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# Educators <sup>who</sup> <sub>make a</sub> difference

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## Cindy Mann

Greenville Classical Academy

**C**indy Mann has successfully transitioned her teaching skills from school to home and back again.

Mann teaches third grade at Greenville Classical Academy. Her daughter is a recent graduate of North Greenville University.

“I taught before she was born and then I was a stay-at-home, home-schooling mom,” she said. “I came to Greenville Classical when she went to North Greenville in 2009.”

Mann has always loved school, even before she was old enough to be a student.

“I was one of those kids who could not wait to start school,” she said. “My third-grade teacher made me want to teach. I love to see the children get excited about learning. We do a lot of integrating of subjects — history with Bible and Latin. I love to see them make those connections.”

Each student in Mann’s classroom is treated as an individual, something she sees as critical as they move from early learning to more rigorous content.

“Third grade is a pivotal, transitional year,” she said. “Their thinking skills have to jump several notches. One of the things I get out of it is being able to use the Bible as our lens for looking at the world. I try to approach each child for who that child is. We grow together and we learn together.”

Mann includes the family in the educational process as well, encouraging parents to be their child’s first teacher. Her love of learning is contagious to students and their parents.

Mann, who says she is at Greenville Classical “for the long haul,” believes her role also includes encouraging students to live life to the fullest.

“It’s important for them to know that I love them and I want them to do their best and capitalize on their strengths and overcome weaknesses,” she said. “I love seeing their individual personalities — the ones who have the quirky senses of humor, the ones who are creative and the ones who are sensitive to other children — to appreciate the individual God has created them to be.”