

The Lynden LINK

~ Chairman Report ~

February 25, 2024 ~ Volume 22, Issue 4

Welcome to the LINK for February 2024! We are into our third quarter of the school year, which means it is already time to start planning for next year. The Board has begun the process of reviewing intentions for the 25-26 school year with the teachers. With a couple exceptions for those whose circumstances have changed, our teachers would like to continue next year! This is always nice to hear, as it is an indication that CCS is a desirable place to work. As next year's teaching schedule becomes more firm, specific teaching duties will be assigned, which will then be reflected in the teacher contracts.

As promised, I would like to continue the review of the Strategic Plan, which is in its 6th year of implementation. In the last LINK, I went over Goal 1 (Governance and Administration). This time, we'll take a look at goal 2: Infrastructure and Campus Resources - Maintaining a functional campus and learning environment where our mission happens. The strategic plan projects that this is how things will look when this goal has been met:

- 1. A Building Report assists in planning for future space needs in the school building.*
- 2. A Depreciation Report assists in planning for the repair and replacement of major infrastructure and equipment.*
- 3. A Technology Inventory Report and tracking system assists in monitoring the lifespan of all technology equipment.*
- 4. A Maintenance Procedure Manual assists in keeping track of regular maintenance needs.*
- 5. A Land Utilization Report assists*

in choosing the best plan for the land parcel next door.

With the building expansion committee engaged as they are, it's not too hard to see that we are pursuing strategic goals with regard to our building infrastructure. But, as with goal 1, the Board will be reviewing these Goal 2 benchmarks at this 6-year mark, and we will decide what has been successfully accomplished and what remains to be done.

Another thing the board has been busy with is handling the evaluation and on-boarding of non-ARC parents sending their children to CCS. As in the past, the Board is able to enroll students whose parents are not members by exception only, so we are working through this process carefully. We hope to soon have a new policy that describes how we process these requests and keep track of them over time. It is gratifying to know that the education that CCS offers, which is firmly grounded in submission to the God of the Bible in all things, is attractive to others outside our church community. May God continue to bless our efforts.

Steve Hafford



Living

In The

Spirit

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Upcoming Dates

Feb. 28 - Fine Arts Evening
Feb. 28 - Early Release 1:30pm
Feb. 29 - Mid Winter Break
Mar. 1 - Mid Winter Break
Mar. 15 - PD Day - No School
Mar. 22 - Elem 2nd Term Reports
Mar. 25 - Early release 11:55am
Mar. 25 - Elem P/T Conferences
Mar. 27 - Elem P/T Conferences
Mar. 29 - Good Friday - No School
Apr. 1-5 - Spring Break
Apr. 12 - HS 3rd Qtr Report
Apr. 18 - Grandparents Day

Create in me a clean heart, O God - Psalm 51:10

**Next LINK Submission
Due Date:**

April 19, 2024

~ From the Treasurer ~

Dear Cornerstone Community:

It's time to look forward and think through the budget requirements for the coming year. We need to take the time to account for the real and accurate fiscal requirements of operating our school. I have learned to look more positively on this over the years. A common goal, by our society, is to provide an excellent God centered education for our children. What a blessing! What better way to bring a community together.

All our committees are submitting budgets they need for the coming year. Thank you to all for your efforts to keep our budget at bay. It's always amazing to see the Lord's hand in our budget, providing year after year for all we need for our operations of the school. We look forward to presenting you a sustainable budget at the membership meeting this spring.

We have also been at work with the building expansion. At the time of writing, we are still working with the city on permitting and groundwork requirements. The committee hopes for a permit soon so that we can break ground in the coming months. Thank you to the committee for the work you are doing. It is

much appreciated. A large thank you again to the society for answering the financial call of the fund-raising committee and providing for this project.

Stay tuned for more details on the expansion project at the time of the membership meeting.

Kolin Veldman



~ From the Cornerstone Foundation Board ~

Hi everyone. The Cornerstone Foundation wanted to give everyone an update/reminder about its work. At a recent meeting, with the addition of new board members and retirement of others – the board appointed Rick Faber as Chairman, Cason VanDriel as Vice Chairman, Ian Davis as Treasurer, and Darren Leyenhorst as Secretary. A big shout out and thank you go to departing members Henry Klos and Derek Willis who have greatly contributed to the continued smooth operation of the Foundation and have done their best to help grow the fund. Well done!

