

NEWSLETTER

March 2016
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“Strength through adversity”

“Comfort and prosperity have never enriched the world as much as adversity has.” Billy Graham

James 1: 2-4 *Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

Proverbs 3: 5 & 6 *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.*

We live in turbulent times: uncertainty with political leadership, the downturn in the economy, job and career challenges, society's changes in regards to the family, the threatened existence of the family farm or small business, and the increasing resistance to heed the wisdom of the Word, are just a few of the concerns facing each of us today. Throw in some health or relational concerns and you soon realize stress may be at a level we're not accustomed to. In times like these we need to be reminded of scripture showcasing God's promises. We need to be reminded that adversity can in

fact be a blessing, a time of renewal where our dependency and reliance upon our Heavenly father is rekindled.

I was reminded of this concept over the last week as a neighbor of mine is going through some significant struggles. As his child fights for breath due to a lung infection, he fights for making sense of this adversity and the role of a God he does not really recognize. He struggles with competing messages from the faith community and the secular community. I believe God is opening him up for a new beginning, a time when a relationship with God for him and his family may become a reality.

Currently, many of us as parents have the idea that by protecting our children from all adversity, we are helping them to a “better” life. But are we maybe creating dependent young people, who are unable to deal with anything which does not go their way? We all value growth and development, yet we frequently fail to recognize that this often happens through adversity, or times of struggle. Our parenting, our teaching, our leading must mirror God's model where free will or choice are allowed and where God will never leave us. He may direct our path but only if we choose to allow Him to guide us. The prodigal son was allowed to wander, while the father waited patiently for the son to return.

I do believe we as parents must be vigilant in presenting the gospel at all times to our sons and daughters, that we teach them the ways of the Lord through their years of development, that we continue

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

to model a way of life which honors our Creator, that serves both God and our neighbor, and that is thankful to the Son for the gift of salvation; but also trusts God for wisdom in how to deal with life's uncertainties.

We as a board also covet your prayer support as we seek wisdom in leading this school community through some times of uncertainty. May we gain strength, wisdom, and insight as we wrestle with adversity.

"The long, dull, monotonous years of middle-aged prosperity or middle-aged adversity are excellent campaigning weather for the devil." C.S. Lewis

Mr. Brandsma

Board Notes

Have a blessed Easter! "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." John 11: 25-26

Sue Stang
Board Secretary

Financial Update for March 2016

The Board, staff, and students would like to thank the Building Blocks Thrift store for their generous donation of \$25,000. We would like to thank Building Blocks Thrift store for their continuing support to Christian education and for making Christian education affordable.

With the Alberta Government's budget coming out on April 14th, I have begun working on budget numbers for our new budget that will be presented to the Society on May 19th.

Wendy Barnes
Business Administrator

Student/Parent Pizza and Pop Information Evening

We invite all Grade 9 students and their parents to our annual Student/Parent Pizza and Pop information evening which will be held on Thursday, April 14 at 7:00 pm. Students will enjoy games and mixers, while Mr. Mel Brandsma, our principal, will meet with the parents. At approximately 8:15 pizza and pop will be served and we will all have the opportunity to mingle and meet everyone, including the CACHS staff. Invitations have been given to the Grade nine students at Lacombe Christian School, Ponoka Christian School, Rimbey Christian School and Genesis Protestant School. If you know of any students who are not attending one of these schools and would be interested in coming, please call the school and an invitation will be sent to them. If you have any questions regarding the evening, please call Ann at the school at 403-782-4535.

Library News

March already – with Spring Break just around the corner. I think that students, teachers, and parents alike are all ready for the break. The library has been busy with research on early church history, and finishing up the large puzzle. We are now looking for more puzzle challenges.

I will be adding new series and authors to our collection within the next few weeks. Please come in and see what is new on the "spinning rack". Some of the books are fiction that is based on true stories such as Shenaaz Nanji's *Child of Dandelions*. This story follows the 1972 ethnic purge in Uganda by Idi Amin.

The new authors to our collection include: Margaret Peterson Haddix and Eric Walters who both write with the young adult in mind. Margaret Haddix is known for her dystopian series, *Shadow Children*. Eric Walters is a Canadian who is responsible for the popular *CampX* series that is shown on BBC.

Have a wonderful break and take a minute to enjoy a good book.

Yvonne Reed
Librarian

Career Corner

“I wish someone had told me when I was in school the first time that it was okay if I didn’t know. At that age it is kind of hard to know what you want to do with the rest of your life. I really had to go out into the world and get some life into me before I really could see and know what all is out there to be and do. I think I put way too much pressure on myself and didn’t enjoy the process of not knowing and discovering what I liked and what I might be good at doing.” (Beth)

Grade 12 students have been reminded that scholarship applications are coming due. The Rotary scholarship application has been distributed and students are asked to have them into the office by March 23.

The Career Expo will be taking place at Red Deer college on Thursday, April 28. This is an opportunity for our students to explore various career opportunities and educational choices.

Veronica DenOudsten
Career Counselor

Junior High Afternoon Visit

On March 10, the hallways at CACHS were buzzing! All grade 8 and 9 students from our feeder schools were invited to join CACHS students for the afternoon. The High School ‘Sneak Peek’ event allowed the students to mingle over a delicious lunch, participate in a worship assembly, listen to speaker Kelly Row, Hope Mission’s director, and then attend two fun activity sessions. The afternoon was a huge success!

