

**WELCOME TO GRACE FAMILY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
2017-2018**

Our Staff

Principal	Ms. Liliya Olesenko	<i>GFCSPrincipal@gmail.com</i>
Accountant /Secretary	Ms. Natalya Ivanov	<i>GFCSfinances@gmail.com</i>
School Secretary/Attendance	Ms. Irina Sulima	<i>GFCSSecretary@gmail.com</i>
Kindergarten-4 Teacher		
Kindergarten Teacher	Ms. Margarita Konstantinov	<i>Margarita.Konstantinov@gmail.com</i>
1 st Grade Teacher	Ms. Candice Watson	<i>CNW916@gmail.com</i>
2 nd Grade Teacher	Mr. William Chan	<i>Chaneducation87@gmail.com</i>
3 rd /4 th Grade Teacher	Ms. Caitlin Lingerfelt	<i>CaitlinLingerfelt@gmail.com</i>
5 th /6 th /Independent Study Teacher	Ms. Sarah Collins	<i>Sarah.E.Collins2017@gmail.com</i>
Art Teacher	Ms. Liliya Olesenko	<i>LiliyaOlesenko@gmail.com</i>
Choir Teacher	Mr. Yaroslav Valuyskyy	<i>Yaroslav1745@gmail.com</i>
Extended Day Care		
Music Theory Teacher	Ms. Olga Demchik	<i>OlgaDemchik1@gmail.com</i>
Physical Education Teacher		
Russian Teacher	Ms. Nataliya Avilova	<i>Avilov.Nataliya@gmail.com</i>
Cook	Ms. Irina Tulupova	<i>irinka1975L@gmail.com</i>
Parent Volunteer Coordinator		

School Board Members

Vasiliy Zavorotny	Chairman of the GFC School Board/Pastor
Ivan Oselskiy	GFC Pastor
Liliya Olesenko	GFC School Principal
Natalya Ivanov	GFC School Accountant/Secretary
Svetlana Nedorezov	GFC School Board Secretary
Valentin Pruglo	GFC Staff

Mission Statement

Grace Family Christian School is committed to providing a Biblically-based, academically excellent education in a nurturing, family environment so its students can effectively accomplish the purpose for which they were created and impact the world for Christ.

Philosophy

We believe that education is the process of developing a person spiritually, intellectually, socially and physically through understanding and applying truth. We believe that the Bible is the foundation of learning. We believe that the school does not take the place of parent and church nurturing but works with the parents together to complete the growing process in a child's life.

Statement of Faith

1. We believe the sixty-six books of the Bible to be the only inspired, infallible and authoritative Word of God. (II Timothy 3:16, II Peter 1:20-21)
2. We believe that there is only one God, who is unchanging and is eternally existent in three co-equal and co-eternal Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (John 14:15-18)
3. We believe in the full deity and full humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood. His death on the cross paid the full penalty for our sins.
4. We believe in Christ's bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal, physical return in power and glory. (Luke 1:35, John 1:1-18, John 14:1-11, Acts 1:1-11, Acts 2:22-39, Hebrews 10:8-10)
5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by indwelling the Christian, enabling him to live a Godly life. (Acts 1:4-8, Galatians 5:16-26)
6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation. (II Corinthians 5:1-11)
7. We believe that heaven and hell are definite places. (Matthew 5:22, Luke 12:5, John 14:1-6, Hebrews 9:27)
8. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (John 17, Ephesians 2:14-22)

Admission Policies

Grace Family does not discriminate on race or national origin. We will exercise our policies and principles on what is solely Biblical. Admission to GFCS is on a "first come, first serve" basis.

K5-- Kindergarten students must have their birthday and turn 5 years old before January 1, 2018. If a child turns 5 years old after January 1 he or she will wait until the next school year to enroll for the following school year. Once in a while, an exception can be made based on pre-enrollment testing, interviews with the teacher and Principal, and other special circumstances. Please speak to our Principal for details.

K4-- Kindergarten students must have their birthday and turn 4 years old before January 1, 2018. If a child turns 4 years old after January 1 he or she will wait until the next school year to enroll for the following school year. K4 students will enter K5 next year, and will not go directly to 1st grade.

