

# Calvin Christian School Courier

547 West 5<sup>th</sup> St. Hamilton, ON L9C 3P7  
905-388-2645 [www.ccsshamilton.ca](http://www.ccsshamilton.ca)  
[info@ccshamilton.ca](mailto:info@ccshamilton.ca)



Friday, August 11, 2017

Volume 1.1

**From the Desk of Mr. Boonstra!** Greetings from Calvin Christian School! It is our hope that you and your loved ones are having a wonderful summer. With the beginning of school just around the corner we are excited to bring you up to date with our plans for the year. Going forward you will continue to receive our weekly courier via e-blasts.

Perhaps one of the best ways to describe the beginning of our school year is to reflect upon the changes that have occurred, both in our staffing and in our programs. For the first time in over 20 years, Mr. Postma will not be guiding Calvin Christian School. As most of you know, that responsibility has been entrusted to me and I am very excited about the upcoming year. Please pray for me, as well as the entire staff of CCS.

Although there will be many changes in the upcoming year, there is always one constant, and that is our faithful God. We have decided to recognize our God's faithfulness with our school theme. We have selected the following phrase as our theme: "Fix My Eyes on God" (based on Psalm 121). With our heavenly Father leading us, we will explore different topics related to the theme each month.

Another one of the changes involves an emphasis on developing the social/emotional learning of students through a program called Responsive Classroom (R.C.). Many of our teachers have received training in the basics of R.C. and we hope to implement the components of R.C. in the classroom, as well as through our school theme discussions - Fixing our eyes on God!

Tuesday, September 5, is the first day of school and we will begin with an assembly at 9:20 a.m. We welcome all our students and especially our new students and their families. We plan to have staff members available to escort young and new students to their classrooms when they arrive. Jubilee and SK children have already received separate instructions regarding their first day and week at CCS.

Enclosed with this Courier you should find the **class list(s), CCS calendar, September calendar, co-curricular and media consent form, student information verification form, TRIP forms. Special lunch and milk orders and additional fees will all be dealt with by means of a form on our website.** We are excited to try this new ordering system, and trust that you will find it easy and convenient to use. For the necessary paperwork that does need to be returned to the school, I ask that you pay close attention to the handy return envelope. Additional forms will be on the website under secure forms as well as easy access on the home page of our website.

As mentioned above, there are a number of staffing changes for the upcoming school year, in addition to a new principal.

Mrs. Koning (formerly Ms. DeWeerd) replaces Miss Wierenga at grade 1, Mrs. Breimer (replacing Mrs. Goodwin) is back in a job share with Mrs. Eising in grade 3, Mrs. Reid takes over Miss Wyatt's position in grade 5 and Mr. de Schiffert replaces me at the grade 8 level. In grade 2 Ms. Buys is now Mrs. Vandenberg as she was married over the summer. We also welcome Mrs. Voortman who will be working in the front office, and Mrs. Tigchelaar and Ms. Knevel who are joining us as paraeducators.

**Before School Care Program:** 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. 6.** It involves supervised care from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Parents can register their children on a *regular* or *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 so your cooperation by enrolling your child(ren) into BSC is necessary. The registration form indicates a reduced fee for enrolment after 8 a.m.

**After School Care Program:** 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. We have made it a bit more cost effective for larger families. 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. White soles or scuff-less soles are preferred to keep the gym floor clear.



**Kindergarten:** Please label all belongings.

**Grades 1-3:** Pencils, erasers, rulers and wax crayons will be supplied by the school. Students should provide high quality, sharpened pencil crayons. Please label each pencil crayon with your child's name. That would be very helpful. Grade 3 students are asked to bring one large glue stick. Markers are not necessary. Grades 2 and 3 will need a personal set of headphones (or earbuds), labeled with their name and brought to school in a labeled freezer ziplock bag.

**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 need a protractor only, and not a full geometry set. 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 (required for music classes) may be purchased for \$6.00 (available through the Fee Form on the website). Grade 6 students are required to have a geometry set and a calculator. 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, pencils, mathematical instrument set, calculator, red pens, (school will supply first set of blue pens and rulers only), 1 small binder, binder 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:

- 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).
- 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.
- Our peanut free zone 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 before the first day of school.
- The current **dress code** is attached and is also available on our website under secure forms (#551) We earnestly ask for your cooperation in respecting the code.

- CCS is pleased to offer school Spirit Wear this year. Student and parents can purchase CCS polo shirts and hoodies (zippered and pullovers). Samples and forms will be made available at the Back to School Dessert Social (Friday, September 15). Please be advised that the spirit wear is not intended to be part of a school uniform, neither now nor in the future.
- There is still room in the **Robotics Program**. If you wish to register your child, please find the registration form on-line under secure forms (#771).
- 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).
- 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 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 at first initial, last name @ccshamilton.ca (eg. [aboonstra@ccshamilton.ca](mailto:aboonstra@ccshamilton.ca))

#### From the CCS Finance Office:

## Welcome to another school year! EXCITING NEWS REGARDING ONLINE PAYMENTS!!

NEW this year! Check out our NEW online Additional Fees form available through our website. You have the option of paying via Interac e-Transfers® or with your credit card (1.55% fee will be added to your total), or pay via cheque or with our debit machine in the school office. More instructions can be found on the information card included with the summer mailing package.

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 September 20, 2017.

