



# The Husky Herald



"PROVIDING, PRESENTING, AND PUBLISHING NEWS FOR THE CHRISTIAN LEADERS OF TOMORROW"

## January 2024

1/8 Spring Semester Begins

1/15 Martin Luther King Jr.  
Holiday (NO SCHOOL)

1/25 Open House Event

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## CHRISTMAS SERVICE RECAP

By MATTHEW CUEVA on December 12, 2023



Photographed by: DAISY DONG (11)



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Mark your calendars, it's almost the end of the year! As we near the conclusion of 2023, it is a time of deep introspection and heartfelt gratitude within the community of New Covenant Academy. This past year, filled with moments of growth and enlightenment from all our fellow students, has woven together twelve extraordinary months, each leaving its indelible mark upon our school's narrative.

In the spirit of the joyous season, our community embraces the celebration of the mortal birth of Jesus. The Nativity, a profound emblem of rejuvenation, illuminates our hearts and minds, serving as a profound story of the divine light that Jesus bestowed upon our mortal world from that manger in Bethlehem.

As the triple-week Christmas break approaches, it signifies more than a mere respite from our academic pursuits. It presents a cherished opportunity to embrace the precious moments with our families, both near and far from us. These gatherings hold immense significance, allowing us to reconnect and share the Christmas spirit with one another.

However, amidst the revelry, let us not lose sight of the true essence of Christmas, the reason for the season. It transcends the exchange of material gifts or the indulgence in chowing down huge portions in familial meals. It is a time for profound reflection upon the transformative power of giving and the boundless depths of kindness. We celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, not merely as a historical event, but as a resounding reminder of the humility and love he embodied during his mortal journey.

This Christmas, let us as students, teachers, and family hold these cherished values close to our hearts and radiate the joy and warmth they bring. May we embrace the spirit of generosity and compassion, extending a helping hand to those in need. And within New Covenant Academy, we wholeheartedly extend our wishes for a blessed and jubilant holiday season. May the Lord bless you all, and Merry Christmas!

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

By DR. SONG on January 8, 2024

British journalist and novelist G.K. Chesterton, known as the "master of paradox," said, "The object of a new year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul and a new nose; new feet, a new backbone, new ears, and new eyes. Unless a particular man made New Year's resolutions, he would make no resolutions. Unless a man starts afresh about things, he will certainly do nothing effective."

I think Chesterton's use of body parts like the nose, feet, ears, and eyes can easily misdirect the reader to think that the "backbone" is just another body part, the vertebral column in the torso. However, Chesterton is a genius when it comes to "play on words." You see, another word for the backbone is "spine," and to "grow a spine" means to become confident, courageous, determined, and possess strength of character. Having a weak spine or having no backbone, conversely, means being feeble, weak, and having no willpower.

Re-read the quote with that in mind, and you can get another layer of meaning: *you need the determination to be different in the new year. I might add the following: 2024 cannot be an extension of 2023, and it can only be different if you have will,*

## IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

By JOSIE CUEVA on December 17, 2023

"It's a Wonderful Life" is a movie directed by Frank Capra that was released in 1946, and a movie that many people hold close to their hearts. It is a movie that the high school history teacher, Mrs. Bufano, showed to the senior class. It goes over the meaning of Christmas as well as the Great Depression and is a very touching story that shows what being human is all about. The movie is about George Bailey, a man who is at a point where he's questioning if he should end it all. He is thinking about this because he is extremely stressed by his job and his financial situation, and is lost on what to do. He is the owner of the Bailey Building and Loan, a small community bank, which becomes a focus point for the economic struggles faced by the townspeople.

The film also explores the impact of the Depression on everyday life during the 1930's, showcasing unemployment, bank failures, and the strain on families and their livelihoods. On one fateful Christmas Eve, an angel named Clarence comes down to Earth and offers George a deal: how the world would look if he had never been born for a chance for Clarence to earn his angel wings. George takes him up on this offer and experiences a night

*courage, plan, and commitment.* This is particularly true if 2023 was a difficult year filled with disappointments and unrealized plans.



Regarding the notion of *change*, Peter Drucker said the following: "Everybody has accepted by now that change is unavoidable. But that still implies that change is like death and taxes - it should be postponed as long as possible and no change would be vastly preferable. But in a period of upheaval, such as the one we are living in, change is the norm." How astute and poignant that statement is! Yes, we're living in tumultuous times, and we desperately need change, both great and small.

So, what changes will you make that require courage or backbone? Will you have the spine to think truthfully, speak with veracity, and behave with integrity? May God give you insight and wisdom as you reflect on 2023 and make the necessary changes in the New Year.

like no other. In this alternate reality of sorts, the absence of George Bailey leads to a grim version of his town and the lives of those he loves. Initially, George is confused and disoriented because he doesn't understand why nobody recognizes him. He sees that without his influence, the town, originally named Bedford Falls, had now been renamed Pottersville and become a darker place. It was now ruled by the wealthiest man in town, Mr. Potter, who turned it into a less friendly and more financially driven place. A sense of greed had replaced the sense of community that he had once fostered throughout the town, and it affected all the people in his life. For example, he had seen his wife, Mary, as a sad and lonely woman in this reality. Once he realized how changed his surroundings had become, he desperately felt the need to return to his true reality. George rushed to Clarence and begged him to change him and the town back to how it was previously. Clarence agreed, so George was able to return to his wife and children in time for Christmas, and Clarence was able to gain his wings, giving a happy ending to the movie.



