

## ***Press Release*** (March 30, 2011)

For further information, please contact:

Dave Van Swol, Principal

Racine Christian School

262/634-0961

### **Racine Christian Has New Accelerated Reading Program**



*A new Accelerated Reading program gives Racine Christian students web access to 130,000 book tests.*

*Dr. Seuss said, "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go."*

Racine Christian School shares this enthusiasm for reading. The school recently invested in a new web-based Accelerated Reading program from Renaissance Place.

Now, students have access to 130,000 tests – greatly increased from 7,000 tests in the past. New tests are added to the program all the time.

“Students love our new Accelerated Reading program,” says RCS

Technology Coordinator Dale Large. “We have greatly increased the number and variety of books they can read for AR points. When students enjoy a certain topic or author, they can use the Bookfinder feature to search for more. The Book Shelf feature shows each book’s title, author, number of pages, and even its cover.”

The new reading program has another benefit. Using the Home Connect feature, parents can log on at home and check children’s progress. They can even get instant email updates, telling them which tests children have taken and their scores.

“This provides a wonderful home-school connection,” notes Large. “Parents can encourage their children as they see books they are reading, test results, AR points earned, and overall reading progress. They also gain insight into children’s interests - in both topics and authors.”

Students and parents are responding with great enthusiasm. The system has tallied more than 72 million words and 5,000 books read since installation in January of this year. About 30% of RCS parents are already using the Home Connect feature.

Principal Dave Van Swol says, “Our new reading program broadens horizons; students can read a wider variety of books from home, school, and libraries – knowing they will most likely be able to test on them. Parents enjoy a closer connection to school and to their children. This new educational technology further opens to Racine Christian families the wonderful world of reading – a vital key to future growth.”

Racine Christian School provides excellence in Christian education plus music and sports programs. Students test several years beyond their grade levels. Elementary and middle school classes are housed in one facility at 912 Virginia Street, close to home in Racine. Call Dave Van Swol at 262/634-0961 for 2011-12 enrollment information, or visit [www.RacineChristianSchool.com](http://www.RacineChristianSchool.com).

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