

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**Scott Hickling ext. 320 shickling@csce.net**Operation Christmas Child**

Friday, November 20 at Calgary Christian School was a day filled with blessings! Our Elementary gym was filled to the brim with Elementary and Middle School students, staff, parents, grandparents, community members and more than 1200 shoeboxes!! Our assembly began with worship and the EMS Honour Guard, and continued with stories of children who have received the boxes in the past, letters and prayers from our students for the children that will receive this year's gifts, and huge thank yous to everyone involved. After the assembly, the field was filled with excitement as everyone piled the boxes into the STARS and HAWCS helicopters and the EMS vehicles, including a 'vintage' ambulance that was rescued from a farmer's field. The gracious volunteers from Samaritan's Purse, EMS, STARS and the Calgary Police Service answered questions and let everyone explore the amazing new playground equipment!



Our school community was honoured to have the opportunity to partner with Samaritan's Purse for this campaign, and for our students to really live out our theme verse of Matthew 22:37-39 in such a direct and meaningful way. Thank you to all who contributed and helped us to surpass our goal, and more importantly, for making a difference in the lives of so many children.



- **Scholarship from Christian Credit Union:** We are pleased to accept a new \$750 scholarship opportunity for our Grade 12 students. Eligible students will be members of the Credit Union (students having bank accounts through our student banking program are all members) and submit an essay outlining their accomplishments, volunteerism and goals; preference will be given to those attending a business related program at a post-secondary institution. Please speak with Vice Principal Jason Kupery for details and deadlines.
- **Calendar changes:** Changes have been made to the school calendar. Provincial Achievement tests and exam dates have been adjusted by Alberta Education and please note that the Stampede Breakfast will be June 11, the Grade 9 Celebration will be June 21 and the Grade 12 graduation will be June 25. Please see the new calendar attached to this issue of Bridges and posted at www.CalgaryChristianSchool.com.

DEVELOPMENT OFFICECatherine Feenstra ext. 352 cfeenstra@csce.net

- **BELIEVE, LEARN AND GROW:** We are very excited about the planned renovations and upgrades to our campuses and are depending on YOUR donations! United as a Christian school community we can accomplish great things. As always, there is the opportunity to give in other areas as well - program support, financial assistance for students and projects that you may personally feel passionate about. Please feel free to contact the Development Office at any time for further information on any of our plans!
- **ECS and Preschool Registration:** Applications for the 2010-2011 school year will be accepted at any time and processed in January to determine class placements and schedule any required interviews. Please contact Admissions Coordinator Lynn Parkin to request an enrolment package at ext. 312 or by email at admissions@csce.net.
- **Student Banking:** All students making deposits into their Christian Credit Union accounts in December and January can enter a draw to win Calgary Flames tickets! New accounts may be opened at any time, please contact Catherine for all the details. This is a great way to educate your children about the value of saving and teach financial stewardship!

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

ELEMENTARY

- **Music Notes:**

- ~ Sincere appreciation is extended to the parents who assisted with Choir/Handbell Choir uniforms for our Remembrance Day Chapel on November 10.

- ~ The Christmas Concert will be held on Wednesday evening, December 9, at 7:00 pm in Emmanuel Christian Reformed Church. This year, the Christmas Concert will include presentations from Division One students (ECS, Grades 1, 2 and 3) as well as our Elementary School Choir and Junior and Senior Handbell Choirs. Please be watching for further information in the upcoming weeks.

- ~ In the spring, all Division Two students (Grades 4, 5 and 6), along with our Choir and Handbell Choirs, will be involved in celebrating the Easter season with music on April 28, at Emmanuel Christian Reformed Church. We are hoping this slight change to just one Christmas Concert evening will lighten the load for both parents and students during the busy pre-Christmas season and will offer our students the opportunity to more fully explore the most important season of the Christian year, that of Christ's sacrifice and resurrection. If this format is successful and welcomed by our community, the Divisions will alternate doing either the Christmas or Easter Concerts in future years.



- **Beginner Skaters at CCS!** Kindergarten students at CCS are blessed to have school support to take part in a Learn to Skate program taught by instructors of Calgary Parks and Recreation. In order to have every child ready to start lessons in mid-January, we are looking for the donation of Kindergarten size appropriate skates and helmets. In the past, students have been allowed to use their bicycle helmets but starting this year, they will only be allowed on the ice with approved HOCKEY helmets. If you have skates or helmets that your children have outgrown – please consider donating/lending them or informing the ECS teachers if you have items for sale, so we can pass that information on to parents.
- **COOL! COLOURFUL! COMFORTABLE! COZY!** These are just a few of the comments being heard from elementary students as they enter the school library! Over the last year and a half we have been working on a library revival. Most of the new furniture has arrived and the students are enjoying reading on the couch, sitting in the sling back chairs, lounging on the seating sets and lying on the bright new carpet. They are also working at the new colourful student sized tables and chairs. We are delighted to have Mrs. Kooiker and Mrs. Fritschy running an excellent library program filled with story time, mini-activities tied in with curriculum and focusing on the exciting theme of the upcoming Olympics. We have purchased new story books and reading series. We have also added computers for student use that allow them to access the library database and do additional research. Next on the agenda is measuring out and setting up new book shelves as well introducing student created art work. Please do take some time to come and visit our newly decorated library and see the progress that is being made – we would LOVE to share with you about this exciting new adventure. If you are unable to visit, then we encourage you to take a look at our school website and check out the “before and after” photos. Thank you also for the generous support raised last year with our fundraiser at the Olympic Oval that has allowed for these items to be purchased. What a blessing!
- Remembrance Day: The ES students offered beautiful work as the classes focused on the recognition of the sacrifices made for our freedoms as they prepared for the Remembrance Day ceremony. Grade 1 student Joel Brander wrote this poem about the significance of the poppy:



