

NEWSLETTER

April 2017
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Forgiveness is the intentional and voluntary process by which a victim undergoes a change in feelings and attitude regarding an offense and is able to let go of negative emotions such as vengeance, with an increased ability to wish the offender well.

As Christians we should understand this word, this directive very well as we find ourselves frequently asking our God for forgiveness. This past week, several things reminded me of my responsibility in dealing with forgiveness, not so only in seeking it, but in offering it as well. It began with a story from Corrie ten Boom dealing with forgiveness of a guard at a prison camp she was placed in. It concluded with Easter Friday and the Resurrection celebration a few days later.

Corrie ten Boom writes, "But forgiveness is not an emotion – I knew that too. Forgiveness is an act of the will, and the will can function regardless of the temperature of the heart. 'Jesus, help me!' I prayed silently. 'I can lift my hand. I can do that much. You supply the feeling'." It is a powerful story of the decision to forgive regardless of the emotional state of the individual or the reception of the person being forgiven.

I am so thankful Easter is not a onetime event. It seems I need frequent reminders to not only look at my relationship with God and request His forgiveness, but also my need to extend forgiveness to others both for them, but especially for myself. I pray this Easter you too will find opportunity to receive and extend forgiveness to all those who we have hurt or have been hurt by.

Matthew 6: 9-15 "This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.' For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

Mr. Brandsma

Farewell Assembly and Tea

We would like to invite you to a farewell assembly and tea for Mel and Sandra Brandsma which will take place on Monday, June 12th. The assembly will begin at 11:00 a.m. followed by a tea and goodies which will go until about 1:00 p.m.

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

Board Notes

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end He will stand upon the earth. Job 19:25

We hope you enjoyed the Easter weekend celebrating the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior!

April has been a busy month for various committees in our school. Finance have been discussing the budget for the upcoming year and the Development and Education committees were interviewing candidates for a Development officer and a math teacher position for next year.

A reminder, that the Spring Society Meeting will be held on May 18, 2017 at 7:30 pm. Please mark your calendars for this meeting. One of the main items on the agenda will be information regarding the future construction of the Industrial Arts Building. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sue Stang
Board Secretary

Financial Update for April 2017

The Board, staff and students would like to thank Building Blocks Thrift Store for their generous donation of \$25,000.00. This donation helps with keeping the cost of tuition down for families.

We would also like to thank CACHS Catering for the new 150 chairs and stands along with another 150 chairs and stands to come.

As a school we are truly blessed by our school community whether it is through financial support, volunteer opportunities by helping CACHS Catering or Building Blocks and especially through prayer. Thank you all for your support.

The Provincial budget came down on March 16th. We did not receive any extra funding and is at the same funding level as last year.

The Finance committee met and finalized a budget

that will go before the Board later this month for approval.

Reminder the Fashion Show will be taking place on Friday, April 28th. Tickets are available at the office.

Yours in Christ
Wendy Barnes
Business Administrator

CACHS Annual Fashion Show

Central Alberta Christian High School will be hosting their annual Fashion Show on Friday, April 28th at 7:00 pm in the school sym. The fundraiser consists of desserts, door prizes, silent auction items and the fashion show. This year we are raising funds for Parkinson Alberta.

If you would like to donate a door prize item or a silent auction item, please contact the school. We will be accepting cash donations on the night of the Fashion Show and we would ask that you make your cheques out to the school to receive a tax receipt for your donation. All funds that are raised from the ticket sales and auction items will go directly to Parkinson Alberta.

Tickets are available at the school office for \$20 each. Please call 403-782-4535 to reserve your tickets.

CACHS Fashion Show Committee

Library News

We have so much to be thankful for and Easter is a great time to remember all our numerous blessings. The consistency of our Heavenly Father is reflected in the seasonal changes of our earth. Spring is a time of rebirth with tulips poking their heads up through ice crusted earth, and robins and geese are returning to build nests and start new families. In spite of all our human inconsistencies God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. (Heb 13:8) Easter is a time of promise.

