



Calvin Christian School Courier

547 West 5th St., Hamilton, ON L9B 3P7
905-388-2645 www.ccsHamilton.ca info@ccshamilton.ca

Friday, August 6, 2019

Volume 3.1

From the Desk of Mr. Boonstra:



- Greetings CCS community! I hope that this first Courier of the 2019/20 school year finds you and your loved ones in good health and that you have been able to experience God's blessings over the summer months. I am excited to share some of our plans for the upcoming school year with you.
- Back in June the CCS faculty spent some time reflecting upon a theme for the upcoming school year and we settled on "Living Proof", based on 1 Timothy 4:12, where it says, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." A beautiful passage for a Christian school community, particularly for its students. We are excited about exploring how we can all be proof of God's love, and to share the good news with others. Please pray for us as we seek to be followers of Jesus.
- The upcoming school year promises to be one of excitement and challenge. With the membership approval to purchase the school building on Unity Side Road in Caledonia, a number of plans have been put into place to finalize the purchase and to establish a second campus on the property. This past summer I enrolled in the Van Lunen Program, which is an executive management course designed to provide lead administrators with the necessary skills to operate and manage a school or a school system. I was blessed to learn from some of the leading experts in Christian education, dealing specifically with best practices in school management. I also plan to do my final project on setting up a satellite campus. Stay tuned for more information from the Compass Committee and the CCS Board of Directors.
- Tuesday, September 3, is the first day of school and we will begin with an assembly at 9:20 a.m. You are invited to join us as we welcome students to our school! We plan to have staff members available to escort young and new students to their classrooms when they arrive. Jubilee and SK children will receive separate instructions regarding their first day and week at CCS.
- Enclosed with this Courier you should find the **class list(s), CCS 2019/2020 calendar, September calendar, co-curricular and media consent form, student information verification form, and TRIP forms. Students who need to purchase gym clothing can do so through a form found on our website, under the secure forms icon. Please return all forms to the office by Friday, September 6.** You can review all school forms on our website, also under secure forms.
- For the upcoming school year, we have a few staffing changes and additions. We welcome Miss DeVries to the grade 2 class, Ms. Champahom to the band instructor position, and Mrs. Breimer, who returns from her maternity leave (gr. 3). We wish Mrs. Taekema, Mrs. Vandenberg, and Mrs. Huizinga God's blessing as they go on maternity leave. We also welcome Mrs. Schinkel who will work as the school counsellor, and Ms. Peters and Mrs. Friedrich who are joining us as paraeducators.

UPCOMING AT CCS

Opening Assembly 9:20 am	Tuesday, Sept. 3
BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ	Friday, Sept. 13
Classroom Visit: 5:30 to 6:00 pm	
BBQ: 6:00 pm	
Ribbon Cutting (new playground): 6:30 pm	
Individual / Class Pictures Tuesday, Oct. 2 and Wednesday, Oct. 3	
SAVE THE DATE!	
CCS Bazaar	Saturday, November 16, 2019

NEW THIS YEAR!

We are pleased to announce that our school has joined Lunch Box Orders, a convenient online platform for parents who choose to order healthy meals for their children (at this point in time) once per week! Our milk program will also be using this system for delivery still two times per week. This program will be in place of our traditional "Special Lunch Days". There are no complex forms or missed deadlines as it is done online and is paperless and cashless! Some of the vendors we will include are Swiss Chalet, Topper's Pizza, Pita Pit, Subway, Quesada, Burger's Priest, and the Lunch Lady. More information will be sent home during the first week of school looking forward to a launch date of September 9 with the first special lunch being served on Wednesday, September 18. Stay tuned!



Before School Care Program (BSC): Our intent with this program is to make things a little easier for working parents. **The Before School Care Program will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 4.** It involves supervised care from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Parents can register their children on a *regular, occasional or as needed* basis by completing a form available on our website ... go to secure forms and see #730.2. Any child arriving before 8:25 a.m. should be registered into this program. There is no teacher supervision prior to 8:25 a.m. and enrolling your child(ren) into BSC will be necessary. The registration form indicates a reduced fee for enrolment after 8 a.m.

After School Care Program (ASC): We will resume this program on the first day of school. You are reminded that students must be picked up by **3:45 p.m.** otherwise they should be enrolled in the After School Care Program. A registration form is available on our website ... go to secure forms and see #730.1. You must register annually if you require this program. An ASC session is any time from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Please note supplies needed for September:

All students are reminded to have **indoor shoes** for inside the school building. White soles or scuff-less soles are preferred to keep the gym floor clear.

Kindergarten: Please label all belongings.

