



The Calvary Connection

Volume 8, Issue 1

September 2011

From Mr. Wickens' Desk ...

GREAT START! The students have had a great start to the school year. We are blessed to have 130 students including 34 new students. We also have two additional new students joining us in our Pre-Kindergarten program in October. We give thanks to God for all our school families.

NUT AWARENESS ALLERGY ALERT As God grows our school we now have more students in our school who face the daily life challenge posed by life threatening allergies. We want to help protect these students. Products that contain peanut butter, nut oil, peanuts, tree nuts of any kind, or have the "may contain" phrase in the ingredients listing should not be sent to school.

In our start of year "School

Wide Nut Awareness" letter, we asked for suggestions of alternative products. It was suggested that sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds and soy nuts be added to our healthy snack list.

SCHOOL YEAR CALENDARS We are sending home the school year calendar so that you can plan well in advance for some of our activities. We are still in the process of booking some of our activities like skating, track and field etc. We have indicated tentative dates for planning purposes. At times, we will advise you of these changes. We will also update you on specific events like dress down dates and themes and mission focus events once student council is established, and they have them planned.

HELPING YOU GET TO KNOW ME—We have sent home the booklets with the Start of Year packages. In our effort to meet the needs of each of our students, we are asking that you complete this booklet with your child. Please ensure that answers are as honest and clear as possible. ***This is not to replace verbal communication. If there is any significant information, please talk to your child's teacher.***

BEFORE SCHOOL PARENT/ GUARDIAN SUPERVISION Students cannot be left unsupervised before 8:30 am. At 8:30 we open the entrance door and they may proceed to their classroom. Ideally, students should remain in their parents/ guardians vehicle until the doors open at 8:30. This is an

insurance liability issue and for families who need an early drop off time, we offer Before School Supervision in the school starting at 8:00 am for a nominal cost.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY Once we have all the Start of Year packages returned, we will issue the school family directory.

UNITY TEAMS We have enclosed a school unity teams listing. We are looking forward to some fun activities with our unity teams. This is an important aspect of promoting our school family focus.

Reminders

CHURCH LIBRARY REMINDER Our school has been graciously given access to the church library books and materials which starts next week. Please ensure that your child takes good care of any borrowed materials and returns them promptly. Books lost or damaged by students, through misuse, will become their responsibility to replace. The student who signs out the book is responsible for the book so we advise against loaning books to other students. Students can reserve that book for the next library visit.

PARKING REMINDER A reminder that any family with a Kindergarten through grade 2 student will be asked to park on the west side (between the apartments and the church). If you do not have a Kindergarten through grade 2 student, then please park on the east side (between the two churches). Please park your vehicle away from the pylons and playground area. Please stop and park in a parking space when dropping off and picking up your

child (ren). **DRIVE SLOWLY AS YOU ENTER AND EXIT THE DRIVEWAY.**

SCHOOL DISMISSAL AND PICK UP Just a reminder that after school the teachers are on yard duty only until 3:45 p.m. Please do your best to pick up students promptly. Students not picked up by 3:45 will go into the **Before and After School Supervision Program**. The Before and After School Supervision Program starts at

8:00 a.m. and finishes at 5:00 p.m. Please let us know in advance if your child/children will be in the Before and After School Supervision Program.

Parent Association Report

Welcome back to another school year. We have been busy preparing for all our events. The Calvary Parent's Association would like to say a warm welcome to all new families.

The walkathon is coming...WOW! We cannot believe it is here already. There are just two more weekends to collect pledges. Mr. Wickens' awesome field trip is on again with lots of fun promised. If you need a walk-a-thon pledge form, please ask the office and they will be happy to get that for you.

A finalization of our fundraising chart from last year will be available at the

next Membership Meeting on September 29, 2011 at 7:15 pm. Please be sure to review this and see how well we did with all our goals last year.

The individuals who make up the Calvary Parent's Association Team are Ann-Marie Johnson, Lise Suelzle, Lisa Van Tol and Shari Heeg.

The CPA is always happy to have volunteers to help the CPA with their responsibilities. The time commitment involved can be minimal, and we can tailor the tasks to suit your availability. Please contact any CPA member if you would

like to learn more about getting involved in one of these roles.

As the year progresses, there will be lots more fun and excitement. We look forward to this with great anticipation and excitement as we know the Lord will continue to bless all of us as we work and serve Him.