Discipline

GFCS discipline program is designed to support students as they persevere towards being active, responsible members of the body of Christ. The teachers and administration see discipline as a process of discipleship in which the following components are emphasized:

Parental Responsibility

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give to you today are to be written upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates." - Deuteronomy 6:4 - 9

Student Responsibility

"Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life." - Galatians 6:7-8

Self-discipline

"Each one should test his own action. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else." - Galatians 6:4

Balance between outward behavioral expectations and inward heart development

"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." - Psalm 51:10

Home and school partnership

We believe that every child should be given a chance to succeed. As believers, Christ rules our lives and we should not give in to worldly temptations. The teacher will guide the children every day with the love of Jesus Christ. If there is a problem with a child's behavior, the teacher may need to engage parents in the correction of the child. We would like the parents to be involved with discipline and in supporting the teacher's decisions. See Discipline Policy and Procedures for detailed information.

Financial Information

1. Registration Fee, of \$100, is due with a new application in order to reserve a spot in GFCS for your child. This fee is non refundable.
2. Curriculum fee (non refundable) is due before July 15th
Kindergarten-8th Grade -- \$350
3. Tuition is paid by the 10th of every month from August - May. If a payment is received after the 15th of the month, a late fee of \$25 will be applied to the next statement. We will strictly enforce this late fee policy. We expect communication between the parent and our Financial Specialist if you are unable to pay your tuition fee on time.
4. Lunch Fee of \$45 per month per child is due by the 10th of every month.
5. Parents may drop their payments off in the payment box or give it directly to our Financial Specialist, Natalya Ivanov. All checks will be payable to "Grace Family Christian School". **Please do not give any money to the teachers. Please either put it in the drop box, the secretary, or directly to Natalya Ivanov.**
6. There will be other small fees during the school year for field trips and needed supplies.
7. We sponsor Fund-Raisers throughout the year. Parents are strongly encouraged to participate and help with these events. These events help offset the many expenses that GFCS has throughout the year. Please plan on participating with these fun events! More details to come!

Tuition for 2017-2018

	<u>Full time student</u>	<u>Independent study Student</u>
New Student Non-Refundable Registration Fee	\$100	\$85
Processing fee for all returning students before April 15, 2017	\$50	\$50
Processing fee for all returning students after April 15, 2017	\$100	\$50
Curriculum Fee K-8 th	\$350*	\$250**
Hot Lunch Fee	\$45/month – <i>optional</i>	\$2.64/day – <i>optional</i>

*includes all textbook/study materials, Art, Music, Russian Class Fee

** includes all textbook/study materials (Art, Music, Russian Class Fees are separate)

Tuition Prices

	Full time student		Independent Study	
	GFC Member Price	Non-GFC Member Price	GFC Member Price	Non-GFC Member Price
Please check the box if it's your first/second/or third child				
First Student Enrolled	\$450	\$495	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120
Second Student Enrolled (same household)	\$370	\$420	<input type="checkbox"/> \$90	<input type="checkbox"/> \$110
Third/Fourth Student (same household)	\$350	\$400	<input type="checkbox"/> \$80	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100

Tuition Payment Schedule

Payment	Dates	Due Date	Late Fee
New Student Registration Fee- \$100	One-time School Fee	With Application (Application will not be processed without payment)	None
Curriculum Fee (\$350) (includes all Textbook/Study materials, Art, Music, Russian Class Fee)	One-time payment for the 2017-2018 school year	July 15, 2017	\$25 after July 15, 2017
Tuition Payment #1	August 2017	August 14, 2017 at Orientation	\$25 after August 15, 2017
Tuition Payment #2	September 2017	September 10, 2017	\$25 after September 15, 2017
Tuition Payment #3	October 2017	October 10, 2017	\$25 after October 15, 2017
Tuition Payment #4	November 2017	November 10, 2017	\$25 after November 15, 2017
Tuition Payment #5	December 2017	December 10, 2017	\$25 after December 15, 2017
Tuition Payment #6	January 2018	January 10, 2018	\$25 after January 15, 2018
Tuition Payment #7	February 2018	February 10, 2018	\$25 after February 15, 2018
Tuition Payment #8	March 2018	March 10, 2018	\$25 after March 15, 2018
Tuition Payment #9	April 2018	April 10, 2018	\$25 after April 15, 2018
Tuition Payment #10	May 2018	May 10, 2017	\$25 after May 15, 2018

Orientation and The Start of School

Orientation and our Meet & Greet Night is on August 14th, 2017 at 6:30 pm. This is a time for you and your student to meet his or her teacher and learn about the upcoming year. You will get special information concerning the beginning of school that will not be in the handbook. **Orientation is *required* for all children and their parents enrolled in GFCS. This is *not* an optional meeting.**

School starts Wednesday, August 16, 2018 at 8:30 am for K-8th. Please help us start our school year right by being on time to class.

