



November 2006

Dear Fourth and Fifth Grade Families,

On behalf of The Country School Varsity and JV Soccer Coaches and myself, I want to thank you all for a great fall season. It was very successful in so many ways. We can all be very proud of the way the children competed and represented themselves and their families as well as TCS.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of a new opportunity for the upcoming Basketball season. As in past years, we will have both Boys and Girls Varsity and JV teams for 6th, 7th and 8th Graders who will compete *interscholastically*. For our 5th Grade boys and girls, we will be offering an *intramural* program (with the possibility of a couple of games against other area schools toward the end of the season). This year, for the first time in recent memory, we will also be opening this program up to all 4th Graders as well. The program will start on December 8th and run for 11 weeks ending on March 10th. Your sons and daughters, as well as you at home, will be hearing more shortly from our Coaches Stephen Trojan and Brian Osterhaut.

Obviously, this is somewhat of a change from past practice. That being said though, in discussions leading up to this decision with TCS Coaches, Faculty, Division Directors, and the Head of School, we all felt that this type of arrangement is age and developmentally appropriate and will better serve a wider range of students by giving them more exposure and access to individual attention, basketball fundamentals and skills, teamwork, and playing time. Plus, we feel they are going to have a lot of fun playing with their classmates and peers. We plan on having 2 - 3 of weeks of clinics and scrimmages before making teams. We will then be playing games here at the school. Uniforms and referees will be provided; families and friends will be welcome to attend.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me by phone, email, or just stop by my office. As well dates of play and other details regarding this program will be available on our website, www.thecountryschool.org by December 4, 2006. I look forward to a great Hoops season.

Regards,

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