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NEWSLETTER

November 2012

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"A community is only being created when its members accept that they are not going to achieve great things, that they are not going to be heroes, but simply live each day with new hope, like children, in wonderment as the sun rises and in thanksgiving as it sets. Community is only being created when they have recognized that the greatness of man is to accept his insignificance, his human condition and his earth, and to thank God for having put in a finite body the seeds of eternity which are visible in small and daily gestures of love and forgiveness. The beauty of man is in this fidelity to the wonder of each day." Jean Vanier, Community and Growth

A few weeks ago at Harvest Fest I spoke of the Kingdom of Heaven and how we could practice the Lord's Prayer by honoring the portion "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on **earth** as it is in heaven." Community and its wonderful facets offer a wonderful opportunity to obey this commend. Community is when we can put aside our personal hopes and dreams and begin to focus on the things that God deems as valuable and worthy of all costs. We are insignificant and yet God calls us, equips us and enables us to be a key part of redeeming creation.

Being a part of this CACHS community has blessed me

in so many ways and as I write these words, goose bumps appear on my body and I am humbled by this privilege. I enjoy the community we have at school with staff and students, with the opportunity to banter in hallways and classrooms. I feel empowered by the support of the community of parents, grandparents and supporters of Christian Education. Your prayers are felt and we are richly blessed by your wisdom. Harvest Fest is one of those times when we gather together to thank our God for a plentiful harvest; a harvest of grain but also a harvest of young minds shaped to recognize, value and serve the One who gave us life and deemed us so valuable that his Son's life was not too great a cost.

I mentioned in my last "Connecting Dots" a survey completed recently which asked the question, "Does Christian Education deliver on their goals?" At the society meeting on November 29th I would love to speak of this survey's findings and how these findings can impact our future as Christian Educational institutions. Be amazed at the blessings we have been granted via church, home and school. Upon such things, creation may gain redemption one step at a time.

May God bless each of you in your communities, may you be God's example in establishing God's kingdom here on earth.

Mel Brandsma

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

It is hard to believe that we are already getting close to Christmas.

Everything is in full swing with the volleyball season wrapping up and the basketball season just around the corner. Parents had an opportunity to visit with the teachers last week and hear some first-hand reports on how things are going for the students. This is a great opportunity for parents to learn about what is going on in the classrooms and is also a great encouragement for the teachers.

The board and committees continue to work hard to make sure that everything in the school runs smoothly. We are blessed with an amazing Administration team and teachers, which makes the work of the board so much more enjoyable.

The finance team is contacting all CACHS society members and supporters for the Fall debt reduction drive. We appreciate your faithful support and see the impact of your investment in the school on a daily basis.

In His Service
Peter DeWit

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 October 2012

Opening balance – October 1	\$ 426,258.73
Receipts – Oct 1 – 31	+ 68,362.48
Expenses – Oct 1 – 31	- 107,369.83
Balance – Oct 31	\$ 387,251.38

We would like to thank the Building Blocks Thrift Store for their generous donation of \$25,000.00 to the school.

Tuition Cheques

If you haven't sent in your tuition cheques or made arrangements for the year, please send them into the office as soon as possible.

Fall Debt Reduction Drive 2012

Central Alberta Christian High School is having their annual fall drive from November 11th to December 16th. This year's goal is \$90,000.00. You should be receiving an information sheet either in your church mailboxes or through the mail and will be contacted by phone by a canvasser in your area. If you haven't been contacted please call Wendy at the school (403-782-4535) or you may send your donation directly to the school at 22 Eagle Road, Lacombe, Alberta, T4L 1G7: Attention Wendy Barnes. Please consider this fall drive prayerfully.

Harvest Fest

Another Harvest Fest has come and gone. We raised \$15,515.46 to go towards the school mortgage. All reports so far indicate great food and fellowship, lots of items for everyone to bid on and awesome music! What more can we ask for? Thanks to everyone! We could not have done this without your generosity whether it was helping to get things ready for the evening, the preparation of food, the donating of items for the silent and live auctions, or the purchasing of items. The end result could only be achieved by everyone coming together for an awesome evening. This event is another reminder of God's goodness through our supporting community's generosity.

On behalf of the Harvest Fest Committee
Wendy Barnes

Wendy Barnes
Business Administrator
wbarnes@cachs.ca

Library Notes - November 2012

It is hard to believe that we are rapidly approaching the end of November. Volleyball season is wrapping up and basketball has begun. There is already talk of Christmas parties and holiday events. Where has the time gone? It's so easy to get caught up in the busyness of the season and not take the time to just enjoy it. I challenge each of you to take a moment to enjoy a warm cup of coffee, hot chocolate or tea, a fresh cookie and a book that has been sitting there on the end table waiting for you. I do have some suggestions....are you surprised?

Undaunted – by Josh McDowell and Cristobel Krusen. A story of one man's real-life journey from unspeakable memories to unbelievable grace. This is the story of a young Josh who carried unspeakable memories of an alcoholic father and a farmhand's abuse, causing him to defy God's existence – yet God redeemed a horrible situation with His unbelievable grace.

