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NEWSLETTER

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“Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6

“What you think determines what you do, what you do will determine the direction you go, which direction you go determines your destination.”

Quote from a sermon by Pastor Josh Friend.

Sometimes at the beginning of a new school year, I question why we do what we do in regards to Christian Education. Why don't we simply join the public education system and try to impact public education? Could they not benefit from some “Christian” teachers? Maybe we could be a light to our secular world in this setting. It will certainly reduce the costs for our families and therefore we could give more to other ministries.

One of the fundamental identities of Christian Education must be that it is based on God's word; that each of our courses, each of our interactions are based on sound Christian principles which serve as the foundation of the “private” educational system. I personally wonder how I would do in the Public System. Could I be the same teacher that I am at CACHS at a Public High School? While I obviously would not be able to have devotions and prayer (requests), I would also be unable to base the

CENTRAL ALBERTA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

Invites you to its 25th Anniversary
Celebration on Friday, October 10, 2014,
from 2:00 – 4:30 pm at
CACHS – 22 Eagle Road, Lacombe.
Assembly at 2 pm with school tour and tea to
follow. We look forward to celebrating 25
years of God's faithfulness with you.
RSVPs appreciated but not required at:
cachs25years@gmail.com or
office 403-782-4535

Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. 1Timothy 4:12

curriculum on God's word. I could not teach science with an attitude of amazement toward a God who created such a complex world; much of which we have no idea about, and then follow it up with the realization that He also desires a personal relationship with each of His children. In fact I could not even bring up the idea that God is the Creator. What you think determines what you do, where you will go, what is your destination.

Christian Education is designed to influence the student's thinking. It is expected that this thinking will influence their actions, their path and destination. Christian Education does not allow students to operate in a vacuum, to encourage students to come up with their own interpretations of how the world came to be and how we are to interact with it. But rather it is designed to reveal who God is in addition to how we as His image bearers are to live. Public Education by removing any reference to a God or Creator does not preach a neutral message, but rather a concerted effort to eradicate any idea from a student's mind that God exists. Christian Education is not about protection or isolation: What it is about is opening a student's mind to seeing the world as it truly is. Our goals at CACHS are, "to equip" each of our students to make a difference in a world where God is becoming a bystander at best.

Mr. Brandsma

Board Notes

We would like to welcome the new board members this year – Fred Ollewagen, Cheryl Talsma and Sue Stang. The new board members, as well as the existing board members look forward to serving in the upcoming school year at CACHS.

The school's roof was re-shingled this summer due to hail damage last year.

We anticipate work to begin shortly on the soccer field. Utility markings and dirt removal are the next jobs to be completed.

Sue Stang
Board Secretary

Central Alberta Christian High School Undergoing a Leadership Review

The Prairie Centre for Christian Education (PCCE) office has been assisting member schools in focused School Leadership Reviews. The review focuses on the work of the school's principal or administrative team in relation to the local Board and staff.

1 Corinthians 12 and other related passages remind us of God's plan for the Christian school community. Each person is asked to use their abilities so that all can effectively serve God. Since the school exists to educate children, an important function is that the leadership team effectively implements the goals of Christian education. The overall purpose of this review is to help Central Alberta Christian High School (CACHS) implement these goals through the work of its leadership team.

This year CACHS will embark on this process by reviewing the work of Principal, Mel Brandsma, and Vice-Principal, Peter Hoekstra. The CACHS parent community will also be asked to fill in a questionnaire. External evaluators will make a school visit in early November equipped with questionnaire results and school materials. A report will be submitted in December to the CACHS Board with recommendations to consider.

Financial Update for September

Last year's financial records are at the auditor for our yearly audit and the new year is underway.

If you haven't sent in your tuition cheques or book deposit cheques (dated June 12, 2015) please forward to the School Office.

If you would still like to do direct deposit for tuition please contact me.

Looking forward to another great year!

Wendy Barnes
Business Administrator

Library Notes - September 2014

September newsletter already and soon the end of September will be here! How time flies. Maybe it was the surprise of the snow and now of summer weather that has me feeling like the time is flying.