The following authors have highlighted this dramatic week. Sigmund Brouwer has written two books that cover the Easter story. The Weeping Chamber is a fictional novel that explores the death of Jesus through a character named Simeon. Sigmund also wrote a non-fiction book, The Carpenter's Cloth. This book has become one of my favorites as a devotional book during this season. He follows Jesus' journey from the carpenter's stall to the cross and he touches on all the characters that Jesus interacted with during this time. Melody Carlson, a young adult writer, has also written a fictional novel that tells the Easter story from the perspective of Mary. This story picks up at the foot of the cross and culminates with Jesus' ascension. The Centurion's Wife, written by Bunn/Oke is the first book in a series that follows the beginning of the early church. We are so blessed to have these creative individuals that can retell an important story in so many ways. But most of all we are truly blessed with the privilege of having our own Bibles and the freedom to read this story for ourselves.

There are a dozen or so new books that have just been added to the collection. Most of these are familiar authors. I have added a new author, Mark Bertrand, who has written the "Roland March Mystery" series. These can be found on the wire rack in the Library. Please come in and take a look.

I hope you had a blessed Easter.

Yvonne Reed
Librarian

Career Corner

"How can I be a steward of this life, and how has God uniquely cultivated in my heart a vision for what matters and capacity to do something about it? What is the best way I can live my life for Christ and for others in a way that is consistent with how God has created me? Self knowledge is not, then an act of selfishness of self-centeredness, but an act of stewardship, of seeing ourselves in truth so that we can live in truth for Christ and others."

Consider Your Calling, by Gordon T. Smith

Whether our graduating students are continuing their journey of self-discovery through a formal or informal learning environment, I pray that they may seek to live their lives for Christ.

On April 25th at 1:00 pm our grade 10's will be going to Red Deer Koinonia to join their College and Career Fair. On April 27th, our grade 11's and 12's will be going to Red Deer College to attend the Career Expo. These are great opportunities for our students to explore and discover various opportunities that are available for them.

The CACHS 2017 Scholarship and Financial information booklet is available for the grade 12 students. Information regarding the Cameron B. Dowling Memorial, Jenna Weenink Memorial, Drs. Engel and Power Family Eye Care, Lacombe Branch of the Canadian Legion, and Bentley Seed Cleaning Plant scholarships can be found in this booklet. If you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact me.

Veronica DenOudsten
Career Counselor

Cookie Dough - Cinnamon Buns

We still have a few tubs of cookie dough from the Grade 12 grad fundraiser. If you are interested in any of them, please contact the school. Cookie dough is \$16/tub.

Ginger crinkle – 2
Monster cookie – 1
Motherlode – 1
Oatmeal Coconut Chocolate chunk – 2

Pizza Night

Once again the hallways at CACHS were buzzing! On April 12th many Grade 9 students and their parents attended our annual Pizza Party Open House. The students participated in several activities, mingled with their future peers and then enjoyed eating pizza. The parents were able to attend a CACHS information session hosted by Mel Brandsma, CACHS' principal. The evening was a huge success!

A big THANK YOU goes out to the Development Committee, CACHS staff and Student Council who embraced the evening by welcoming and interacting with the Grade 9 students and their parents. WELL DONE!

Sandra Brandsma
Development Director

Calendar

April 28 – Fashion Show – fundraiser for Parkinson Alberta – see note elsewhere
May 18 – CACHS Society meeting
May 19 – Staff collaboration day – no school
May 22 – Victoria Day – no school
June 9 – Staff collaboration – no school
June 12 – Farewell for Mel & Sandra Brandsma
June 16 – Social Studies 30-1/30-2 diploma – a.m.
June 21 – 26 – Grade 10 & 11 school exams
June 23 – Social Studies 30-1/30-2 diploma – a.m.
June 28 – Biology 30 diploma – a.m.
June 29 – Physics 30 diploma – a.m.
June 30 – Grade 12 graduation

CACHS Catering

CACHS Catering upcoming events:

April 28 – CACHS Fashion Show
April 29 – Farewell for Pastor Mike Vandyk at CACHS
May 6 – Brittany TenHove/Jayden Halsey wedding at Blindman Valley Ag Center
June 12 – Farewell dinner for Mel & Sandra Brandsma at CACHS
June 30 – CACHS grad

August 19 – Sidney Prins/Jordy Fontijn wedding – Kinsmen Hall, Ponoka

October 12 – PCS Thanksgiving dinner fundraiser

CACHS Catering strives for a high quality meal for a very reasonable price. If you are interested to have us for an upcoming function, please feel 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 cater your special function! 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.