Grace: More Than We Deserve, Greater Than We Imagine – by Max Lucado. Grace is something that has always overwhelmed me and totally captivated me. This is Max's definition of grace, "Grace is simply another word for God's tumbling, rumbling reservoir of strength and protection. It comes at us not occasionally or miserly but constantly and aggressively, wave upon wave." After watching an interview with him, this is now on my "to read" list.

Full Disclosure by Dee Henderson was an interesting read. It differed from her usual style; it is a good story, with little nuggets of precious truth hidden within its pages to be reminded that our relationship with the Father God infuses the other relationships we have.

A book is an easy way of escaping our cold weather for a few moments. They also make great Christmas gifts. Both Chapters and Scott's Parable have a huge selection of titles that any reader would enjoy.

Remember the reason for the upcoming season and take the time to say thanks and find a way to give back to the community at large.

Enjoy!
Yvonne Reed
Librarian

Career Corner

We have seen an incredible increase in opportunities for young people in the last 20 years. A generation ago choices were easier, as there didn't seem to be as many areas to choose from in career options. Now, there are thousands of different jobs and educational paths students have to choose from, and often this makes it more difficult for youth to make a decision. Each month I am going to highlight a different occupation.

Millwright: They install, maintain, repair and troubleshoot stationary industrial machinery and mechanical equipment in factories, production plants and recreational facilities. This is a trade that involves four years of apprenticeship training in order to become a journeyman millwright.

CACHS students are invited to explore the website developed and maintained by the Wolf Creek School division. www.cc.wolfcreek.ab.ca This website includes valuable information on post-secondary information and scholarships both locally and nationally. They have done an excellent job providing links and information for students interested in exploring options available after high school.

Veronica Den Oudsten
Career Counselor

Christian Home & School Magazine (note corrected link)

Christian Home and School Magazine is no longer sending out printed copies. Instead they are providing the link to their magazine.

Christian Schools International is pleased to introduce *Christian Home & School* magazine's new digital format! Beginning on October 29th you will be able to access the magazine by clicking the following link, or copy and paste it to your browser: <http://goo.gl/2LDRM>

CACHS Catering

A number of the CACHS Catering serving trays, platters, etc have gone missing after being used at various functions. These items were taken home to be emptied and cleaned, but have not been returned to CACHS Catering. We would ask that you please check your cupboards to see if any of these trays or platters are at your house and if so, please return them to the school as soon as possible. Thank you.

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

November 24 – John & Teena Stol 50th
anniversary – Bethel CRC fellowship hall
November 29 – Peppertree supper
December 18 – Seniors Club Christmas lunch

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

Members of CACHS Catering are:

Emma Den Oudsten
Clase van Iperen
Rosemary Vander Ploeg
Ester Verhoef

CACHS Alumni Volleyball Tournament

The 4th annual CACHS alumni volleyball tournament will be held on Saturday, December 22nd. Teams must consist of at least 75% alumni. Cost is \$100/team. Deadline to enter your team is December 14th. Please spread the news to those alumni not living locally. For more information or to enter your men's or women's team, please phone Mel Brandsma or Colleen VanderSchee, or email cachsalumni@hotmail.com

Europe Trip Update

Thank you everyone for meeting financial obligations in a timely manner thus far. Just a reminder that the balance is due by next Wednesday, November 28th. The amount per traveler is \$1,419.00, a sum which includes the taxes for airports, etc. Keep in mind that this amount includes as well, tips for tour guides and bus drivers. There is a hefty fee for late payments, so let's not find ourselves in that position.

I have also distributed to students at school two forms (if you didn't receive these yet, please contact me asap):

- 1) A liability waiver which all participants need to fill out and sign. Please bring these in to Wendy Barnes, Ann Oudman or myself, when you bring in your cheques for the balance.
- 2) A consent form for students who will not yet be 18 years old by the departure date (March 23, 2013). This latter form needs to be signed by both parents in the presence of a lawyer or a notary and have his/her official seal affixed to it. If one parent will be accompanying the student, the other parent needs to fill out this form, giving permission. If both parents are accompanying the student the form will not be necessary. These need to be submitted by February 15, 2013, to Wendy Barnes, Ann Oudman or myself.

Thank you so much for already being a great group. By all accounts we have an excellent trip to look forward to.

May God Bless you all during this Advent season.

Carolyn Hoyt

CACHS Family

Please change the phone number for Jason and Charissa Cappis. Check with the office for the new number.

Calendar

November 29th – CACHS Society meeting 7:30 pm - Please note change of date!!

November 30 – Early dismissal – 2:15

No Wolf Creek bussing

December 21 – Last day of classes

December 22 – CACHS Alumni volleyball
Tournament

December 22 – January 6 – Christmas break

Advance Notice – Grad pictures will be taken at the school on February 27, 28 and March 1

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

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.