As a reminder, the Cornerstone Foundation is a non-profit organization formed to provide a perpetual source of revenue that supports Cornerstone Christian School. (Sometimes called an endowment fund) As you have heard the Foundation for Reformed Education (FFRE), a registered Canadian charity, is now able to facilitate cross-border donations to the Cornerstone Foundation.

Because FFRE is recognized by the Canadian Revenue Agency, donations to FFRE can be directed to the Cornerstone Foundation, allowing you to support

Cornerstone Christian School with tax-deductible donations or as a part of estate planning.

By making donations through FFRE you can help build the seed money in the Cornerstone Foundation to be the blessing for future generations. Please let your Canadian friends and family know that they too can be a part of this.

If you happen to be American – do not worry! The Cornerstone Foundation will take your money also! The Foundation will gladly accept donations big or small – budgeted regularly or in a lump sum. Please also think of donating to the Foundation when you and your loved ones think of Estate planning, planning in the family budget, small regular gifts, or even as a partial beneficiary to an estate.

If any assistance is needed with any of this, please contact one of the board members and we will assist you!

On behalf of the Cornerstone Foundation board,
Darren Leyenhorst

~ From the Ed Comm ~

Ed Comm Report:

Wrestling with Technology in Education

You're hungry, and right there in front of you is a tree full of ripe fruit – would it be wrong to grab one? Well, if you're in ancient Israel, it'd be no big thing – just a bit of gleaning. But if you were in the Garden of Eden, and this was *that* tree, then it would be a big deal indeed. So fruit eating is not wrong or right in itself; the issue here is obedience or disobedience.

ChatGPT is a new reality that isn't wrong or right in itself either. It might strike parents as problematic, since kids are now able to turn to this tool and, with just a few prompts, churn out their homework. Need a 600-word essay on the biblical perspective on why abortion is wrong? ChatGPT can output it in less time than it'll take most students to type the request.

Isn't that cheating? Yes, if the teacher wanted students to write it on their own.

But it isn't hard to imagine how teachers could also incorporate AI tools into lessons on not only writing, but editing and analysis. How good is the AI essay? Where is it weak, and what might it be missing? Did the opening grab you? Would its argument be more powerful as a dialogue? What other prompts could we use to tighten it up?

The possibilities are enormous but yes, ChatGPT does also open up new temptations for kids to shirk the work they are supposed to be doing on their own. That means that we, as parents, are going to have to remind and reinforce to our kids a few important points:

1) God loves a hard-won C. Or to put it another way, God doesn't care about your marks: if you get a low grade but tried hard, great, but He hates an ill-gotten A. And your parents think the very same.

2) Cheating hurts you (Prov. 10:2). A basketball player might be able to build a robot that shoots better than he does, but it isn't going to help him learn how to shoot. If an assignment is intended to help a student learn to write, getting someone or something to write it cheats the student out of what they could have learned. Cheating is also a matter of character – if you'll cheat on something as little as an essay, what kind of person are you becoming? You do become what you do.

3) Knowing how to write remains an important skill even in the era of AI, because of all the skills a student has to learn to be able to do it, like: research, organizing thoughts, and learning to discern truth from error and stronger points from weaker ones. That'll help you write an essay, but also choose a career, and even assess who you might want to marry.

That's a bit of the tech talk Ed Com has been chatting about for a while now, and having some fun with it. We also continue with the Science curriculum review, which is part of a 7-8 year cycle in which we look at the whole of the curriculum. And in a bit of "save the date" news, we've got Carl Nienhuis booked for a Parent Information Evening on April 24 on the topic of playing basketball (and other sports too) to the glory of God.

For the Ed Comm ~ Jon Dykstra

~ From the CBM ~

Hello all!

The CBM committee has been busy lately working on fixing up and getting the greenhouse working smoothly for our horticulture class. We are also looking forward to a great year for the plant sale and hope that it will work well with the updates we made! We were able to borrow a lift for the gym to clean, dust and generally take care of the out of reach areas like the duct work, lights, windows and louvers. We have done some maintenance on the bathrooms, clogged toilets and the like, something that we just can't seem to evade for too long! There

were issues with heating the upstairs classroom but with Lynden Sheet Metal we were able to work things out. There also have been some issues with certain doors not closing properly. We have taken time with those and have fixed them as well. Finally just a note to anyone accessing the school and running into the alarm engaging, even if you do stop the alarm please notify Jon Kruyswijk immediately at 1-360-815-0467 and let him know what has happened. If you aren't able to reach Jon than please call Harvey Pelleboer at 1-360-303-6148.

