

>>> CENTRAL ALBERTA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL <<<

KNIGHTS NEWS

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 Tim. 4:12



HAPPY 2024! MAY YOUR ADVENTURES BE GREAT IN THE NEW YEAR!

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Central Alberta Christian High School
 22 Eagle Road | Lacombe, AB | T4L 1G7
 E: office@cachs.ca P: 403-782-4535

Principal: Travis Eggink
 Vice-principal: Jenna VanderVeen
 Administrative Assistant: Cassandra Krause
 Business Administrator: Dorien VanderKooi
 Development Director: Myla Trenchuk



CONTACT US

We are here for you!

PRINCIPAL'S PONDERINGS

By Travis Eggink

»»» LIKE MANY READERS OF CHRISTIAN LITERATURE,

my joy of stories was spurred on by my elementary school encounter with C.S. Lewis' *The Chronicles of Narnia*. I remember sharing these classic stories with my classmates, younger sisters and Mom as we read the books and discussed the characters. I remember being challenged by Lucy's compassion and Edmund's loyalty, and aligning with Peter's leadership and Susan's analytical mind. This past year I started reading Lewis' series with my boys, and they have also enjoyed getting lost in the lands of Calormen, Narnia, Archenland, and the others. What a blessing it is sharing in these great works that reveal their wisdom again regardless of the reader's age.



Principal Eggink always ready to serve!


As part of our professional development at CACHS, each year our staff reads a book that kick-starts our staff meeting discussions. For the most part, these books are chosen to cultivate our Reformed Christian worldview and guide staff in our educational and societal

context. Our current book – *Surviving Religion 101* by Micheal J. Kruger – is organized as a set of letters written by a Christian father to his Christian daughter leaving for her post-secondary studies at a large public university.

In chapter 9 of his book, Kruger offers a number of convincing arguments to believe in miracles regardless of having witnessed miracles. He then closes chapter 9 with Jesus' challenge to his disciples that unless they become like children, they won't enter the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 18:3).

Kruger's closing argument for miracles includes the endearing alignment of Jesus' requirement for child-like wonder allowing the possibility of miracles, and Lucy's openness to receive the magic of Narnia by exploring and sharing the forest beyond the wardrobe.

These two literary experiences bring to my mind the equally important developmental traits of curiosity and wonder. Curiosity strives to find answers, and wonder gives the opportunity to sit and reflect in the unknown without the need for finality or closure. When you have both of these traits playing together it allows for understanding, but also space for the miraculous and inexplicable. Today in our world of technological advancements, some may speculate if we can still allow for wonder. Can the Bible really be trusted as the inspired, infallible and authoritative Word of God? Is there still space to believe that a first century Jewish rabbi was killed by brutally effective Roman soldiers and then resurrected three days later? Could it be true that Jonah actually survived three days in a fish? At CACHS we can confidently say yes to these questions as we explore our place in God's great story of love for His Creation.

During the second semester our teachers and students will intentionally utilise ChatGPT, so that together we can discover the helpfulness and limitations of artificial intelligence (AI). What does it look like to teach and learn with ChatGPT and Siri at our beck and call? How can these devices and technologies aid in keeping both curiosity and wonder alive? As a powerful technology that naturally encourages curiosity, it is our aim that AI will be another tool helping us explore the wonder of Creation. 

BOARD NOTES

By Andrea Thalen, Board Secretary

>>> HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR CACHS FAMILIES AND SUPPORTERS!

As the first semester comes to an end, we are grateful for the hard work of our students and staff. Please pray for all our students as they write their exams, and especially for our Grade 12 students as they begin to make plans for their future, whether that be applying for college, university, or making plans to pursue full time employment. We are thankful to all our generous supporters who donated to our Fall Drive. We reached our \$200,000 goal in full! These funds go towards the operation of our school and your support is a blessing to us!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mrs. Cindy Ekkel
Board Chair

Mrs. Kim Haan
Vice Chair/Education Committee

Mrs. Andrea Thalen
Secretary

Mrs. Annette Roseboom
Treasurer/Finance Committee

Mr. Paul Linker
Education Committee

Mr. Rick Wildeboer
Maintenance

Mrs. Becky Kooiker
Development


Mr. Steve TenHove
Finance

At our last Board meeting on January 15th, members of the Building/Reno Committee led the board through the school and discussed future plans to renovate the Science Lab, Computer Lab, and washrooms. We are excited to see some of these plans come to fruition in the near future provided necessary funds are raised. At this meeting the Board also approved a "Staff Recognition Policy" in which staff members who have worked a specific number of years will be acknowledged at the Spring Society meeting with cards/gifts as stated in the policy.

