



# Eagle's Nest

Calvary Baptist Church School  
New Bern, North Carolina

Volume 1, Issue 1

## The Solar Eclipse

By Kerri Bloomberg

The 2017 school year began with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

On August 21, 2017, a total solar eclipse was visible in many parts of the country. It occurs when the solar phase of the moon completely covers the sun. Although not in the path of totality, we experienced a partial eclipse in New Bern.

Viewing an eclipse is tricky, though. Because of the risk of retina damage, no one should look directly at the sun. CBCS took special precautions, helping students and staff view it safely.

Preparations were made to view the solar eclipse during school. Mr. Eldred, high school history

teacher, made box projectors for the students to view the eclipse.

Students turned their backs to the sun, held up the box, and aligned it with the sun. A small pinhole projected a silhouette of the eclipse on a white piece of paper.

Some students bought special glasses that allowed them to view the eclipse safely. The glasses allowed a larger, more direct view than the box projector. Also, students had the opportunity to see the eclipse from different states through live streams from NASA and one from Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina.

In many ways, the eclipse was a great

learning experience for the students and a nice break from class. Many were amazed by the phenomenon happening in the sky. Most likely, we will not have another one for almost a hundred years.



Darrin Cox and Christy Young view the eclipse.

### Upcoming Events

10/20: Fall Family Fun Night

10/23: Report Card #1

10/23-25: Anchorage Camp  
(9th-12th)

11/10: Veteran's Day Holiday

11/14: Thanksgiving Program

11/22-24: Thanksgiving  
Vacation

## Fall Family Fun Night

By Nicholas Vandall

It's time for our fifth annual Fall Family Fun Night on Friday, October 20th from 5:30 until 8:30 PM. Participants may park in the main parking lot of the school or next door at Mackilwean's Turf Farm if necessary.

The game booths cost \$5.00 for the unlimited play wristband. This wristband allows you to go to all booths as much as you like. It's considerably easier to keep track of instead of individual tickets at booths.

The inflatables are

returning this year and include the bouncy castle and the inflatable slide.

Our basket auction is a fun part of the evening. We have exciting surprises in each of the themed baskets.

Another event of the night is the cake auction. There will be many sweets to choose from.

A variety of food items will be sold: barbeque sandwiches, hot dogs, fried Oreos, to name a few.

Come on out and have fun!

### Fall Family Fun Night Activities

- Food
- Games
- Prizes
- Hayrides/ Pony Rides
- Basket Auction
- Cake Auction
- Giant Inflatable Slide
- Bouncy House
- Face-painting

# EDITORIAL

By Chelsea Rackley

Kids are easily influenced. They want expensive organic yogurt if Spider-man or Elsa is pictured on it. Adults want their favorite player's jersey or makeup worn by their favorite actress. While this influencing tactic is profitable for marketing and business, it has caused serious problems in the media department. Some companies place innuendos in their shows and books to promote unbiblical views. It imposes a threat to Christians and our beliefs.

Two examples of influencing messages in children's entertainment are Disney's *Zootopia* and DreamWorks Animation's *Kung Fu Panda 3*. *Zootopia* is a light-hearted story about a rabbit cop attempting to solve a case. Early in the film, Nick the fox is denied service at an ice cream shop. The owner justifies his refusal with a sign saying, "We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone." On screen, this notice is presented as something unjust and cruel. However, it seems to reference the current news of Christian businesses put under fire due to their refusal to bake wedding cakes for homosexual couples. Throughout the movie, the prey minority becomes violent toward the predator majority, even though the predators are innocent. It seems to parallel the recent Black Lives Matter protests/riots. More topics like these are mentioned in the film.

*Kung Fu Panda 3* is an action-packed story about Po the panda meeting his biological father and saving a village of pandas from utter destruction. In the preceding movies, it is established that

Po was abandoned as a cub and adopted by a goose named Mr. Ping. In *Kung Fu Panda 3*, Po's biological father appears. At the end of the movie, Po is living with two fathers. This plot makes sense with the biological and adoptive parent; but morally, it teaches kids that having two fathers or two mothers is acceptable.