Field Trips

Throughout the year we take children on various field trips. These field trips are not included in the tuition. There will be an occasionally small fee for field trips when we go. Usually the children will bring their own lunch. Parents are encouraged to participate in transportation and or attendance of these trips. These trips are designed to be educational and fun for the children.

Lost Book Policies

If a child loses his book, he/she must pay for the book to be replaced. If the book is found after a new one has been ordered, the money will not be refunded, since GFCS cannot return books to vendors.

Donations

Donations are accepted and greatly appreciated. Any donations should be made out to Grace Family Christian School and put into the drop box by the church office, marked as "Donation". Anyone who donates to GFCS will receive a receipt for tax purposes.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parents will meet with Teachers at the end of the 1st and 3rd Academic Quarters to discuss the child's academic progress and needs. This conference can take place at school or in the student's home. Teachers are strongly encouraged to do at least one Home Visit per year unless the parents do not feel comfortable in doing so. Teachers will contact parents directly to set up these conferences.

Academics and Honor Roll

GFCS uses A Beka Curriculum for all Academic Areas. Report cards are issued every quarter. The Honor Roll memberships are determined at the end of each quarter by averaging the student's grades. Students will be honored in a special "Awards Ceremony" during the last chapel of each quarter. We have two honor rolls: Students with a 3.0 average or higher is awarded "Honor Roll". A special "Principal's List" is to honor students with straight "A's".

The A, B, C, D, F grading system is used in all academic classes, except Kindergarteners. The Kindergarten class will be graded by letter effort grades O, S, I, and N

- O- Outstanding
- S- Satisfactory
- I- Improving
- N- Need Improvement

The percentage scale is calculated as follows:

A+ 100-98	C 76-72
A 97-92	C- 71-70
A- 91-90	D+ 69-67
B+ 89-87	D 66-62
B 86-82	D- 61-60
B- 81-80	F Below 60
C+ 79-77	

Homework

Homework is an essential piece to the success of your child academically. Homework helps enforce all the skills and lessons they are learning in class. Please take time daily to work with your child on his/her homework, and check it to make sure it is done correctly.

The teacher assigns homework according to her own class curriculum. Each student is required to do his or her homework. If homework is not done, the teacher will give him or her consequence for their actions. If this continues the teacher will call the students parents and make them aware of the situation and need for their student to do his or her homework. If a child misses school for any reason, he/she is required to complete homework from the days missed. Please communicate directly with your child's teacher if you have any questions regarding homework assignments.

General Conduct

Students attending GFCS will be expected to abide by the rules and codes of conduct of the school. Students are expected to act in an orderly and respectful manner, maintaining biblical standards in courtesy, kindness, language, morality, and honesty. *Students and Parents are required to agree by signing our **Discipline Policy and Procedures** to strive toward unquestionable character in dress, conduct, and attitude.* In addition, the following rules are to be followed at all times, before, during, and after school and at school sponsored events and activities unless expressly stated otherwise:

1. You will be expected to follow "Common Sense" principles of behavior.
2. All medications are to be left in the school office along with a note from either the parent or the physician. The only exception to this policy is an asthma inhaler.
3. Unless prior written permission has been granted by a teacher or Principal, students are not permitted to bring the following to school.
 - Electronic games and remote control devices
 - CELL PHONES!
 - Radios, Ipods or any other form of audio/video equipment
 - Skateboards, roller skates, roller blades or Heelys
 - Gum and sunflower seeds
 - Pocket or any other form of knife
 - Playing cards
 - Toys unless it is a "Toy Day" announced by the teacher
 - Other distractive items as identified by the staff
4. Sunglasses may be worn outdoors only.

5. Cell phones are not allowed at school by students unless pre-arranged between the parent and Principal. If they are brought to school with special permission, they must be turned off and placed in backpacks or purses during the school day. Any phone or pager that makes noise of any type during class will be taken immediately by the teacher and put away.
6. No food or drinks are allowed to be open on campus except during snack time or lunch, or allowed by the teacher for a special occasion.
7. The parking lot is off limits during school hours except during recess, and children are to wait for parents on the sidewalk, on the grass beside the gazebo or in the gazebo as directed by the teacher on duty.
8. Students are expected to pick up after themselves and help keep the school, classrooms, and grounds clean and neat.
9. Students must remain with his/her teacher and class at all times unless given permission by his/her teacher to walk to the bathroom or another place on campus. The teacher needs to be aware of the child's whereabouts.