A big thank-you to Darrell Stang who hosted the CACHS staff and board members for our "Christmas in January" dinner gathering. We were able to enjoy a good meal and social time together at this beautiful venue.

As a Board we were able to get together this month with the Boards of RCS, PCS, and LCS to be led through a workshop by Darren Spyksma who works closely with PCCE. We discussed how the current culture is affecting schools in general, and how we as Christians schools can be a positive voice in the challenges that come with that. Darren gave the Board a lot to think about and discuss at future board meetings.

We will soon be looking for new Board members to replace Kim Haan (Education Committee) and Paul Linker (Education Committee) who will complete their terms this year. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone you know, please fill out the Nomination Form that is attached to this newsletter and forward it to the Board Chair, the Board Secretary, or drop it off at the office in a sealed envelope by February 26, 2024.

Our next Board meeting is February 26, 2024. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact any Board member, or email me at secretary@cachs.ca. 



Staff and Board Christmas in January event

Watch our Fall Drive Thank You reel!



CACHS KNIGHTS ATHLETICS

➤➤➤ JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

We are in the middle of our basketball seasons and starting to look towards how the seasons might finish up. We had a major disappointment in our season when we had to cancel our home tournament due to the cold weather at the start of January. It is always a great highlight of an athletics season when we get to host other schools from across the province. At our home tournaments our school community always shows up to support our teams and offer excellent hospitality to our visiting teams. Next year we will look forward to hosting our home tournament again!

Our girls team is undefeated in league play so far, and looks to challenge for the zone championship in March that would then send them to the 2A provincial championships hosted by Immanuel Christian School in Lethbridge. Thank you to our coaches Aaron and Ashley DenOudsten, along with teacher liaisons Mr. Reed and Mrs. McLeod for coordinating and supporting the team.

Our boys basketball team has had a good start to their season with Mrs. DenOudsten as their coach again this year. With some wins and losses to their league record, the boys are in the mix for a competitive zone championship tournament in March. A big thank you for their time and talents goes to Mrs. DenOudsten and her coaching staff of Dasha Ulianova (team manager) and the assistant coaches Ben Ford, Jon Bell, Matt Weenink, and Shelby Goedhart.



Scan QR code to access the YouTube Channel!



CACHS KNIGHTS ATHLETICS

➤➤➤ JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

On Saturday January 27th our basketball teams joined the LCS grade 9 boys team on DenOudsten's bus for a trip to Calgary where we watched the University of Calgary women's and men's teams play against teams from the University of Lethbridge. It was a great night of basketball and community. We were also blessed to join U of C in celebrating one of their most decorated student-athlete Hall of Famers – Veronica (VanderSchee) DenOudsten – with a halftime video tribute and flower presentation from the current U of C coach.

Our hockey team has been enjoying a great season with Coaches Henry Thalen, Craig Haan and Mr. Van Loo. We are looking forward to the end of the season when we host our first annual CACHS Invitational Hockey Tournament on March 15-16 at Blackfalds arena. Thank you to our coaches for all of their work with our team! 🏒

Fans and spectators are welcome and encouraged to come out and cheer on the CACHS Knights at all games and events. All competitions are posted on the school calendar located at the bottom of the school website homepage - www.cachs.ca.

Livestream: CACHS is now on YouTube! We have tested our livestream equipment and we are now broadcasting athletic events in our gym on our YouTube channel @CACHSKnights.

Go! Knights! Go!



Scan QR code to watch Mrs.
DenOudsten's full video
presentation on YouTube.



ALUMNI NEWS

What's going on?

>>> ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: SAY HELLO TO THOMAS!

