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NEWSLETTER

February 2013
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“Sin without grace is legalism. Grace without sin is arrogance. Sin with grace is redemption.”

In hearing a sermon from a visiting pastor I was struck by this phrase. We all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God and therefore have trusted in God's promise of forgiveness and restoration. We as well struggle from time to time with it almost being too easy. What right do we have to ask for forgiveness of sins we commit knowingly? Lent season is upon us; a time when we begin to remember the consequences of our sin that only Christ could bear. We remember the love of a Father who was willing to give up His Son, for our sake.

Of all the seasons our churches celebrate, Easter is my favorite. Perhaps it is the sorrow I experience knowing that it is my sin that placed Him upon that cross. However just a few days later, we celebrate the resurrection and with it, the weight of punishment and condemnation is taken off my shoulders and through God's grace, redemption and restoration is possible. Awestruck wonder replaces sorrow!

I will sing of my Redeemer, and His wondrous love to me;
On the cruel cross He suffered, from the curse to set me free.

I will tell the wondrous story, how my lost estate to save,
In His boundless love and mercy, He the ransom freely gave.

I will praise my dear Redeemer, His triumphant power I'll tell,
How the victory He giveth, over sin, and death, and hell.

I will sing of my Redeemer, and His heavenly love to me;
He from death to life hath brought me, Son of God with Him to be.

Sing, oh sing of my Redeemer, with His blood He purchased me.
On the cross, He sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.

Take time this lent season to adequately prepare for the reason for our redemption. Offer grace into the lives of those God has placed in our paths and may each of us be a “fragrance of Christ” in this world.

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”
Ephesians 4:32

Mel Brandsma

Please Note!!!!

- Europe Trip meeting – February 26th at 7:00 pm in Room 108 at the school. All trip participants should be there!!
- Spring Break 2013 – March 22nd to April 2nd. Classes resume April 3rd.

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

“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.”

Ephesians 4:2 NIV

We have been truly blessed at CACHS by the willingness of those who support Christian Education. The board is pleased to report that the \$90,000 goal for the Fall Drive has been met through donations and Harvest Fest! A big thank you to all our supporters and canvassers.

The Board has been working to put together a proposal for the construction of a soccer field behind the school. This will be a real asset for our school and will allow us to host league games right at the school. A detailed plan will be presented at the spring society meeting.

We have started an exhilarating discussion as we anticipate the arrival of CACHS's 25th year in operation next Fall! What an exciting celebration of God's faithfulness!

The 2012-2013 board members are:

Peter DeWit – Chairman
Bernie Kolkman – Vice-Chair
Carolyn Vanderhoek – Secretary
Peter Walls – Treasurer
Bernie TenHove
Colleen VanderSchee
Jane Visser
Anita Zuidhof

Carolyn Vanderhoek
Board Secretary

Operating Financial Statement for February 2013

Opening balance – January 1	\$ 292,296.33
Receipts – Jan 1 to 31	+ 41,255.88
Expenses – Jan 1 to 31	<u>- 109,867.50</u>
Balance as of January 31	\$ 223,684.71

Yours in Christ
Wendy Barnes
Business Administrator

Alberta Education Accountability Pillar Survey

As an annual check-up on the education system, the Accountability Pillar provides an opportunity for Alberta Education and school authorities to ensure that we're equipping students for success.

The Accountability Pillar uses a set of 16 indicators consisting of surveys of students, parents and teachers on various aspects of quality; student outcomes such as dropout and high school completion rates; and provincial assessments of student learning.

From January to the end of February, Alberta Education will be conducting the annual Accountability Pillar Survey. In January, parents of students in Grades 10, 11 and 12 will receive a survey from Alberta Education. In February, students in Grade 10, 11 and 12 and all teachers will be completing their surveys online at school.

All surveys are anonymous and ask questions about experiences with the school. In addition to English and French, the parent survey is available in Chinese, Punjabi, Arabic, Blackfoot, Cree, Korean, Spanish and Tagalog.

Your participation in the survey helps provide important information on the quality of education your child is receiving, so we encourage you to return your survey promptly.

Survey results will be available to school authorities in May 2013, and will be reported publicly as part of their 3-Year Education Plans and Annual Education Results Reports.

Welcome

We would like to welcome Stephen and Naomi Oosthuizen and their family to Lacombe. Their daughter Mercedes attends CACHS and is in Grade 10. Please add their phone number to the CACHS family phone list.

Library Notes - February 2013

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

We have all heard, seen and read this very familiar verse, but have we really thought about the love that God was demonstrating to us? Seeing that this is the “month of love” take this opportunity to share God’s love with those around you.

We are all familiar with the typical romance novels, and I have to admit they are not my usual choice of reading material so I have found a few books that show love in the truer sense of the word.

The Hunger Games written by Suzanne Collins. By now many of us have either seen the movie or read the book. This is the first in a series of three books, and there will be the same number of movies. You probably wonder how love is demonstrated in the story. Yes, there is the conventional love, Katniss and Gale and later Katniss and Peter, but I am talking about a love like the one we see in Christ’s actions. Think about it, what did Katniss do for her sister Prim?

Christa Parrish wrote **Watch Over Me**, a story of a young wife who longs to have children but so far has been unable to do so. She is asked to care of an abandoned baby. This child brings a new love into this young couple’s life.

Finally, **The Prince** written by Francine Rivers. This is the story of Jonathan, born to rule yet gave up that future to his best friend. “David was a man after God’s own heart, but it was the courage and selflessness of his friend that opened the door to David’s rule.” This is a love that David never forgot going as far as finding Jonathan’s son and bringing him into his family.