If you are able to help serve and/or clean up at any of our functions, please contact Anne Siebenga at 403-782-3554. Please consider volunteering a couple hours of your time to help at one of our functions.

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

Europe Trip Update

As you know, the trip is over and we all returned home safe and sound. The focus of our tour was the military contribution Canada made to the Allied efforts in both world wars, with a “secondary” emphasis on the culture, taking in the lovely towns, historic cities and countryside of Belgium and France and the number one tourist destination of the world – Paris. The tour also afforded us the opportunity to get to know old friends better and to make new ones. Our 29 travelers were blessed with exceptional weather for the duration of our tour.

We flew into Brussels and met our guide, Marguerite Romain. We enjoyed a quick excursion to the heart of this bustling merchant and government city with a visit to the Grote Markt, and its nearby celebrity resident, Manneken Pis, who entertained us with his urological skills while we nibbled our Belgian waffles. Then it was back on the bus to our next destination – Ypres – where we checked into our

historic hotel on the main square and then walked a short distance to the Flanders Fields Museum. There we were subjected to a sobering immersion in the region's horrific role in the First World War as host to the great armies of Europe as they inflicted carnage upon each other in the gentle fields surrounding this pretty town. We learned that these fields to this day yield a grim and sometimes deadly harvest of bullets, unexploded shells, all manner of military hardware and human remains. After supper we participated in the nightly Last Post ceremony at the impressive Menin Gate, inscribed with the names of over 54,000 Commonwealth soldiers killed in the immediate environs whose last resting place remains unknown. This ceremony has taken place daily since November 11, 1929, with the exception of the years of Nazi occupation.

Next day we crossed into France and arrived at Vimy Ridge, made famous by the successful efforts of the Canadian Corps to seize this high ground under unified Canadian command for the first time in history. The horrific cost of this four day battle in April 1917 is evident in the shell-marked soil and preserved bunkers and trenches, and poignantly commemorated by the searing and beautiful Vimy Monument, which would soon-to-be the location of the 100th Anniversary ceremonies. We visited the Canadian cemetery at the base of the ridge, moved by the thousands of grave markers, beautifully tended reminders of those who once "lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, loved and were loved..." but who now sleep forever in this faraway place. Then we visited nearby Arras, where we visited the quarries which were turned into vast safe underground staging areas for British soldiers involved in the fighting there.

Over the next few days we travelled along the Normandy coast stopping at Dieppe, the location of Canada's heroic, yet disastrous, raid in August of 1942 where over 900 soldiers died in 6 hours. This was particularly significant for fellow travelers Don and Angie Scott. Don's dad landed in a Churchill tank and was captured, spending the rest of the war in a German POW camp. Then we headed to Rouen, and enjoyed its medieval city center and spectacular cathedrals and saw the place Joan of Arc was burned at the stake. Over the next few days we took in Etretat, known for its spectacular cliffs and chalk

formations, and Honfleur, a well preserved fishing village. Then came Caen, the capital of William the conqueror, and the landing beaches of June 6, 1944. The pastoral beauty of Normandy belies the terrible fighting that followed that fateful day, and we made various stops at gun emplacements, the Mulberry harbor at Arromanches, Point du Hoc, and the cemeteries. The inscriptions on the graves at Beny-sue-Mer reminded us that these were real people with families who mourned them. On the grave of 19 year old Private J. Erickson: "We will always remember our boy".

Finally we headed to Paris, but not before we stopped in Chartres, home to one of the oldest and most famous Gothic cathedrals in Europe – a stone testament to the skill and faith of its medieval builders. Finally we arrived in the impressive and elegant City of Light. Over several days we climbed the Eiffel Tower, visited the Louvre, Montmartre, Versailles, Notre Dame, and enjoyed the opportunity to explore and shop a bit on our own. Traveling the metro is always an interesting experience for our students as it is a reminder of the sheer number of inhabitants of this great city and the resourcefulness required to live and move about in such a small area – an extreme contrast to central Alberta!

On April 1 we made our way homeward, tired and a bit overwhelmed by all we had experienced. Once again I was grateful for God's providence of safe travels, a lively and engaging guide, and a gracious and engaged group of travelers. Perhaps what I will remember most were the immaculate graveyards, a haunting, inspiring reminder of the ultimate personal sacrifice made by so many in the last century to make the world a better place.

Pete Hoekstra
Europe Trip Co-coordinator