~ From the Ladies Aid ~

Spring is just around the corner and the Plant Sale Committee is busy preparing for another plant sale. There will be a Potting Party on March 21 at the CCS Greenhouse and they would love to see you there to help pot perennials!

The spring Ladies Aid membership meeting will be March 19 starting at 8:00. It will be held upstairs in the Lynden ARC. Please use the main upstairs

doors when you enter and leave so we don't disturb the meetings and classes being held downstairs. Ladies Aid is looking for 2 more ladies to join the Apple Pie Committee. Please talk to Bea Kleyn if you are interested; we'd love to hear from you!

On behalf of Ladies Aid,
Jessica Chase

~ From the Principal ~

"I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From where shall my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth." Psalm 121:1,2

The truth of these words is always near our hearts, but never more so than when life is hard. When our grief overwhelms, when days are dark, it is only in our LORD God that we can find our help. "The LORD is our keeper (vs 5a);" "The LORD will guard your going out and your coming in (vs 8a)". Because of the promises of our faithful God and Father are we able to go on from day to day.

Covenantal education. What a treasure! But do we indeed treasure it? When we speak about the fact that we are in a covenant with God the Father, do we think about it as a relationship? We get to be in a relationship with God! In fact, he calls us his children, so that makes us royalty. Teachers at Cornerstone Christian school are privileged to instruct royal children! What a calling! Sometimes we talk about education as a preparation for life, but life is now. All of us have a responsibility to learn, including our children. These thoughts were gleaned from a presentation given by Mark den Hollander at a recent PD day. We hope to hear more at our upcoming PD day in March. While hearing about covenantal education is not new, it is always good to take time to be encouraged and reminded again about the importance and special nature of our task in raising children in the fear of the LORD.

As we have completed our work day to day, the students have progressed through their studies. In high school, the second quarter is complete, and in elementary, we are deep into our second trimester. For teachers this is a rewarding time of year. The students are very immersed in their school work, with regular week following regular week, with a lot of continuity. Especially in the younger grades, tangible strides can be made at this time of year, as the foundational learning during

the first trimester solidifies and blossoms. Simply put, it's encouraging to see progress!

On the other side of things students can also be found lacking in attentiveness and drive sometimes. The incentive to participate in sports is a proverbial 'stick behind the door', but it becomes discouraging when students clearly do not put in the necessary effort into their school work. Extra credit is available, but is meant for students who have already demonstrated their desire to do well on the regular work, but failed to reach the desired grade. Extra credit should not be seen as an alternative assignment choice.

As a little side note, I want to point out that teachers strive purposefully to avoid homework or studying that needs to take place on the weekend, specifically Sunday. It is realized, of course, that it is not our place to speak into your homes and how you spend your Sunday, but I am asking you to avoid Sunday communications with the teachers.

Review of recent events

Upon our return to school in January, our first week included an assembly with Prof. T. VanRaalte of the Canadian Reformed Theological Seminary. It's not easy for someone to come and speak engagingly to such a broad spectrum of ages. He certainly did well. Encouraging our students to think about attendance at the seminary, whether with ministry as a goal, or otherwise, was one point he made. In addition, he wanted to make sure the students were aware of the seminary's existence, its importance, and the work that they are engaged in. However, he also spoke to all of us about our school theme. "Walking in the Spirit" or "living in the Spirit", and this is where he was able to reach everyone at every age. He reminded us of what that means, and it was a good encouragement to keep on striving to do exactly that!

At the beginning of February, we had our monthly school gathering, but this time we met in the gym for a more formal assembly. At this assembly we were joined by Rev. Jon Chase at his home in Brazil. He was able to share with us some information and pictures about the Mission work that is done there. We chose to support the work of Mission in Brazil, with a specific focus on a struggling church in Brasilia. With our various types of fundraisers during the month, we hope to raise \$4000 to share with our brothers and sisters in Brazil.

Since our December issue of the Link, the high school students also completed their second quarter. This meant parent-teacher conferences. It never ceases to be an encouragement to the teachers to meet with the various parents and connect formally about the students' progress. We are thankful for your support and time.

Looking ahead

The big event that the school is busy preparing for currently is our Fine Arts Evening. A presentation of musical gifts will start the evening, with static displays set up in the various classrooms. The preparation for the event is a long process, with art samples being collected from the first weeks of school already, and lots of practice time being given to the musical presentations. We are very excited to share the results with all of you, and celebrate the talents and skills the students are developing in this sphere. See the information notice elsewhere.

