



# CONNECTION

*A newsletter for the Thomas Academy family  
Keeping connection through communication*

December 2018 Edition

## *Glee Club travels for performances*



Our Thomas Academy Glee Club has been doing a little bit of traveling in order to perform under the direction of Patty Lyerly for the community. They performed at The Bridge Presbyterian Church in Leland on Nov. 18. A smaller group of Glee Club members traveled to Leland House Assisted Living in early December to sing and play chimes for the residents there.



### *Dates to Remember*

- Dec. 10 - 18 - High School Testing
- Dec. 12 - 18 - Half Day Schedule
- Dec. 19 - Jan. 1 - Winter Break
- Jan. 2 - Staff Returns
- Jan. 3 - Students Return

### **Basketball Schedule**

- January 3 - East Columbus
- January 7 - at South Columbus
- January 10 & 11 - TBA
- January 14 - at West Columbus
- January 15 - Falcon Christian Academy

*\*Schedule subject to change. Keep up with the teams on our Facebook page for updates.*

## From the Director's Desk

### *Exams are under way!*

We are excited for the challenge of continuing the testing success we experienced last year when 100% of our high school students passed their End of Course tests. I have every confidence that our students this year will be able to meet and exceed those results.

Yet, for many of our students, exam time brings a different level of stress and anxiety. We also have the busyness of the holidays and basketball season adding to the swirl of activity.

Please take some time with your child to discuss the upcoming schedule and ask what you can do to provide him or her with additional support. And please feel free to reach out to his or her teachers about any concerns you have.

While my focus is on the children during school hours, I practice an open door policy for students, staff, and parents. If at any time you have a question or concern, please call me. I can be reached on my cell phone at **910-874-1456** or by email at [geraldine.bradshaw@thomasacademync.org](mailto:geraldine.bradshaw@thomasacademync.org).

Thank you to all involved in giving me the opportunity to grow our children.

Yours in service,

*Geraldine Bradshaw*



*The Thomas Academy educational experience is a partnership between the teachers, students, and parents/guardians.*

*Parental/guardian involvement means participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication regarding student academic learning and school activities.*

### *How can you get involved?*

- Sign up for the Remind app
- Volunteer to help at the school
- Attend parent/guardian meetings
- Serve on the Parent Advisory Committee
- Talk with your child about his or her classroom experiences
- Log into Powerschool to check your child's grades
- Reach out to teachers directly with any questions or concerns
- Attend awards ceremonies or events

# THOMAS

## Academy



Helping students find Connection, Compassion & Character

**Connection** is the newsletter for Thomas Academy designed to uphold the commitment to connection through communication. It is distributed once a month during the academic year to provide continuing updates on the happenings of the school. To remain connected between issues, visit the website at [www.thomasacademync.org](http://www.thomasacademync.org) and become a fan on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ThomasAcademyNC/](https://www.facebook.com/ThomasAcademyNC/)

## *Basketball season is underway!*

The 2018-2019 basketball season is underway for our Eagles. The competition has been tough with our teams taking on squads from East Columbus, West Columbus and South Columbus in addition to teams from our conference. Each home game has also featured the Thomas Academy Cheerleaders providing support.



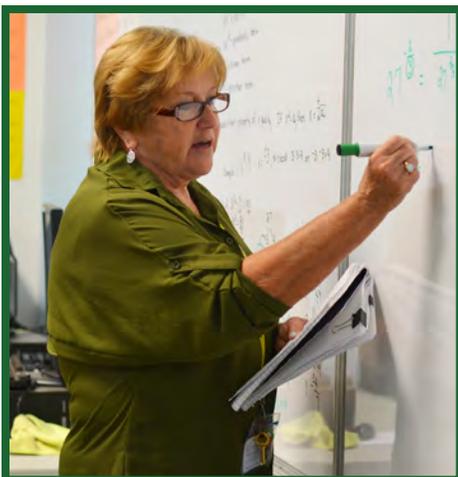
## *Staff of the Month*

***Betty Hux***  
***Assistant Director***

***Leo Wilson***  
***Exceptional Children Teacher***  
***High School***

Betty Hux is a woman on a mission to make sure our students have everything they need to be successful. In addition to her administrative

Leo Wilson is the teacher with a smile on his face ready to take on every challenge. His work



duties as assistant director, Ms. Hux has continued teaching in the classroom. We are so grateful for her dedication!



with our students keeps them ready to learn every day. His work with our basketball teams helps students understand that the skills learned go beyond the court. Thank you Mr. Wilson!

# Students of the Month

The Students of the Month are selected by the faculty. In addition to their performance in the classroom, they are chosen through the demonstration of their commitment to the Thomas Academy motto of Connection, Compassion, & Character.

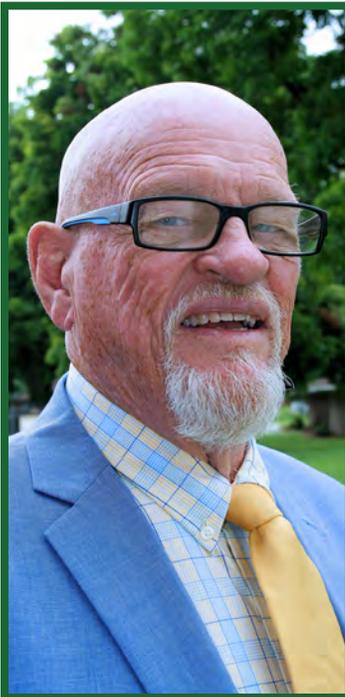
The December students of the month are:

*Joy Wiggins*  
*Middle School Student*

*Kaylee Skinner*  
*High School Student*



## Doc's Corner



Dr. Tom Simmons  
Vice President for  
Education

*“While others might refer to our students as ‘at-risk,’ I refer to them as ‘at-promise.’ Every single student has the potential to be great if we just find the way to connect them with their greatness.”*



*Kaylee S. receives her awards package from Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina President Gary Faircloth during an assembly in November.*

## Prizes awarded for Annual B&GH Christmas Card Competition

The Annual Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina Christmas Card Design Competition at Thomas Academy proved to be one of the hardest to judge.

“We had phenomenal entries this year,” said B&GH President Gary Faircloth. “The decision for the top three prizes was one of the hardest we’ve had to make.”

Kaylee S.’s winning design was used on the B&GH Christmas cards mailed to friends and supporters of the organization. Kaylee received a supply of cards to mail to friends and family along with a \$100 award.

Second place went to Emily W. with a \$75 award with third place going to Piper H. with a \$50 award.

