

## Student represents CCS in Lone Star State Scholars Program

Fifth grader Jadon Gaudin, shown below with Mrs. Morgan, represented CCS in the Lone Star State Scholars program on August 16 in Arlington, Texas. He was one of several students nominated to the program last year by fourth grade teachers.

Jadon and other attendees were part of the 2008 class of Lone Star State Scholars, an organization that honors the best and brightest 3rd-8th graders in the State of Texas.



As one of the planned activities, the Scholars and guests (nearly 700 people in all) attended a pre-game event prior to a Texas Rangers game. They met at a pavilion next to the Rangers Ballpark in Arlington for a special "Salute to the Scholars", during which they heard from guest speakers and had the chance to win prizes and receive autographs. Lone Star State Scholars President Mike Gill emceed the event and gave a keynote speech asking Scholars to continue to put forth great effort. "Like gold medal swimmer Michael Phelps," he said, "those in attendance this night have been identified as something special at a young age. Now, it is their duty to continue to work hard, study hard, and become involved in extra-curriculars, sports, and community service so they can live out their potential."

Texas Ranger alumni players Jim Sunberg and Steve Buschle addressed the crowd and answered audience questions during a question and answer session. The Rangers mascot, Captain, was on hand for pictures and to fire-up the crowd. The Six Shooters, the energy squad of young ladies for the Rangers, hosted a trivia contest that awarded autographed balls. Jadon was the first to win an autographed baseball for

by Donna Stumbaugh, Elementary School Principal



## CCS Support

Support. Think of all the different ways we use the word support. We support sports teams and candidates. We offer support to each other. We support different projects. My thesaurus, my super-duper book of synonyms, has thirteen different sections that reflect on various connotations of the word. As I read over them, it strikes me that these descriptors all reflect an aspect of life here at CCS.

One of the sections lists "...comfort, condole, sympathize; ...give or raise hope..." as synonyms. How these particular meanings have spoken to me over the past months as I have seen three of my family members go home to be with the Lord! Psalm 18:18 says: "They confronted me in the day of my disaster, but the LORD was my support." Yes, the Lord was my strong support, just as this psalm states, but the Lord took on the face of the school family—faculty, staff, parents, students. Their cards, flowers, letters, and acts of kindness supported me. I know that many of you have felt this support, too, when you have shared your concerns with us. What an important role our school plays in supporting one another! We know that, on a daily basis, God bears our burdens.

Psalm 94:18 states: "When I said, 'My foot is slipping,' your love, O LORD, supported me." Again, the word support is used, but its essence is different. Here we "...maintain, sustain, nurse, nourish; ...take charge or under one's wing; ...look or watch out for; ...watch over." I pray that you see evidence of this in and through the teaching and actions of your children's teachers. I pray that you can bring testimony to this aspect of support throughout the school year as you watch your children grow and change before your eyes. CCS is here to support you and your family.

Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:16 that "From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." In this sense, my thesaurus gives "bear, bear up, hold up, prop up, bolster, reinforce, cradle..." as a meaning. I pray that all of us together—parents, students, teachers, administrators, and staff—will continue to be all of these things to each other so that our school will always glorify and honor God.

*Elementary principal Donna Stumbaugh enjoys the flowers that were given to her during a belated birthday celebration. Students surprised Mrs. Stumbaugh by presenting her with flowers and singing "Happy Birthday" to her on October 17. The celebration was delayed due to Hurricane Ike.*



answering a question about the capital of Texas. Autographed balls were also given to the oldest attendee at the event (82 years) and the Scholar who traveled the furthest (800 miles).

Six different Lone Star State Scholars provided entertainment for the event; they sang the National Anthem and performed other songs over the course of the program. Finally, the cur-

rent Ranger catcher, Jarrod Saltalamacchia, stopped by for an autograph session. He signed baseball cards, Rangers hats that all Scholars received, and baseballs. After the event concluded, the group headed over to the ballpark and watched the Rangers defeat the Tampa Bay Rays 3-0 before watching fireworks.