



Calvary Christian School

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BEGINNING OF SCHOOL YEAR INFORMATION 2023-2024

Dear Families,

Thank you for choosing Christian Education. This newsletter contains very important information for the start of the school year.

CONNECT WITH US - If you have not already done so, please join our school group. The school uses this to give reminders of what to expect in the coming week, fundraiser updates, exciting school news.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/103049693792>

Also, we have a Facebook group specifically for the purchasing and selling of gently used uniform clothing. The purchases and deliveries are arranged between families.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1140211436359641>

SCHOOL VISIT WEEK – During the week of Tuesday, August 29, 2023, to Thursday, August 31, 2023 you will be invited to visit the school by scheduled invitation only. This scheduled invitation will have a specific time allocation. The schedule will be issued by Friday, August 18, 2023. This will be an opportunity for you and your children to meet the teachers, drop off school supplies, complete tuition payments, and to visit their classrooms prior to the first day of school.

It is our goal to have all tuition payments and Start of Year Packages completed by Thursday, August 31, 2023. This will avoid adding to an already **hectic** first week of school. Please contact the school office if you require any other arrangements or if you are on holidays during the above dates.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 is our first day of school. Students should be at the school no later than 8:35 a.m. School will dismiss at **12:00 p.m.** that day. As in the past, this dismissal time has allowed us to evaluate the start of the school year. This allows for the staff to meet in the afternoon and to adapt accordingly to any changes. **NOTE: Kindergarten:** The first day, Tuesday, September 5, will be until 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, Thursday and Friday – 8:50 a.m. – 3:25 p.m. full days. The next week will start full days, Monday to Friday.

SCHOOL HOURS - The following school hours are in compliance with Ontario's Ministry of Education and Training guidelines for school operation, including at least a 5 ½ hour instructional day that includes a recess break in both the morning and afternoon.

8:00 a.m.	Before School Supervision begins
8:30 a.m.	Yard Supervision begins and students come directly into the school
8:45 a.m.	Students have arrived and are getting ready for opening exercises.
8:50 a.m.	Morning Classes begin with opening exercises
3:25 p.m.	Dismissal

3:45 p.m. Yard Supervision ends
 5:00 p.m. After School Supervision ends

STAFF STRUCTURE UPDATE – We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Karen Epp has accepted the position of a full-time Resource teacher focusing on Junior Tutoring. Mrs. Koch has indicated that she will not be returning from her maternity leave next year and Mrs. Nickel has requested that she would like to return to her support role as an Educational Assistant. Mrs. Epp was an Educational Assistant in our Tutoring Program last year and she has experience as a Special Education Learning Resource Teacher in another private school. She also was a supply teacher with us in different grade levels last year and she brings us experience in supporting students with a variety of exceptionalities. We are very thankful for Mrs. Epp’s continued support for our students in the Tutoring Program in her new responsibilities.

We are also pleased to announce that Mrs. Danielle Latchman will be teaching on Thursdays in the Senior Kindergarten program as she covers for Mrs. MacDonald’s maternity leave. Mrs. Latchman was an Educational Assistant for the last two years in our Senior Kindergarten program as well as supply teaching in Senior Kindergarten and other grade levels.

As well, we are pleased that Mrs. Tina Miloud has accepted an Educational Assistant position with a focus in our Grade 4 program. We are blessed to have Mrs. Miloud continue to serve in this ministry with her valuable years of experience.

- Pre-Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten and Vice Principal – Mrs. Donna Jo Hewitt
- Educational Assistants — Mrs. Tracy Willms and Mrs. Kailey Ediger
- Senior Kindergarten — Mrs. Rachel Bartley (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday)
- Senior Kindergarten – Mrs. Danielle Latchman (Thursday)
- Grade 1 — Mrs. Jacinda King
- Educational Assistants – Mrs. Danielle Latchman and Mrs. Ashley Van Natter
- Grade 2 — Miss Alyssa Martens
- Grade 3 — Mrs. Sue DiBacco
- Grade 4 — Mrs. Kaitlyn MacDougall
- Educational Assistant – Mrs. Tina Miloud
- Grade 5 — Mrs. Emily Damsted (Kerins)
- Grade 6 — Mr. Jim Groff
- Grade 7 and Senior French — Mrs. Evelyn Sinka (Miloud)
- Grade 8 — Miss Carol Ng
- Tutoring Resource Teacher — Mrs. Ann-Marie Johnson
- Tutoring Resource Teacher — Mrs. Karen Epp
- Tutoring Educational Assistant - Mrs. Suzie Nickel
- Secretary/Bookkeeper — Mrs. Coreen Galenkamp
- Office Support – Mrs. Becky McKeown
- Janitorial — Mrs. Somer McIntee
- Administrator/Principal — Mr. Ron Wickens

We praise God for His faithfulness in calling this staff to serve in the ministry for the 2023-2024 school year.

