Wait until seated to begin eating.
 - Sit with both legs under the table.
 - Keep mouth closed while chewing.
 - Use your napkin.
 - Conversation should be pleasant and kept low.
 - Remain seated at the same place at the table and wait to be dismissed to line up to go to the playground.
 - Use of the restroom should be done before lunch or after you have finished eating.
9. Help keep our school clean. Students are required to wear overshoes or snow boots during cold weather and mud. All students will be required to go outdoors unless the temperature or wind chill factor reaches below zero. You must dress properly with coats, mittens, stocking caps, and boots to protect your health!
10. Have a cheerful attitude, not a complaining one.
11. Be a good Christian example at all times, no matter where you go.

Grading Scale for K-6 is:

100-96	A
95-94	A-
93-92	B+
91-89	B
88-87	B-
86-84	C+
83-80	C
79-77	C-
76-75	D+
74-72	D
71-70	D-
69-0	F

GENERAL PLAYGROUND and SAFTEY RULES

1. Everyone must go outside during recess unless you have a note from home which specifically states the purpose for which you must remain inside.
2. Everyone must stay outside during recess. You will not be allowed to run in and out of the classroom or building during recess.
3. No one is allowed to throw snowballs, rocks, twigs, sticks, or other dangerous objects.
4. No one is to leave the school playground during recess without permission from the teacher.
5. Balls should not be kicked or thrown against the building or on the roof as they could be punctured.
6. Only touch or flag football is allowed.
7. No playground equipment shall be brought from home, except softball gloves in season.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DRESS

School dress is primarily the responsibility of the home. In order that our students dress modestly and neatly, we have established these guidelines of dress and grooming. We depend on parents to make sure their child is dressed and groomed in a manner that reflects a Christian testimony. If a student is inappropriately dressed, a teacher or staff member will speak to him/her and suitable action will be taken. Please check the requirements for your child.

GENERAL

1. Avoid all extreme in dress. Christians are to be attractive, not an attraction. (I Peter 3:4,5)
2. Clothing should be clean, neat and in good repair with no holes.
3. Girls should look like girls, and boys should look like boys.
4. Clothing bearing objectionable advertising, pictures, or slogans will not be allowed.
5. Shoes worn must be appropriate for running and playing on a playground consisting of grass, pea rock, and gravel. Shoes will be properly laced, tied, or fastened for safety. Tennis shoes are best for your child's safety.

BOYS

1. Pants and jeans should be neat, clean, and not excessively worn.
2. Shirts should be properly buttoned and shirt tails worn inside of pants unless they are tailored to be worn outside.
3. Tank-top shirts are not permitted. Modest shorts will be permitted **only** during the months of August, September, April and May if the temperature is forecasted for high 70's or beyond.
4. Hair should be neat in appearance and styled so it will not draw attention to yourself or be a distraction to you or others. Hair length must be neatly trimmed not covering the eyes.
5. No earrings will be permitted.

GIRLS

1. Dresses, skirts and blouses, slacks or neat looking jeans are permitted.
2. Tank tops or sun dresses are not permitted. Shorts will be permitted **only** during the months of August, September, April and May when the temperature is forecasted for high 70's or beyond and must be modest in length.
3. Neck-lines, skirt length and "skirt-slits" must be modest. Skirt length shall come no less than to the top of the knee.
4. Make-up will not be permitted.

BIBLE MEMORIZATION

1. Students as a class will memorize scripture passages and individual verses within the Bible class time.
2. In addition to these verses or passages the following required passages must be recited. Please help your child meet this requirement. We will require that one passage be recited each semester. The recitation may be given at any time during that semester.

REQUIRED PASSAGES

Kindergarten: Psalm 23

First Grade: Psalm 100
Books of the New Testament

Second Grade: The Lord's Prayer (Matt. 6:9-13)
Books of the Old and New Testament

Third Grade: John 14:1-6
Ten Commandments

Fourth Grade: Beatitudes (Matt. 5:3-12)
Psalm 1

Fifth Grade: I Corinthians 13
Ephesians 6:10-18

Sixth Grade: Isaiah 53:1-12 or Psalms 24 & 121
John 1:1-18