

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ CCS

TEACHING SERVICE RECOGNITION

At CCS we have great and caring staff! Some are new to our community and some have been around for many years! The following staff were recently celebrated for their years of service. We are grateful for whom they are, how they show God's love to their students and care deeply about each child's learning!

5 year

Yvonne Bosgra
Lisa Korver



Mark Jonker, Craig Whitehead (Palisier Trustee), Jadan Barthel

10 year

Tim Allison
Jon McMann
Heather Thompson
Jadan Barthel
Cheryl Buckner

20 year

Mark Jonker
(read more on our [FB Alumni page](#))

35 year

Karen VandenBorn
(read more on our [FB Alumni page](#))

CALGARY SOCIETY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD NEWS

The CSCE Board has launched the first of several initiatives in the Strategic Plan ([link here](#)). At its September 18 meeting, Roger Grant of Identacor was approved to lead a re-branding process for CCS. The project will take 6 months and involve parents, staff, students, and alumni in the development of key identity and messaging elements for CCS. If you have interest in serving on the committee overseeing the project, please contact kdewyn@calgarychristianschool.com. Watch for opportunities to provide input and feedback in our weekly emails, monthly newsletter and website. In addition to updates on these activities, the Fall Society Meeting November 14 will include voting for a new auditor and filling a recently vacated director position.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR NO SCHOOL

October 9/10—No School - Thanksgiving Day and PD day
October 19/20—No School - CEA Teacher's Convention



Join the fun on Friday, October 13 from 5 - 8 pm. Staff and students will be hosting interactive games, free bouncy tents, obstacle course, concession dinner, sweet treats, popcorn, bakes sale, pumpkin painting, coffee, and more. Come support the Secondary campus and see what experiential learning CCS offers. Free admission - Everyone welcome ! (You can volunteer [HERE](#))

ANNUAL SPRING FUNDRAISER

JOIN THE TEAM



Would you like to be part of our Spring Fundraiser Planning team? [Signup here](#) to join the CCS Community Development team to assist with making decisions and organizing our fun and interactive annual fundraiser! Dates and times to meet can be flexible depending on availability of the group. The event is tentatively set for April 27.

WE WANT YOUR BOTTLES

ROBOTICS CLUB



Our HS Robotics team is hosting a bottle drive on Friday and Saturday, October 27/28. You can bring your recyclables to CCS on the 27th during school drop-off and pick-up – how convenient! They will also be collecting from Signal Hill on Saturday, the 28th.

IN MEMORIAM

MR. HENK VERHOEFF

1925-2017

Ephesians 3:20-21



The CCS community is deeply grateful for the lasting impact of Henk's work in support of Christian Education. Henk was instrumental and worked tirelessly in the community and with the government to open the first Christian school in Calgary over 50 years ago.

SECONDARY LIBRARY FUNDRAISER



Our annual fundraiser will take place on Tuesday, October 24 from 6 - 10pm at Indigo in Signal Hill.

A table will be set up with the Calgary Christian School name on it where Mrs. Armstead will sign you up. The School receives 20% from your purchased item(s) to be used for books for the Secondary Library. FAMILY AND FRIENDS are welcome to participate!

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INFO

KINDNESS ROCKS LITERALLY!



Thanks to our Gr5TM class for sharing encouraging with their classmates. It's the Kindness Rocks project where they wrote inspirational quotes on rocks and placed them around the school yard. Thanks for being such great Community-builders! To learn more about our Teaching-for-Transformation program, please [click here](#).

DID YOU KNOW? PROGRAMS

The Elementary has new and existing programs helping students in math and reading. Alternative programming now in place for our Grade 4-6 students. Div 1-3 participate with LLI (Level Literacy Intervention).

SECONDARY SCHOOL INFO

DO HARD THINGS SYMPOSIUM

Guests, parents, and friends of CCS! You are invited to attend a great morning hearing from keynote speaker, [Martin Parnell](#), and then join smaller breakout sessions of your choice. On Friday, October 27, presenters will share about risking, trying, trusting and how difficult things have shaped their lives. Maybe you have a story to share and inspire? Please consider and complete [THIS FORM!](#)

GET ON THE BUS NEW DRIVER

Meet Shengli Ji, CCS's new driver for Bus#2. Shengli has been driving bus full-time for Wilco since 2010. He is married with two young sons. Shengli likes the flexibility driving bus gives him to enjoy hobbies such as soccer, swimming and cheering for the Blue Jays. Welcome to CCS Shengli and thank you for getting our students to and from school safely!! Reminder to all bus families: please sign up for the delay notifications if you have not already done so. Contact the Business Office if you need help with this.



THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE SUPPORTING OTHERS



We are excited to be doing an Elementary school-wide Food Drive for Thanksgiving, as part of a Grade 3 service project. Along with dry goods for family meals and healthy children's snacks, we welcome toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, toilet paper, etc. These items will go to the Food Pantry operated by Emmanuel Church next door. These will be distributed to families needing assistance in our neighbourhood. The children suggested this idea as a way we can tangibly make our world a better place! Please have your donation at the school by Wednesday, October 12.

IT'S ICE TIME HOCKEY



The CCS tradition of Friday morning hockey will start up again on October 6. The ice time runs from 6:45am - 7:45am at Optimist Arena, across the street from the school. All high school students and parents are welcome. All skill levels appreciated!! The fee is \$50 per semester. Please [connect with Mr. Barthel](#) for more details.

SECONDARY SCHOOL INFO

PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

WELCOME BACK

We have had an excellent first month of school! The pace of events and learning is now ramping up, and we are enjoying getting our routines established. For example, we have already enjoyed our first three **Faith Formation Fridays** in the gym; featuring the life stories of several of our staff. Be sure to check in with your students on Fridays to hear what they did for faith formation on those days. A huge thanks to Pastor Layne - our chaplain - for his leadership in this area.

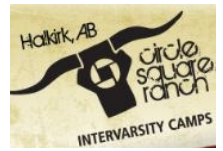
We do not have a long list of introductions this year, but I am happy to **introduce Mrs. Melissa Hair** to you as our only new teacher. She joins us from Menno Simons, where she had been a colleague with Mrs. Vienneau, teaching MS Language Arts. She continues that relationship here, and is teaching both Language Arts 7 and 8, and Bible 9. Take the opportunity to say hi and welcome her as you come through school and see her at various events.

September started with a sprint, a flurry of team building for four of our classes. The **Grade 12s** were off to **Frontier Lodge** right away with their leaders, and they came back with a sense of purpose and commitment to each other as well as our entire student body. A special thanks to the leaders who helped catalyze the experience - Mr. Bonk, Mr. Barthel, Pastor Layne, Ms. Monson, Mrs. Menzies and Ms. Wagar. We are looking forward to the leadership our grads will demonstrate as they find ways to live out their commitments made personally and to each other in those days.



The **Grade 8** crew enjoyed two days of activities at **Camp Chestermere** in the first week of school. This was a new experience for this grade, as we are looking to provide our MS students with a great start to the year and to connect them and their teachers by experiencing learning and challenges outside of classroom settings. Thanks so much to Mr. Allison, Mr. Oostenbrink and Mrs. Hair for their work with Mrs. Vienneau to make these days a success.

The **Grade 9** class has just returned from **Circle Square Ranch** days with the Doans at Halkirk. They also enjoyed some great activities,



particularly the evening firesides. We made some changes this year by moving this trip to the start of the year; that will give us the opportunity to leverage some community building and leadership development with this class. We also want the strong bonds that emerge to be part of the glue that leads our Grade 9 students to return to CCS for Grade 10. Thanks go to another list of chaperones: Pastor Layne, Ms. Her, Mr. McMann, Mrs. Vienneau, Mrs. Cherkas, Mr. Jonker, Sara Wagar (again :), Ryan Haacke and Mrs. Pariseau.

Our **Grade 7** class is just wrapping up their **SCREAM** week with the folks of [Courage for Youth](#) from Kelowna. This non-profit has been working in



schools for almost 15 years in BC and Alberta, and they bring 5 half days of character development and community building for our class as they begin their Middle School journey together. **Thank you to our Society partners** for all their assistance in enabling these very significant experiences to draw our students and staff closer together as we begin another year.

The usual events have come already - parent orientations, the Grade 7 family barbecue, first cross country runs and volleyball tournaments, and setting up Google Classrooms along with first tests, assignments due, etc. So, we are off and running, and enjoying the learning journey together. October has many additional experiences and highlights ahead, so stay tuned by **following us** in our weekly emails, on Facebook or Instagram (@YYCchristian1), by cruising [our website](#), and by coming to our many events, including our [Parent-School Council's](#) first meeting on **October 11 at 7pm**.

Next month will feature some feedback on our schedule changes for this year, as well as a list of even more people for whom we are thankful. I leave you with our verse for this year - **Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God's masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**