

Calvin Christian School Courier

547 West 5th St. Hamilton, ON L9C 3P7
905-388-2645 www.ccshamilton.ca
info@ccshamilton.ca



Friday, September 9, 2016

Volume 21.2

FROM THE DESK OF MR POSTMA

•The school year has begun! We had an exciting first day of school. At our opening assembly we meditated on our school theme: "Go ... for the glory of the Lord" (based on Matthew 4:19). We learned that it is important to follow Jesus to be taught by Him and transformed by Him so we are prepared to go out to fish for people. We appreciated the large turnout of parents, and especially welcomed our new families and their children to CCS.

•The staff had a productive preparatory week at the end of August. Please be sure to communicate your concerns and appreciation to your child's teacher as the school year unfolds. We are looking forward to working together with you for your child(ren). Your child's teacher can be reached via e-mail: 1stinitialfulllastname@ccshamilton.ca

• We extend our condolences to our international student manager, Mr. Won, whose mother recently passed away. She is now in glory. May the family be comforted.

• Concerning myself: Yes, I did have surgery again this past summer for recurring bladder cancer, and am now scheduled to go for treatments. Thank you for your prayers.

•Some business items:

- Do explore our website www.ccshamilton.ca We continue to fill our website with information. It should be your "first stop" if you are looking for forms, parent handbook, calendar, the Courier, and the latest news bulletin such as possible school cancellations. It is important that you register on the CCS website. By registering on our website, you will be granted access to classroom news and information as well as access to our secure forms.

- Please do submit the outstanding forms enclosed with our August Courier mailing as soon as possible.

-The CCS Telephone Directory should be ready soon. The

2016 Parent Handbook will see some minor changes and will be posted on the website. New families will receive a hard copy at our Orientation Evening (date to be determined).

STUDENT CUSTODIAN:

CCS has an opportunity of employment for our student custodial position, approximately 8 hours per week after school each day (3:30 - 5:00) where you will assist in cleaning the classrooms. Applicants must be at least 14 years old and attending secondary school. If you would like more details, or would like to apply, please send your resume to Jim Hosmar (jhosmar@ccshamilton.ca) by September 23.

Upcoming at CCS

BOD Executive Meeting	Tuesday, September 13
EDCOM	Tuesday, September 13
Back to School BBQ 5:45 to 6:15 pm visit the classrooms!	Friday, September 16
Boys' Soccer Tournament at HD	Tuesday, September 20
Girls' Soccer Tournament at HD	Thursday, September 22
Picture Day at CCS	
JKA, SKA, Gr. 1 - 4	Wednesday, September 28
JKB, SKB, Gr. 5 - 8	Thursday, September 29
Thanksgiving	Monday, October 10
Edifide Educators Convention (no school)...	Thursday and Friday October 27 and 28
CCS Bazaar	Saturday, November 12

- Special health needs and concerns should be communicated to the office immediately. You are reminded that CCS strives to be a peanut/nut free school.

 - Parents who would like to drive on field trips, class trips and other school related functions must complete a special form (Volunteer Driver Form #572.2) at the school office. If you have already completed one, please be sure to update it as needed. Your liability insurance should be \$2,000,000.

 - Parents needing the school's office to distribute prescribed medication must complete a form first (Administration of Medication #563.3) found on the website under secure forms.

 - The co-curriculum calendar (#571.3) will be posted under secure forms very soon. This calendar provides you with a quick look at special events your child may be involved in.

 - Students Accident Insurance forms have gone home today. Please mail the completed form directly to the insurance company.

 - In the August Courier, we asked those parents with custody situations to advise us accordingly – this includes defacto parents. We need to hear from you in order to be advised of our legal requirements. We are puzzled by the silence – there are several families who are not responding. Please see the Custody Arrangements document (#562.7) under secure forms on the website.

 - We do intend to proceed with chocolate bar sales involving those students who have paid for the chocolate bars as per our August newsletter and student fee form. The chocolate bars will come home next week.

 - We are planning to hold a CityKidz fund raiser in late October. More information to follow.

 - Class and individual pictures are scheduled for Sept. 28 and 29.

 - The staff intends to be more proactive in dealing with personal electronic devices. Our policy forbids the use of cell phones etc. by students on school property unless there is an emergency or teacher's permission has been obtained. The policy is located on our website under secure forms #552.2.