For the first few months of school, the Classics are being featured. It really is amazing that so many of these authors are the original influences to our modern day authors. We can see Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's, one of the original mystery writers, influence in popular mystery books and in many well known TV series such as: CSI, NCIS, Murdoch, Motive, and the list goes on.

There are a few new books already making their way to the shelves, come in and "check us out".

Happy Reading!
Yvonne Reed
Librarian

Reminders

1. **Off-site Activity Consent of Parent/Guardian form** - These forms were sent home with the report cards in June and also handed out on the first day of school. If you have not yet returned this form to the school, please do so as soon as possible!
2. **Book Deposit** - A post-dated cheque (June 12/15) is required for your son/daughter's books. If you have not sent this cheque in yet, please bring it to the office as soon as possible.
3. **Membership Renewal** - Membership fees of \$50.00 are due in September. For those who have students in the school, the membership is included with your tuition costs. For those of you who do not have children at CACHS a renewal letter is part of this newsletter. Please renew your membership or become a member using this letter. If you have any questions please contact the school office at 403-782-4535.

CACHS Family Phone List

For those families who have children at CACHS, the CACHS family phone list is included with this newsletter. If your phone number is listed incorrectly, please call the office at 403-782-4535 as soon as possible with the correct number. Thank you.

Career Corner

"The guidance of the young people entrusted to the Christian high school by the Christian community is the task of the whole school. The school as a whole is given the responsibility to guide, direct, and "help each student to grow into an independent person who serves God according to His Word and is able and willing to employ every talent to the honor of God and for the well-being of all fellow creatures, in every area of life." (from *Educating for Life Today and Tomorrow* - A Christian Schools Canada publication)

Part of my task is to assist our students in finding out opportunities available. Students, and anyone interested in finding out about post-secondary options, are encouraged to go to the Open Houses most schools have. Open houses are wonderful opportunities to find out more about colleges and universities. Check online for times and dates.

I look forward to meeting with all the students this year. Typically grade 12 students are met with at various times throughout the school year, starting at the beginning of the year. I then meet with grade 11 students, and then the grade 10 students. However, at any time a student can request a meeting. I also am the off-campus programming coordinator, so students and parents are encouraged to contact me if you have questions about our Work Experience, Green Certificate or Registered Apprenticeship Program. I am typically at the school on Monday and Wednesday, but can be contacted on my cell phone throughout the week if questions arise. It is great to be back at school, and I look forward to time spent with all the wonderful students!

Veronica Den Oudsten
Career Counselor

CACHS Catering

We would like to welcome Jennette Oosterink as a new member of CACHS Catering. If anyone else would like to join us, we are always looking for committee members and help. We have received numerous requests for bookings for the fall and into the next year. However, we are only able to do one banquet on a weekend and only two functions a month so if you would like to book us, please call as soon as possible as we work on a first come first serve basis.

Our upcoming events for which we are looking for help are:

- October 16 – Ponoka Christian School
Thanksgiving supper at PCS
- November 7 – Harvest Fest at CACHS gym

If you are able to help serve and/or clean up at any of our functions, please contact Ann Siebenga. Please consider volunteering a couple hours of your time to help at one of our functions. The school and **ALL** the students benefit from the funds raised. Please call Emma Den Oudsten if you wish to book CACHS Catering services.

Members of CACHS Catering are:

Emma Den Oudsten
Jennette Oosterink
Clase van Iperen
Rosemary Vander Ploeg
Ester Verhoef

Emma Den Oudsten
CACHS Catering

Calendar

- September 26 – Staff collaboration day – no school
- October 9 – “Meet the Teacher” evening at
CACHS - 7:00 – 8:30 pm
- October 10 – Picture day – individual and class
Pictures
- October 10 – 2:00 to 4:30 - CACHS 25th
anniversary celebration
- October 23 & 24 – CEA Teachers convention
- November 7 – Harvest Fest – see note elsewhere

Student Council News

Welcome back CACHS students, especially the grade 10's, as well as the new students in grades 11 and 12.