In a few weeks, the elementary school will send out the reports on students' progress. At the parent-teacher conferences following the reports, teachers will also be able to share the results of the fall and winter Aimsweb testing. These test results are more meaningful when more than one testing session has been completed. It allows us to see growth or a lack of progress. What is also beneficial is the ability to delve into the test results and pinpoint specific areas that need intervention, or re-instruction. That can be true for a single individual, a small group or the whole class. Teachers do take the time to evaluate the results, looking for ways to make the instruction specifically targeted to the needs of the students.

In the spring, but still before the next issue of the LINK, we hope to host our annual Grandparents' Day, on April 18th. Be assured that any who might fit that category age wise, are heartily welcomed as honorary visitors. We love it when you take the time to join us on this special day. There's enough soup for everyone!

And so we continue with our work. "Our help comes from the LORD!" We are blessed with a relationship with our God. He loves us and cares for us, and because of that we are able to do our work. May we continue to do so with joy and faithfulness, to God's glory.

FINE ARTS EVENING

Feb. 28th, 7-8:30



Music Presentations: (Church)
Pre-concert piano 6:40
Concert 7-7:30
(Piano, recorder, chorus, violin)

Static Displays: (School)
7-8:30 Various classrooms
7:30-7:50 Living museum



Come see Technic Training Projects, Math Art,
both two and three-dimensional art in various mediums.
Lego and Photography entries will be judged.

Sonnets

By Mrs. Van Hofwegen's 5th/6th grade class

SOCCER by Jaycie Burger



Soccer is one of my favorite sports
I cheer my team on through my soccer game
Soccer has a lot of different sorts
Soccer is on an amazing road of Main.

Play sports is never boring to me
They steal the big ball away from my team
I play outdoor soccer I play the key
I like to encourage my team and lean
There a lot of positions like mid-field
When you are on the soccer field, you flow.
When the other team scores, I say shield.

Soccer will make you very strong and fit
Soccer is fun to play you should try it.

NEW YORK by Lucas Davis



It is a big city, so very big
So I go down on a plane to go dig
I go to get a very large sandal
I burn myself somehow with a candle

Out of the big shop, I go so slow
I was so happy I have a glow
I rented some Chevy's to drive sometime
The people are noisy it blocks out lime

Some people say Seattle is best
But I think New York should be put to test
I go on a ferris wheel so so big
At the fair I was at, I ate a fig.

I go back to my Jaguars to drive
I am so happy to be alive

SOCCER by Macy Faber



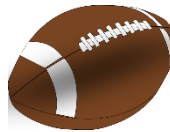
Soccer is so fun and it is the best
I love playing it and kicking the ball
It puts the fast quick players to the test
I like shooting the ball into the goal

Forward is over by the other net
Midfield dribbles the ball on the short grass
Defense is my favorite, do not fret
Goalies guard goals and give the ball a pass

The ball is black and white and fun to kick
I wish I could play soccer at this hour
Football and baseball make me sick
If you play soccer, you need more power

Soccer is the best sport to play this day
Soccer is a fun sport to play today

FOOTBALL by Grant Hofford



Football is my very best sport to play
I honestly could play it all day
Football is rough but I still do play it
Sometimes I get injured a little bit

I love running the ball but I fumble
If you run really fast you will tumble
Sometimes the refs will make really hard calls
Sometimes I even have really land falls

If you want to be a good line backer
You can not be one of these big slackers
I love running routes and catching the ball
When you catch the ball keep running don't fall

You should try to play football it is fun
If you play football, you will have to run.

SOCCER by Anna Van Driel



I love soccer it is so fun to play
It is the best sport to play every day
We need enough room to put the new set
The goalie is in front of the big net

Midfield is the best spot to get a shot
You would get a lot of shot in that spot
When you get a goal, you will be yelling
When you get a goal, you will be happy

Coach is getting really mad at the team
Being angry could be self-esteem
The parents do not like the coach at all
The team is talking about the new ball

The other team is mad at the new team
When the other team being so gleam.

KOA by Jaelyn Van Delft



Koa goes racing through the dark
He is so funny and he is awesome
He always makes a very long travel
He loves the water when it is sunny

He hates the water when its cold outside
He loves to play fetch with all of his balls
He does not like to play by the seaside
Sometimes he does not always follow laws

He loves winter and he loves the white snow
He will always like to do stuff like jump
When he is very tired he is slow
Sometimes he is a very big huge lump

Koa's breed is a golden retriever
Koa does not like to get a fever.