Head Lice

We have been sending letters home to some grades this week concerning head lice. We appreciate your support in helping control and prevent the reoccurrence of head lice infestation. The following is additional information that we hope you will find helpful:

1. Make sure you reapply the lice treatment 7 to 10 days after initial application
2. Notify anyone who has been in close contact with affected individuals; they may need to be treated as well.
3. Comb out nits and newly hatched lice on a daily basis when treating for lice. The easiest way to do this is to apply a small amount of regular conditioner to damp hair, remove tangles with a regular comb and then comb out the nits and lice with a special nit comb working from the scalp

to the end of the hair.

4. Soak all brushes and combs in hot water (above 54 C)
5. Wash clothing, including hats, hair bands, towels and bed linens that you suspect have come in contact with the infected person in very hot water and dry on the hot cycle at least 20 minutes or seal in a

plastic bag for two weeks and wash normally.

We are asking students to avoid head to head contact in playground games and at other times. We are also asking students to not share combs, brushes, hats and anything else that comes in contact with the head. As well, we are helping our students to be sensitive to other student's feelings who are dealing with this.

September Membership Meeting

All parents and guardians are members of Calvary Christian School. Please note the date of the following meeting: Thursday, September 29, 2011 at 7:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We expect every family to be represented in order to conduct current

business concerning the school. **We need your attendance to meet our quorum requirements. EACH PARENT/GUARDIAN HAS 1 VOTE.**

Please advise Mr. Wickens if this date conflicts for you. Child care will be organized by the school office.

Absence and Attendance

ABSENCE FORM We have a form for student absences (i.e. vacations) outside of the regular school holidays. If you have plans of this nature, please pick up a form at the school office.

OPENING EXERCISES AND ATTENDANCE CHECK PROGRAM

We need to ensure that each student who has set out for school has arrived safely. To that end, please call the school **before 8:50 a.m.** if your child will be late, has an ap-

pointment or is sick. If we have not received confirmation of absence, we will be calling to confirm that the student is safe. Since opening exercises are in the sanctuary, students will start coming into the school at 8:35 and go directly to their classrooms. (Note: The exception will be Mondays when we will pray outside together, weather permitting). The entrance door will be locked at 8:45 a.m. Students arriving after 8:45 will need to use the entrance

by the church offices. Students who arrive after 8:50 am must report to the office and wait there until opening exercises are completed. Lateness infraction notices will be sent home for students who are late without a reported reason from their parent/guardian. Students must enter/exit the school through the back doors only, unless they are late or have an appointment.

Tuition Reduction Incentive Program (T.R.I.P.)

We encourage you to use this program as this will benefit both the school and also your tuition payments! It is simple and easy. Orders are due in the office by Wednesday after school.

We endeavour to have stock in the office for the following stores: Food

Basics/Metro, Zehrs/No Frills/ Great Canadian Superstore, Price Chopper/Fresh Co./Sobeys, Tim Hortons, Wendys, Shoppers Drug Mart, Canadian Tire, M & M's, Starbucks and Swiss Chalet/Kelsey's, Pizza Pizza, Esso, Pioneer, Petro Canada, Heritage Christian Books and Toys R Us.

Stock is not always guaranteed, though we do try to keep enough on hand.

If there are items that you would like us to stock in the office, please let us know. We are open to your suggestions.

Uniform News

Please remember to label all of your child's uniform clothing with your child's name. The school has a Lost & Found located by the office. It is very difficult to find the owners without names written in them. Please feel free to come by and look for any of your lost items!

The option to have your uniform order delivered to the school started this week. Bombardieri has offered to deliver and pick up returns on Wednesdays. We appreciate their offer to help relieve the shipping costs for our families. The school office will notify the

families to pick up their uniform orders when they arrive.

RETURNS: To process a return, please contact Bombardieri (by e-mail or phone) and let them know your name, school, item number from receipt and what the problem is. Then package the uniform piece (s) in a bag or box with your name, school and receipt, (with item circled) and your instructions on whether it is a return or exchange. Bring the items to the school office and they will be returned to Bombardieri on a weekly basis.

Also, please do not use any Javex type bleach on the uniforms as this will also bleach out the embroidered logo.

If you have a need for clothes to be altered or hemmed please contact Tanya Young at 905-341-5276. She is one of our school parents and is able to do this from home for a reasonable rate.