In this year's Student Council, so far we have Ashley deBoon as President, Dakota DenOudsten as Vice President, Reuben Vander Meulen as Treasurer and Nathan Hazelhoff as Secretary. Class representative positions are still available and further elections will take place.

Nathan Hazelhoff
Student Council Secretary

Harvest Fest



Calling all athletes of the world to the 2014 CACHS Olympics November 7th, 2014, 6:30pm at the CACHS Olympic Stadium (The Gym). All the greatest nations will be there as the world comes together in friendly competition and fundraising. A fantastic opening and closing ceremony, Olympic Dinner, live and silent auction and many other Olympic things will be happening in the Olympic Village all lead by one of the world's most decorated Athletes of our time Swen Dorfson the legendary Swedish Luger (aka Gery Schubert). All athletes or groups of athletes are encouraged to attend this fundraising event dressed in their countries traditional costumes or in the best winter Olympic gear (ski outfit, sweaters, wooden shoes, hockey jersey, lederhosen, sombrero etc.) Athlete registration begins at 6:30pm with refreshments, silent and live auction viewing and mingling with all the other athletes from around the world. Tickets are available from the School.

Europe Trip 2015 - Update

Welcome back to school, after a beautiful summer! I trust all of you spent an exhilarating few weeks and enjoyed some time relaxing and enjoying the sunshine. Forty of us are looking forward to an amazing dip into European culture and history in the spring of 2015 – from Paris to Barcelona, via Avignon, Arles, Carcassonne, and much more! There is still room for a few more participants if you are interested. You would need to catch up in payments to those who are already signed up. Please see Mrs. Barnes or Mme Hoyt for details.

*** I would like to remind participants and parents that we need **two (2) photocopies of every traveller's passport in September**. Bring these in to Mrs. Barnes in the business office. Please keep in mind that your passport should be valid for six months after our return date in early April 2015. Please renew your passport now if its expiry date is after October 6, 2015. Please apply for a passport now if you do not already have one. And make sure other documents, for permanent residency in Canada, are up-to-date. We will need photocopies of those documents as well.

*** Also, keep in mind that the next payment (by cheque written out to CACHS) will be due by noon on October 8, 2014 to Mrs. Barnes' office: \$1,200.00 for each traveller. (It will be more, of course, for those who sign up now, since they have not yet put down the deposit or paid the first installment.)

*** The balance for the trip will be due at noon on November 28, 2014.

Thank you for meeting these deadlines in a timely manner. There will be a few other deadlines in the future, regarding notarized Consent Forms, signed by both parents in the presence of a lawyer for all students under the age of 18. These forms will be available once we know the precise dates of the trip. And, we will need to discuss the situations of tips for tour guides, bus fare to the Calgary Airport, and obtaining spending money in Euros. These will be the topic of a future message.

All the best to you, the students, as you begin

another year of school! Be sure to thank your parents for all the support they give.

Blessings,
Carolyn Snipes-Hoyt and Peter Hoekstra
Coordinators for the 2015 Europe Trip

Young Blood for Life

Last year was the first in which CACHS participated in the Young Blood for Life High School Challenge. This campaign is an effort by Canadian Blood Services to promote blood donation by teenagers in order to develop a pattern of giving that will be sustained throughout donors' lives. The results were very positive and show that CACHS stepped up to the plate by taking first place among Central Alberta high schools in the number of new donors (20) of a total of 79 units collected, surpassing our goal of 70 donations. These totals are also by far the highest proportion of donations based on school population in the province. Congratulations and a big "thank you" to all who kicked in to provide the gift of life to many grateful recipients.

It is clear from the results that CACHS students understand the privilege and responsibility that accompanies the God-given blessing of health. This challenge also presents an opportunity to positively witness to others and express our gratitude for the gift He has given. I once again extend the challenge to all eligible members of our community to participate in the Young Blood for Life campaign this year, regardless of age. Scan the bar code below to register as a CACHS donor. See you at the next available blood donor clinic in Lacombe!

Pete Hoekstra
CACHS Young Blood for Life Coordinator