



JOINING OUR HOMES AND OUR SCHOOL

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Scott Hickling ext. 320 shickling@csce.net

- Over the next few weeks we will be introducing changes to the Elementary Campus pick up and drop off points on 30 Avenue SW. This has been an area of concern for some time, and a more detailed communication will be coming shortly.
- **8 GB IPOD TOUCH DRAW – April 23, 2009** - As part of our series on parent information nights, we will be hosting a Money Matters presentation to pass along information and timely suggestions. **This is a night that you should not miss !**
- Our Music, Sports and Drama students have done us proud again this year with their caliber of performance and participation. From our Handbells, Choirs, and Bands through to the Little Women main stage production, and numerous extra-curricular presentations and performances, we are very privileged to see the dedication and hard work come to life!
- Plan to attend the annual Spring Society Meeting, May 7 at the Secondary Campus Gymnasium. An information package will be sent out shortly after spring break.
- The CCS Annual Golf Tournament is coming June 19 at the links of GlenEagles golf course in Cochrane. This is a terrific event, and is sure to book up early. Great fellowship, prizes and a classic opportunity to spend a day on the links!
- Website access for parents/students. We will be opening up the access to homework, updates and newsletters to our families starting in April. An instruction sheet is included with this issue of Bridges with instructions on access and how to use it most effectively. This is an excellent opportunity to keep in touch with your students activities and assignments, and all that is happening at CCS!

As we begin our Spring Break, our prayers are for all of you, away or at home, for safe travels, comfort and a time of rest. It won't be long until our season of Lent is past, and Easter is upon us. Each year, we celebrate this as a time of growth and renewal and recommitment to our faith. Take time with your family to consider, discuss and celebrate the joy of Easter, and enjoy the promise of warmer weather, fresh new growth, and a sense of renewed hope.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Catherine Feenstra ext. 352 cfeenstra@csce.net

- **“Money Matters” - Be sure to attend as representatives from the Christian Credit Union and Christian Stewardship Services present information regarding the services that are available to our community and offer some timely advice about financial matters in these challenging economic times on Thursday, April 23 at the CCS Secondary Campus. This informal presentation is open to all members of our Society and their guests. Links to both of these organizations can be found on the CCS website under the “Donations” tab. Contact the Development Office if you have questions or for further information. Those attending can enter a draw to win an iPod Touch!**
- **Spring Fling 2009 “Let Your Light Shine”** - Thank you to everyone who donated, attended and volunteered for this year's Spring Fling Dinner and Auction! We are pleased to have raised more than \$30,000 to be used for library and software resources for our students and staff and for the opportunity to contribute in a meaningful way to the Calgary Interfaith Food Bank!
- **CCS Golf Tournament at the Links of GlenEagles June 19, 2009** - Registration forms and sponsorship opportunities will be sent home in April; this event has a waiting list for golfers every year, so be sure to register early! There are many ways to get involved as sponsors, donors, volunteers...contact the Development Office or Jason Kupery to be a part of this great event!
- Please plan to join us on **May 26** at as we celebrate our graduating Grade 12 students with the presentation of their Senior Projects, articulating their faith and how they can live as citizens of God's kingdom as they complete their High School career. This evening will include an informal dinner, fine arts displays from Preschool to Grade 12, games and a time of fellowship for all!



www.calgarychristianschool.com

God's Children Making the World a Better Place

Elementary Campus
2839 49 Street SW
Calgary, AB T3E 3X9

Secondary Campus
5029 26 Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T3E 0R5

403.242.2896

ELEMENTARY



- All parents are welcome to join us for our FLIPT Chapel on Friday, April 17 at 12:40 pm. Our "flip" for the month will be "Forgive for Free". Come check it out!

ES Music Notes - BRAVO!

- The ES Choir performed at the Southern Alberta Choralfest, receiving an excellent adjudication. Both Handbell Choirs received "Superior" and "Excellent" ratings at the Kiwanis Music Festival. Our Senior Bell Choir was also awarded a \$100.00 Scholarship and an award entitled "Adjudicator's Choice for the Most Artistic Performance of a Handbell Choir". As importantly, the students in our ES extra-curricular music programs were excellent ambassadors for CCS as they demonstrated courtesy, respect and a dedication to learning during these festivals. God has truly blessed our school with exceptional children!
- Please mark your calendar for these musical performances in April:
 - Wednesday, April 22: CCS Spring Choir and Handbell Concert at Emmanuel CRC with ES/MS/HS Choirs and both Handbell Choirs
 - Wednesday, April 29: Elementary School Choir and Handbell Choirs to the Jesus Loves You Society