TRAMPOLINE by Morgan Veldman



My mom sent a company a letter
I thought maybe she bought me a sweater
It turned out to be a very big tramp.
I played on it so hard I got a cramp

I was jumping on my tramp it goes high
My mom went shopping so she waved good bye
I was jumping then it started to rain
Then I saw my grandpa with a big cane

After I did an amazing backflip
I tumbled and fell and then bit my lip
I jumped off the scaffolding and flew off
Then I got a cold and started to cough

Then my dog jumped on, I said, "Silly dog!"
When we were jumping high, we saw a frog.

PEOPLE IN THE WORLD

by Jeremy Vreugdenhil



People are wonderful, none are alike.
They all live in many different lands
Some in Holland, where they all like to bike
Some live by beaches where there's many plants.

There's lots of smart people who work so hard.
People have all sorts of different homes.
Some homes have gates or dogs to them guard.
Other homes have all sorts of garden gnomes.

There are many people in this big world.
Some are funny, others are so grumpy.
Some have just been born, while others are old.
Some are skinny, others super lumpy.

This world has many people and places
With lots of beautiful things and faces.

WINTER by Kaylyn Bouwman



Winter is black as night and loves the snow
You may be wondering and say you're wrong
But I am right, I did not get a blow
She is my nice dog, she plays all day long

Her name is Winter because she loves the snow
She loves snow so much she rolls in it
She loves snow so much, she just has to go
If we tell her to sit, she will not sit

Winter is the best dog in the whole world
I love to play with her in the backyard
When she does to sleep, she likes to be curled
When her hair stands up, she is our guard.

My favorite thing to do is pet her fur
I don't know what I would do without her.

ALASKA by Josiah Chase



Alaska is an interesting state
With snowy forests and giant mountains
The Aleutian Islands are very great
With many volcanoes like big fountains

In Alaska you may see Northern lights
Astounding colors like purple and blue
The Northern Lights are definitely sights
All these colors are a beautiful hue.

In Alaska, you may see a glacier
A glacier is a cliff of ice and snow
A glacier is a big part of nature
A glacier over time will slowly flow

Alaska is filled with many wonders
In Alaska the ocean waves thunders.

AMERICA by Lukas Faber



It is ruled by the big president
But also the council and senate
Their national bird is the bald eagle
But lots of the people like the beagle

The pledge of the Allegiance is their anthem
American's can be very handsome
It has a lot of beautiful green parks
You will hear a lot of scary barks

There are fifty states with big capitals
There ponds are full of beautiful cattails
All American's like to watch football
But they also like to play basketball

Sometime you should visit America
Their neighboring country is Canada.

MY FAT CAT by Jace Kruiwijk



I have the most fat, lazy cat named Kai
He eats all his food in less than a day.
When outside, he like to look at the sky.
A bed or couch is where he likes to stay

The only thing that Kai will hunt is bugs
He also eats lots and lots of his food
Again and again. He scratches over rugs.
Sometime she is funny, but also rude

He only goes on the porch not outside
He would like to go outside, but he can't
Although he is dumb, he has some self-pride
Kai really likes to see my good friend Grant

My fat cat is lazy and not nice
My fat cat likes to catch really, small mice.

MY JOB *by Thomas Leyenhorst*



On my job I do not like what I make
My boss is too strict, he says, "Bake, Bake, Bake"
We have to make these things called big finkles
I work so hard I might just get wrinkles

Finally, the day just comes to an end
My arms are so stiff that they can not bend
I have so much work to do tomorrow
I go to bed, my heart filled with sorrow

The next day comes with a really big shock
There is someone at the door, "Knock, knock, knock"
It is my boss. I say, "What do you need?"
My boss says, "I need some raspberry seed."

I don't have any seeds for raspberry
I just got laid off that makes me merry.

LAMBORGINI *by Sawyer Stap*



In a place far, far away, I went into a taxi
I went to my house to blow off some steam
I rented a lamborghini for now
I went to see a movie and a meme

I saw the trees from my lamborghini
I went to the fair to go to my lair
I got a cute animal called Benny
I was playing a game and saw the mayor

It was raining hard and it was stormy
So I went to cover up my new car
It was lunch I saw someone corny
It was night time and I saw a cool star

It was three o'clock and it was still dark
And my lamborghini was destroyed.

