



# CONNECTION

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

January 2018 Edition

## *Thomas Academy chorus performs at Wilmington event*



Members of the Thomas Academy chorus under the direction of Patty Lyerly traveled to Wilmington Dec. 6 to perform for the Wilmington Civitan Club's Christmas meeting.

"This annual event allows our students to showcase their talent to a different community," said Vice President for Education Dr. Tom Simmons. "It is a great opportunity to build up confidence."

The lunchtime event was held at the Pine Valley United Methodist Church and a holiday meal buffet was provided.

"We are so grateful that the Wilmington Civitan Club invited us," said Lyerly. "Our students performed so well and that helps to build excitement and anticipation for the next performance."

### *Dates to Remember*

Jan. 15 - Holiday

Jan. 16 - Report Cards/Parent Conferences

3 - 6 p.m.

Jan. 17 - Early Release

Feb. 7 - Progress Reports

### *Basketball Schedule*

Jan. 9 vs. New Life Christian Academy

Girls 5:30 p.m.

Boys 7 p.m.

Jan. 11 at The Academy of Coastal Carolina 7 p.m.

*Keep up with the teams at  
[thomasacademync.org/basket\\_ball\\_schedule.php](http://thomasacademync.org/basket_ball_schedule.php)*

## From the Director's Desk

Happy New Year!

As we enter into the new year I wanted to take a moment to thank all of you for being a part of our Thomas Academy family. Our children cannot be successful without your support and the efforts of our team of parents, guardians, teachers, and staff make all the difference.

With the new semester ready to begin, our report cards will go out on Jan. 16 and we will hold parent-teacher conferences that day to allow you to talk with your child's teachers. Remember that our teachers work very hard with our students to make sure that the grades reflect the quality of work turned in. There should be no surprises when the report cards are released. If you have any questions about the grades your child received, or about ways we can work together to bring the grades to the next level, please discuss it with the teacher.

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**. The best time for a focused conversation is after 6 p.m. as I will be able to give you my full attention; during school hours, my focus is on the children.

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 the monthly parent/guardian meeting*
- *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/)

## News at a Glance

- January 16 will be a parent-teacher conferences to allow parents to pick up student report cards and discuss any concerns with the teacher. These will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. with times scheduled by appointment.
- Keep an eye out for an upcoming event honoring the academic accomplishments of our students during the fall semester.
- We are pleased to announce that Whitney Bronson has been hired as the new Academic Coordinator for High School English. She is joining us for the spring semester.
- Beginning this semester, Southeastern Community College is offering ACA 115 on our campus.

## Lake Waccamaw Fire Department Junior Firefighter of the Year



Congratulations to our own Christian Reviere on being named the 2017 Lake Waccamaw Fire Department Junior Firefighter of the Year!

## Doc's Corner



*"It is always exciting for me to celebrate the accomplishments of our students. They are our future and they will make this a better world."*

Dr. Tom Simmons  
Vice President for Education

## Did you know...

*Thomas Academy is the Home of the Eagles because the eagle represents a state of grace that is reached through inner work, understanding and passing the initiation tests that result from reclaiming our personal power. It tells us the universe is giving us the opportunity to fly above life's worldly level, or above the shadow of past realities. The eagle has long been the symbol of bravery, love, friendship and honor.*

## *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 January students of the month are:

*De'Arliss Murray*  
*Middle School Student*

*Jessenia Molina*  
*High School Student*



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## *Staff of the Month*



*DeLayne Sons*  
*Middle School*  
*Math/Science Coordinator*

DeLayne Sons is truly dedicated to the success of our students. She does everything she can to provide each student what he or she needs to have a good day in the classroom. Ms. Sons is such a blessing to our school!



*Jewels Utterback*  
*High School*  
*Exceptional Children*

Jewels Utterback finds a way each day to make an impact for the students at Thomas Academy. We are so grateful that she is a part of our team!