Parent/School Communication

In addition to classroom newsletters periodically, emails and notes will go home with the students throughout the school year from the teacher and school administration. These notes are from the teacher regarding any announcements that need to be made by the teacher. These notes might be about upcoming events to remind, or they could be about the student's day. These notes will be written in the student's assignment books or printed and passed out to each student. Please check with your child every day to see if he has anything from the teacher. The school website also contains valuable information, such as holidays, field trips and other announcements. If another method of communication is implemented by the Administration, parents will be informed and trained as to how to access information.

Dress Code

Grace Family Christian School and Church believes that the body of a believer is the Temple of the Holy Spirit. Therefore a Christian should dress modestly and pleasing to the Lord. Therefore GFCS has a uniform policy and has asked that parents make sure that their child is dressed modestly and clean before coming to school. This includes clean and tidy clothing, hair that is combed and neat. Shoes without back straps (flip flops, some sandals) *cannot* be worn at school. Our female students cannot wear short skirts or short dresses. If the school Principal feels that a child is dressed inappropriately, a phone call will be made to the parents and they will be required to bring a change of clothes for the student.

Uniforms

Grace Family Christian School has a uniforms policy. Navy blue, baby blue and white polos, and navy blue/beige/khaki bottoms. There should be no logos, with the exception of GFCS logo on all clothes.

Absences

Attendance and Tardiness is counted daily! Attending class daily and being in class on time is essential to your child's growth both academically and emotionally. Please try to plan vacations and holiday time for when we provide breaks off of school. Please check our school calendar and coordinate your vacations accordingly.

If a child is absent from school, the parent must **send a signed note** to school the following day explaining the reason for the absence. The child is expected to make up all work that is missed during their absence. Please talk to the teacher directly to get all the assignments that are due.

Excused and Unexcused absences:

Any student who is absent from school for 3 days or more without a valid excuse will receive a letter from the school asking to attend an informational meeting with the Principle. Additional unexcused absences will result in a referral to the school board meeting.

*A long family vacation is not considered as an excused absence. If your child must go out of town for five or more days, you may request that your child is signed up for an Independent Study Agreement. Please note that teachers need at least two weeks' notice in order to prepare materials without interrupting their instructional time.

Tardies

Teacher will take attendance daily, including tardies. After the tardy bell has rung at 8:30am, your student is tardy if not in line by that time. Teachers will notify the principal if a student receives two unexcused tardies in any grading period. The Principal may have you call the parents, and on the fourth tardy, student will be sent to the office, and further action will be taken. If the tardy is excused, **parents must send a note** with the student explaining why student was tardy.

2 tardies- 1 day clean up

3 tardies- 2 days clean up

4 tardies-3 days clean up and a phone call from a Principal

5 tardies- \$20 fee

Volunteer Policy

In order to keep tuition rates low for our families, every family is required to do 20 hours of Volunteer Ministry Service for the year (10hrs -fall, 10hrs-spring). If you have more than 1 child, add 5 more hours per every additional child enrolled (see below). You can sign up for your volunteering hours at the beginning of each month. The sign up calendar is located right by the office. We highly encourage fathers to participate as well as mothers. In some cases, siblings over 18 years of age, or grandparents may also fulfill volunteer hours. All hour will be tracked on a time sheet. As you volunteer please have a person responsible for that department sign-off on your hours. Volunteer binder will be kept in the principal's office. If parents fail to volunteer, there will be a charge of \$12 per hour missed, in the January invoice for missed hours in the Fall, and in May for missed hours in the Spring. We will do our best to remind you if your hours are incomplete. To opt-out of volunteering, families may choose to pay a fee of \$420 per child for the year or \$210 per semester, and not volunteer. Please fill out the appropriate box in the "Financial Agreement" part of your contract.

Required Hours:

1 child- 20 hours

2 children- 25 hours

3 children- 30 hours

4 children- 35 hours

If parents ever feel the calling to volunteer more hours, you may always do so!

