

NEWSLETTER

October 2020
Vol XXVIII No II

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.

1 Timothy 4:12



Important Upcoming Dates:

- October 22/23
 - PCCE Teachers convention
- October 27
 - Picture retakes
- November 3
 - First report card
- November 5
 - Parent Teacher interviews—after school & evening
- November 6
 - Parent teacher interviews in morning
 - Staff collaboration pm
 - No School for students
- November 11
 - Remembrance Day—no School

PONDERINGS OCTOBER 2020

"You say you want a revolution
Well you know
We all want to change the world..."

You know you're getting old when reading these words starts the old Beatles song running through your head. It's going through my head right now.

It seems a revolution of sorts is underway in the western world. Black Lives Matter protests, climate change activism, SOGI news stories, the refugee crisis – even the beheading of a teacher in Paris over the past weekend -all point that way. Whether connected or not, they are indicators of a seething current of dissatisfaction with the status quo that is widely felt and gaining a lot of attention. They are worth spending some time thinking about.

I just finished reading the November issue of Maclean's magazine. I'd like to share a few items that really grabbed my attention. The first was in the "Letters" section. It took the magazine to task on an article in September's issue. Apparently that article described the two parent nuclear family as a "brutal social structure" forced upon non-white societies. Even more interesting was an "Ideas" piece that excerpts a book authored by University of Toronto professor Rinaldo Walcott. He writes of the looting that is characteristic of some of the violent protests in US cities the last few months. "Why has looting never been understood for what it is, a redistribution of wealth and a rejection of the social systems that lead to gross inequalities and injustice?"

I find much that captures my attention and disturbs me in the news today. The social order is indeed being challenged in ways that ought to make a Christian stand up and take notice. How are we to react? I am sure that all the wisdom we need is to be found in Scripture, centered on the words and life of Jesus himself. I feel Christians need to develop answers that are informed and normed by such "old" wisdom, even if that means finding ourselves in the minority. And our school must continue to be a place that is an extension of the home and a partner with the church in leading our young adults to embrace a life of meaning and witness as they live out the answers to these questions, wherever they end up. The revolution that Jesus' life, death and resurrection incarnated is wider and deeper than any other in human history and experience. We must work together to proclaim His timeless message.

"The times, they are a changin'..."

Pete Hoekstra
Principal

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Jacki Talsma
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BOARD NOTES

We've enjoyed beautiful weather this fall! Teachers and students have settled into their school routine. Darryl Stang is teaching shop class to our CACHS students and has a Grade 12 work experience student helping when junior high students use our shop on Fridays. We have 8 junior high students from Rimbey Christian School, 10 from PCS and 12 from LCS enjoying shop class. Teachers are looking forward to the teachers convention this week and students are excited for a couple days off.

Pete Hoekstra will be retiring at the end of the school year. This does not come as a surprise to us as Pete has talked about this for a while now, but we are still sad to know it is official. Pete has been teaching at CACHS for 28 years and been principal the last 4 years. We were blessed to have Pete teaching and working in administration, especially in the context of recent significant challenges to the operation of independent Christian schools and now in light of COVID.

We thank Jackie DeGroot and her husband, Clayton, for 18 years of service as custodians at CACHS. Our maintenance committee plans to have a cleaning company ready to start on December 1st of this year.

The board has decided to proceed with the Europe trip as of now, and see what changes are made to travel restrictions in the next couple months. There are 22 travellers, including 13 students, booked on the trip. We will decide by December whether or not to proceed, keeping in mind that quarantine might be needed.

The CACHS Board agreed to allow CACHS athletics to participate in inter-school competition, without fans present, and within the guidelines given by AHS, ASAA, and Alberta Education. So far the volleyball teams have been practicing, playing against alumni and also played one game against the PAA. We hope that other school teams are able to play soon too.

I wanted to finish this write up with a piece I came across this week. Covid 19 is not your enemy, fear is. You will not die one day sooner or one day later than God has planned for you. But he did not create you to live in fear. The Bible says "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." 2 Timothy 1:7.

Our next board meeting is scheduled for October 26th. Feel free to contact one of us if you have any questions or concerns.

Val Ingwersen,
Board Secretary

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Curricular & Extracurricular Activities—Risk Assessment

CACHS regularly organizes and carries out activities within and outside of the classroom and school environs and hours that are intended to enrich student learning and broaden their experiences. These include alpine hikes, river rafting, skiing, and international travel, as well as the typical activities associated with various courses (using a stove, sharp knives,, hot oil in Foods, scalpels in Biology, etc.).

