

The Calvary Connection

Volume 8, Issue 5

January 2012

From Mr. Wickens' Desk ...

Have a Blessed Christmas and a Joyful New Year We pray that everyone will have a safe and blessed holiday.

The Staff would like to express, to our school families, our sincere thanks for the donations to our staff Christmas luncheon. We also appreciated the treats and things that were given as gifts.

Please Welcome In January we have five additional International students joining classes from grades 5—8

“Open Ear Policy” If you have any suggestions, comments, concerns or constructive criticism, we want to hear from you. We will be happy to have a

discussion or make an appointment. Teachers and school administration should be the first to hear your concerns. Together we will make a difference! This is a partnership; we believe God will honour this unity.

Thank you! Thank you! You were very generous in your support of our Christmas Adopt-A-Family program through the Niagara Life Centre. Our Bake Sale raised 387.00, and we received \$103.00 in Canadian Tire money. The two adopted families each received 3 boxes of non perishable food items, gifts, gift certificates for perishable food items, as well as, some additional gift certificates for Zehrs, Zellers,

Tim Hortons and Pizza Pizza. We also included a Christian children's devotional for the families. We are thankful to be able to bless these families at Christmas.

Honour Roll Our Term 1 Honour Roll for students who achieved 80% or more is now posted outside the school office for grades one to eight. Congratulations to all students who achieved 80%, met their goals and honoured God by doing their best.

We Appreciate Your Support We want to express our thanks for your participation on our Parent/Guardian & Teacher interviews. We appreciate your partnership in Christian Education.

School Open House

Open House will be held this year for a full week, February 6 – February 10, 2012. This week is primarily to attract new registrants to the school, and this time frame coincides with the Open Houses of other schools with the focus on Kindergarten Registration. It consists of allowing the public to tour the school both during and after class time. Teachers will be available to meet visitors and answer ques-

tions. Please encourage prospective families to come and learn about our school. We are happy to make appointments for anyone at anytime to visit the school facility, talk to the teachers, and/or principal, and see a class in operation. We can also arrange for a child to visit a class for a day.

As part of the focus for this Open House week we are having a special presenta-

tion on Thursday, February 9 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. This presentation will be entitled “Understanding Today's Youth—Why They Do the Things They Do”. The presentation will be done by Mr. Paul Robertson, a Youth Culture Specialist with Youth Unlimited (formally Youth For Christ). This will be a free seminar that we will be inviting our school parents/guardians and anyone from the community to attend. Please see Mr. Robertson's website for

more information on the work he is involved in and more information on this seminar:
www.paulrobertson.ca.

Inclement Weather

Cold Weather

Procedures are in place for students to remain indoors during formidable weather conditions. The teacher on duty will communicate to the students/staff if this is needed. The general "rule of thumb" for cold weather is to remain indoors at any temperature colder than -10 C. The windchill factor is also taken into consideration.

Snow Closure

If we experience a major snowstorm or any other emergency, we start the emergency phone list after we notify CKTB - 610 AM by 7:00 a.m. to broadcast the closure. Please remember that the radio is the primary way to learn of a closure, and the emergency phone list is our back up procedure. If you have any questions, please call the school office.

Student Activities

BASKETBALL INTRAMURALS

We will be starting our Basketball intramurals for Grades 5 - 8 on Tuesday, January 17. This after-school program will continue to emphasize having fun and learning to win humbly and lose graciously.

WE ARE GOING SKATING

The skating permission form has already been sent for our January 13, 2012 date. We will be offering in-school supervision. All students must wear helmets. If your child will be carpooling with someone else, please make sure you drop off a car booster seat if your child is under 8 years of age. We also require an adult to accompany on the ice each Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 1 student.

Spring Fling Update

We are just four short months away from one of our biggest school fundraisers, and we have now begun the process of asking for donations for this event from supporters of our school. Please keep the Spring Fling in mind when you see the January sales. We are in need of items that are in the \$15 to \$50 range for our Penny Sale. We are also in need of items for our Live and Silent Auctions. These items could include gift certificates and goods or services. We are looking for items for the young and old, male and female. We would appreciate any donation. All items that are donated with a receipt will be issued a taxable donation receipt.

CONTINUING THIS YEAR—

This year we will be hosting ven-

dors who will be selling all their crafts and products indoors. If you know of anyone who would be interested in this, please have them call the school office.

Cougar Soccer

The Cougar soccer team had a spectacular season but were faced by their greatest challenge yet, when they faced the Teachers All Star team. Eight brave and highly trained staff or board members took the field in a 30 minute battle against their own students. The staff came out to

a quick 3-0 start, with Mrs. Thorpe leading the All Star team with two of the goals. The students had their chances, but could not prevail. Final score: Staff 3, Students 1. Teachers are now in training for their next game against the students - volleyball!

Parent Association Report

Happy New Year To All!!! It has been a very busy first term with the Walkathon, International Potluck, Grandparent's Day, Christmas Concert and lots of other things that have kept the Parent Association busy over the past few months. We are looking forward to rest over the holidays and we trust that you and your family will have the same.

Just a reminder that January is the month for making any changes to your children's pizza or sub orders. Please let the office know if your child would like to make any changes to their pizza and/or sub orders. Any changes to their orders will take place in February.

January looks to be a very quiet

month. However, this is the perfect time to start on donations for the Spring Fling which will be just around the corner in no time. Businesses are quiet for these months, and it is actually better to ask now than in the spring when all the other fundraisers in our community are doing the same. Please remember to start asking local businesses for donations such as gift certificates and goods and services. Also, we'd love to hear your creative ideas for making our Spring Fling bigger and better, so please contact us if you have new ideas or plans for this event.