GREAT DAY *by Chase Veldman*



Yesterday I had a very great day!
I woke up in the morning, there I lay.
I went downstairs and saw delicious cake.
I had forgotten it was summer break!

I had forgotten it was my birthday!
I went to the very fun and big bay.
I got a PS5 and it was fun.
My mom brought me lunch, it was a big bun.

Then I went outside and saw a big pool.
I got in the pool and looked like a fool
My mom brought me a popsicle to lick.
I felt not itch, I was free of my tick.

I finally got sent to my big bed.
I realized I went to bed in the shed.

BEST DAY EVER *by Jake Veldman*



I got out of bed and I looked outside
It's a snow day, in happiness I cried
I went downstairs to get something to eat
It was pancakes and eggs, what a great treat

I went back upstairs to go back to bed
The phone started to ring and someone said
Do you want a tour at the White House?
I was so happy, I screamed like a mouse.

After that trip, I flew back to my home
My mom was not home. I am home alone
Then I heard my friend's voice. It was Andy.
We ate all of the ice cream and candy.

It probably wasn't the most clever
This was for certain, the best day ever.

ARIZONA *by Skarlett Kooiker*



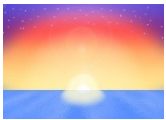
Arizona is a very fun state
In Arizona, there is lots of sun
This is a state you will appreciate
Arizona is a whole lot of fun

I would give this state a five star review
Maybe you should take a plane to get here
A prickly cactus is part of the view
The pretty sky is very bright and clear.

In this fun state you might go for a swim
In this sunny state, there is not much rain
If you go here, I hope you won't be grim
I hope you do not think this state is plain.

I want you to go to this real nice place
If you can't, don't worry its not a race

TWILIGHT *by Rylea Lodder*



When the sun goes down and the sky grows dark
I look up and see all the shining stars
The great glowing moon provides me some light
Yet alone in the dark, it is a fright.

I hear a wolf howl, I want to hide.
It gives me the creeps when its dark outside.
The night sky is a deep indigo blue
I can hear the noises of the night too.

Even in the dark, I can see beauty.
The great night sky is looking down on me.
A light wind blows the branches of the trees.
I sway with them in the cool twilight breeze.

Oh, twilight is such a beautiful thing.
Doesn't it make you want to dance and sing?

SOCCER *by Tamsen Kottelenberg*



If you are bored in summer, play soccer!
Way better than cleaning out your locker.
It is so much better than basketball!
Who likes shooting a ball at a plain wall?

I run to the net to go be defense.
I forget about school and the pretense.
I stop ball from getting in the net.
Soccer is my favorite sport, I bet.

My goalie dived and kicked to save the ball.
The crowd cheered loudly and clapped. What a squall!
The other team got a hand ball, "hooray!"
I really like soccer, oh what a day!

So if you are convinced that soccer is so great!
If you have soccer practice, don't be late!

SUMMER *by Bennett Lodder*



Summer is when I like to play baseball
I play with my brothers till it is dark
This is why I like it better than fall
Rocky likes it too; he lets out a bark

Sometimes we will swim in our pool at night
Especially when we have sleepovers
We bike to the creek for a water fight
Then we sit and look for four leaf clovers

We'll go on vacation to great places
There's lots of good spots in different states
It puts a big smile on all our faces
There's so much good food on different plates

There's so many reasons I like summer
When it's over it's always a bummer

HOCKEY by Eli Pelleboer



We play hockey any day of the week
Abbotsford or Langley, early or late
Before I go I better take a peak
Is everything there even my skates

We get our gear before we can play
Sharks, Panthers, Blades, Hawks, Penguins who will win
We can play at night or during the day
The team that is victorious will grin

The arena is very cold dress warm!
Goalies, players, coaches and referees
May people watching it is a swarm!
Trying to stay warm, some like to drink tea

I love to play hockey it is so fun.
After the game I like to eat a bun.

BAD DAY by Adri Stap



When I woke up I had gum in my hair
I tripped over a lamp and stubbed my big toe
At the table I fell off my big chair
After I almost broke my right elbow

I had to go to school and take a test
Then at lunch recess I spilled all my food
The school bully was being a big pest
My friend made me in a really bad mood

I played hopscotch and tripped over a rock
Down the slide I went into a puddle
I ripped a hole in the toe of my sock
The girls made fun of me not so subtle

Somebodies chewed gum stuck to my shoe
Thank goodness this awful bad day is through!

