



JOINING OUR HOMES AND OUR SCHOOL

**Parent Orientation Meetings 7:00 pm**

We strongly encourage families who are new to CCS to attend these presentations

**All families will benefit from the information regarding CCS policies and our handbook being offered, as well as the time to meet the staff and visit classrooms.**

**Tues. Sept. 8 Middle/High School - Secondary Campus**

**Wed. Sept. 9 Elementary School - Elementary Campus**

**Dedication Service and Back to School Dinner**

**Friday, September 11 at 6:00 pm, Secondary Campus**

**All students, parents and families are welcome, no tickets required!**

**RSVP is not necessary, but is appreciated for planning purposes - please email [cfeenstra@csce.net](mailto:cfeenstra@csce.net) with the number attending.**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Scott Hickling ext. 320 [shickling@csce.net](mailto:shickling@csce.net)**

- On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors, I wish to welcome all of our students, teachers, staff and volunteers to another exciting year at Calgary Christian School. This summer has been a very busy one, once again! Gymnasiums at both campuses have had their floors refinished, we have new windows at the Elementary, the Secondary staff room has had a face-lift, the furnaces at the ES have been replaced and number of other projects have been completed. With the help of a tremendous group of students, Mr. Zwart and his team cleaned, polished and painted from one end of our school to the other! We are very much looking forward to another year of growing and learning at Calgary Christian!
- H1N1 Preparedness: As the flu season approaches this fall, we will be adding more information to our website and newsletters. I wish to stress that we have action plans and information prepared to share with our staff and students regarding their health.
- We are continuing our efforts to ensure the safety of our students at both campuses. Parking for pick up and drop off of Elementary students will be at the Emmanuel CRC parking lot ONLY. There is to be no dropping of students on 30 Avenue, 49 or 50 Street. At the Secondary Campus, we have converted to an "idle-free" zone, and appreciate a drop-and-go for delivery or pick up of any students. Please remember also that there is no parking at the main doors of the Secondary.
- As a Society, we were pleased to host a teacher retreat and team building time in Canmore on August 24 and 25. The relationships that were built and renewed form a great foundation for this upcoming school year!
- A new Christian Schools International curriculum for ECS-Grade 6 was introduced at a leadership conference in San Francisco in July. Both campus principals and myself attended and came away with great information and positive energy from the sessions offered.
- A warm welcome to our new staff members: Kelsey Baldwin (Secondary Music), and Susan Reimer (Preschool Aide), and to those returning - Ann DeGelder (ES Learning Assistant), Karen Meyer (ES Learning Assistant), Nicki Rehn (Grade 9) and Elissa Strem (Secondary Resource).
- As a community, we wish to extend our Christian condolences to the Schaap family on the passing of Mr. Alex Schaap, father and uncle to CCS elementary students. Our prayers are with you.
- Our sympathies also go to the Nederlof family on the loss of Mr. Len Nederlof, an alumni parent of CCS and long time supporter of Christian education.

**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

# CAMPUS UPDATES

Please note that CCS is a peanut-free school. We ask that students not bring snack or lunch items that contain peanuts for the safety and health of those with allergies!

## ELEMENTARY

- **Wednesday, October 7 is Student Photo Day** at the ES- bring your best smiles!
- **Elementary School Choir** (Grades 4-6) will hold rehearsals on Tuesdays and Thursdays during lunch recesses; led by Anita Perla. **Handbell Choirs** (Grades 5, 6 and MS) will be lead by Ms. Bray. Some choir members were determined in June, but there is space for more ringers to join. Information and forms will be sent home with students, and they are encouraged to participate in these extra-curricular opportunities.
- **Math Olympiads** for Grades 4-6 needs a parent volunteer to help run the program for 2009-2010. The time commitment is one lunch hour per week from September to March. The highlights for students are five monthly contests, given from November to March, which provide an incentive for students to intensify their study of math. You must love math and be able to provide instruction and encouragement! Check out <http://www.moems.org/DearNewPICO.htm>, and email Serena Berno, Gifted and Enrichment Consulting Teacher, at [serena.berno@pallisersd.ab.ca](mailto:serena.berno@pallisersd.ab.ca)

## SECONDARY

- **Friday, September 18 is Student Photo Day** for Middle and High School Students
- The parent meeting for the France-Spain trip (March 25-April 3, 2010) will be on Thursday, September 17 at 7:00 pm in the IRC at the Secondary. This meeting is for students who have signed up or are interested in going on the trip, and their parents.

## DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Catherine Feenstra ext. 352 [cfeenstra@csce.net](mailto:cfeenstra@csce.net)

- **Touring Tuesdays at CCS!** Beginning September 22, every Tuesday is an Open House at Calgary Christian School from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Please encourage family and friends that would like to see Christian Education in action to visit us or contact Coordinator Lynn Parkin at 403.242.2896 ext. 312 or by email at [admissions@csce.net](mailto:admissions@csce.net).
- **Christian Credit Union Student Banking Program** will resume **Wednesday, September 23**, please see the information on page 3 regarding this program. New accounts can be opened at any time throughout the school year; for further information, please contact Catherine in the Development Office.
- **CCS School Directory** will be available soon; those interested in advertising in this resource for Society members and staff can contact Catherine for more details!
- Grandparents, alumni and their parents and others who support CCS are invited and encouraged to join the Calgary Society for Christian Education as **Supporting Members** or participants in the **Advocates Circle**. Membership forms and details are available from the Development Office.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

- **Students with medical or allergy concerns must file a new form each year with the office, please ensure we have updated information for your child!**
- **Parents who Pray** meet every Tuesday from 9 -10 am starting on September 8 at the Elementary Campus - please join us! Prayer requests are welcome at any time by contacting Karen Burgis at 247-8627 or [kdb1@telus.net](mailto:kdb1@telus.net).
- **Parent/Student Handbook for 2009-2010** is available at [www.calgarychristianschool.com](http://www.calgarychristianschool.com) under "School Documents"; printed copies will be available at both offices, or by contacting Catherine Feenstra in the Development Office at 403-242-2896 ext. 352, or by email at [cfeenstra@csce.net](mailto:cfeenstra@csce.net).
- **Each month, Bridges, teacher communication and many other pieces of information are conveyed by email from CCS, if you are not receiving these communications, please contact us.** Some email providers, such as Yahoo and Hotmail, do not usually accept our Society-wide emails, if you have an alternative account, please contact the office with the details!

## VOLUNTEERS Janet DeGraaff ext. 338 [jdegraaff@csce.net](mailto:jdegraaff@csce.net)

- If you are interested in assisting with preparations for the Back-to-School dinner scheduled for September 11, please email Janet. We require volunteers to assist with food preparation, set up and clean up, both prior to and during the event.
- The **CCS Volunteer Opportunities Form** was sent home today with the youngest child in your family. Please consider how you can serve with your time and talents and return the form to the school by **September 18, 2009**.
- With all parents having the potential to supervise and interact with children at Calgary Christian School, we require everyone to have a current Calgary Police Service Security Clearance and an Intervention Record Check from Alberta Social Services on file. Details are included with the Volunteers Opportunities Package.
- If you have any questions please call Janet DeGraaff, Volunteer Coordinator at 242-2896 ext 338 or contact her by email at [jdegraaff@csce.net](mailto:jdegraaff@csce.net).

## PARENT NEWS

The **Parent Action Council (PAC)** values your ideas and input. It is our prayer that we will double the size of the PAC this year in order to gain the opinions and contributions of more CCS parents. No volunteer commitment is required, just your thoughts!

**Join us on Wednesday, September 30 at 1:30 pm at the Elementary Campus. Children are welcome.**

### So You Think You Can't Dance - Space is filling quickly – Register soon!!

A series of Saturday date-nights for parents begins on September 26 (8 - 9:30 pm). You will learn the Fox Trot, Swing and either the Salsa or Cha Cha. The instructor is an engineer by day, and long-time dancing instructor at the U of C in his spare time. The pace of learning is slow enough that anyone (even those of you with two left feet) will be successful. Cost is \$80 per couple for 6 lessons. We will be dancing in the Commons area at the High School. A vote will be taken at the first class to determine if we will dance on Thanksgiving weekend and Halloween, but we will have a total of 6 classes. Older teens are welcome also welcome to attend. If you have questions about the class content or your abilities, you are encouraged to contact the instructor - Tibor Kaldor at 403-399-0123 or kaldort@shaw.ca. **Please register in advance** as space is limited by e-mailing leannetiberio@shaw.ca.



### Extra-Curricular Clubs

Many of you parents have a hobby that you are passionate about. How about sharing that with a few students over a lunch break or after school? You decide when it fits into your schedule – it can be a one time offering or it could last several weeks. We'd love to expose the students to a wide variety of things – chess, skipping, journaling, sketching, photography, running/jogging, beading – the sky's the limit! Please contact parentcouncil@csce.net if you are interested in exploring this possibility!

**THANK YOU** to all the volunteers and Ambassador Families who made our first ever "Twas 4 Nights B4 School Starts" so successful. Hundreds of people enjoyed brownie sundaes and visiting with old friends and new. Looks like this could become an annual event!!!

## CHRISTIAN CREDIT UNION STUDENT ACCOUNTS

Students at Calgary Christian School have the opportunity to open and deposit to a bank account in their name at the Christian Credit Union, learning about money management, stewardship, and the rewards of setting financial goals and meeting them! Some of the benefits of this program include students being eligible for a savings bonus of up to \$5.00 per school year if savings goals are met each month. CCS is pleased to partner with the Christian Credit Union in delivering this service to our students and we look forward to helping you reach your goals again this school year!

For those who do not yet hold an account, we encourage students in ECS through Grade 12 to open one with the Christian Credit Union and become partners in learning about savings, stewardship and money management with their "Fat Cat" (ECS to Grade 6) and "Head Start" (Grade 7-12) accounts.