A Poppy is to Remember

A poppy is to remember.

A poppy is to remember the war.

A poppy is to remember all of the people who died for us.

A poppy is to remind us to obey the laws.

A poppy is to remember to listen to our mom and dad.

SECONDARY

- The **HS Christmas Banquet and Dance** is on December 17. Tickets are \$15 and will go on sale the week of November 30.
- Those who ordered **poinsettias** can pick them up on December 9 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in the IRC.
- **Lost and found** articles will be put on display in the front foyer of the High School the week of December 14. After December 18 any unclaimed articles will be donated to a local homeless shelter.
- **Music Notes:**
 - ~ Congratulations! Grade 8 band student Chandler White and three friends have just won St. John's Music's Great Canadian Garage Band Contest. Chandler's band digitally videoed themselves performing and entered their final cut into the competition. Out of 30 bands across Canada Chandler's was placed in the top four by St. John's judges. It was then voted #1 by Canadians who voted at St. John's Music stores. The group won a myriad of prizes including Peavey sound equipment, a Yamaha bass, a drum set, and an electric guitar.
 - ~ **The Winter Choral Concert is coming up December 2** at 7pm. Choral teachers Ms. Baldwin and Ms. Her have opted for a change of venue and will be showcasing a selection of fantastic music in the **High School Commons**. Come out for a great evening of hot chocolate and singing to support our music students.
 - ~ Looking ahead, **January 13** is part two of our winter music concerts. Join **Bands from Grade 7-12** as they entertain you with a variety of music at **Emmanuel CRC**. Concert starts at 7:00 pm, and we would love to have you there.

COMMUNITY NEWS

- **Transportation:** If your students will not be riding the bus in the morning (due to illness etc.), please contact Willco directly at 403-242-1176. For planned absences and adjustments to bussing, please contact Transportation Coordinator Winnie Smith at the school 403-242-2896 ext. 318 or by email wsmith@csce.net.
- **Pure Math 30 Diploma Prep Course:** Students interested in tutoring to prepare for the Pure Math 30 diploma exam are invited to participate in a course to be held at CCS and facilitated by Elite Tutoring from January 8 - 20, 2010. Cost for the course is \$315, and students must register prior to December 18 to confirm by contacting Michael Faragalla of Elite Tutoring at 403-830-8146.
- **CCS Hockey Program:** Registration for students in Grades 1 - 7 has begun, please see the form attached to your classroom newsletter and on the school website for details.
- **Yearbook:** The Yearbook staff is always on the lookout for great photos! We are especially looking for photos of the volleyball season right now. Please send a flash drive or CD to the school to the attention of Mr. Westra, Megan Westra or Carissa Chrest to upload them, OR you can upload them directly to the yearbook site by following these steps:
 1. Visit <https://images.jostens.com/login>
 2. If necessary, enter username **400007764** and password **yearbook10**
 3. Browse your files to select the photos you wish to add
 4. Enter information about the photo and provide contact information for reference
 5. Click "save details"
- **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. **Dec 1:** Grade 6 Students and teachers Joline Olson and Carrie Vandermeer; Volunteer Coordinator Janet DeGraaff; Maintenance and Custodial Staff Arnold Zwart, Rich Stephens, Nico Abma, Ron Dees, Jose Barahona and John Maz **Dec 8:** HS Peer Advisory Groups and Teachers Mike Chrest, Kevin Francisco, Linda Delaney, Kelsey Baldwin, Margaret Lindemulder and Emmy Meetsma. **Parents Who Pray will resume on January 5, 2010!**
- Be sure to visit the Articles and Information tab at www.CalgaryChristianSchool.com to read the latest article from our Family School Liaison Counsellor, Marcia Hogg, titled 'How Can I Improve My Child's Self Esteem?'
- Students and chaperones traveling to **Belize** in the spring are collecting recycled drink containers on an ongoing basis at the Secondary Campus, please feel free to bring them anytime to the black trailer in the staff parking lot!