The Bible is not only a book of history, rules and theology but it is also a love story. The love that God has demonstrated to us, His people is the greatest love story of all time.

Have a great month!
Yvonne Reed
Librarian

Development Committee

The development committee at CACHS is offering an opportunity for alumni and supporters to explore the stories from the Bible in the setting in which they were written. We have contacted GTI Tours of Holland, Michigan. GTI Tours is a travel agency which provides Christian study tours of Israel and the surrounding countries. They would arrange our airfare, accommodations, meals, and tours in Israel and can customize the tour to accommodate our needs and goals.

This opportunity will allow you to gain a deeper understanding of the Bible through first hand experiences. At the present time we have about 30 people who have expressed interest.

If you feel that this is a trip that you would like to be a part of, please contact Sid or Beatrice and we will email you an intention slip.

Sid Doornbos
Beatrice Vriend at the CACHS office at 403-782-4535

Grad Pictures 2013

Grad pictures will be taken at the school on February 27th, 28th and March 1st. Brochures were handed out to the students on February 5th 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 need to 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 class composite picture. Should you have any questions regarding the Grad Portrait sitting, please contact the Red Deer Lifetouch office at 403-356-9410.

Career Corner

Career of the Month – Glazier

Glaziers cut and install glass and aluminum systems for commercial, residential and automotive applications. The term of apprenticeship is four years, including 1620 hours of on the job training and six weeks of technical training each year.

Any students interested in any of the trades should attend the Provincial Skills Canada Competition at the Edmonton Expo Centre May 15-16, 2013. There will be 44 trades and technology events along with Try-A-Trades at Skill City. Check out SkillsAlberta.com for more information.

Veronica Den Oudsten
Career Counselor

Calendar

February 26 – Europe trip meeting at 7 pm in Room 108 at the school

February 27, 28 and March 1 – Grad pictures at CACHS. Please see note elsewhere.

March 8 – Early dismissal at 2:15
- No Wolf Creek bussing

March 22 – Staff inservice – no school

NOTE – Spring Break 2013 – March 22nd to April 2nd – classes resume April 3rd

March 23 – April 1 – Europe trip

April 12 – Fashion show & Dessert evening at CACHS

April 19 – First report card for second semester

May 17 – Staff inservice – no school

May 20 – Victoria Day – no school

May 23 – Society meeting – 7:30 pm

June 28 – Grade 12 graduation

CACHS Catering

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

April 12 – CACHS Fashion show

April 20 – Vanderhoek 40th anniversary –
First CRC Red Deer

June 28 – CACHS Grade 12 graduation

July 12 – Abma anniversary at Gull Lake Hall

July 20 – Doef anniversary

If you are able to help serve and/or clean up at any of the CACHS Catering functions, please contact Ann Siebenga at 403-782-3554. 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 at 403-782-2657 if you wish to book CACHS Catering services.

Members of CACHS Catering are:

Emma Den Oudsten

Clase van Iperen

Rosemary Vander Ploeg

Ester Verhoef

Emma Den Oudsten

CACHS Catering

Drop In Badminton

CACHS students and/or their parents are invited to drop-in badminton at Lacombe Christian School every Monday night from 7 – 9 pm. Please bring inside shoes, racquets and birdies. If you have any questions, please call Colleen VanderSchee.

Europe Trip Update

Please keep in mind that we have a very important meeting coming up on Tuesday, February 26 at 7:00 in Room 108 at the school. This meeting will provide final information and instructions from Mariden (the tour company) and experienced travelers to our destinations, in addition to guidelines for behavior that will be necessary for us to follow in order to make the trip enjoyable and a success for everyone.

Here are two other important items:

1. I would like to encourage you once again to request a minimum of 90 – 100 euros at your bank (or another one, if yours does not offer this service). If you have not already done so, you will need to begin this process right away, since it may take 2-3 weeks for the amount you request to be brought to the bank for you to pick up. We do not want to queue up (48 people!) at the first bank machine (or exchange booth) we encounter in Europe and the fees for this procedure are high when you use your debit card abroad. Furthermore, ATM machines are not as readily available there as here, and some debit cards may not work in European banks. You will not be able to use them at all to make purchases in Europe. And....you will want to avoid having to use a credit card with local sandwich and souvenir vendors in Europe. It may not even be possible with many vendors. In airports, it is also a good idea to

avoid having to use a credit card to buy small items – such as food or magazines, etc. You may find your credit card has been “skimmed” and that your provider (Visa or Mastercard – the only possibilities in Europe) has blocked further transactions. Because of the necessity of carrying some cash and to protect other travel documents, you will need a money belt or pouch to be worn next to the skin. Wallets in back pockets or in zipped compartments in your backpack are a very bad idea, since they can easily be “snatched” by very skilled pickpockets, especially in crowded places. Women can bring purses, but be sure you have your essential valuables in a “hidden” and safe location next to your body.

2. We will be leaving from the school via chartered bus between 2 and 3 a.m. on the 23rd of March. We need a final confirmation on arrival time at the Calgary airport for our group and will let you know as soon as we have that information. A chartered bus will also pick up the members of the group from the airport upon our return on the evening of April 1st and return them to the school parking lot.

Thank you to all of you who have submitted all the outstanding documents. I look forward to seeing all of you on February 26th. It is just over a month now until we leave!

Blessings,
Carolyn Snipes-Hoyt, for the group of teacher chaperones.