- **What is your full name?** Thomas Nolan
- **What year did you graduate from CACHS?** 2019
- **How many years did you attend CACHS?** All 3 years
- **What is a core memory you have about CACHS?** Rushing to play ping pong on breaks in grade 10, sports performance hikes with Mr. Eggink, and dominating the high school soccer league with a bunch of farm kids.
- **What is your biggest takeaway in values, beliefs and morals from CACHS that you feel has guided you or been a foundation piece in your life after high school?** Seek those who are extremely proficient at what they aim for in life and allow them to mentor you while you're young. Learn to accept that life out of high school can be tough and you need to have a "Whatever it takes" mentality to achieve your life's pursuits and be successful even though it can be uncomfortable for periods of time. Accept the help of others who have your best interest at heart, but don't be afraid to take risks and go at things alone. You do that and pretty soon you may find yourself winning!
- **If you had to go back and do your high school experience all over again, what would you change and why?** I would have played more high school sports like volleyball and potentially basketball.
- **Where did you go after high school and where do you live now?** I lived local to Lacombe for the first 2 years after high school, then spent 6-½ months in the Yukon near Dawson City, but came back to Lacombe after that.
- **What career path did you take and where are you working right now?** I started the RAP program in High School for Heavy Duty Technician and continued that after high school. I worked within my family's business in town at Hopkins Construction fixing Loaders, Dozers, Rock trucks, Skid steers, Excavators, Graders, Water pumps, Generators, Gravel/Heavy Haul trucks and Trailers, Tractors and Gravel crushers. From there I went and ran a mobile service truck for a family placer mine in the Yukon by myself as a second year apprentice as their main mechanic on 2 locations(one near Dawson City up on a hill, and one on Sulphur Creek). We worked 7 days a week, 14.5hours a day for 6-½ months straight fixing, welding, and operating equipment as big as Komatsu 375 dozers and Hitachi/John Deere 850 excavators!




ALUMNI NEWS

What's going on?

>>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

- **What career path did you take and where are you working right now? (Continued)** Once the gold mining season ended I came back and worked for the family business again to finish off the year. I was offered to start my own company running a service truck in the Yukon and at home local to Lacombe, so once I finished my 3rd year of schooling I purchased my own service truck and rigged it up to start out on my own. I incorporated the company and called it Nolan HD Enterprises Ltd. I worked for myself for the first year, went back to school and got my 4th year finished up, then got back at it again. I stay local to Lacombe and serve mainly industries such as Aggregate, Oil Field Trucking, and some Agriculture. I am currently 22 years old and 2024 will be my 3rd year in business for myself!
- **What is the best part about your job or the work you are doing?** It is a good mix between mental and physical work. It can be hard work and is rewarding once one is successful troubleshooting an issue and taking the necessary steps to repair it properly for each customer. I take great pride in my work and it has allowed me to continue turning my ambitions into reality. It is like being a medical doctor but for machines, but it is all man-made and therefore, there's always a fix!
- **If you could give advice to your high school self, what would it be?** Don't get stressed out about minor details that don't really affect the fountain of your life and spend as much time with friends as possible! Learn to Improve, Adapt, and Overcome in any situation!

Thanks for your time and sharing a little bit of your life with us! 

If you know an alumni who you would like us to feature, please email Mrs. Trenchuk at developmentdirector@cachs.ca



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5111 - 50 Ave, Lacombe
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Saturdays of long weekends

403.782.9511 Volunteers Welcome!

To donate items, please drop off inside the back door during store hours



OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

What's going on?

»»» SWING INTO SPRING FUNDRAISER

On March 7th at 6pm, we will have our annual dessert fundraiser! Here are the ways you can be a part of this amazing evening of dining and fun:

1. Donate a dessert to the auction.
2. Be a business sponsor.
3. Attend the event!

The event is free for everyone and your ticket includes dinner, but you have to buy your dessert! Proceeds will go to various renovation projects at the school - as needed. Please email Mrs. Trenchuk at developmentdirector@cachs.ca if you'd like to donate, sponsor and/or book your tickets to the event.

»»» GRADE 10 REGISTRATION EVENING

On March 14th at 7pm we will be hosting our annual grade 10 registration evening. During the evening, current grade 9 students and their parents/guardians can learn more about CACHS and register for grade 10 courses at CACHS starting in September. We encourage all grade 9 students intending to attend CACHS in September to join us March 14th so that we can best plan courses and staffing for the coming school year.