Television is not the only media that is including brainwashing messages. *The Trials of Apollo* by Rick Riordan is a prime example in the book category. The narrator in the story comments that his daughter has two fathers. A gay couple is also featured. The narrator proceeds to justify his statements by bringing up stranger stories. I chose to stop reading this book mid-way. There were too many influential statements for a children's book.

Because novels and television programs created for my age group contain very dark content, I prefer to watch movies and read books with lighter topics. Unfortunately, when new movies come out, I find more and more brainwashing. Parents should monitor what their children watch. One way to see the specific contents of a movie from a Christian perspective is [www.pluggedin.com](http://www.pluggedin.com). Plugged In gives in-depth reviews of movies, TV, music, games, and books. Children's entertainment is a wonderful resource, but it is wise to know exactly what children are watching.



*Zootopia* and *Kung Fu Panda 3* are two examples of movies that contain influencing messages.

# THE EAGLE'S FLIGHT--SPORTS

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## Volleyball

By Summer Enfinger

The Lady Eagles volleyball team has had a rough start to the new season. Losing the first few games took a toll on the team's confidence. Now, later in the season with a few wins under their belt, they feel stronger. With a new coach and new players this year, the team is confident they will overcome the struggles.

Sophomore Megan Stevenson, when asked how she feels the team will do over the season, said, "We will hopefully improve with practice and get over the losses we have had." Overall, the vibe from the volleyball team is hopeful and willing to work.

Megan Spencer, as the new coach, has given the team hope for a better season. She played volleyball at CBCS and helped with the men's and women's volleyball teams throughout her college career at the University of Mount Olive, where she majored in exercise science and minored in coaching.

On September 1st, the Lady Eagles had a double-header against Wanchese Christian and Fellowship. The Eagles pulled out their first win after playing Wanchese. Despite losing to Fellowship later, they held their own with close sets and intense volleys. It was a good game overall for

the Eagles. One of our seniors, Autumn Sutton, had her best blocking game yet. Fellowship attempted to tip it over many times, but Autumn was there to deflect it right back at them.

The few times they got it past her, players Maria Cuthrell and Summer Enfinger were there providing backup.

With good players having each other's backs, the Lady Eagles will improve.



## Cross Country

By Summer Enfinger

Cross Country is an endurance sport. Runners need good stamina and the will to persevere, not to mention good joints. Even the name "Cross Country" pushes some people away--not Mr. Eldred! He lives and breathes to run.

As a coach and runner himself, he has a positive outlook for this year's team: "I think we'll do well this year. We have several returning runners, as well as fresh faces. Even in the first few weeks of practice, our overall team time is faster than it was last year."

Dylan Conaway and Brian McRoy are two returning runners.

Dylan was asked,

"What made you want to do Cross Country?" He responded, "It is a good way to get ready for basketball."

Brian, a freshman, was asked, "How do you feel about the new Cross Country season?" His concerns were clear: "This year might be more difficult than last year because we will be competing against different teams."

Last year was a practice year. They did local runs and races but never competed against different teams.

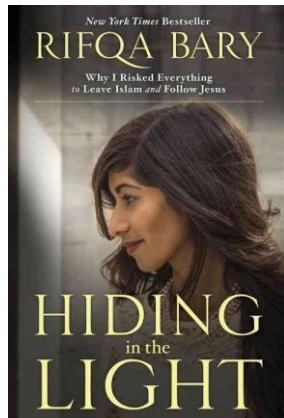
Cross Country benefits the athletes in many ways: it prepares them for other sports, gets them in shape, and is just a good

pastime exercise.

Some runners even practice at home to improve their personal time.

The team's first run will be on Tuesday, October 31st. In honor of the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, our students will participate in the Reformation Virtual Run--a 5K (3.1 miles). It is an individual run in which participants post their times online along with other runners from around the world.





*Hiding in the Light: Why I Risked Everything to Leave Islam and Follow Jesus* by Rifqa Bary. Published in 2015 by Waterbrook Press.