Walkathon—Friday, September 30

It's time for our annual Walkathon fundraiser on Friday, September 30, 2011. (Our raindate is Monday, October 3 2011). Our goal is to raise \$12,000.00 for the school. If we all work together, we will be able to accomplish this.

The walkathon takes place at the school. The students walk around the perimeter ten times. (Younger students are asked to walk only as many times as they can.)

The Parent Association will serve a hotdog lunch after the event to show our appreciation to our students and our parent/guardian helpers! Remember, when you fill out the sponsor form, print neatly and include the sponsor's first and last name. **Their full address, city and postal code must also be included in order for**

us to send them a tax receipt for an amount of \$15.00 or greater that is donated.

Students must bring the sponsor sheets to school with them on the day of the walkathon so that we can mark their sheets and figure out who our top students are. The forms will be returned at the end of the day so that all walkathon money can be collected and returned to the school office on Wednesday, October 6 (unless we use the raindate, then the money can be returned on Wednesday, October 13). The ideal situation is to collect your pledges and money at the same time and for families to write a cheque for the total amount instead of submitting all the loose change.

This year we will continue with the same great prize contest as last year's

Walkathon fundraiser. The students in each grade, who earn the most pledges in these grades, will go on an **AWESOME FIELD TRIP** with Mr. Wickens. The first part of the field trip will be lunch at **PIZZA HUT**. After lunch, we will go **BOWLING** and finish our field trip with a stop at **DAIRY QUEEN**. It's going to be fun!!!! These 10 students will be joined by 2 other students whose names will be randomly selected from all students who earn pledges or the Limited Participation option for the walkathon. A total of 12 students will get to go with Mr. Wickens on this **AWESOME FIELD TRIP**.

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

PRAYER CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER— Please pray for our school daily and especially students, staff, board members, Parent Association and Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) listed on their specific day. We, as a staff, pray daily in the morning together and welcome prayer requests from families.

TOYS AT SCHOOL—We allow outside toys at school like skipping ropes, balls, etc. Other toys are not allowed unless it is for things such as show and tell or a specific teacher request.

NO PETS PLEASE—We feel that it is wise for us to ask that all pets stay outside the playground area and the school building. This is not only for safety reasons but also because of allergies.

LUNCHES—All students will need to bring their lunches (please no paper or plastic bags) and eat them in their classrooms with supervision. The use of the church kitchen facilities or microwave is not available. Students may not leave the school for lunch without adult supervision and permission. Students wishing to go out for lunch with their parent/guardians must have a note or have parents give verbal consent **PRIOR TO THE LUNCH DATE** to the school office.

TERM OUTLINES AND TIMETABLES—Today, we are sending home the Term 1 academic outlines (goals and expectations) and classroom timetables. We trust you will find this information helpful in knowing the academic plan for your child(ren). If you have any questions, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.

Event Requests

We occasionally receive requests to post and distribute flyers and promotional information about events. Though they may be worthwhile events, we have limited space to post things. We generally limit our consideration for these requests to things for children that we deem appropriate. With that in mind here are two children's community activities that we have been asked to let you know about.

Agape Valley is hosting a 1K or 5K run/walk on Saturday, September 24 to raise funds for their summer children's programs. Many of our families participate in these programs. Please visit <http://gapper.agapevalley.ca> for further details.

Our piano teacher, Edita Morkunas is also offering lessons for Fine Arts and Dance at her Niagara Creative Arts location on Lakeshore Road in St. Catharines. Please call 905-246-1882 for further information.

Additional Income Opportunity

We have been contacted by the agents who have arranged in the past for international students to attend Calvary. They are asking if there are any school families who would be interested in offering home stay to international students. They have informed us that they have two brothers from South Korea in Grade 5 and Grade 6 who would like to come in October. They also feel they have several international students who are interested in coming in the new year but are uncertain of the length of stay. Families are compensated for the room and board that is provided. Please contact the school office if you are interested. We will pass on your name to the agent who will provide details concerning this. The agents are responsible for organizing the home stay and Calvary Christian School does not get involved in this aspect of the international student's visit.

Blessing List

This list indicates the things that are on the school's "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.

- Dear Canada & Guinness World Record (any year) books for **Grade 7**
- Educational software (preferably not math) for **Tutoring class**
- Shin pads for soccer (3 medium, 3 large)
- 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.