Grades 1-3: Grades 1-3: Pencils, erasers, rulers and markers will be supplied by the school. Students should provide high quality, sharpened pencil crayons, wax crayons and a glue stick. Please label each pencil crayon with your child's name. All students in grades 1 through 3 require a personal set of quality headphones, labeled with their name and brought to school in a labeled freezer ziplock bag. Please also label your child's clothes/accessories as much as possible.

Grades 4-6: Grades 4-6: Blue pens for notes (CCS will supply the first set of blue pens only), a red pen, pencil crayons, markers and glue sticks are needed. Grade 4 & 5 students will only need a protractor, and not a full geometry set. Grade 6 students are required to have a geometry set and a calculator. Grades 4 - 6 students are asked to bring their Bibles back to school if they brought them home for the summer, as well as their recorders.

A recorder will be given to grade 4 students. Replacements needed for grade 5 students may be purchased for \$6.00 from the office. Students are asked NOT to bring in their own binders from home. Students will need appropriate indoor shoes for P.E. as well as CCS gym uniform which consists of shorts and t-shirt with the CCS logo.

Grades 7-8: Large pencil case, pencil crayons, (NOT the erasable kind) pencils, scientific calculator, red pens, (school will supply first set of blue pens and rulers only), mechanical pencils and refill lead for them, two medium binders and no dividers (we will provide the dividers), 3 ringed paper, scissors, 1 glue stick and a highlighter. All grade 7 and 8 students require CCS gym uniforms. Please remember to bring Bibles back to school if they were taken home. More information will follow in a special newsletter.

Other Information:

1. The School Directory will be forwarded as soon as it is ready (probably mid September). The Parent Handbook will be updated on the website and a hard copy will ONLY be made available for new families and by special request. CCS respects the right to privacy and is committed to upholding the confidentiality and security of personal information. Personal information (such as name, address, gender, religious affiliation, ethnic origin) will only be disclosed for school related

purposes (such as the school directory). Other disclosures will be subject to your consent. **Be sure the office has all up-to-date information.**

Parents who have special or **legal custody/access** arrangements with their (former) spouses must update or complete the necessary form (#562.7).

2. If you wish to provide your child's teacher with important information about your child at the outset, please complete our **Parent to Teacher Information Form** (#533.1). It is on our website under secure forms. Please forward the completed form directly to your child's teacher. You can also contact the teacher directly via the teacher's school email address.

3. Our nut free policy remains in effect. **This means students may not bring any peanut/nut products to school.** More details regarding our policy are given in the Parent Handbook.

☛ Parents of students with health concerns needing Epipens or other special considerations must provide us with updated information and an Epipen by September 6.

☛ Parents of students requiring prescription medication administration at school must obtain an authorization form from the school's office. This includes the occasional use of asthma inhalers.

☛ Please check your child for head lice as well as pinworms before the first day of school.

4. The current **dress code** is attached and is also available on our website under secure forms (#551). Please help us in creating a learning environment that promotes Christian values and tasteful dress.

5 There is still room in the **Robotics Program**. This program has 2 sessions with the first one beginning in October. If you wish to register your child, please find the registration form on-line under secure forms (#771).

6. You are reminded that CCS has guidelines for the use of **personal electronic devices** (iPods, cell phones, laptops, etc.). Essentially a student may use the device with teacher permission otherwise the device must stay in the student's backpack. To access the complete set of guidelines, please go to secure forms (#552.2).

7. We have given very careful consideration to **class placement** for your child(ren). We took into account specific requests, friendships, rapport, academic abilities and so forth. We appreciate your cooperation in accepting the class lists as they are. You were given an opportunity to make your requests in May and June. Asking us to make changes at this point often creates a difficult domino effect involving more students. All teachers are available via email: first initial, last name ccs@shamilton.ca (eg. aboonstra@ccshamilton.ca).

Once again, **GYM CLOTHES** will be available to try on and take home on the evening of the Back to School BBQ Social! **Students in grades 4 through 8 will require the full CCS uniform (both shirts and shorts) for participation in PE.**

We will again be offering a handy backpack for the low price of \$5.00, and new this year, CCS water bottles can be purchased for \$13.00. Orders can be placed through the online order form. CCS spirit wear will be made available for purchase in the Fall.

Piano / Violin Teachers: Private piano lessons will continue with Mrs. Deb Wiebenga and Mrs. Marsha Heeg, and Ms. Brielle Goheen will continue to provide private violin lessons. briellegoheen@gmail.com , marshaheeg@bell.net debwiebenga@gmail.com

From the CCS Finance Office:

Welcome to another school year!