# Teacher Talk Ms.Moon

By JOAN HUH on December 19, 2023

WE LOVE YOU MS. MOON



WE LOVE YOU MS. MOON

Photographed by: EMILY PEREZ (9)

## What's the best part about your job?

The highlight of my job is seeing kids grow. Watching students change, both personally and academically, throughout the semester is what makes me realize why I'm in this profession. It's really rewarding to see them develop and share love with their friends and teachers.

## What's the most challenging part of your job?

The most challenging part is dealing with students who have different personalities and recognizing their unique needs. It gets tough when I want to help a student, but I feel like my knowledge falls short. It's hard when I think they need more specialized help, and I struggle when trying to keep up with their high energy during activities.

**If you could change one thing about your job or workplace, what would it be?**

While I'm not sure about changing my job or workplace, I do wish I had better physical stamina. If I had more energy, I could actively participate in more fun activities with the students and try out new teaching approaches. Unfortunately, my current physical limitations may hold me back from giving my best effort.

## What was the best part of your work week?

Almost every workweek is great because I get to interact with teachers and teach the students. However, one week that stands out is Thanksgiving week. Our elementary K-3 students put in a lot of effort for over three weeks to prepare for the Thanksgiving chapel, and it turned out to be heartwarming. Despite my initial expectation of just a cute performance, the students genuinely praised and thanked God during the chapel. Seeing their sincere worship, especially before I conducted, was touching. It was a joy to hear their voices, and the whole experience felt like listening to angels singing. As someone who loves music and teaching kids, that week was incredibly happy and fulfilling for me.



# MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY (1/16)

By KATIE KIM on December 21, 2023



Photograph from Britannica

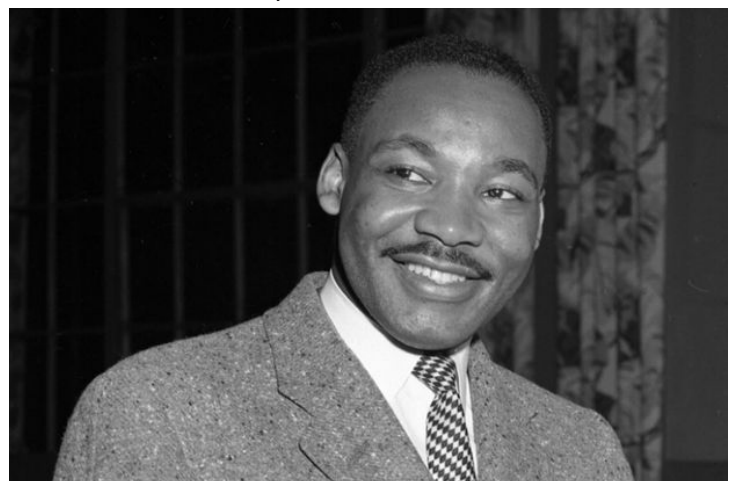
Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a celebratory event that occurs on the third Monday of January, which is on January 15. This event commemorates the life and legacy that was led by America's civil rights leader, Martin Luther King Jr. Even though this holiday is well known across the country, many individuals tend to forget the backstory of why such a day was established as a federal holiday in America.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a holiday that was established in 1983 on the day that Martin Luther King Jr. was born. The reason for the initiation of this holiday was due to King's heartfelt dedication to achieving equality for all people of different colors. Although he was a single man his messages to the world regarding peace and justice touched and

resonated with the hearts of many Americans. Additionally, he played a significant role in America's civil rights movement as his speeches appealed to the people's senses of right and wrong. His deep-rooted determination and voice were heard by the nation as he emphasized and promoted his values of equality, justice, and nonviolence. These values eventually played a key role in fostering national unity. Therefore, as we take the day off this Monday, we should always remember the reason as to why we celebrate this holiday.



Photograph from Abposters



Photograph from Brandeis University

# NAVIGATING ACADEMIC SUCCESS

By APRIL LEE on December 23, 2023



Image from Storyset

As we dive into a new year and a fresh semester, it's the perfect time to get started onto a new academic journey filled with success! Whether you're aiming to boost your grades, improve study habits, or simply excel in your school work, practicing effective learning strategies will guide you towards your achievement.

Let's set off on this adventure by recognizing the importance of time management. Think of it as plotting your adventure on a map! Making a study timetable allows you to navigate through your subjects while still leaving you plenty of room for fun and relaxation.

Just like packing for a trip, organizing your study space and materials is essential. Imagine a tidy backpack filled with neatly sorted notes and labeled folders. It not only keeps stress away, but also saves time when searching for resources.

