



RIVERTREE ACADEMY

Learn Well | Love Well | Work Well | Lead Well

Student Creed

I am a student at Rivertree Academy. God's grace is at work in me. I am fearfully and wonderfully made, a child of the living God; deeply loved, totally accepted, and completely forgiven. I am called to care for all of God's creation. Therefore, I will learn well, love well, work well, and lead well.



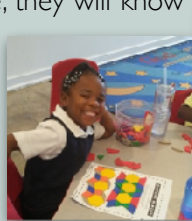
Emily Ryan
Principal



Learn Well

This year Rivertree Academy adopted a philosophy of education known as *Charlotte Mason*. It is a relational-based model that is grounded in the Word of God and above all, honors our children as individuals created in the image of God, fearfully and wonderfully made. It is a "generous curriculum" that engages our children in many different subjects such as nature study, history, grammar, handiwork, Shakespeare, art appreciation, composer study, recitation, and more. For example, our children read part of the *Twelfth Night*, studied the life and paintings of Henry Tanner, learned about different kinds of leaves, and are planning a Veteran's Day lunch to serve Veterans in Como. Another important element of this curriculum is "living books", which are books that contain big ideas and have depth of meaning. This allows our children to develop critical thinking skills and discuss timeless truths. Lastly, our children are developing habits for life; such as learning to obey quickly, showing integrity, creating order, and demonstrating responsibility and stewardship for gifts they have been given.

We believe this philosophy directly relates to our profile of a graduate, which states that when children leave Rivertree, they will know what it is to learn well, love well, work well, and lead well. Having implemented this philosophy for a few months now, we are thrilled to see how our children have been responding.



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They are falling in love with reading, learning what it means to respect all adults, growing in their understanding of the Word of God, and making great academic gains. We believe this philosophy has the potential to change their hearts and lives for eternity, and cannot wait to see the Lord's plans for each of His children here at Rivertree Academy!

FALL 2017

(817) 420 - 9310

rivertreeacademy.org



About Rivertree

RIVERTREE ACADEMY

is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit ministry incorporated to serve the Como community by providing children with a comprehensive, Christ-centered, excellent PreK-5th grade education that will equip them to live a life of leadership and service.

MISSION STATEMENT

Educating students in Como to live life well: following Jesus, thriving academically, and transforming their communities.

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Love Well

by Terrence Butler, Executive Director

Dear Rivertree Family,

I would like for you to pay close attention to the words "adopted" and "family" because those words will play an important role in the letter I'm writing you today!

We are embarking on our third academic year and we believe the Lord's favor continues to be on our school. Because of the Lord's help and generous people like you, we have had two successful school years. I measure this by the number of persons who volunteer on our campus on a weekly basis, the financial success over the past two years (notice how I said past two, denoting that this is our third year and we started back at \$0!), and the growth of our children. Academically, they have gained 1.5 years of growth in reading and math from where they entered Rivertree.

Now I would like to explain what I mean about adoption and family and how it relates to how you have embraced Rivertree and our children.

Scripture says in Ephesians 1:5 (ESV) "He predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will." God chooses us, through Jesus Christ, for what he called us to do. *Adoption* is defined as: The act or process of beginning to use something new or different; the act or process of giving official acceptance or approval to something. The Bible talks about family in



John 14:18 (ESV): "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you." *Family* is defined as: a group of people united by certain convictions or a common affiliation; fellowship.

So, let me wrap this up so you can read the next article. At Rivertree, we know we are adopted into the family of God through Jesus Christ. We

also feel adopted by each of you - in the community of Fort Worth and beyond! You are our family and have come alongside our children to adopt them, love them, and give them hope for a bright future. There is much work to do, but we have the support of the city.

On behalf of our board of directors, executive staff, faculty, teachers, families and our beloved children, I would like to accept this adoption by each of you! Let's continue to go out and change lives in the name of the Lord.

May the Lord bless you and keep you is my prayer!



VISION STATEMENT

Ending the cycle of poverty in every family we serve by educating students from Come to learn well, love well, work well, and lead well.

"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

John 14:18



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Team Work Well

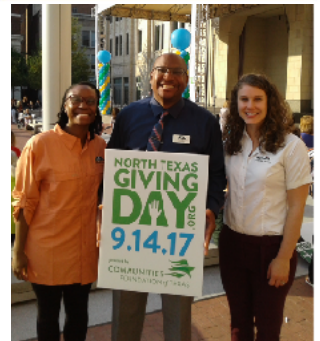
by Michelle Norris, Development Director



MISSION STATEMENT

Rivertree Academy educates under-resourced students to live life well: following Jesus, thriving academically, and transforming their communities.

As I think about our year so far, I am overwhelmed by what I have learned from all of YOU! You're teaching me about the importance of team work, especially to accomplish great things. Thank you for understanding the importance of empowering our children and their families in Como for the sake of their future. Every hour you spend with them, every dollar you donate towards their education, every resource you give generously - I see it changing hearts and minds. Through your generosity, 26 of our children are sponsored so far this year! You've given new opportunities, rich experiences, and abundant learning through your donations, North TX Giving Day, and Dinner Under the Stars.



But there is still so much more work to be done - can we continue to count on you? In Matthew 25:40 Jesus says, "Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." Whether you sponsor one of the 36 remaining tuition scholarships, sponsor a weekly music class, or purchase new uniforms, we need everyone to join us in this mission to impact His Kingdom here in Como. Together, we will help our children connect to the world around them, dream big things for their future, and most importantly, develop a deep and lasting relationship with their Savior, Jesus Christ. Thank you for prayerfully considering how you will join in this holiday season!



Your
2017 - 2018

Rivertree
Classes



Pre - K: Ms. Robinson



Kindergarten: Miss S



1st grade: Ms. Kendall



2nd grade: Ms. Howsare



3rd/4th grade: Mrs. McLean



4th/5th grade: Mr. Jeff

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Modeling



Lead Well

by Jamaal Johnson, Student Services Coordinator

At Rivertree we are blessed to have amazing staff, volunteers, and community support. With this, our kids get a firsthand look at what it means to be loved well.

Knowing that where much is given, much is required, being loved well should always transform us to lead well. I truly believe that the earlier we can teach a child that



the world does not revolve around him or her, the healthier leader he or

she will become. Leadership is dynamic. It can be as simple as sharing a smile, including other students in their reading time, genuinely listening to their friends and being willing to share their story. This semester our 5th grade class had the opportunity to serve at Trinity Valley School by reading with the pre-k, kindergarten and 1st grade classes. It was a delight to see the eagerness of our students to serve others. Teaching a child to lead well is no simple task but giving them the opportunity and experience to do so is a great start. This simple field trip led to great conversations about loving others, preferring others and why those things are important. As our students embody the leadership skills that are modeled to them each and every day, we hope that leading well becomes a life-long endeavor that they will prayerfully grow and develop during their years at Rivertree.

Year 3 is off to a GREAT start!



Join us in changing the lives of our students this year.

Make a Gift online TODAY!

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