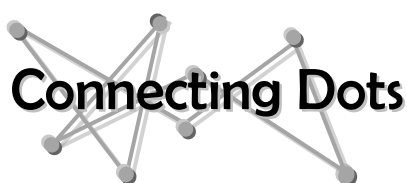


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NEWSLETTER

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Romans 5: 3-5 **“Not only so, but we rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.”**

Diploma exams have come out and while some students (parents as well) celebrate their success; others perhaps lament what could or should have been. How we deal with setbacks; how we deal with “failure”, is often the hallmark which constitutes change. For some it means giving up the dream, for others it is a tweaking of the plan, while others simply buckle down and try again with a whole new level of determination. Last summer I was in a course at Trinity Western University and as we introduced ourselves to our classmates, one gentleman called himself the #2 man. He then recounted the number of times he had applied for a leadership position within schools and been the 2nd choice. Fortunately the call God had placed on his heart was not diminished and he persevered. In his new role as principal (the first candidate declined), he will always have a special place in his heart for those who don’t success initially. It’s a lesson he is glad he learned; but he admitted it was a struggle.

Life is full of lessons; sometimes it involves remaining humble when success is easily garnered. Sometimes life involves failure which often provides the opportunity to learn empathy. While I lament student’s struggles; class marks which close doors of opportunity, I celebrate God’s plans for our lives which often involve “setbacks”. These may be opportunities to get on God’s path for our lives which really is the desired objective. **“Many are the plans in a man’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails.”** Proverbs 19:21 Spend time in prayer when success or setbacks enter your path, seek His guidance, and commit your plans to the One who truly knows our future, and who has planned great things for each of us, for His honor and glory. With this formula in mind, there are no permanent roadblocks, only times of reframing our direction and commitment to the tasks which lie before us.

Mel Brandsma

Welcome

We would like to welcome Greg and Elisa Resendiz and their daughter, Elisa who is in grade 10, to our school. They reside in the Clive area and their phone number is available from the school. We pray that you will feel welcomed in your new school setting and community.

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

February Board Notes

In the 2013 Alberta Government Education budget there was the elimination of the partial Plant Operations and Maintenance grant, which distorted the funding balance for Level II independent schools. It resulted in excessive funding cuts three to four times greater than cuts made to public jurisdictions. No public board faced more than 2.5% in cuts on total grants while independent school societies faced approximately 10% in grant reductions on average.

With the mediation of the Association of Independent Schools and Colleges of Alberta (AISCA) and Duane Plantinga their Executive Director, and numerous letters to MLA's, the government was made aware of the impact that the cuts had made to our schools.

The board is excited to report that under the government's latest reported education budget six million dollars has been allotted as a partial restoration of Plant Operations and Maintenance funding with a promise to restore it to previous levels over three years to independent and private schools. This is a very positive step toward rebalancing funding for Level II accredited funded private schools.

Chairman – Peter DeWit
Vice-Chair – Dean DenOudsten
Treasurer – Peter Walls
Secretary – Carolyn Vanderhoek
Herman Verhoef
Clarence Verveda
Jane Visser
Anita Zuidhof

Carolyn Vanderhoek
Board Secretary

Can You Help???

The Phys Ed department is looking for 10 volunteers to help with the removal of the bleachers from the gym on Monday and Tuesday of Spring Break (March 24th and 25th). Please contact Mr. Eggink at the school at 403-782-4535, by email at teggink@cachs.ca or call or text him at 403-352-0111 if you are able to help. Thank you!!

Financial Update

We received some good news regarding the Provincial Budget. The Plant and Operations amount that was discontinued for this year has been reinstated for private schools to recognize the cost associated with maintaining a healthy and safe learning environment for students.

This funding will be phased in beginning in the 2014/15 school year at 66% of what we use to received, the remaining 33% over two years. All other funding will remain the same as the 2013/14 school year.

We thank Duane Plantinga and the AISCA staff for all the work they have done to have this implemented.

Wendy Barnes
Business Administrator

25th Anniversary Celebration Call for volunteers

2014 marks the 25th Anniversary of CACHS. We are excited about this and want to make sure that we commemorate this event in the fall of 2014. We are in the process of putting together a special 25th Anniversary committee.

Our school has a rich history and we hope that we can draw on the people who have supported the school and/or have served in different capacities over the years. There is a wealth of experience and information out there that we would like to capture and share with the rest of the community.

If this interests you, please contact the school or any of the board members. Even if you are not available to sit on the committee, we would love to hear from you if you have any information on the history of CACHS.

Let's celebrate God's faithfulness together as a community in 2014!

Peter DeWit
Board Chairman

CACHS Catering

CACHS Catering is beginning to receive numerous requests for bookings for this summer. 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.

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

April 17 – Fashion Show at CACHS

April 26 – Rietema anniversary at Kozy Korner

May 3 – Gideons banquet

June 6 – Eggink/Kleinlugtenbeld wedding

June 27 – CACHS grad

July 5 – Drost/Brouwer wedding

August 15 – Van Stryland/Otten wedding –
Kinsmen Hall - Ponoka

August 30 – Scholing/van Dam wedding

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

Emma Den Oudsten

CACHS Catering

Career Corner

There are no Career Corner notes this month. A reminder of a couple of dates which were on last month's newsletter:

May 1, 2014 – CAREERexpo at Red Deer College

May 14-15, 2014

-Skills Alberta at Edmonton Expo Centre

Veronica Den Oudsten
Career Counselor

Fashion Show & Dessert Evening

On Thursday, April 17th, CACHS will be hosting their annual Fashion Show and Dessert evening. This year all proceeds will be going to the Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton. Doors will open at 6:30 and the fashion show will start at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$20 each and will be available at the school beginning March 10th. Be sure to come out for a great night of fashion, dessert, music and a Silent Auction.