Additionally, a successful academic journey calls for a healthy mind and body. Just as fuel powers a vehicle, sufficient sleep, balanced meals, and regular exercise fuel your brain for optimal performance in learning.

Now, let's explore the different paths to learning. Like trying out new activities, experimenting with various study techniques such as colorful mind maps or creating catchy rhymes to

remember formulas can make learning an exciting adventure.

A great method is teaching and explaining acquired information to someone or something else, inducing the Protege Effect. When someone teaches or explains a concept to someone else, they reinforce their own understanding of that information. You would ultimately be able to discover areas that you lack knowledge in and feel more familiar with the topic.

Feeling lost along the way is normal, and asking for directions is a smart move! NCA's teachers, your classmates, and the resources provided by our school are like trusty guides. They're ready to assist whenever you encounter obstacles in your studies.

Most importantly, celebrate each milestone on this journey. Every step forward, no matter how small, deserves a small reward. Acknowledging progress fuels your enthusiasm and keeps you motivated throughout the way.

In conclusion, this academic journey isn't just about reaching the destination, it's about enjoying every step of the way. With a map of time management, an organized backpack of study materials, a healthy dose of self-care, a variety of study techniques, and the willingness to seek guidance, you're all set for a semester filled with accomplishments and growth. Bon voyage to a successful academic adventure!

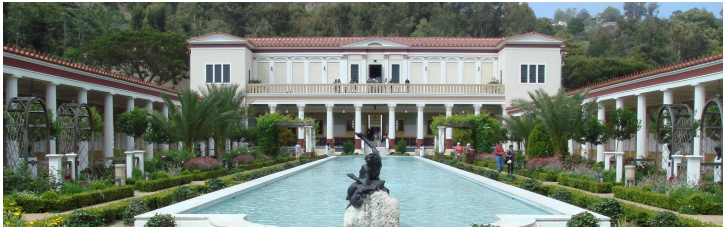


Image from Storyset



# THE GETTY VILLA

By SUEJUNG PARK on December 18, 2023



Photograph from Wikipedia

About thirty minutes from Los Angeles is a gorgeous tourist attraction named the Getty Villa! The Getty Villa is in the Pacific Palisades, a neighborhood well-known for its beautiful scenery and breathtaking ocean vistas. This architectural gem, part of the J. Paul Getty Museum, reveals an exceptional collection of art and artifacts and offers visitors a journey back into the ancient Greek and Roman eras.

The Getty Villa was created with inspiration from Villa dei Papiri in Herculaneum, a Roman city buried by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Due to this, the villa's design flawlessly incorporates classical elements and intricate mosaics that recreate the essence of a Roman country house. A breathtaking sight of sculptures, fountains, and greenery sets the stage for a

wonderful experience. Not only does this Villa boast its architectural splendor, but the Villa also has an extensive collection of antiquities that presents insight into the daily lives and beliefs of the ancient civilizations.

The Getty Villa is also well known for its outer peristyle garden and is the focal point of the immersive time at this villa. In fact, the Outer Peristyle is the largest garden space in this villa! This open courtyard, surrounded by a row of decorated columns shows the design of ancient villas. The peristyle is surrounded by carefully curated sculptures and artifacts that contribute to the narrative of ancient life offer glimpses into our history and feature famous philosophers and political figures.

To finish off your trip at the Getty Villa, you can enjoy afternoon tea with your family! The Garden Tea is an experience this villa offers that combines the elegance of traditional tea gathering with the calmness of nature. The afternoon tea is inspired by the Mediterranean herbs, vegetables, and fruits that grow at the villa. The menu features a variety of cakes, mousses, sandwiches, and of course, teas!

## NCA UNIFORM POLICY

All students must adhere to the dress code policy described in the NCA fall packet and the Official Dress Code Policy Document. Dress code policy will be monitored by both Student Council and Honor Council.

- Monday through Friday students are required to wear the school uniform as described in the school guidelines.
- All students are required to wear a tie and purchase a blazer.
- Nose rings and other piercings are not allowed for both boys and girls, with the exception of girls' earrings.
- Natural hair colors only- boys' hair must not cover their eyes or touch their shirt collars.

We have an Art & Writing column where we proudly display the talents of the students at NCA! If you would like to have your own artwork, poem, or writing piece displayed in next month's edition of The Husky Herald, please email your submissions to [aelee@students.e-nca.org](mailto:aelee@students.e-nca.org) along with your name and grade! Submissions can also be anonymous if that happens to be your preference. We look forward to seeing your amazing creations soon!



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The Husky Herald is published due to the hard work of NCA's Journalism Club each month! The students who worked on this month's issue are Chaewon Wi, Chaelin Kim, Emily Perez, Suejung Park, Katie Kim, Matthew Cueva, Josie Cueva, April Lee, Joan Huh, Olivia Kim, Avery Jin, Hyemi Lee, Evelyn Lee, and Kailey Kim. Additional thanks to Dr. Jason Song, Ms. Johnston and Mr. Franklin Park for helping make this month's issue possible.