Tuition Table for September 2023 to June 2024

Kindergarten Tuition Structure (based on the 10-month school year)

	1 Child in K Program	2 Children	2 Children in School
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		in K Program	(1 child in Kindergarten)
Core Programs 3 days Mon Wed Fri	\$6,265	\$11,140	\$12,340
4 Days Mon Tues Wed Fri	\$7,395	\$13,040	+\$1,130
4 Days Mon Wed Thurs Fri	\$7,395	\$13,040	+\$1,130
5 Days Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri	\$8,525	\$14,940	+\$2,260

Grades 1 - 8 Tuition Structure (based on the 10-month school year)

		Tuition Fee
1 child		\$7,615.00
2 children	Based on 3-day Kindergarten (i.e. 1 child grades 1 to 8 and 1 child in 3 day Kindergarten)	\$12,340.00
3+ children	Based on 3-day Kindergarten (i.e. 2 children grades 1 to 8 and 1 child in 3 day Kindergarten)	\$16,915.00

Tutorial Program		Tuition Fee
1 child	Gr. 1-8 in tutoring for Mathematics and Literacy Arts. This in addition to the tuition fee. (i.e. \$7,615.00 + \$3,950.00)	\$3,950.00
1 child	Gr. 1-8 in tutoring for Mathematics or Language Arts. This in addition to the tuition fee. (i.e. \$7,615.00 + \$1,975.00)	\$1,975.00
1 child	Gr. 1-8 half day in tutoring AM only in tutoring, Home in PM	\$5,800.00

Before & After School Supervision	\$2.10 / quarter hour or part thereof
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- Effective September 1, 2023

<u>Examples:</u>	
2 Child Rate	\$12,340.00
1 Child 4 Day Kindergarten	+ <u>1,130.00</u>
Total Tuition	<u>13,470.00</u>
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2 Child Rate	\$12,340.00

1 Child 5 Day Kindergarten	
	<u>+2,260.00</u>
Total Tuition	14,600.00
3+ Child Rate	
	\$16,915.00
1 Child 4 Day Kindergarten	<u>+ 1,130.00</u>
Total Tuition	\$18,045.00
3+ Child Rate	\$16,915.00
1 Child 5 Day Kindergarten	<u>+ 2,260.00</u>
Total Tuition	\$19,175.00
2 Child Rate	\$12,340.00
1 Child Tutoring	<u>+ 3,950.00</u>
Total Tuition	\$16,290.00

This tuition table shows significant discounts for 2, 3+ child families to help families afford Christian education.

FUNDRAISING - Fundraising is an important part of our school budget. We are planning, once again, to have four fundraisers next year. They include the following: Walk-a-thon in late September, Pie Auction in February, Spring Fling and Auction in May, and Golf Tournament in June. Fundraising enables us to purchase blessing items like equipment and items for the school and support our capital purchases for maintaining this large building and property. Each family's participation is expected so it is fair and equitable. The school will be offering again a "limited participation payment" for individual fundraisers, which is a donation to the school of a family's portion of the fundraising budget. This payment is calculated by taking the budget of each fundraiser and dividing it by the number of school families enrolled. The exception to this is the Spring Fling where a large number of volunteers are needed. This is presented as an option at the start of the school year. If a family feels that making this donation is easier for them than participating in the fundraiser, they can pay the limited participation amount and these donations are eligible for a tax donation receipt. Specific information will be included in our Welcome Back letter later in August. Payments can be made by cash, cheque, or e-transfer (finance@ccsniagara.com).

PARENT/GUARDIAN CLASSROOM ORIENTATION (in person) - Please mark your calendars for Thursday, September 7, 2023, 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. It is required that at least one parent/guardian attend the Classroom Orientation.

PARENT/GUARDIAN GENERAL SCHOOL ORIENTATION (in person) - Also, on Thursday, September 7, 2023, we will have a general school orientation for new families from 7:45 – 8:45, in the common area. Existing families are welcome to attend for a refresher. It is required that at least one parent/guardian representative from each new family attend this orientation.