 - **Please avoid entering and exiting our school parking lot and bus loop during the restricted times (8:30-9:00 am and 3:00-3:30 pm).** Please use the Immanuel Church parking lot to drop-off and pick-up your child(ren). You will note that the signs in the bus loop forbid parking at any time by order of the Fire Inspector. Some people have been ticketed for parking in the loop. Furthermore, although the staff has been granted special permission to access the Hungarian Church parking lot next door, this permission has not be extended to parents. Please avoid entering their parking lot except for special events such as the Bazaar.

 - As some of you know, we have three new bus drivers. We welcome back Trish Vyn and welcome on board Gary Kikkert and Robin Scott. We thank and extend our best wishes to Donna Bunn, Allison DeHaan and Bev Brouwer. Allison filled in on an interim basis. Bev obtained other employment after serving us for 12 years.

 - Two teachers, Mrs. Heeg and Mrs. Eising, developed a program designed to help new students transition to CCS. The program is called **SHINE**, and it will start this September 14. It will be for all students from grades 1-8. A letter to the new students and for their parents should be forthcoming soon.
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Welcome Back

Kindergarten: We have greeted old friends and are beginning to make new friends. We are practicing routines and learning about "growing our brain." A year full of questions and wondering are ahead... W²

Grade 3A: Welcome from 3A! We've had a great first week in our classroom as we settle into new routines and schedules. I look forward to meeting parents next week Friday at our annual school barbecue. Be sure to regularly check our class webpage on the CCS website for updates and upcoming events. Have a blessed weekend! RVV

Grade 5A: Greetings from Grade 5A! We've had a great start to our new school year and are settling into our daily routines and procedures. We would like to welcome Claire, Ruby, Grace, and Sarah to our classroom. We hope that you may soon feel at home with us. Remember to check our classroom website for more detailed class news. Have a wonderful weekend! PV



Grade 7: On Friday, September 16th, weather permitting, grade 7A and 7B will spend some time getting to know each other better on a mini grade seven retreat at Mrs. Mantel's residence. We will leave the school by 9 am and return around 11 am. We could still use a few more parent chaperones. If you are able to join us, please email Mrs. Mantel. cmantel@ccshamilton.ca.

Last year's grade seven students were given the opportunity to write and illustrate a story and enter it in the Kayak Kids' Illustrated History Challenge. This contest is open to students from all over Canada. The top 25 stories were chosen and have been posted on Canada's History for Kids website. Congratulations to Oyin A. and Ruth Ann B. for having their stories chosen!! To read their entries and see their artwork, along with the other finalists, click here. CM

A Volunteer Orientation Session is planned for Thursday, September 22, at 12:45 in the CCS library. This session will explain what volunteering looks like at our school.



Volunteering is a wonderful way to be involved at Calvin Christian School. Each year, the staff and students are blessed by the countless hours and expertise that volunteers give. We especially need volunteers for our school library and in the classrooms. If you are interested in helping out or would like more information, please contact either Mrs. Van Voorst or Mrs. Eising at volunteer@ccshamilton.ca. We look forward to seeing you there!

Bus Patrols Students in grades 6 - 8 who currently ride the bus are invited to submit an application for bus patrol. Applications can be found on the school website (About Us - Transportation - Bus Patrol Application). Interested persons must sign up over the weekend. JH

Bus Transportation: The first week is now behind us, and we will be looking at the routes over the next couple of weeks to see if things can be improved. We service a large geographical area, and with that come many challenges, one of which is time. As we look forward, we want to make sure that we are serving the school community to the best of our ability while maintaining the highest regard for safety. This may mean that posted times may need to be altered somewhat to achieve our goals. You will be notified as soon as we are able to establish and address concerns that arise. We ask for your patience while the committee moves forward.

Cross Country: Students from grades 4 - 8 have been invited to sign up for cross country tryouts. All tryouts will take place next week at lunch on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. A team will be made over the following weekend. Those interested in trying out are expected to have appropriate clothing (ie. phys ed. clothes) and footwear (running shoes) for each tryout and subsequent practices. If you have any questions, please contact either Mr. Wensink (nwensink@ccshamilton.ca) or Mr. Hosmar (jhosmar@ccshamilton.ca).