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

- **The High School Christmas Banquet will be held Dec 17** and volunteers are needed to assist in a variety of areas. Please contact Gwen Uittenbosch or Mike Chrest at the Secondary Campus for the details.
- **Resource Department**, Secondary Campus: **Readers and Scribes** will be needed to assist with Exams starting mid January. Please contact Janet DeGraaff in the Volunteer Office if you are interested in assisting.
- Please remember to sign in and obtain your Volunteer Identification Tag at the office each time you volunteer.
- Please remember to forward your completed Police Checks and Intervention Record Check (from Alberta Children's Services) as soon as possible. If you have not yet applied for these documents, please contact Janet for details on how to obtain them.

PARENT NEWS [Parent Action Council parentcouncil@csce.net](mailto:parentcouncil@csce.net)

- For more information, please contact Co-chairs Leanne Shannon or Leanne Tiberio at the Parent Council email shown above.
- We are focusing on creating a new and fun event for our entire school community. Our next couple of meetings will be spent brainstorming and planning for this special event. Your ideas would be warmly welcomed! The meetings are short and a great way to connect with other parents.

Please join us at our next meetings:

Wednesday, January 27

Wednesday, February 24

All meetings at 2:00 pm at the Elementary Campus.

Preschool aged children are welcome to attend and hang out together.



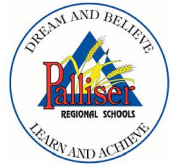
Thank you to all the students, parents, grandparents, staff and supporters that participated in the collection of shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child and helped to make our celebration such a success!





December 2009

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 4 First day of classes
- Jan 6 Banking Day
- Jan 8 ES Chapel
- Jan 13 MS Class Pictures
- Jan 13 Winter Band Concert
- Jan 18 HS Study Day
- Jan 19 HS Exams start
- Jan 20 Banking Day
- Jan 27 MS Parent/Teacher Conf.
- Jan 28 MS NO SCHOOL
- Jan 28 MS Parent/Teacher Conf.
- Jan 28 HS 2nd Semester start
- Jan 29 ES/MS NO SCHOOL

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun
	1 Touring Tuesday 9 am - 4 pm Parents Who Pray 9:00 am ES SOC Meeting Secondary Campus 7:00 pm	2  Student Banking Day MS/HS Chapel 11:25 am SECONDARY GYM Choir Concert Secondary Commons 7:00 pm	3 FAC Meeting Secondary Campus 7:00 pm	4 ES Chapel 12:40 pm ES Gym	5/6
7 SLEC/School Council Secondary Campus 4:30 pm	8 Touring Tuesday 9 am - 4 pm Parents Who Pray 9:00 am ES	9 HS Chapel 11:25 am Emmanuel CRC Elementary Christmas Concert ECS, Grades 1.2.3  Choir and Handbell Choir Emmanuel CRC 7:00 pm	10	11	12/13
14 CSCE Board Meeting 7:00 pm Secondary Campus	15 Touring Tuesday 9 am - 4 pm	16  Student Banking Day	17	18 Last day of classes MS/HS Chapel 12:40 pm Emmanuel CRC	19/20
21	22	23	24	25	26/27
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Christmas  Break  </div>					
28	29	30	31		First day of classes January 4, 2010
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Christmas  Break </div>					

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

Parent Action Council Grocery Card Order Form 2009-2010

Return this form to either ES or Secondary Office Date _____

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please find cheque(s) payable to CCS enclosed _____
 OR Please charge my Visa/Mastercard _____

Cardholder name _____

Card number _____ expiry date _____

Automatic Monthly Order

Please issue the following on the 1st 15th of each month beginning _____ and ending _____
(circle one)

<p style="text-align: center;">Safeway 8%</p> <p>_____ x \$20 = _____ _____ x \$50 = _____ _____ x \$100 = _____</p> <p style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Total \$ _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sobey's 7%</p> <p>_____ x \$50 = _____ _____ x \$100 = _____</p> <p style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Total \$ _____</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Co-Op 5%</p> <p>_____ x \$25 = _____ _____ x \$50 = _____ _____ x \$100 = _____ _____ x \$500 = _____</p> <p style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Total \$ _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Superstore 3%</p> <p>_____ x \$25 = _____ _____ x \$50 = _____ _____ x \$100 = _____ _____ x \$250 = _____</p> <p style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Total \$ _____</p>

One time order

<p style="text-align: center;">Safeway 8%</p> <p>_____ x \$20 = _____ _____ x \$50 = _____ _____ x \$100 = _____</p> <p style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Total \$ _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sobey's 7%</p> <p>_____ x \$50 = _____ _____ x \$100 = _____</p> <p style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Total \$ _____</p>
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Return this form to either ES or Secondary Office

Please hold my order for pick up at the Elementary Office _____
 Secondary Office _____

OR

Please send my order home with my child _____

Student's Name _____

Grade _____ Homeroom Teacher _____

Credit Card payments are subject to a 2.75% surcharge
 to cover costs from the credit card companies which can be receipted as a donation
 Please check here if you would like to receive a tax donation receipt for this fee _____