



# Eagle's Nest Newsletter

*Volume No. 10 January/February 2024*

## New Year's Principal's Message...Ms. Lewis

As we begin the new semester, I would like to wish **Happy New Year** to the Academy at Smith Family! It is always good to reflect on the past but most importantly look forward to the future. Our high expectations in academics continues as we begin the second semester.

**Attendance Matters...**Statistics shows that students with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more. Students who are absent an average of 15 days a year miss a year's worth of school before their senior year. Excused and unexcused absences represent lost of time in the classroom and lost of opportunities to learn. Students must make up time for days missed. We appreciate your continued support in getting our students to school every day and on time.



**Everyday Counts...school success starts with attendance! Your Success starts with Attendance!!!**

### TESTING

- ❖ NWEA January 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ ACCESS Testing Begins January 23<sup>rd</sup>
- ❖ ACT February 27<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> graders
- ❖ ACT WorkKeys March 12<sup>th</sup>

### TUTORING

Tuesdays & Thursday - after school

### Saturday School

TBA



## **EAGLES SOAR!**

**Academy at Smith recognized by the US News and World Report as one of the "Best High Schools"**

## **North Carolina Exceeded Academic Growth Award 2022-2023**



### **Reminders:**

- ❖ Progress Reports January 25<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Choice School Showcase January 31<sup>st</sup> 5:30PM
- ❖ GAP Application due January 31<sup>st</sup>
- ❖ Tuesday Tours : February 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS...CONGRATULATIONS!

**Dionne Layne, earned her Master's in School Administration  
Gardner Webb University**

**Dr. Sara Davis Leonard, earned her PH.D in American & European History  
Liberty University**

---

## EMPLOYEE Spotlight

**Dawn Harris P-MCL** is a proud alumnus of North Carolina Agriculture and Technical State University where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering. Ms. Harris earned her master's in mathematics education from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She is also certified in both International Baccalaureate Studies and Advance Placement. She has shared her love for math by teaching the past 23 years at both Ben L. Smith High School and The Academy at Smith. She was named Teacher of the Year in 2020.



While supporting her student's daily, she also chairs the math department, tutor's math for Guilford County Schools and serves as a member of the District Math Leadership Team. At the Academy she also the MCL. In this position she co-plans, co-teaches, models, coaches and motivates the math department. Ms. Harris shared that the school's goal for her is to increase Math 1 EOC scores. She thinks that goal will be fulfilled with her personal goal of analyzing the data so that she can enhance the instruction to ensure high growth learning for EVERY child.

Ms. Harris' hobbies and interest include traveling, dancing and reading. Her favorite activity is loving and spending time with family and friends. She plans to continue to enrich the minds of students and teachers.



---

### Causes & Resources



**Out of the Garden Project**, provides programs designed to eliminate childhood hunger and food insecurity in the Piedmont Triad. Find out more by going to their website. <https://outofthegardenproject.org/>



**Help is on the Way...**if you or anyone you know needs support, please don't hesitate to reach out for help. Our Counselor, Social Worker or Principal can direct you to the right place.

