

## *Our Five Pillars of Excellence*

The goal of CCS' educational program is to motivate each student as they work towards achieving excellence in all they do. At CCS 'excellence' means striving for one's own best and fulfilling the potential that God has given each child. It is about challenging preconceived notions of what we are good at and daring to try what might frighten us. It is about developing our gifts and using them to impact the world.

Excellence in education is about developing the whole child - intellectually, emotionally, physically, socially and artistically. These five elements of excellence are central to the CCS Educational Program, but the cornerstone for each of these areas in the school is the school's spiritual foundation. Integrated throughout each of these areas is our objective to encourage a child's spiritual formation and strengthen their faith commitment.

### **Intellectual Excellence:**

Intellectual excellence is about exploring the beauty and mystery of all God created for us and possessing the knowledge, skills and attitudes required for academic success and to be responsive citizens in all aspects of God's Kingdom.

The educational program at CCS is about ensuring that students have the academic and intellectual tools they require to become active and engaged citizens with an ability to impact the world in a positive fashion.

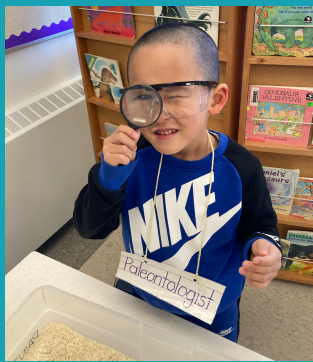
All students will be encouraged to develop creative and critical thinking through the proper use of Biblical criteria for evaluation.

### **Artistic Excellence:**

At CCS, artistic excellence is about reaching to explore the world in unique ways - to find the Mozart, DaVinci or Monet in each student for the glory and honour of God.

At CCS we will encourage children to find God's beauty and Christ's common grace in many diverse forms of artistic expression, not just those that are overtly Christian.

Artistic expressions, whether through music, drama, woodworking or broadcast journalism, are an integral part of a complete education. They provide students with unique opportunities to develop their gifts and self-confidence.



## Emotional Excellence:

Emotional excellence is about working towards an acceptance of who God has made us to be. It's a daily challenge that follows us throughout life. For students, acceptance from peers, body image and pressure to perform are just a few of the emotional barriers that can impact their school experience.

Students are taught to model Jesus Christ being responsible for themselves, others and property, and to treat everyone with love and respect.

Strong emphasis will be placed on each student possessing the character to do what is right, act morally with wisdom and balance individual concerns with the rights and needs of others.

Staff and students work together to create an environment in which each person feels safe and encouraged. Staff model care and concern for students. Conflict resolution will be demonstrated and taught using an effective Biblical model which encourages open communication, quick settlement and discretion of the parties involved.

## Social Excellence:

The development of strong Christian character is important to the CCS Educational program. Students will be encouraged to develop a steadfast Christian character so that they can make informed Christian choices based on Biblical criteria.

Students will be taught to engage modern culture as Christians and not simply to shun, resist or insulate themselves from it.

Students will learn Christian perspectives on life, work, and relationships – personal and communal.

Students will be challenged to become leaders at school, in their churches and communities both locally and globally. They will be involved in various service projects to help them gain an understanding of what it means to be a contributing member of society realizing the dependence we have on one another.

## Physical Excellence:

Achieving physical excellence means teaching and encouraging students to adopt healthy lifestyle choices to enjoy the abilities God has given us.

Physical excellence also means that CCS will encourage students to achieve athletic excellence through its educational program and student development opportunities.

Physical excellence is also about learning to respect each other and reflecting a Christ-like image. This includes how we genuinely listen, humbly speak, and courteously conduct our activities