»»» ALBERTA EDUCATION ASSURANCE SURVEYS

A reminder to parents and guardians of CACHS students to complete the 2024 Alberta Education Assurance Surveys that are mailed out at the beginning of February. The deadline for these surveys to be completed is March 1st. The Assurance Surveys provide CACHS and Alberta Education with valuable feedback regarding the quality of education your child receives. Data from these surveys informs our Annual Education Results Report as well as our Education Plans made for future CACHS improvement.

Parents receive information to access the online survey in English or French directly from Alberta Education via Canada Post. Parents requiring a survey in a language other than English or French are instructed to contact their school principal. Punjabi, Cree, Korean, Denesųłıne, Tagalog, Chinese (Traditional or Simplified), Arabic, Spanish or Urdu translations are currently available.

Parents requiring a replacement RAC: are to contact System Assurance Branch directly at EDC.SystemAssurance@gov.ab.ca or (780) 643-9193 (dial 310-0000 for toll-free access). Parents are to provide the name of the school, school authority (or principal name) and grade of the student. No personal information about the student (name, age, or ASN) is required.





FEBRUARY EVENTS AT A GLANCE

February 2-3: BBB Bashaw Tournament

February 3: Hockey vs. Alix (Blackfalds Arena)

February 8: Grade 8/9 Visiting Day

February 8: Parent Meeting Hockey Tournament 7pm

February 9-10: BBB Hanna Tournament

February 16: No School - AISCA Teachers' Convention

February 16-17: GBB Hanna Tournament

February 17: Hockey vs. Alix (Blackfalds Arena)

February 19: No School - Family Day

February 20: No School

February 21-23: Prairie busses running
Wolf Creek parents drive

February 23-24: BBB/GBB Stettler Tournament

February 24: Hockey vs. Rimbey (Blackfalds Arena)

February 26: Board Meeting

For a more detailed calendar of events, please go to our website and scroll to the bottom of the home page. <https://www.cachs.ca/>

Or scan the QR code below to be directed to our website:



If you have photos or videos of any of our school events that you are able to share, please email them to developmentdirector@cachs.ca.
Thank you!

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to the finalized dates of our Europe trip, we are moving one day from the start of our Spring Break to the end. We will have school on Friday March 22nd, and not have school on Tuesday, April 2nd.

BADMINTON
DROP-IN

ALL WELCOME

EVERY WENESDAY
7:00PM AT CACHS

FOR INFORMATION
Steve TenHove
403.350.1493

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New ad from a CACHS alum!

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

By CACHS Teachers

➤➤➤ RAEGAN FOLKERTS, GRADE 12

Since coming to CACHS in Grade 10, Raegan has soaked in as much of her high school experience as possible. She exemplifies the positive culture of CACHS through her warm and welcoming personality, involvement in many extracurriculars, and taking her learning seriously. Raegan is a member of our chapel praise teams, the Graduation Committee, Student Council, and the girls' handball team. She is also a drama student that has taken on lead roles in major school productions, and is regularly found cheering on CACHS Knights teams.

Raegan is the type of person that makes everywhere she goes a better place than she found it. Congratulations Raegan Folkerts on being the January CACHS student of the month! 🏆



COMMUNITY NEWS

What's going on?

➤➤➤ DID YOU KNOW?

Not only does CACHS Catering partner with HT Catering to provide high quality meals and service for community events, but they also can cater YOUR event! Proceeds from these events are given to CACHS to enhance programming for students.

CACHS Catering need people to step up to this great fundraising opportunity for our school! If you would like to help out, please contact Lance Goedhart at 403-963-0553 or sign up online at <https://volunteersignup.org/JAD89>.

Thank you to those who over the many years have helped CACHS Catering in support of independent Christian Secondary Education in Central Alberta! 🏆

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JANUARY HAPPENINGS . . .

WINTER FORMAL & SKI DAY PHOTO DUMP





please Join us for

Swing into Spring

DINNER & AUCTION

7 MARCH 2024



6.00-9.00 PM

Dinner is free. Dessert is on you!

Central Alberta Christian High School
Doors open at 5.30pm

RSVP to 403.782.4535
developmentdirector@cachs.ca