The annual board members vision meeting is being held on January 28, 2012 to seek what God has for us here at Calvary Christian School. Please pray for our leaders that God would continue to reveal to us where HE

would take us.

Please stay tuned for the annual Pie Auction, Thursday, February 2, 2012 as details will be coming home. Please start thinking of what you could bake to auction off for this wonderful fun evening! We will have a **School Family Potluck and Talent Show** on February 24. Details will soon be sent home.

May the Lord bless you and keep you until we see you again in the New Year. Many Blessings to you and your family, and we look forward to an exciting New Year of fun and excitement here at Calvary Christian School.

If you have any further questions regarding the Parent Association or fundraisers, please call Ann-Marie Johnson at (905) 934-3111.

Mission's Focus

It is Calvary Christian School's heart to continue to bless others through our outreach programs. Once again, we are having a Mission Focus from January 11—February 17, 2012.

Last year we were thankful to support ministries with a personal connection Internationally, we blessed Seed Sowers, which is a ministry that Miss Reyes, our grade 8 teacher, has served on several missions trips. Locally, we blessed Cross Trainers, a mission that is based in Canada, where Jenna Wickens, daughter of Mr. Wickens, serves in full-time ministry.

This year, we will be blessing an individual missionary, Bas Janssen. Bas is the uncle of our Grade 5 teacher, Mr. Janssen. Bas Janssen is a full-time missionary in China. He lives in downtown Hong Kong with his wife and 8 year old son. God has put on his heart to send Bibles and other Christian materials all over China to house churches that would not be able to get Christian materials. Bas spends his time organizing trips and materials for himself and others, bringing many suitcases full of Christian materials to the Christians in China. The trips can

be long and at times dangerous, as many parts of China are strict against any form of Christian teaching. Many Christians in China are persecuted, and Chinese officials will arrest Christians and confiscate Christian materials. For 15 years, Bas Janssen has faithfully served the Lord in this mission and is blessed with donations to purchase Christian materials and to provide for the daily living needs of his family.

Locally, we are supporting the Niagara Life Centre. This mission offers "Help, Hope, and Healing" through counseling for individuals and families. They provide aid for those experiencing life crises including marriage and family breakdown, depression, grief, anger, co-dependency, unplanned pregnancy, parenting, and post-abortion trauma. They are our contact ministry for the Adopt-a-Family program that we support. The ministry was started in 1985 serving the Niagara Region for 26 years.

Our chapels during this time will all be missions related. We will have a number of creative and fun events,

that we are planning, to help raise the money for this missions focus. The enclosed January Activity Calendar outlines all of the Mission Focus chapels and events. Our February calendar will outline the balance of activities. Please post this calendar on your fridge as a reminder of the events and dates. We will start collecting donations in a large water jug outside the school office on Wednesday, January 11, 2012. We will be visiting the classrooms for each event so that students can contribute their toonies into the jug. Students can donate a toonie to dress down and an additional toonie for the special event. As well, students and families can make a donation directly into the jug any time. These events are **optional**, but we hope our families will partner with us in this missions focus. We would like to encourage our students, especially our older students, to give their own money to this project if possible.

This missions focus, we believe, is a great example of how we can help in a very practical way and share the love of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Calvary Christian School's Mission Statement

The primary goal of Calvary Christian School is to prepare students academically and spiritually for a life of service, according to individual talents.

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That in all things He might have the pre-eminence. Col. 1:18

We're on the web!

calvarychristianschoolniagara.com

SPECIAL THANK YOU—We are enclosing the January 2012 Prayer Calendar. A special thank you to our families who are faithful in praying for the school, families, students, and staff. We trust you find the prayer calendar helpful.

M & M's SCHOOL DAYS—Please keep in mind that the next M & M's School Day is Thursday, January 26 at the Lake Street location only. Just go in, make your purchase, and let them know that you would like 10% of all your purchases to go toward our school. Don't forget that you can also purchase M & M gift cards through our TRIP stock in the office!

PRAYER REQUESTS—Mrs. Hewitt's mother went to be with the Lord on the weekend. Please pray for the Hewitt family as they will be missing a loved one. Please pray for safety for our school families and staff over the Christmas holiday. If you have any prayer requests that you would like to have the school membership pray for, please call the school office.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM DVD'S—In the past, we had a large number of families who ordered a copy of the taping of the Christmas program. We are pleased to enclose an order form, once again, so you can order a DVD of the Christmas program for \$3.00 which is the cost of producing the DVD. Thank you to Mr. Shields for arranging this for the school.

ENCLOSED—Please also find enclosed our January Activity Calendar, DVD order form, account balances, TRIP order form, and Term II academic outlines for each grade. If you have any questions regarding the Term Outlines, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

Blessing List

The Blessing List indicates the things that are on the schools "wish list". This may be an opportunity for families to donate an item to the school, if it is feasible for them. Another option is a money donation towards a particular item or items on the list. All money donations and product donations, with a receipt, are 100% receiptable for income tax purposes.

- New or used laptop computers, Netbooks or Apple iPads
- Dear Canada & Guinness World Record (any year) books for **Grade 7**
- Littlest Pet Shop animals & accessories for **Senior Kindergarten**
- Educational software (preferably not math) for **Tutoring class**
- Games & puzzles for rainy days

P.S. Another possible way you could help is by connecting us to companies or individuals who may offer discount prices.

T.R.I.P.

T.R.I.P. orders will begin again on January 9, 2012. They are due Wednesdays by 3:30 p.m. We also want to remind families that we have T.R.I.P. for purchase in the office.