Lunch

Lunch is served daily by GFCS. Children will *not* need to bring a lunch with them to school in a lunch box unless they are eating cold lunch. Hot lunch is provided and is not included in the tuition prices. Lunch fee is \$45/month. Please have a healthy snack brought from home on a daily basis. Snack will be available for sale for \$1 at school, as an option.

Curriculum Enhancement

Bible Class- GFCS teachers teach Bible class every morning for half an hour as part of the daily curriculum. The children learn how to follow Christ in all areas of life. They learn Christian songs and Bible verses by memory. This is a time for the children to ask questions, ask for prayer, and learn to pray for one another. Our teachers teach Bible lessons from the heart and learn with the children.

Chapel- We have chapel service every Monday morning from 8:40-9:20. Children learn the importance to worshiping together as a school community. Teachers, special guests, and Pastors take turns to bring meaningful and applicable Bible lessons to the students. Every year we will choose a theme that will be implemented in every chapel service.

Physical Education- our students participate in physical education once a week. This is a time where they learn hand/eye coordination skills, team playing, sport and game techniques, and memorize biological terms.

Art- Students participate in an hour art lesson per week. A professional teacher teaches the students meaningful art activities. They learn about lighting, painting, sketching, shading, and abstracts. They create a weekly project to take home.

Russian Class- Since the majority of our students are from Russian speaking families, we feel it is very important to provide 1st- 6th grade students with Russian grammar and reading classes. Russian class will be during school hours for all students for one hour per week. Students will have weekly homework. Please make sure your child is completing this work, as they will get a grade on their report card for this class. This class is a part of our curriculum program for all students, whether they know the Russian language or not.

Music Class & Choir: Music is offered twice a week to all students, including music theory, solfegio, singing, and playing instruments.

Music Academy

Music Academy Courses are open to GFCS students, and non-students. Professional instruction, concerts, festivals, and competitions are a part of the curriculum. Many performances opportunities will be presented to students for growth and artistic development. Classes include: Band, Vocal Groups, Guitar Class, Private Voice, and Private Piano. Academy classes are offered after school for an extra fee. Please fill out an application.

School Hours and Extended Care Program

Kindergarten – sixth grade begins at 8:30 am and ends at 2:45 pm, except Fridays at 1:45 pm.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU DROP OFF AND PICK UP YOUR CHILD ON TIME. PLEASE MAKE THIS A PRIORITY FOR YOUR FAMILY!!

If you are 20 minutes late to pick up your child, you will be charged \$5 and your child will be taken to extended day care.

Extended Day Care

Purpose: to provide a safe and educational environment for children of working parents and those who would like to keep their children in a structured environment after school. The main focus will be to provide children with tutoring and homework help.

Activities: to include the following: **tutoring, homework help**, arts and crafts, devotions, prayer time, group games, board games, drama, play dough, and worship.

Supervision: by teachers or trained staff

Hours: Hours of services are 2:45pm-6:00pm.

Late Pick Up: All children must be picked up on time. Late charge of \$1/per minute will be applied for late pick up, after 5:30pm.

Extended Care Rates:

Four/Five days a week -\$100/month, per child (snack included)

Three Days- \$75/month, per child (snack included)

Two Days- \$50/month, per child (snack included)

One Day- \$25/month, per child (snack included)

Hourly rates: \$5/hour (charged by hour only, no minute increments)

Drop off and Pick up

Parents will come in the main "School" entrance. You will drop off and pick up your child in the main parking lot. Daily, children will line up at 8:30 sharp with their class, pray together as a school community, and walk to class quietly together.

On the first day of school, parents can park and walk your child to classroom.

On rainy days, please follow the same procedure of driving by the School entrance door, and drop off your child in front of the door where your child will be met by a teacher or GFC staff. Children will line up in the gym and walk to class together from there. For pick up on a rainy day, please drive in line and your child will be escorted to your car as you reach school door entrance.

Children will be allowed in the parking lot after 8:15am every morning. Children are never allowed to run around in the parking lot. Children must be lined up with their class at 8:30 or they will be counted absent!

Thank you for enrolling your child at *Grace Family Christian School & Music Academy*. We are excited to see what this school year brings us as we work together with the help of our Lord and Savior. Pray for our school, our students, and our teachers!

If EVER you have any concerns or comments regarding your child's education at Grace Family Christian School, please contact Liliya Olesenko, School Principal at 916-239-2239

May God richly bless you and your family!