



CENTRAL ALBERTA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

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Success?

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well....” Matthew 6: 25-33

It's been a busy last few weeks at school. The onset of exams brings a high degree of anxiety and tension to many of our students and staff. While I fully appreciate the seriousness of the task involved in preparing for final exams, I sometimes wonder about the pressure we place upon ourselves and our children (students) as they complete these tasks. We claim that God has prepared a path for them. We remind them frequently that God has created each person for a specific purpose(s), that He has equipped them for a task unique to the gifts they have been granted. And yet, we expect each of our children to excel in the study of language, mathematics, sciences and world economics.

I do recognize that God has called each of us to be a life-long learner, that the development of the gifts He has given us is essential to their effective use (parable of the

talents) and I am aware that discovering and appreciating this incredible world we have been placed in brings us into closer harmony with our Lord and Savior. I am thankful for Christian Schools which place God at the front of each lesson, discussion and application into life. I value an education which seeks to enhance God's gifts; however I do also realize that there is more to life than just our school results.

In our adult world, finding balance between family and work commitments is a constant challenge. History is replete with examples of successful business owners who have failed in their roles as parents, and leaders who were poor examples of family members. It is my prayer that we as parents and educators may teach our children about balance and remind them and ourselves that we are created for a purpose, that each of us has been aptly equipped with the abilities to complete His work and our job is to develop those gifts, to serve Him all the days of our lives, in this world and in the world to come. Let's not measure success according to worldly success, to marks on exam results or degrees earned. Let's consider a job well done, when we honor God in all we say and do, when we can at the end of our days, approach God and echo Paul's words in 2 Timothy 4:7 “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day ---- and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.”

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

December Board Notes

“I lift my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, Maker of heaven and earth.” Psalm 121: 1-2

We think of the students who are in the middle of writing final exams, may they be able to concentrate and remember what they have learned in class without too much stress.

We thank the teachers who have had extra study sessions for the grade 12 students to help them prepare for the diploma exams.

We pray that as this semester ends the new one may begin with excitement and enthusiasm to learn new things.

May we always remember that our help comes from our Father in Heaven, whether it be with final exams, a new semester of classes, something we have been struggling with or just trying to get through a long winter. Let us look to God for our help and strength as we enter a new year.

During the months of January and February, Alberta Education will be conducting their annual Accountability Pillar Surveys. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey when you receive it and return it promptly. An explanation of the survey is elsewhere in this newsletter.

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

Financial Update

The cost per pupil was calculated for the 2012/2013 school year. You will receive a donation receipt for total amount of tuition received. See the Real (Net) Tuition sheet that is part of this newsletter.

Income tax receipts have been printed and should be in your mail boxes at church or in the regular mail by February 2nd. If you haven't received your receipt by the end of February please contact me at the school and I will print another one for you.

Last year we were instructed to change the reporting period for tuition from a fiscal year to a calendar year. Receipts have been printed for tuition received from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013.

If you have any questions about your receipt, please contact me at 403-782-4535.

Wendy Barnes
Business Administrator

Fall Drive Update

We are thankful to the Lord for blessing us with \$78,000 in receipts for this year's fall drive. Last year's goal of \$90,000 was met, but we find ourselves \$22,000 short for this year's goal of \$100,000. If, perhaps, you had planned to donate and forgot, we will gratefully accept late donations now that the drive is "officially" over.

Pete Walls
Board Treasurer

Allergy Alert!!

Our school is a "peanut" free school because of a severe allergy of one of our students. We would ask that NO peanuts, NO peanut butter and NO peanut products be brought into the school. Thank you.

Alberta Education Accountability Pillar

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 are 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 grades 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 2014, and will be reported publicly as part of their 3-Year Education Plans and Annual Education Results Reports.

Free "Will Clinic"

Central Alberta Christian High School and Lacombe Christian School, in conjunction with PCEEF (Parkland Christian Education Endowment Fund) will be offering a FREE "Will Clinic" on Wednesday, February 26 at 7:30 pm at Lacombe Christian School. Christian Stewardship Services' representative Wayne De Boer will discuss how to prepare your Estate Plan and how you can align it with your faith. Please take a moment to contact Wayne De Boer by calling 587-316-2656 or email at wayned@csservices.ca to reserve your seat! **Reservations are requested, but not required.** For attending this evening, your name will be entered

into a draw for a free husband and wife will supplied by Ken Cruickshank from Cruickshank and Hemmingson law office in Lacombe.

Library Notes - January 2014

"The Eskimos had fifty-two names for snow because it was important to them. Margaret Atwood

I'm sure we have all had many choice words for the snow. With over six feet already and more falling as I write, it seems like we have had winter for a very long time.

Semester one finals are coming up very soon and that means another report card will be issued. Please be aware of the Library Book Report that will accompany some of the report cards. These books are due back as soon as possible so that other students can have access to them.