For your convenience we are once again using the online Additional Fees form available through our website. You have the option of paying via Interac e-Transfers® or with your credit card (2 % fee will be added to your total), or pay via cheque or with our debit machine in the school office.

Contact Mrs. Vander Wier for more information.

If you have set up pre authorized bank payments for tuition, just a reminder that they will begin on Sept. 20. Another reminder, the finance office will be closed on Fridays throughout the school year. Finance office hours are Mondays - Thursdays 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Any questions or concerns you can contact Mrs. Vander Wier, Finance Manager, mvanderwier@ccshamilton.ca

The Transportation Committee.

Families who have requested bus transportation for the upcoming school year should have received an email in July with route information. Throughout the summer some changes were needed, so an updated copy will be issued in late August. For families who have not received the information, or if you have any questions regarding busing, please contact Jim Hosmar (jhosmar@ccshamilton.ca).

Please note that the posted times for pick up and drop off will fluctuate over the first weeks of school as routines are figured out, and we ask for your patience with these new transitions. We also covet your prayers for safety for our bus drivers and your children as they travel to school and home again each and every day.



Grade	Room	Teacher
JKA/B	1	Mrs. J. Hagen
JK Fridays	1	Mrs. J. Hagen (Fridays only)
SKA/B	2	Mrs. W. Wiebenga
Optional SK French	3	Mme J. VanEek (Mes Amis Francais) Fridays Only
Optional JK/SK	3	Mrs. L. Ouwehand (Tues. and Thursdays only) Come Along K
1A	4	Mrs. J. Smith
1B	6	Mrs. D. Heeg
2A	9	Mrs. J. VanderWindt
2B	5	Miss M. DeVries
3A	13	Ms. R. Van Voorst
3B	11	Mrs. A. Breimer / Mrs. M. Eising
4A	29	Ms. J. DeJong
4B	31	Mr. T. Boer
5A	22	Mr. P. Veldhuis
5B	21	Mrs. D. Reid
6A	24	Ms. A. Dean

6B	23	Mr. J. Hosmar
7A	32	Mr. N. Wensink
7B	30	Mrs. C. Mantel
8A	26	Mr. J. de Schiffert
8B	25	Mrs. S. Wikkerink
Special Education	15	Ms. A. Benjamins, Mrs. J. Bosveld, Mrs. D. VanEgmond (Coordinator)

Principal, Vice Principals	Mr. A. Boonstra, Mr. J. Hosmar, Mrs. D. VanEgmond
Librarian	Ms. A. Benjamins
School Counsellor	Mrs. T. Schinkel
Band Director	Ms. A. Champahom
Paraeducators	Mrs. L. Belanger, Mrs. T. Bouwers, Mrs. T. Brouwer, Mrs. R. Cook, Mrs. A. Dekker, Mrs. S. Friedrich, Ms. S. Knevel, Mrs. T. Kooistra, Mrs. A. McKnight, Mrs. L. Ouwehand, Ms. S. Peters, Mrs. M. Star, Mrs. S. Tigchelaar, Mrs. S. VanderMeulen, Ms. K. Vos, Mrs. K. Zantingh
Office Manager Office Assistant	Ms. M. Gallea
Finance Manager Database Manager	Mrs. M. Vander Wier Mrs. L. Reitsma
Facility Manager Assistant Custodian	Mr. B. Cochrane Mr. L. Benjamins
Bus Drivers	Mr. B. Kurvits, Mr. R. Scott, Mr. B. McFarland, Mrs. M. James,
Before, After School Care	Ms. A. Hood Almas

Remember! The following sheets from your summer mailing should be returned the first week of school. **TAN:** Media Consent/Co-Curricular Consent - *reverse side* - Student Information Verification Form (**PLEASE SIGN BOTH SIDES!**)

Additional Forms as Required (available on our website): Request for Medication Administration, Before and After School Care Program Registration, Parent to Teacher, Custody Arrangements, Robotics Registration.

BLUE: (In House)TRIP order and Registration Form (must be filled out for each new school year if participating)

CCS School Day times:

8:50	Entrance bell
8:55	Classes begin
10:30	Recess bell
10:55	Entrance bell
11:00	Classes resume
12:30	Lunch bell
12:45	Recess bell
1:15	Entrance bell
1:20	Classes resume
3:20	Closing bell
3:25	Dismissal bell



Student drop-off and pick up reminders:

✓ **Passenger vehicles are prohibited from entering the bus loop (including the school parking lot) between 8:30 and 9:00 a.m. on school days.** You may enter the school parking lot only if you plan to stay past 9:00 a.m. We ask that you please respect this rule. School buses must have the right of way and are severely hindered when passenger vehicles are trying to exit the entrance area of the bus loop or are blocking the bus parking zones in the bus loop. Buses are also in the loop between 3:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. and we ask that passenger vehicles stay out at that time as well.