SECONDARY CAMPUS

- **Up, up and away!** Please pray for the high school staff and students who will be flying off to Belize, and Italy and Greece over the Spring Break. May God use us to be His "light-bearers" and grant us safety as we travel. In Belize, work will be done on a building that has been destroyed by termites and on the clean up of a kitchen that burnt to the ground in recent weeks; please pray that the groups from CCS can truly be a blessing in many ways.
- **Welcome back** to Mrs. Dionne Simmonds who has spent the last 12 months on a maternity leave. She will resume her duties in the high school on April 14. A big **Thank You** to Ms. Rook who filled in during that time and will remain at the school as one of our substitute teachers for the rest of the school year.
- **Congratulations** to Margaret Numan (HS teacher) and Bill Lindemulder who were married on March 21!
- **High School Parent/Teacher conferences** will be held April 23 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. Please call the Secondary office to book your appointment.
- Mme. Chrest's French classes would like to make use of some old magazines, dice, game money, small hand mirrors (like old compacts) and large "dress up" clothes/shoes (ie. fairly large so the clothes can fit everyone). If you have any of these items please send them to the Secondary Campus to Christina Chrest's attention. Thank you so much!
- Congratulations to **Nathan Oostenbrink!** Nathan won the CCS Middle School challenge and was one of the City of Calgary winners, leading to being invited to participate in the Provincial Championship of the Canadian Geography Challenge in Edmonton on April 18!

Secondary Music Notes

- All the MS and HS bands and choir performed at various music festivals in town. The choirs performed at Choralfest, put on by the Alberta Choral Federation. The bands performed at the Alberta International Band Festival at the University of Calgary and Ernest Manning high school. Thanks are due to all the chaperones who came along to help.
- Numerous CCS students competed at the Kiwanis Music Festival; many winning their classes and receiving opportunities to play in the showcase concert or being presented with scholarships.
- Preparations for the senior high music tour to Musicfest Canada are in high gear and many students and parents have been involved in raising funds for this fantastic opportunity. Please consider assisting us financially in any number of ways: RBC points redemption program (please contact Mr. VanderWoude), ongoing orders of the Jivin' Java coffee/tea/hot chocolate or simply making a personal or corporate donation.
- **Orders for annual plants for your garden can be made by emailing rick.vanderwoude@pallisersd.ab.ca prior to April 3. Check out the CCS website under the "Fine Arts" tab for the order form with all the possibilities. Profits from the sale of these plants will also be directed to funding the Musicfest trip!**



CCS Main Stage - "Little Women"

- Many thanks are due to the enormous contributions of volunteers for costuming, set construction, stage and lighting, the playing and conducting of the music to accompany the show, as well as to the actors and their families for their commitment and dedication to this CCS Main Stage production.

CCS Cougars

- The basketball season has drawn to a close, with our teams making a good showing at all levels. Many thanks are due to all the coaches and staff sponsors for their volunteer time and commitment to CCS Athletics.
- Badminton season has begun and will continue through April - be sure to come and cheer on our Cougars!

VISIT WWW.CALGARYCHRISTIANSCHOOL.COM FOR MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE MAIN STAGE PRODUCTION, OUR MUSIC AND ATHLETIC DEPARTMENTS!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Readers and/or Scribes for both the ES and MS/HS** are needed for achievement and end of term exams, starting in mid May to the end of June. Exact dates and times will be published in the next issue of Bridges and on the Volunteer page on our Website at the end of April. Please contact Janet for more information or to add your name to this list.
- The **ES Hotdog Lunch Program** is looking for 2 volunteers who are willing to add their name to our substitute list. Volunteers are occasionally needed to fill in on Wednesdays from 11:00 am -12:45 pm, preparing hotdogs.

Please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Janet DeGraaff at 403-242-2896 ext. 338
or jdegraaff@csce.net to volunteer or get further information.

PARENT ACTION COUNCIL

WE NEED YOUR INPUT! FINAL MEETING TUESDAY MAY 5, at 1:30 pm at the Elementary School Campus.

- We have a number of topics to cover concerning events, and your input is vital to the program for our next school year. Just because it's been done before, doesn't mean it will keep being done, or done in the same way!

On the agenda is the Welcome Back to School Bar-B-Que, Country Fair and Fundraising!

- Any and all suggestions, comments and ideas are welcome as plans are put in place. Do you attend? Do you volunteer? Do you and your children love these events? Or not? What would YOU do to make them better? Would you have them at all? It's all up for discussion! Your ideas would be greatly welcomed as we strive to make these events that families will not want to miss.



We are looking forward to discussing these topics on May 5! If you can't attend the meeting, but have any thoughts you'd like to share with us, please e-mail PAC at parentcouncil@csce.net.