With the weather so inhospitable, grab a cup of rich creamy cocoa and settle down with an old, but good book. Here are a few suggestions:

Patricia Hickman's series Land of the Far Horizon traces the beginning of Australia as a penal colony to a thriving country. You will fall in love with convicts and adventurous men and women who settled a rough and dangerous land.

Trade Winds series is written by Linda Chaikin. Set in the Barbados in 1661, we follow the plight of an aristocratic young lady and her impending marriage to a Spanish don.

Wings of Refuge is one of Lynn Austin's earlier novels. This novel is set in the Israeli countryside on an archaeological dig. Through a series of "flashbacks" the author allows the reader to experience the lives of various women through the generations. From the tumultuous first century to the West Bank conflict in 1967, Lynn Austin makes history live.

For those of you who enjoy fantasy, Lisa Bergen's The River of Time series would be a good escape from the doldrums of winter. Fly away to fourteenth century Italy, fight with knights and defend ancient castles.

Keep safe and warm!
Yvonne Reed
Librarian

Career Corner

“God expects His people to use their talents to provide for their financial needs. However, financial fears should not drive career choices. As students think about possible future careers, they need think about how it will help them earn a living. They also need to remember Jesus’ warning that the need for financial provision is never an excuse to serve money or be controlled by it. Our education helps us find careers in which we can express our gifts. As we quietly work at developing our talents, we notice how God honors our efforts as we present the fruit of our labor to others. We then realize that we have been working under God’s eye all along.

As well as the anxiety of thousands of choices that students express in choosing vocations, they observe adults in their lives who feel molded by the pressures of jobs which do not allow them to express their gifts. They may also feel inadequate because they have not yet developed the talents that a particular career requires. Like some biblical characters such as Moses or Simon Peter, students need to know that God’s strength is discovered in their weakness.” Educating for Life Today and Tomorrow

High school students are faced with the pressure of deciding where to invest their time and energy after school. Throughout the journey of life-long learning, whether that be through a post-secondary institution, a mission opportunity or a job, young people seek God’s will for their lives. I wish all the students the best as they complete their first semester and move into the second semester. I look forward to continued discussions about future possibilities which include vocation options, educational opportunities, and course selection.

Veronica Den Oudsten
Career Counselor

CACHS Catering

CACHS Catering is beginning to receive numerous requests for bookings for next 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

May 3 – Gideons banquet

June 6 – Eggink/Kleinlugtenbeld wedding

June 27 – CACHS grad

July 5 – Drost/Brouwer wedding

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

Lacombe Minor Soccer Registration

Place: Lacombe Pentecostal Church

Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Time: 6:30 PM

<http://lacombe minorsoccer.weebly.com>

Student Council News

Happy New Year to all CACHS students, families and supporters!

We were all super excited to come back to school and see each other again. Now as exams for our first semester's classes come to an end, we are quickly back into the swing of things!

For the month of January, we have some fun things going on at CACHS. On January 17 we will have one of our most popular spirit days of the year: Comfy Day! Students are encouraged to come to school wearing their comfiest clothes or pajamas.

On January 29th CACHS is holding their annual Ski Trip and we will be heading to Lake Louise.

Among the excitement as we enter our second term, student council has even more fun planned for the students! On February 13 and 14, student council will be hosting a bake sale! While Student Council members will also be donating baking to it, we ask that students also bring in baking for donation. **However, according to our school rules, we ask that no baking contain nuts for some of the allergies we have in our student population.** Any baking you wish donate can be brought to the school before those dates.

One fundraiser that the students look forward to every year is the Valentine's Day Matchmaker forms! The students will all be given short personality quizzes to fill out; we will send these out to the company that does them for us, and for \$2 on February 14, students can get their results!

On February 26th the school will be having a Panago Pizza Hot Lunch. Forms will be sent out in February with more details.

We are excited to see all the fun events and changes that are upcoming this month and next, and look forward to working with the students to make the next few months as fun as possible.

Shae-Lynn Ten Hove
Student Council Secretary

Calendar

Diploma exams:

January 24 – Math 30-1 and 30-2

January 28 – Chemistry 30

January 23 – 28 – Exams for Grades 10 and 11

January 29 – Ski trip/Exam make-up day

January 30 – Semester break

January 31 – First day of second semester

February 3 – Final report card for first semester

February 6 – Parent/teacher interviews after school
and in the evening

February 17 – Blood donor clinic in CACHS gym

February 17 – Family Day in Alberta – no school

February 20 – No Wolf Creek bussing

February 27 – Free “Will Clinic” at Lacombe

Christian School – 7:30 pm – see note elsewhere

March 21 – 30 - Spring Break

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.

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. February brings a new opportunity to those interested in donating. For the first time, a blood donor clinic will be held February 17 in the CACHS gym from 9 AM till 1 PM. What could be a more fitting and fun way to celebrate Family Day 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!