



December 2016

## *Your Gift of a Christian Education*



Dear Parents:

While we prepare to celebrate the birth of God's greatest gift, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, it is easy to allow hectic schedules to mislead us from the true meaning of Christmas. As believers, it is comforting to know that while we enjoy festive engagements, we also rest in the comfort of the knowledge that Christ is all we really need. So as we prepare our physical, earthly homes this time of year, we also know of the greater importance of preparing our hearts as we celebrate our Savior's birth. In God's Word He tells us: "Never

be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor serving the Lord. Be joyful in affliction, faithful in prayer" (Romans 12:11-12, NIV).

As many families prepare to celebrate Christ's birth with the ceremonious opening of gifts, please take a moment to reflect upon the gift you have already given your child by placing him or her in a school that honors Christ, where God's Word is spoken daily into the minds and hearts of young people, and a place where students and teachers pray together throughout the school day to sow and cultivate the seeds of our Christian faith. God

is clear about his guidance to parents regarding the teaching of His Word: “Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” (Deuteronomy 11:19, NIV). Since children spend most of their waking hours in school during the most formative and impressionable years of their lives, your gift of a Prince education enables our dedicated faculty of believers to educate not only your child’s mind for college, but more importantly, to cultivate their spirit with the goal of preparing them for His kingdom.

Since our school is built upon a foundation of scripturally based discipleship as defined in our mission statement, your gift enables Christians with similar values to teach God’s Word with individualized attention through our small class sizes. The triad of family, school, and church provides a healthy physical, emotional, and spiritual environment in which your child is taught moral absolutes during a time when so many conflicting messages are being sent to our young people. By continuing our efforts to place Christ first, it is our prayer that God will continue to bless our school in all its endeavors. Scholastically, our published high school standardized test score averages continue to show our students surpass those in Oconee County, which is ranked the third highest performing public school system in the state (Niche, 2017). Our moderate size enables a higher percentage of our students the opportunity to learn lessons about teamwork, sacrifice, and commitment on the court, field, and gridiron that simply cannot be taught within the confines of a traditional classroom (this year our fall athletic program produced championship teams in both lower school and high school). In addition to the need for additional instructional space, the growth of our fine arts programs has exceeded the capacity of our facilities (a topic for another letter) as

---

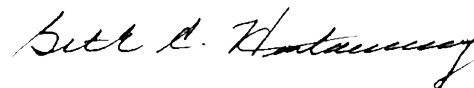
***Our family-school community has a great deal to be thankful for this Christmas and a great deal to look forward to in 2017. We are excited about His work that is ahead of us!***

---

the technical complexity of student instrumental, theatrical, vocal, and visual works produced under the skilled hands of their highly qualified teachers have been a blessing to hear and see. Our family-school community has a great deal to be thankful for this Christmas and a great deal to look forward to in 2017. We are excited about His work that is ahead of us!

Merry Christmas Prince Avenue Christian School families, and may this Christmas break be a time of rest, renewal, and reflection as you enjoy family and friends in preparing to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Thank you for your continuing partnership as we work together, guided by God’s Word, to deliver the gift of a Christ centered education.

Warm regards and in His Service,



Col Seth Hathaway  
Head of School  
Twitter: @PACS\_Head

#### **Reference**

Niche. (2017). Retrieved from <https://k12.niche.com/rankings/public-school-districts/best-overall/s/georgia/>