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, [mrvanderwier@ccshamilton.ca](mailto:mrvanderwier@ccshamilton.ca)

#### UPCOMING AT CCS

Opening Assembly 9:20 am	Tuesday, Sept. 5
BACK TO SCHOOL Dessert Social	Friday, Sept. 15
Classroom Visit: 6:30 to 7:00 pm	
Dessert Social: 6:45 to 8:00 pm	
Individual / Class Pictures	Tuesday, Oct.3 and Wednesday, Oct. 4
SAVE THE DATE!	
CCS Bazaar	Saturday, November 25, 2017

Grade	Room	Teacher
Jubilee (JK)	1	Mrs. J. Hagen
Optional JK	1	Mrs. J. Hagen (Fridays only)
KA/B	2	Mrs. W. Wiebenga
Optional SK French	3	Mme J. VanEek (Mes Amis Français) Fridays only
Optional JK/SK	3	Mrs. L. Ouwehand Tuesdays & Thursdays only
1A	4	Mrs. R. Koning
1B	6	Mrs. D. Heeg
2A	9	Mrs. J. VanderWindt
2B	5	Mrs. VandenBerg
3A	13	Mrs. R. VanVoorst
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. van der Woerd
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
Band Director		Mrs. M. Heeg
Paraeducators		Mrs. L. Belanger, Mrs. T. Bouwers, Mrs. T. Brouwer, Ms. S. Knevel, T. Kooistra Mrs. A. McKnight, Mrs. M. Star, Mrs. S. Tigchelaar, Mrs. S. VanderMeulen, Ms. K. Vos, Mrs. K. Zantingh
Office Manager Office Assistant		Mrs. M. Gallea Mrs. T. Voortman
Finance Manager Database Manager		Mrs. M. Vander Wier Mrs. L. Reitsma
Custodian Assistant Custodian		Mr. J. Van Arragon Mr. P. Flowersmith
Bus Drivers		Mr. B. Kurvits, Mr. R. Scott, Mr. G. Kikkert, Mrs. S. Kikkert ...to be finalized....
Before/After School Care		Ms. A. Hood-Almas

**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](mailto:info@ccshamilton.ca)

If you would like more information about the prayer group who weekly cover our school in prayer, please email the office.

Dear God,

Thanks for summer! Thank you for opportunities to be refreshed and to get away. Thank you for exciting moments in teachers lives this summer - thank you for weddings and other times of celebration. We also pray for families who have had difficult days - we're especially mindful of those who have had to bury loved ones. Thank you that you are always with us, through the peaks and valleys of life. And thank you for the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Thank you for the promise of life eternal because of his work on our behalf. Father, please bless the preparations for this next school year. Bless our new Principal, Mr. Boonstra, and all the teachers, especially new ones. We pray a blessing on all the students as well, especially new students. We pray Calvin Christian School would be a welcoming place for new teachers, students and families. We know August will go by quickly - allow us to have a great month!

In the precious name of Jesus,

Amen

#### The Transportation Committee:

For our families who have requested bus transportation, a copy of the route information will be emailed to you in early August. The posted times are approximate so children should be at their stops at least 5 minutes earlier. We ask for your patience as the routes are fine tuned during the first few weeks of school.



If you have any questions regarding busing, or did not receive a copy of the bus route, please do not hesitate to call / email your route supervisor or Mr. Hosmar ([jhosmar@ccshamilton.ca](mailto:jhosmar@ccshamilton.ca)). Let's once again pray for safety on the roads as our children travel daily to and from school. JH

#### 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.

In this school mailing we have included a 2017/2018 registration form as well as an *In House* order form. Please read the registration form carefully to discover more about the *In House* option, or the *FundScrip* (on-line supplier) option.

Please contact [trip@ccshamilton.ca](mailto:trip@ccshamilton.ca) if you have any questions.

**We're Going Back To School**



**Piano / Violin Teachers:** Private piano lessons will continue with Mrs. Deb Wiebenga and Mrs. Marsha Heeg. We welcome Ms. Brielle Goheen as our private violin teacher. They can be contacted as follows: [briellegoheen@gmail.com](mailto:briellegoheen@gmail.com) [marshaheeg@bell.net](mailto:marshaheeg@bell.net) [debwiebenga@gmail.com](mailto:debwiebenga@gmail.com)

Once again, GYM CLOTHES will be available on the evening of the Back to School Dessert Social in the Library for trying on and to take home with you!! **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 back pack for the low price of \$5.00. Orders can be placed through the online order form.



**Remember!** The following sheets from your summer mailing should be returned the first week of school. We have provided a convenient return envelope to help keep you organized!:

**GRAY:** 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.

**WHITE:** (In House)TRIP order and **PUMPKIN:** 2017/2018 Registration Form (must be filled out for each new school year if participating)

## ***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 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 Jubilee 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.

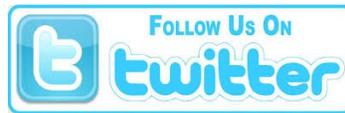
✓ **All parents who pick up their children from school are asked to do so at the Immanuel Christian Reformed Church's parking lot before 3:40 p.m.** Students in grades JK-3 will be led by a teacher to the church parking lot. The parking duty teacher will remain at the church lot until all children are picked up. There will be a bell rung at 3:35 p.m. All remaining children will then need to come to the parking duty teacher and tell them if their parents are here. If not, they will be brought back to the school office and assigned to the Afterschool Care Program, if not picked up by 3:45.

✓ Parents with children in grades JK-3 are asked to exit their cars and pick up their children at the north gate (the gate leading from the soccer field) at the end of the day. Grades 4-8 students will proceed on their own but with caution. 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 after the children arrive.

✓ 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 mornings. 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. **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 asked to make adjustments.

We invite the CCS community to follow us on Facebook and/or Twitter and to consider making the CCS website your homepage!



### **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

**BLESSINGS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ON THE 2017/2018 SCHOOL YEAR!**