SOCCER by Jenell Sterk



I wake up and the sun is shining bright
I start to get ready for a big fight
I hear Stewart barking, he is my dog
I go outside and go for a fast jog

I am so excited to play my game
I am ready to be fast like a flame
When I get to the game I start to play
I run super fast and score a goal. Yeah!

I have the black and white ball by my feet
It is not nice to play soccer and cheat
My awesome place on the field is mid-field
I run with the ball. I am like a shield.

I love soccer so much! I love it lots!
All the other team's players start to rot.

MY DOG by Austin Thompson



I have a great dog. His name is Charlie.
He sleeps with me and is very silly
He loves to play outside with toy ball
He barks, but doesn't bite people at all

He is lazy but can run very fast
He tripped and fell but never got a cast
He loves playing with other dogs his size
When he is left outside, he sometimes cries

He is a very kind and lazy dog
He is weird but has not played in the fog
When Charlie eats human food, his farts reek
Some of our neighbors say he is a freak

He is a weird dog. But he is my dog.
He is an awkward dog and has a blog.

Attention all seniors and alumni interested in the teaching profession!

We invite you to apply for Cornerstone Christian School's

Education Scholarship

Eligible applicants will:

- Be a CCS senior or alumni.
- Maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- Be accepted to, or be currently enrolled in, a post-secondary institution.
- Be pursuing a course of study with the goal of a career in Christian education, e.g. be enrolled in an education department or specialized course areas.

Applications should:

- Include an 800-1000 word essay that introduces the applicant, summarizes post-secondary courses relevant to teaching, describes volunteer experience working with children, and articulates the applicant's view of Christian education.
- Provide 2 letters of recommendation.
- Include a general budget demonstrating financial need.
- Provide a transcript demonstrating academic standing.
- Be submitted to the CCS Principal by **March 28, 2024**.

The Education Scholarship Award will:

- Promote careers in the teaching profession among our graduates and alumni, with a long-term view of ensuring staff for Cornerstone Christian School.
- Be awarded to applicant(s) based on scholastic achievement, demonstrated commitment to Reformed education, and financial need.
- Be determined by June 3, 2024 as applicants and funds allow.
- Be dispersed in September directly to the successful applicant's institution upon proof of enrollment.
- Be funded largely by donors in our community, on a year to year basis.
- Be administered by the CCS Education Scholarship Fund Committee.

For more information, please contact the following CCS Education Scholarship Fund Committee members. We look forward to hearing from you!

Stephanie Bareman (j-sbareman@comcast.net)

Melanie Kottelenberg (janandmelanie@aol.com)

Featherpen - News Bulletin

Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10).

With great thankfulness, the faculty and staff at CCRTC can look forward to the beginning of a new year and reflect on the many blessings the College has enjoyed.

Much has happened over the course of the last few months. The College community continues to uphold our custodian, Mrs. Emma Vandervelde, in prayer as she goes through cancer treatments. Faculty and staff are also thankful to note that a new member has accepted a position to join the faculty and assist in the work at the College. Students at the College received their transcripts (report cards) on the 15th of January, and faculty are pleased to note that the overall results reflect the students' hard work and perseverance.

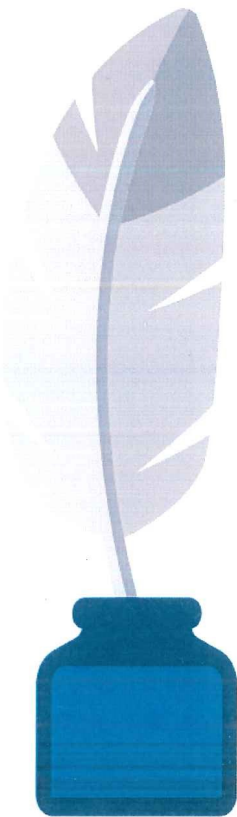
The class of '24 has survived the pressure and stress that comes with the job postings. While it is only natural to feel nervous at this life-changing decision, these students are encouraged to stay positive and focused on the work at hand. God has a plan for all of us; we need only to walk on the path which He has set before us while trusting in Him alone.

February 1 marked the deadline for student admission applications. Based on initial expressions of interest, the College may see a large student intake come September. What a blessing this would be!