✓ **Please do not use the Hungarian Church parking lot at any time** for either pick up or drop off purposes. It is a private parking lot.

✓ There will be a staff member assigned to escort JK and SK children to the school from the Immanuel Christian Reformed Church's parking lot at 8:45 a.m. This way parents or caregivers do not have to remove younger children from the vehicle in order to escort the older ones to the school.

✓ **All parents/caregivers who pick up their children from school are asked to do so at the Immanuel Christian Reformed Church's parking lot before 3:30 p.m.** To ensure student safety, all children will be brought outside to wait on the school soccer field. Parents will be required to come through the gate on the north end of the property to pick up their children from the soccer field area. A teacher will remain at the north gate to ensure that each child is accompanied by an adult as they make their way to the car. Students in grades JK-3 will be led by a teacher to a designated paved area. At 3:35 p.m. a bell will ring indicating that all children should leave the school grounds with their parent/caregiver (please be prompt). If any child has not been picked up by 3:40, they will be required to come back to school and be assigned to the Afterschool Care Program until a parent/caregiver arrives.

✓ Parents are asked to park their vehicles in the designated parking places at the church, but park in such a way to avoid having to back out. We hope this practice will contribute to safety for our students as they walk in the parking lot.

✓ Students who bike or walk to school are permitted to leave after all other students have been picked up (3:35), and students in grade 7 or 8 whose parents do not come to pick them up, must also wait until 3:35 before leaving the playground.

✓ For your information, the soccer field gate is locked from 9:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and again at 5:00 p.m.

✓ If your child is going to be absent, it is important to notify the school. Please call or email the school office by 9:00 a.m. If you email the teacher regarding attendance, please cc the school office, keeping in mind that teachers may not have access to their emails once their duties begin at school in the morning. If you are picking up your child early in the day due to an appointment, please

email the teacher at least 24 hours in advance and cc the school office. All visitors, including parents, coming into the school between 9:15 and 3:00 must check in at the office.

PLEASE REMEMBER: Unless a parent has communicated alternate hometime arrangements to the teacher or office, regular hometime routines for your child will be followed. This helps us avoid misunderstandings that can happen between you and your child. Students are not allowed to leave the school grounds during school hours unless accompanied by a parent or designate. **Students must report to the office to sign in if they are late.** If they are repeatedly late, the parents will be advised and may be asked to make adjustments.

TRIP! (Tuition Reduction Incentive Program)

If you are looking for an easy and painless way to reduce your tuition, make TRIP participation a part of your weekly/monthly routine. We all buy groceries, and we all buy gas - why not take dollars off your tuition with every grocery cart or gas tank fill up! Make it part of your routine and you will be amazed at how quickly it adds up. Ask family and friends to participate and direct savings to your account. In this school mailing we have included a 2019/2020 Brochure and Registration Form as well as an In House order form. Please read the brochure carefully to discover more about the In House option and how TRIP can work for you. Check out the FundScrip (on-line supplier) option, and registration information on the CCS website under TRIP. It's so easy to register and you will be able to access more than 220 retailers that are offered on FundScrip. For example, the monthly promotions for August include Dollarama, and Old Navy! You'll be amazed by all the places where you shop that are offered. FundScrip also offers digital options that can be downloaded to your phone or sent as e-gifts. The possibilities for savings are endless! So, if you have any questions at all about getting started, please contact Lianna Reitsma at trip@ccshamilton.ca.

Weekly Prayers: We encourage parents and students alike to read carefully through the Courier to pick up on the comments for class trips, sports events, board and committee meetings, etc. and add these to your daily devotions. Any specific concerns, joys and request can be forwarded to the school office at info@ccshamilton.ca

Father God,

Thanks for summer! Thanks for opportunities for many in our school community to get away and recharge. Thank you for times to explore your creation and see your power and character through nature. Thanks, too, for times of connecting with family and friends. As the new school year approaches, we pray for all the preparations that need to happen. We pray for the school leadership as they plan for the new year. We commit first time students and parents to you and ask that all fears would be relieved. We commit this year of learning to you. We ask that students would come to a solid understanding of what it means to live as Christ-followers in our world today. Even though they are young, we pray that each student would set an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity - that they would be living proof that you are alive and active in their lives. We commit this new school year to you and ask that your name would be glorified and exalted through all that we do. In the powerful name of Jesus,
Amen