On the first and third Wednesday of every month, volunteers will be available to receive money that the students wish to deposit into their account. At the Elementary Campus, volunteers will visit each classroom, and at the Secondary Campus students can leave their deposits with the Business Office. Calendars of banking days will be provided to all students who open accounts, and the dates will be posted on the monthly CCS calendar included with Bridges.

Savings goals for students are set at \$1.00 per grade per month (for example: Grade 3 students would strive to save \$3.00 per month, Grade 10 students would set their sights on \$10.00), and students will be rewarded by the Credit Union for each month they achieve their goal. A bonus of \$0.50 is paid by CCU for each month this goal is reached throughout the school year, over and above any regular interest the account has earned.

Every three months, the Christian Credit Union will send a statement with account details directly to each account holder, and all regular banking services are available by request – debit cards, electronic transfers, automatic deposits etc. These services may be of special interest to our MS and HS students as they could have any pay cheques they earn from part time jobs deposited directly into this account and thereby satisfy their goal quite quickly! Transfers from other accounts held by the students or others are also eligible deposits.

There are also some great benefits to the school as CCU will donate \$5.00 to Calgary Christian for each account that is opened by one of our students, and the bonuses that are paid out to students for reaching their savings goals are matched and donated to CCS.

### Our first banking day will be Wednesday, September 23!

If you already hold an account, be sure to bring in your deposit that day to meet your September goal; new accounts can be opened with a minimum \$5.00 deposit and the information requested on the attached form.



## CCS Theme Verse 2009-2010



'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

Matthew 22:37-39

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Welcome back to another school year! Let me share with you my role in the Calgary Christian School and introduce myself. I am **Marcia Hogg**, and as the **Family School Liaison Counselor**, I am honored to be serving this community by helping children and families cope with difficulties they are having in their lives, either at home or at school. I can direct families to services outside the school community and as needed, make referrals to agencies such as Mental Health, psychological services, medical clinics, and social services. In many cases, I provide support and information through consultation. As a Christian, I am committed to offering care and support that honors Christ and cares deeply for individuals.

The Family School Liaison Counselors in Palliser School Division are responsible for more than one school. **I currently serve in both CCS campuses** and at Menno Simons Christian School. This means that although I have a schedule for each specific school, I am occasionally called away to deal with issues in their other schools. Counseling is by a referral basis and sessions are booked following an intake meeting.

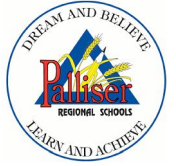
To clear up any misconceptions, counseling is not a consequence or punishment for misbehaving students. People often are under the assumption that we discipline students, but **our role is to provide behavior support and counsel to students**, only after teachers have dealt with the initial behaviors. Teachers, principals, and parents may refer students about whom they have concerns, and parents with children under the age of 15 must give their permission for services to commence, at which point an intake will be scheduled. Students cannot be forced to see a counselor; rather, the process is collaborative and non-threatening. Information gathered in counseling sessions is not automatically shared with teachers and/or parents and is subject to confidentiality laws. Permission to release information must be obtained from the parent before information can be shared with other parties.

In all cases, the "best interests" of the client takes priority when assessing options in counseling. This means that if there is some debate concerning what direction counseling needs to go, the best interests of the client will be held above all else.

It is important to note that while all counselors abide by the same general guidelines, each has their own strengths, therapeutic values, and abilities. If you have any questions concerning the counseling services in at Calgary Christian School, or if you would like to refer your child, please contact me, Marcia Hogg, at 403-771-4365 or at [marcia.hogg@pallisersd.ab.ca](mailto:marcia.hogg@pallisersd.ab.ca).



# September 2009




"God's Children Making the World a Better Place"

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Oct 7 ES Students Photo Day
- Oct 9 ES Interim Report Cards
- Oct 12 Thanksgiving **NO SCHOOL**
- Oct 13 PD Day **NO SCHOOL**
- Oct 22-23 **NO SCHOOL**
- CEA Teachers Convention
- Oct 28-30 MS Parent Teacher Conferences
- Oct 30 **MS NO SCHOOL**

Council Meeting Dates for October will be announced in the next issue of Bridges

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun
	1	2	3	4	5/6
7 <b>Labour Day NO SCHOOL</b>	8 Parents Who Pray 9:00 am ES  <b>6:30 pm MS/HS Parent Orientation Secondary Campus</b>	9  <b>6:30 pm ES Parent Orientation Elementary Campus</b>	10  <b>Grade 12 students to Frontier Lodge Sept. 10 - 12</b>	11  <b>Dedication Service and Back-to-School Dinner 6:00 pm Secondary Campus</b>	12/13
14	15 Parents Who Pray 9:00 am ES	16	17	18 <b>MS/HS Student Photos</b> 	19/20
21 <b>Palliser Professional Day NO SCHOOL</b>	22 Touring Tuesday 9 am - 4 pm  Parents Who Pray 9:00 am ES	23  <b>Student Banking Day</b>	24	25	26/27
28	29 Touring Tuesday 9 am - 4 pm  Parents Who Pray 9:00 am ES	30 <b>PAC Meeting 1:30 pm Elementary Campus</b>			

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

CEA—Christian Educators Association