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 8:30 a.m. if your child will be late or absent. If we have not received confirmation of absence or lateness, we will be calling home to confirm that the student is safe. (NOTE: Students are considered late if they arrive after 8:50 a.m. and must report to the office.)

BICYCLES - A bicycle rack is available. Please understand that students bring bicycles to school at their own risk and should make sure that their bikes have locks. At times during the day, the bicycle area is

unsupervised. The school cannot accept responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged bikes. We do not have any space for bicycles inside the school building.

LUNCH - All students will need to bring their lunches and will eat them in their classrooms with supervision. Then, they will go outside for their lunch time recess. The use of the church kitchen or microwave facilities is not available. Students wishing to go out for lunch with their parents/guardians must have a note for their classroom teacher and the office before the lunch date. PLEASE NOTE: We are a nut aware school and individual classrooms may have other allergy restraints to protect students who have potentially life-threatening allergies.

SCHOOL ENTRY AND DISMISSAL - Students must enter/exit the school through the main school entrance at the back of the building. All students who are late (after 8:50 a.m.) must report to the school office.

ACTIVITY FUND - We are requiring each family to activate an activity fund by giving the office a cheque for \$50.00, per student, with tuition payments. We will use this as an ongoing fund to cover lunch days, skating days, field trips, etc. This will save a lot of time counting and tracking loose coin in the office. We will use the computer to track and deduct from your fund according to your permission forms. Hopefully, this will save our families time organizing the exact change. Please monitor your activity fund so it does not go into arrears. We will provide periodic statements on your account.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES - Please find attached, the information on school supplies to be purchased before the school year starts. We have provided a convenient list for each grade level.

We have ordered day planners/communication books from the Bible League, for all grade levels. These are very well made and contain Scripture references for each day, a prayer journal, monthly calendar with places to write for individual days, helpful hints for studying for tests, math reference pages, science reference pages (senior grades) and an address/telephone number section. **Planners must be signed by parents daily and returned.** These will be distributed on the first day of school. **These planners are listed on the Classroom Supply List and they will be an activity fund deduction.**

Please note *water bottles* are included on our supply list since we allow students to have **water only** at their desks, especially on hot days. Other drinks can be included for lunch and snack time only. Pop, high sugared, caffeinated, or sports drinks are not allowed.

Families are asked to bring in their child's school supplies during the school visit week when they visit their classroom.

UNIFORM DRESS CODE - All clothing must be purchased through Calvary's uniform supplier – Bombardieri Uniforms.

Specific clothing items in the school colours with the CCS logo will be available through Calvary's uniform supplier. Ordering can be done over the phone, through their store in Hamilton, or through the internet.

1. Bottoms

The following "bottoms" may be worn: pants, slacks, skirts, jumpers, shorts, skorts, skirts, kilts (navy or black bicycle shorts must be worn under the kilt), and uniform track pants/gym shorts for Physical Education only. For school dress down days, we do not allow mini-skirts, ultra-low-rise pants, or ripped jeans. Spandex pants, leggings, and tight pants may only be worn with a long top (mid-thigh) over the leggings. Shorts, kilts and skorts must be to the knee. All clothing must be altered to fit and appropriately tailored. Skirts may not be rolled at the waist and pant legs may not have rolled cuffs.

Gym shorts are not to be worn for everyday use. **NOTE: Students must wear navy or black shorts under skirts, jumpers, and kilts.**

2. Tops

The following “tops” may be worn: collared shirts, golf shirts, sweaters, jackets, and vests. T-shirts are to be worn for gym only. For school dress down days, we do not allow tops with midriff exposure, spaghetti straps, or tank tops.

3. Footwear, Socks, Tights, and Leotards

Shoes are required at all times and may include any of the following: enclosed shoes, running shoes, sandals with adequate support (no flip flops or beach sandals). **Navy blue or black shoes are preferred for every day, so they match our school uniform but only mandatory as part of our dress uniform.**

Socks, tights, or leotards must be Solid Navy Blue, Solid Black or Solid White. Socks must not be thigh high. Students must wear their indoor/gym shoes in the wintertime. Note: No slippers or boots of any kind are permitted inside the classrooms. **NOTE: Kindergarten students are only permitted to wear shoes and sandals with closed toes (No Crocs please).**

4. Physical Education

The following clothes are required: shorts with the school logo and white or navy T-shirts with the school logo. During the cooler months, track pants with the school logo will also be allowed. An extra pair of non-marking gym shoes are required. Kindergarten to grade 2 must wear their gym uniforms to school on gym days.