## Book Review

By Abbigail Hudson

A captivating journey of a Christian converted Muslim and her endeavors to escape the constricting practices of the Islamic community, *Hiding in the Light: Why I Risked Everything to Leave Islam and Follow Jesus* details the experiences and spiritual growth of Rifqa Bary. Chronologically recounting the events leading to the rift between Islamic traditions and her new found faith, Rifqa's testimony portrays the struggles of living as an evangelistic Christian. Her immigration from her native country of Sri Lanka to America and the unanticipated exposure to Christianity leads to Rifqa questioning the validity of her Muslim faith. A fateful encounter with a Christian classmate arouses in her a desire to follow Christianity, leading to a heightened sense of compassion and inner joy. Hateful disapproval from strict Muslim family members and the ensuing abuse, however, forces Rifqa to conceal her faith in the light of conflicting traditions upheld by her Sri Lankan heritage for generations. The perseverance of Rifqa through legal injustice, religious stigma, and cancer serves as a symbol of hope for others also paying the high price of serving Christ.

Rifqa's acceptance of Christ at the age of twelve had become the pinnacle moment in her life since immigrating to America, where the remaining ties

of her previous life in Sri Lanka were no longer constricting her beliefs. The fear of defying the honor of untold generations in her Muslim lineage was cast away and replaced with a determination to comprehend this undeniable Presence, whom she could sense while playing in the sunlit garden of her Sri Lankan home. Rifqa vividly recalls her final decision in abandoning Islam, saying, "Any doubts about what I was doing or about Jesus being the truth, all fractured into meaningless piles of vanquished fear as I became engulfed by truth Himself. I could no longer deny He was real. I could not deny what I was experiencing." (pg. 49) A resolution to pardon the grievances of the past and exercise compassion toward her father and brother, however, became difficult to accomplish, as tempers rose against Rifqa's stubbornness to cease praying and memorizing the Quran. Reading the Scriptures late at night in the confines of her bedroom, or concealing earphones under the dark covering of her hijab to listen to quiet worship music, were her methods of choking the final remnants of Islam out of her life. Emboldened by this sense of liberty, Rifqa requested to become baptized before a congregation of her closest companions, committing her final act of derision against her former beliefs.

Comparing her life threatening plight to that of Joseph in the Old Testament, Rifqa left her previous life as a necessity for survival, leaving behind her frightening past under the cover of darkness.

Despite the months of indecisive court cases, and the moments when Rifqa's freedom swayed in the balance between political advancement and the judge's final verdict, she persevered through her undoubting devotion to Christ. Inspired by the Apostle Paul's worship and unyielding faith during his imprisonment, Rifqa remained optimistic during her time in juvenile detention. Her legal ordeals ignited an unquenchable desire to support the voiceless and oppressed, who are unable to declare their beliefs without enduring cruel persecution. Rifqa's triumph over her illness and the threats of her family conveys the message that liberty and justice can be attained, as long as faith in Christ is sustained.



# An Eagle's Attitude

By Kerri Bloomberg

*"Attitude is a little thing, that makes a big difference." - Winston Churchill*

This quote is on a poster in Mr. Eldred's room. Because I see it just about every day, I have pondered its meaning over the last few weeks.

If students could grasp this concept, things would change. Our bad attitudes cause drama, arguments, and demerits.

Our first response is to blame others--other students, our teachers, our parents. However, our own attitudes are usually the root of the problem.

We also think that our attitude is not significant--no big deal; but one small negative attitude can ruin a day. We never know what others are struggling with, and our positive attitude can uplift them.

Life would be so much better if we all had positive attitudes.

As a Christian, our attitude reflects our walk with Christ. People should not question our sincerity by observing our lifestyle and attitudes. Our ability to positively influence others and our spiritual growth are all related to our heart attitude.

Colossians 3:17 gives us the following command: "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

We should respond to others the way we would respond if God were physically present in the room. God sees all, and we should consider God's opinion of our attitude.

## Hurricanes

By Nicholas Vandall

In 2017, we were threatened by multiple hurricanes. Even though there was a possibility of a storm hitting us, we were spared. Our school experienced a two-hour delay once. Three of the storms were a category 4 or 5.