COMMUNITY NEWS

- **Board Nominations** - The Board of the Calgary Society for Christian Education consists of nine members who serve a three year term. Elections are held at the Spring membership meeting, scheduled for May 7, 2009. This year, we have three vacancies to fill. If you have a passion for helping to achieve and develop the vision and mission of the school or know of someone who does, we would really like to hear from you. Time commitment is a minimum of 80 hours per year. If you would like further insight into Board functions and role, or to submit potential names, please email board@csce.net.
- **HS Construction class is selling split firewood for \$15.00 a bundle to raise funds for their Service Learning trip to Belize. Please contact Phil Bonk to arrange for pick up at the Secondary Campus!**
- **Parents who Pray** meets every Tuesday from 9:00 -10:00 am at the Elementary Campus in room 206 - please join us! Prayer requests are welcome at any time by contacting Karen Burgis at 403.247.8627 or kdb1@telus.net. **March 31 & April 7** - Spring Break, no prayer meeting. **April 14:** Grade 1 students and teachers Susan Bowen, Grace Ermtter, Bonnie Kissack; Development Office, Catherine Feenstra; **April 21:** Grade 9 students and teachers Jeff Adema, Rudy deGroot, Vera Her and MS teachers Christina Chrest and Pearl Nieuwenhuis; **April 28:** Grade 6 students and teachers Mark Heppner, Carrie Vandermeer, Joline Olson; Volunteer Coordinator Janet DeGraaff; Maintenance Staff Arnold Zwart, Nico Abma, Ron Dees, Jose Barahona, John Maz and Rich Stephens
- The Southern Alberta Autism Consortium will have an information table, free snacks, give-a-ways & draw, and children's activities at **Lethbridge Center Mall** on **April 2, 2009 from 10:30 - 1:30 pm** to promote autism awareness. For more information about this event, email helen.irwin@pallisersd.ab.ca. For more info about autism, see www.autismspeaks.org.

GOD'S CHILDREN MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

HEROS Hockey - Senior Project

On Monday, March 2, 23 teachers, students and community members came together to play hockey for 9 straight hours! The purpose of this marathon was to raise money for a charity by the name of HEROS. HEROS is an organization that raises money to provide hockey to kids in less privileged neighbourhoods throughout Canada. This organization uses hockey to promote self esteem and gives kids a chance to play hockey who may not have had the opportunity otherwise. This charity was chosen by Tyson McCombs, a Grade 12 student at CCS. Tyson organized the entire event and asked the participants to raise funds for HEROS. This was Tyson's senior project and he did an excellent job. In total the event raised \$2000.00 which Tyson personally delivered during a HEROS ice time. He was told the money will be used to allow other young people to attend the Jarome Iginla fantasy hockey camp!

Grade 8 Boys Basketball Team

On February 23, 2009 the Grade 8 boys basketball team participated in a fund-raiser for the CJ92 Kids Fund. The boys each shot 100 foul shots and ran 50 times around the gym. Through this effort and sponsorship by family and friends, the boys raised \$678 that was donated to the CJ92 Kids Fund. When the boys delivered the funds to CJ92, they were treated to a tour of the radio station, including meeting some of the on-air staff and were advised as to how the funds would be distributed. Good work, boys!

STUDENT VOICES

[The Secret Lives of Girls](#)

On March 5, the grade 8 and 9 classes were confronted with the realities of bullying through the dramatic production ***The Secret Lives of Girls***. This production, presented by Kate Andrews High School students, and hosted by Glenmore Christian Academy, gave the students a poignant and realistic portrayal of bullying, a destructive force that very easily hides behind the veneer of sweet girl talk and fashionable clothing. Here is what some of the students had to say after attending:

- "I learned to not bully; to live for Jesus; to view my peers as the 'light-bearers' they are; and to help ignite that light until they become a beacon of God."
- "Though somewhat overdramatic, I found the ***Secret Lives of Girls*** to hold a lot of truth. Girls can be extremely ruthless, using and stepping over people for a gain of popularity. Bullying may seem like a small problem, but it can escalate into something extreme, such as a hate organization like the Neo-Nazis. I thought that the play was astutely done..."
- "The Secret Lives of Girls" was an amazing play. It was well done and accurate. Being a girl, I could tell that many, if not all, of the situations acted were realistic. The activities we did after the play also helped enforce the message of the play."
- "I thought that this drama was very eye-opening. It showed everyone either what they were doing or what was happening in the lives of girls. I hope this play will give some people the courage to stop any bullying that might happen at our school."
- "The Secret Lives of Girls" was a very powerful play. Girls can be very hurtful when they want to. Many people think that girls are kind and innocent, but this play showed that this is not always true. Girls can be just as hurtful as guys, although the bullying often takes on different forms, and I feel ashamed to think that I do some of those things without thinking about it."