A big THANK YOU goes out to the Development Committee who organized the lunch, the kitchen help who helped pull 110 pounds of pork, and the CACHS students and staff who embraced the afternoon by welcoming and interacting with the Junior High students! WELL DONE!

Sandra Brandsma
Development Director

Art

The art room has become an inspiring studio. Art 10 students have just completed an Easter Series. The series illustrate three parts of the Easter Story: Preparation, Suffering and Celebration. The beautifully crafted pieces are hanging in the hallway, and are a “must see”! Thank you Grade 10 art students!

Grad Pictures - 2016

Grad pictures will be taken at the school on April 11th, 12th, and 13th. Brochures were handed out to the students on March 16th and parents and students need to book and prepare for the sitting by visiting www.lifetouch.ca/southernalberta. On this site are the appointment times for the portrait sittings that students must select and fill out. It is essential that all graduates schedule a portrait sitting time during the times that Lifetouch is at the school to ensure that they are included in the CACHS Grade 12 composite picture. Should you have any questions regarding the Grad Portrait sitting, please contact the Red Deer Lifetouch office at 403-356-9410 or Ann at the school at 403-782-4535.

Extra Cookie Dough & Cinnamon & Sticky Buns for Sale

We have a number of tubs of cookie dough and some boxes of cinnamon and sticky buns for sale. These items are extras from the recent Grade 12 grad fund raiser. Cookie dough is \$15/tub and the buns (8/box) are \$12. Please contact the school at 403-782-4535 if you would like to purchase any.

Dark chocolate white chocolate chunk – 3
Ginger crinkle – 4
Monster cookies – 4
The Motherlode – 3
Oatmeal coconut chocolate chunk – 4
Oatmeal raisin spice – 2
Shortbread – 4
Sugar cookie – 5

Cinnamon Buns – 2
Sticky Buns – 3

Europe Trip 2017

At present we have 30 participants signed up to go on this exciting trip. If you are interested in joining the group yet, you can still do so by contacting the school for the costs, which will increase as of April 1st, and completing the application form. A more detailed itinerary is also available at the CACHS office.

The focus of this tour is the Canadian involvement in the two World Wars, and an exploration of the cities, towns and countryside which serve as their historical setting. Of course, all of this will be done in the context of experiencing the French culture, both past and present.

A brief summary of the itinerary:

- Day 1: Arrive in Brussels
- Day 2: Visit Flanders Fields/Ypres battlefield
- Day 3 Visit Vimy Ridge/Arras battlefield
- Day 4: Travel to Dieppe, Rouen
- Day 5: Visit coastal villages in Normandy
- Day 6: Visit Juno, Omaha beaches
- Day 7: Travel to Chartres
- Day 8, 9: Explore Paris
- Day 10: Return

For those of you who have already signed up, all cheques need to be made out to CACHS and submitted **by noon on the dates indicated below**. We **cannot** accept any post-dated cheques except for the dates indicated below.

Payment schedule

- Second payment \$700** Due: Noon April 5, 2016
- Third payment \$1200 Due: October 3, 2016
- Final payment: Balance Due noon November 29/16

**** Adult supplement of \$390 per person in double room is due on the second payment plus \$89 for cancellation/interruption insurance. A late fee per person will be charged by the company.**

Please contact me at the school if you have any questions.

Pete Hoekstra
Europe Trip Coordinator

CACHS Catering

CACHS Catering upcoming events:

- Ponoka Christian School auction – April 9
- CACHS Fashion Show – May 6
- Ponoka Christian School Grade 9 grad – June 2
- CACHS Grade 12 graduation – June 28
- July 9 – Zylstra anniversary - Lacombe
- July 23 – Sypkes anniversary – Red Deer
- August 6 - Reed/Van Dijk wedding
- October 13 – Ponoka Christian School Thanksgiving supper

CACHS Catering strives for a high quality meal for a very reasonable price. If you are interested in having us cater for an upcoming function, please feel free to phone Emma for information. Have a look at the menu options and keep in mind that you will support the school by letting us help you with your special function!

We are looking for a new committee member since I (Ester) am retiring from CACHS Catering this summer. Helping out with CACHS Catering is a great way to build community amongst each other. I have learned much and enjoyed working with others. The ladies in the committee and other volunteers have been a blessing to me in many ways. Their commitment and love for the job is amazing. We all know it is a privilege to have a Christian High School here in Central Alberta. May God bless the work of CACHS Catering and the many hands that help make this possible. Other than a new committee member, we can always use cooks, dishwashers, and servers. Remember that many hands make light work! Please let one of the committee members know if you are willing to help in any way.

CACHS Catering:
Emma Den Oudsten
Jennette Oosterink
Clase van Iperen
Rosemary Vander Ploeg

Sincerely,
Ester Verhoef

Calendar

March 25 – April 3 – Spring break

April 11, 12 & 13 – Grad picture days –

please see note elsewhere

April 14 – Pizza/Parent information evening –

please see note below

April 15 – First report card of second semester

April 21 – Parent/teacher interviews after school and evening

April 22 – No school

Parent/teacher interviews – morning only

Staff collaboration afternoon

May 6 – Fashion Show

Staff collaboration day – no school

May 19 – Society meeting – 7:30 pm

May 20 – Staff collaboration day – no school

May 23 – Victoria Day – no school

June 28 - Please note change of date for graduation