Our prayers go out to the families affected by the hurricanes.

### Hurricane Harvey

**Date:** August 17, 2017 - September 3, 2017

**Category:** 4

**Affected Areas:** Windward Islands, Suriname, Guyana, Nicaragua, Honduras, Belize, Yucatan, Peninsula, Southern and Eastern United States.

**Fatalities:** 84 confirmed

**Damage:** Less than or equal to \$70 Billion

**Highest Wind Speed:** 130 MPH (215 KM/H)

### Hurricane Irma

**Date:** August 30, 2017 - September 16, 2017

**Category:** 5

**Affected Areas:** Cape Verde, Leeward Islands, Greater Antilles, Turks and Caicos Islands, The Bahamas, Eastern United States.

**Fatalities:** 124 confirmed

**Damage:** Less than \$62.87 Billion

**Highest Wind Speed:** 185 MPH (296 KM/H)

### Hurricane Maria

**Date:** September 16, 2017 - October 3, 2017

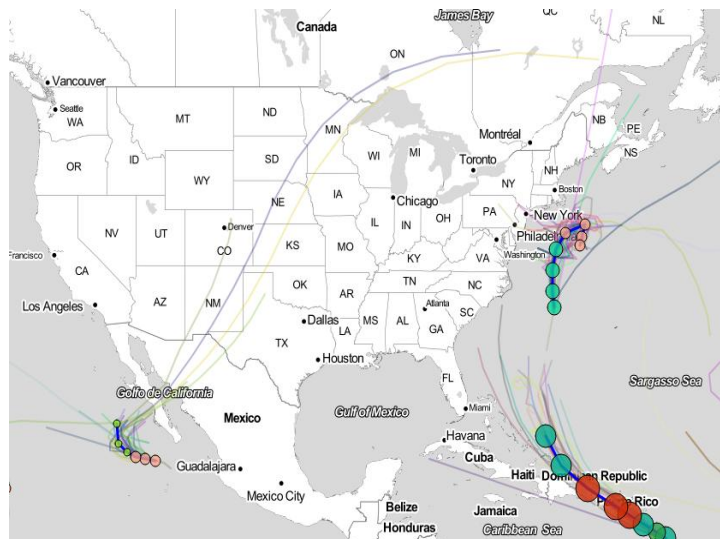
**Category:** 5

**Affected Areas:** Lesser Antilles, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Turks and Caicos Islands, The Bahamas, Southeastern United States, Ireland, United Kingdom, France, Spain.

**Fatalities:** 78 confirmed

**Damage:** Less than \$91.12 Billion

**Highest Wind Speed:** 175 MPH (280 KM/H)

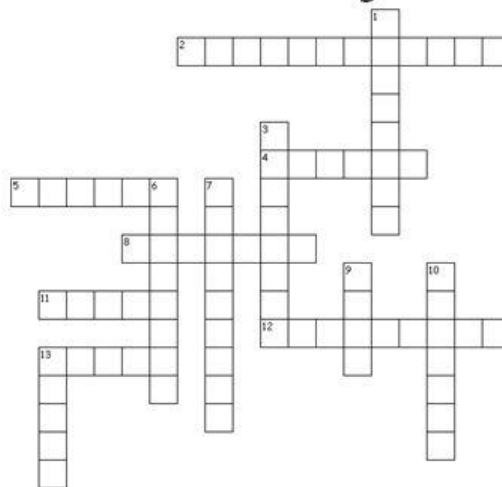


## SUDOKU

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## Fall is Coming



Across

- 2. holiday celebrated during fall
  - 4. another word for fall
  - 5. they are now falling from trees
  - 8. round, usually orange
  - 11. a drink used to keep people warm
  - 12. used to scare birds away
  - 13. a red crisp fruit
- Down
- 1. spice popular during fall
  - 3. a fun way to view a scenery
  - 6. furry animal with a bushy tail
  - 7. first month of fall
  - 9. a tasty vegetable with kernels
  - 10. another word for gathering crops
  - 13. seed of a oak tree



## Eagle's Nest

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