

What CELA Means to Me

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs and thank Him for His answers. If you do this you will experience God’s peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will keep your thoughts and your heart quiet and at rest as you trust in Christ Jesus.” –Philippians 4:6-7. I never knew how much a bible verse would affect my life. Before I came to CELA, I did not have a close relationship with God. I did attend Church with my family and I grew up in a Christian home, but I personally did not deeply know who our Lord was. Not only did CELA help me with my academics and becoming a leader, but most importantly, it helped me to find God and myself.

CELA has pushed me to be the best student I could possibly be. All the teachers expect the best out of my fellow classmates and me. By having small class sizes our teachers can adapt to every student’s needs and help us to succeed. As I attended CELA for the past three years, my parents and I could see my academic grades excel. All of my teachers are so kind, helpful, and caring to me; they were not only my teachers, but they are also people that inspire me.

Besides having my academics impacted, I was also impacted as a Christian leader. Before I came to CELA, I was a follower. I would do what everyone did, and I would not share my ideas or thoughts. CELA taught me that everyone has a voice, and you need to take action. I am now a strong, confident Christian leader. My leadership skills were strengthened through having classes with all middle school grades, playing soccer, being a Chapel buddy to Quinn Fulton, and being a part of a beloved Chapel family. Most importantly, by being surrounded by our younger

students. I not only learned how to be a leader, I learned how to be Christian leader and act how God would want His children to act. CELA has prepared me to be a leader throughout my coming years.

Christian values have influenced me the most at CELA. Every two weeks we learn about a new value, and have a wonderful lesson thanks to Mrs. Daniels. Out of all the values we have learned, love, patience, and forgiveness are the values that I truly hold deep in my heart. Through CVLD class, Chapel, Chapel Families, Bible study, and my friends, I have learned how much God loves each and every one of us. These three values play a vital role in my life now. I know that God constantly loves me, He always forgives me and I am still working on having patience in God and His perfect plan. I do believe that God led me to the decision to go to CELA, so I could find my relationship with Him. By attending CELA, I have found who I am as a Christian and how I should help spread the Gospel. CELA has truly helped me find my faith in God.

CELA has shaped me into the young leader I am today. As I graduate from 8th grade, I am going to take all of the lessons I have learned from CELA. I can take away a profound education, amazing qualities of a leader, and my newfound faith. I feel so prepared for high school and the years to come. I will pray to God for strength and thank Him for all my blessings, and CELA is at the top of the list. As I go off on my next adventure, I will always remember Philippians 4: 6-7. This verse reminds me of my years at CELA and I thank CELA for an amazing opportunity I have been a part. I thank you for your part in my journey; “How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.” –Winnie the Pooh.