[Dr. Eva Olsson - Holocaust Survivor](#)

On March 17, MS students listened to a presentation at Master's Academy by Dr. Eva Olsson, a survivor of the Holocaust. The students were impacted deeply by her words, as you can see by their comments:

- "She spoke about her teen years. The life at the camps. Eva was a very strong Jew and never had a doubt that God would come through and shine His light. We could learn something from her. Hold on to your faith, like she did, even through the worst times. She only hopes that we as people, we as the next generation, can lose hatred and replace it with love."
- "One thing she made very clear was that through all the tough experiences of losing her family, going to Auschwitz, she never once gave up hope. I think many of us were moved by her fascinating stories and will remember those stories for the rest of our lives."
- "...as I heard her story, I could really see God in her life. The Holocaust is an awful thing, but it is important to learn about these things, and hearing her story really changed my perspective. "Never take family for granted", she told us. Her story has really touched my heart, and I hope it will touch yours."

COUNSELOR'S CORNER Marcia Hogg, Family School Liaison Counselor 403-771-4365

Children Online : Adapted from Helpful Hints for Parents from American Academy of Child - Adolescent Psychiatry

The rapid growth of online services has added a new dimension to modern computing. Children now have access to an almost endless supply of information and opportunity for interaction. However, there can be real risks and dangers for an unsupervised child/teen. The ability to "click" from one area to another appeals to a child's natural impulsivity and curiosity.

Most parents teach their children not to talk to strangers, not to open the door if they are home alone, and not to give out information on the telephone to unknown callers. Most parents also monitor where their child/teen is going, who their friends are, and what TV shows, books or magazines they are exposed to. However, many parents don't realize that the same level of guidance and supervision must be provided for their online experience. Most chat rooms and social networking sites are completely unsupervised. Your child or teen will not know if they are "talking" with another child or a child predator pretending to be a child or teen. Furthermore, "cyber-bullying" is rampant on such sites.

Some of the other risks/problems include:

- Children accessing areas that are inappropriate or overwhelming
- Information that promotes hate, violence, or pornography
- Children being misled and bombarded with intense advertising
- Being invited to register for prizes when playing games
- Providing personal information that compromises an entire family's safety
- Hours spent online are time lost from developing real social skills



For a safe and educational online experience, parents should:

- Limit time spent online
- Keep the computer(s) in a public area of the house
- Teach that talking in a "chat room" is the same as talking to strangers
- Discuss the nature of cyber-bullying
- Teach kids to never give out personal information
- Spend time with your child exploring the sites they visit to supervise activity
- Make use of parental control features offered with your online service
- Teach them to **NEVER** agree to meet someone they have met online
- Remind kids that too much emphasis on online communication does not prepare children or teens for real interpersonal relationships.



April 2009

“God’s Children Making the World a Better Place”



UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 5 PAC Meeting
- May 5 SLEC Meeting
- May 6 Banking Day
- May 6-8 Grade 9 Trip
- May 7 SPRING SOCIETY MEETING**
- May 12 CDC Meeting
- May 13 SOC Meeting
- May 14 FAC Meeting
- May 14 **MS NO SCHOOL P/T Conf.**
- May 15 NO SCHOOL
- May 18 NO SCHOOL
- May 19 CSCE Board Meeting
- May 20 Banking Day
- May 22 Gr. 10 & 11 NO SCHOOL
- Senior Project Marking Day
- May 26 Senior Project Presentations with Fine Arts Night and End-of-Year Celebration

ES—Elementary School (ECS–6)
 MS—Middle School (Gr. 7-9)
 HS—High School (Gr. 10-12)

CDC—Community Development Council
 SOC—School Operations Council
 SLEC—Student Life and Education Council
 FAC—Finance Advisory Committee
 PAC - Parent Action Council

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun
		1	2	3	4/5
	6	7	8	9	10
				 Good Friday	 Happy Easter He is Risen!
	13	14	15	16	17
		WELCOME BACK TO CLASS! Touring Tuesday 9 am - 4 pm Parents Who Pray 9:00 am ES SLEC Meeting 4:30 pm Secondary Campus CDC Meeting 7:00 pm Secondary Campus	 Banking Day HS Chapel 11:25 am Emmanuel CRC		MS Chapel 12:40 pm Emmanuel CRC
	20	21	22	23	24
		Touring Tuesday 9 am - 4 pm Parents Who Pray 9:00 am ES CSCE Board Meeting 7:00 pm Secondary Campus	HS Chapel 11:25 am Emmanuel CRC Spring Choral Concert 7:00 pm Emmanuel CRC	HS Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00 - 8:00 pm Secondary Campus “Money Matters” information evening 7:00 pm Secondary Campus	
	27	28	29	30	
			HS Chapel 11:25 am Emmanuel CRC		