5. Modesty and Neatness

- a. Clothing: The school uniform must be worn neatly and appropriately (i.e. waistband worn at the waist). Uniform clothes must be clean, not stained or torn. Dress shirts and blouses must be tucked in. Shirtsleeves may not be rolled, and a layered look is not permitted (for example, wearing a long sleeved turtleneck under a short sleeved dress shirt). Only the top two buttons may be undone. Pant legs may not be rolled. Skirts, jumpers, dresses, skorts, and shorts must to the knee in length. Belts must be solid blue or solid black with no decorative buckle. Suspenders are not allowed. All items must be properly hemmed. Only plain all white t-shirts/undershirts may be worn under uniform shirts.
- b. Make-up: Modesty includes no excessive make-up (i.e. make-up that becomes the dominant feature of the face). Nail polish must be modest in colour and not be a dominant feature (no designs are allowed).
- c. Jewelry/Accessories: Maximum of one necklace and bracelet with no dramatic features. Body Piercing (including ear piercing for boys) and Tattoos are not allowed at Calvary Christian School. Girls may have pierced ears, but not multiple piercing around the upper ear.
- d. Hair: Hair colouring that is not a natural colour (this includes yellow blond, bright red or ink black colouring) is not permitted except for specified fun days. All students are required to have neatly groomed (clean and combed) hair that does not hang into their eyes. Hair styling may not be dramatic in look.
- e. Footwear: Solid coloured shoes and shoelaces are preferred.
- f. Hats: Hats, bandanas, and kerchiefs are not allowed unless identified for a specific event.

We also exhibit modesty in behaviour, which includes physical actions and expressions. All modesty requirements apply to dress down days.

USED UNIFORM PIECES: There is a Facebook group that is solely for the purpose of buying and selling gently used uniform pieces (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1140211436359641>). The purchases and deliveries are arranged between families.

The address and contact information of Bombardieri is:

448 Barton Street East

Hamilton, ON

L8L 2Y6

Phone: 905-525-6684

Fax: 905-525-5766

Website: www.bombardieri.ca

Tutoring Program (Special Education) - Our Tutoring program will continue next year. We offer a variety of student supports depending on their needs.

Tutoring students will start in their grade appropriate classroom and move to the tutoring room for core subjects in the morning. Exceptions are made to this process depending on the support needed by the student. The students will have Music, Phys. Ed., French, Art, etc. in their homeroom class in the afternoon. This is a mainstream program, not an isolation program. Calvary Christian School embraces the various learning styles, challenges, and gifts of our students, believing that each child is a wonderful creation made by God. To help all students meet their potential, we offer a distinct and unique tutoring program. It is designed to meet and support our students with not only learning challenges but also gifted abilities and social skills training. The program can help students to build self-confidence, organizational skills, social skills, behaviour modification and life skills. Small class sizes, individualized instruction, and a team approach are all benefits of Calvary's tutoring program. Input from students and their families is valuable to the development and monitoring of Individual Education Plans (IEP's).

The monthly tuition for tutoring is **\$395.00** (for example, if you have one child participating in the full-time regular school program, you would pay \$761.50 per month plus \$395.00 per child per month for tutoring). Tutoring Tuition is adjusted based on the amount of time that support is required. For example, a Grade 1 to 8 student in Tutoring for Language Arts only in the morning the tuition would be half of the full time tutoring tuition which is \$197.50 per month.

If you are interested in these programs, please call Ron Wickens at the school office.

IN CLOSING

We are so thankful for what God has allowed us to accomplish this year. We are praising God that we were able to finish the school year in person and celebrate with our students with wonderful awards and graduation ceremonies. In everything that has been done, it has been only by God's strength and grace that we have accomplished these things. I am proud of all our students' accomplishments and the many acts of kindness in "helping others." I am thankful for our excellent staff and the gifts that God has given them. I am thankful for the wonderful support and encouragement from our families. I pray that the rest of your summer is safe and blessed and we look forward to seeing you at the start of the new school year.

To His Glory,

Ron Wickens
Administrator/Principal

“That in all things He might have pre-eminence” Colossians 1:18