A topic of interest in our schools for some years is the OCT application for accreditation. Faculty have been hard at work putting an extensive application together that covers many aspects of the College. Included in this application is a diagram titled, "Conceptual Framework" which represents the profile of a teacher candidate. It explains how knowledge, skills, and commitment intersect and overlap in the development of the students at the College and prepares them to become professionals in their line of work. The College offers its programs in line with the ethical standards of the teaching profession in Ontario: trust, care, respect, and integrity. Another diagram labelled "Program Framework" shows how courses such as curriculum, teaching, and religious studies fit within the OCT ethical standards. When taken together, the two diagrams represent what the College stands for and how the College delivers what it says it stands for.

As we begin a new year with hopes of accreditation and College success, we turn to God and commit all things to His good care, acknowledging that not our will, but His alone be done.

PR Committee - CCRTC



2023/2024 School Calendar

August

29- First Day of School

September

4- Labor Day

13- Student Picture Day

October

6- PD Day

9- Columbus Day

27- PD Day

November

10- Veteran's Day

14 - College & Careers Evening

17- HS 1st Qtr report Cards

17 - Thanksgiving Program

20,21- High School P/T Conferences

23- Thanksgiving Day

24- Thanksgiving Break

December

8- Elem 1st Term Report cards

11- Early Release -11:55am

11,13- Elem P/T Conferences

22- Last Day of 2023

25- Jan 5 – Christmas Break

January

8- First Day of 2024

15 - Martin Luther King Day

February

1- HS 2nd Qtr Reports

5,6- HS P/T Conferences

16- PD Day

19 -President's Day

29- Mid Winter Break

March

1- Mid Winter Break

15- PD Day

22- 2nd Term Elem Report Cards

25- Early Release (11:55am) P/T Prep

25/27- Elem P/T Conferences

29- Good Friday

April

1-5- Spring Break

12- HS 3rd Qtr Reports

18- Grandparents Day

May

3- PD Day

9- Ascension Day

24- Sports Day

27- Memorial Day

28- Sports Day Backup

June

7- Eighth Grade Graduation

14- Last Day of School

14- Senior Graduation

Board

Chairman:	Steve Hofford
Vice-Chairman:	Jan Kottelenberg
Secretary:	Stephanie Bareman
Treasurer:	Kolin Veldman
Ed Comm Liaison:	Stephanie Bareman
Staff & Membership Admin	Jan Kottelenberg
Building Liaison:	Harvey Pelleboer
IT Liaison:	Dave Hofford

Building/Maintenance Committee

Joshua Burger	Andrew DeMooy
Rick DeMooy	Jon Kruyswijk
Harvey Pelleboer	Terry VanDiest

Education Committee

Stephanie Bareman	Janice DeMooy
Jon Dykstra	Debbie Johnson
Rianne Kruyswijk	Ryan VanDriel

IT Committee

Caleb Bareman	Ian Davis
Dave Hofford	Dustin Wielenga

Finance Committee

Janice DeMooy	Brian Hendricks
Harvey Pelleboer	Kolin Veldman
Gavin Willis	

Athletic Committee

Katrina Lodder	Stephen Chase
Harvey Pelleboer	Kolin Veldman
Gavin Willis	

Ladies Aid Committee

Pres - Bea Kleyn	VP - Malorie Burger
Sec - Jessica Chase	Treas -Jolene Vreugdenhil

Staff

Office Administration:

Debbie Johnson - Principal, Art 7-10

Kari VanDiest- Secretary

Karla Leyenhorst - Bookkeeper

Full Time:

Jeanette Janssen - Science 7-12, Math 9-12

Jolene Groves— PE, Bible, Hist. 3/4, L.A., Math 3, PE, Science Gr.1/2

Lynette Van Hofwegen - Gr. 5/6

Stephen Chase - PE 5-8, Eng 9-10, Hist, 7-10, Per Fin 9

Stephen Houweling - Math 4,& 7/8, Bible, L.A., 7/8

Wayne Chase - Bible 9-12, Math 11, English, & History 11/12

Part Time:

Christine Hofford - Ed Support

Hannah Gonzalez - Spanish 11/12, Sci, Music, Geog. 3/4

Janice Dykstra - Ed Support Director

Jolene Vreugdenhil - Culinary Arts 11/12

Julie Thompson - Ed Support

Karen DeMooy - Art 3/4

Kathleen Stevens— Yearbook, L.A 4

Katrina Lodder - Ed Support

Kaylene Hofford - Ed Support

Kristina Wendt - PE HS

Melanie Kottelenberg - Music 5/6

Shari Kruyswijk - Gr.1/2 Bible, Math, Music, Art, History

Sharon Veldman - Culinary Arts 11/12

Tessa Kooiker - L.A. 1/2