Student/Parent Pizza and Pop Information Evening

Because of a scheduling conflict, the date for the Pizza and Pop evening has been changed from Wednesday March 19th to Wednesday, April 9th at 7:00. Please make note of this change and we hope to see you there!

Calendar

March 21 – 30 - Spring Break

April 3, 4 & 7 – Grad pictures

April 9 – Student/Parent Pizza/Pop Information evening at CACHS (**please note change of date**)

April 17 – First report card of second semester

April 17 – Fashion Show and Dessert evening

April 18 – Good Friday – no school

April 21 – Easter Monday – no school

April 24 – Europe trip meeting at CACHS 7 – 8 pm

April 24 – Parent/teacher interviews after school and in evening

April 25 – Parent/teacher interviews in morning

- Teacher in service in afternoon

- No school for students

May 16 - Staff in service – no school

May 19 – Victoria Day – no school

May 22 – CACHS Society meeting – 7:30 pm

June 27 – Graduation

Library Notes - January 2014

I am feeling like I have “lost” more than just an hour of sleep. These newsletters seem to be coming up more quickly than I am prepared for. The school year is rapidly approaching the final home stretch. The last few days the weather has been so warm and beautiful, the reprieve from the deep freeze has been appreciated! It’s hard not to let spring fever take hold.

Spring Break is in a week and I am sure most of us are ready for a bit of a break from the routine of school. Here are a few suggestions for reading material:

The Ascendance Trilogy - written by Jennifer A. Nielsen. Follow five orphans who are trained to take over a missing prince’s place.

Divergent Series – written by Victoria Roth. The first in the series, Divergent has been made into a movie and will be in theaters this March. Follow the choices of a group of young adults in a dystopian society. You will soon realize that everything is not what it seems.

If you enjoy a “knights of the round table” tale, then check out The Brides of Alba series written by Linda Windsor. Her extensive research has resulted in a very interesting story.

Just a reminder - presently the grade 12 English class is doing research for their argumentative speeches. After Spring Break, the Grade 10 Ethics and the Grade 11 Religious Meanings classes will all be doing projects. I would appreciate it, as well as the students, if all the books could be returned as soon as the projects are completed. That way the next group of students will have access to our full collection.

Yvonne Reed
Librarian

Student Council News

Student Council is pleased to announce that at the Pink Dance of February 20th, over \$320 was raised in support of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation. Thank you to all CACHS students who were at the dance and donated!

So far in March, we’ve had Twin Day and it was really awesome to see all the twins and triplets in their matching gear! On March 20th we will have Taco-in-a-Bag hot lunch as well as Clash Day. We look forward to many unfashionable outfits!!

Congratulations to Jadon Bernatsky, Bree Ebens and Josh Engel for winning the “A Day in the Life of CACHS” Photo Contest! Thanks also to all those who liked CACHS’ Facebook page and voted!

Grad Pictures 2014

Grad pictures will be taken at the school on April 3rd, 4th and 7th. Brochures were handed out to the students on March 12th 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 CACHS Grade 12 composite picture. Should you have any questions regarding the Grad Portrait sitting, please contact the Red Deer Lifetouch office at 403-356-9410.

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.

CACHS Europe Trip 2015 - Paris, Provence & Barcelona

We now have 35 people signed up for the next CACHS Europe Trip and there is still room for a few more to experience a representative and fascinating slice of European history and culture firsthand. We welcome all of you to attend a parent meeting (open to students too) on Thursday, April 24th from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. This is the same evening as parent teacher interviews after mid-term grades come out. Please let Mrs. Ann Oudman know if you plan to attend the meeting when you make your appointments to see teachers that evening, so that your schedule can be coordinated. Have a wonderful Spring Break!

Blessings

Carolyn Snipes-Hoyt and Pete Hoekstra
Europe Trip Organizers

Thank You!!

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Lacombe would like to thank the hard working, enthusiastic, energetic students of CACHS who helped out with the Bowl for Kids event at JSM. Each year BBBS holds a Wii bowling event in our local schools to help pay for the mentoring program that benefits school age children in our community. Without this major fund raiser a very important BBBS program would suffer. It takes many man/woman hours to host this event, from hauling in and setting up 15 TV and Wii stations, to running each station, to cleaning it all up, and to do it all over again the next day at a different school. The CACHS students came in by storm setting up, running stations and cleaning up. This gave the BBBS staff time to enjoy the event and the students participating. It is very encouraging to see students embracing volunteer opportunities and helping out their community. You should be very proud of your CACHS Knights!! Way to go!

Young Blood for Life

The Young Blood for Life campaign is in full swing at CACHS with new blood donors and potential donors coming forward every passing month. **As of February 28, CACHS has collected 52 units, 19 of which were drawn from new donors.** A huge thank you from Canadian Blood Services. Our goal of 70 donations for the year is well within reach!

April brings another opportunity to those interested in donating. **A blood donor clinic will be held Monday, April 21 in the CACHS gym from 3:30 till 6:30 pm.** What could be more fitting and a fun way to enjoy your Easter Monday afternoon than to round up your loved ones and head to CACHS for a free pop and cookie courtesy of Canadian Blood Services? All you need to do is leave behind a pint of your finest! Make sure you scan the QR code below in order to register as a CACHS donor. See you there!