As a school we do our best to mitigate risk. In a recent COVID discussion with the principal of a public school nearby, the topic came up. This fall, that principal was challenged by parents to guarantee her school was 100% safe for the students in attendance. In short, her response was, "I cannot".

I ask all parents to cooperate with us as we work to make our school safe, whether that be regarding COVID or not. It is impossible to completely eliminate risk, short of cancelling activities altogether. Your graciousness, consideration and input in regard to this matter are much appreciated.

Pete Hoekstra
Principal

CAREER CORNER

Timothy Keller has a book called Every Good Endeavor which talks about connecting your work to God's work. In the introduction he says, "Work not only cares for creation, but also directs and structures it. The purpose of work is to create a culture that honors God and enables people to thrive. Yes, we must love our neighbor, but Christianity gives us very specific teachings about human nature and what makes human beings flourish. We must ensure that our work is done in line with those understandings. Faithful work, then, is to operate out of a Christian worldview."

We continue to challenge our students to grow in their faith. We encourage them to see their movement into the workforce (be it through education or work) within a Christian worldview.

These interesting times have resulted in the annual Post Secondary Fair being cancelled. We have the opportunity to meet with representatives of schools online however, students are not enthusiastic about this. We will be looking at providing an opportunity after Christmas for all of our students to hear more about opportunities available to them after high school.

Veronica Den Oudsten, Career Counsellor

GRAD FUNDRAISERS

Once again the Grads are fundraising with Purdys Chocolatier and Growing Smiles, just in time for Christmas! You can support us by purchasing some delicious Christmas gifts for friends and family or by purchasing your fresh Christmas greenery and poinsettias, or by purchasing both! Orders may be placed directly through a grad or online:

Purdys: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/1016033-77541>

Growing Smiles: <https://cachs.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home>

Orders must be placed by Nov 16. Orders may be picked up at the school Dec 4 or delivery from a grad may be arranged. If you have any questions you may contact a grad student or Candace Slomp at 403-782-4535.

CACHS CATERING

CACHS Catering is looking forward to serving you again in the upcoming year with our home style cooking and dessert buffets. We do this to raise funds to support CACHS to cover extra expenses for the students and school. Please consider us when you are choosing your caterer for your event.



We are willing to work with special dietary needs. We have a tasty menu list available, and are open to your personal wishes. Our price for 2020 will remain low at \$22/plate, which includes your needs for dinner, dessert, coffee and juice. **THE FULL MEAL DEAL!!**

For each event quite a few helping hands are needed. From booking the event, figuring out the grocery list, purchasing the groceries, preparing the food, serving and doing dishes we are usually needing about 15-20 helpers over the span of 2-3 days. If you like grocery shopping, making desserts or salads or cooking, you are welcome to participate. It takes a lot of phoning to find this many willing helpers. Whether you want to volunteer for one event we need you, or if you would like to be involved as a committee member, please talk to one of the committee members to find out what is involved and how much fun we have! We learn a lot from each other in the process.

To book your date call Emma Den Oudsten at 403-782-2657. For volunteering to help with serving and dishes please call Frances Vander Wekken at 403-782-3327.

Upcoming events for CACHS Catering have been cancelled for the time being.

CACHS Catering:

Emma Den Oudsten

- 403-782-2657

Jennette Oosterink

- 780-372-2130

Rosemary Vander

Ploeg

- 403-783-5217

Clase van Iperen

- 403-396-3708

CACHS ATHLETICS

Follow us on:

Facebook: Central Alberta Christian High School

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Twitter @CACHS-Knights

At this time all events including drop in badminton have been cancelled.



Athletic Update

Our volleyball and cross country teams have been training since the start of the school year. With games against teammates, alumni, and parents, our teams are eager to get some games in against other schools. As of September 9th schools have been allowed to develop mini-leagues with other local schools. Local school divisions will begin practicing October 1 and we hope to line up competitions with other schools in the next couple weeks. ASAA and the Government of Alberta have postponed all fall Zone and Provincial championships (volleyball, golf, and cross country) until Alberta moves to Stage 3 relaunch.

Please support our Sponsors

If you would like to place your business ad in our monthly newsletter, please contact Ann at the school at 403-782-4535.

Cost is \$10/month.



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