



WHAT'S HAPPENING @ CCS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR IMPORTANT DATES

See Google calendar online for dates, or better yet try syncing the calendar with yours.

- Jan 30—No School for MS/HS ONLY
- Feb 3—No School for ES ONLY
- Feb 8—InspirAct
- Feb 20, 23 and 24—No School



FROM THE CHAPLAIN PASTOR LAYNE

There is much to be thankful for in Faith Formation right now! **Teaching for Transformation:** Teachers continue to build lessons that integrate our Christian Faith in the classroom. A couple of examples include an elementary teacher who is planning a trip to the constructed wetland along Highway 8 to teach students about God's creation; and secondary teachers Mrs. Hofer and Mrs. Folkerts who brought in a facilitator to lead grade 10 social students through the First Nations Blanket Exercise. **Bible:** We've been reviewing the Bible Curriculum with teachers and will pilot a curriculum called "Telling God's Story" in the Elementary next year. For Secondary, we've also been reviewing and prayerfully dreaming about where God is calling us to go with the curriculum. Please keep all this in your prayers and watch for opportunities for parent and student input on our plans before the end of this school year! **Chapel:** On January 13, we were privileged to have Jason Caldwell speak to our secondary students. Jason is the father of Evan and Jordan Caldwell who died tragically in an accident at Canada Olympic Park last year. He challenged our students with how they can live well with Jesus! Also, this week I am travelling with two students to the Calvin Worship Symposium in Grand Rapids, MI. Please pray that Ben (Grade 8), Jonathan (Grade 10) and I hear God's leading for CCS chapels. **Care:** A special thanks to everyone who has said a prayer, offered encouragement or prepared a meal in Jesus name for the Echehu, Abma or Nieuwenhuis families. Thank you CCS Community! Please check out [Chaplain News](#) on the school website for regular updates.

CSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS



Nominations are now being accepted for the 2017-2020 term. Please refer to [this letter](#) for details.

ONLINE STORE IS NOW OPEN GET YOUR SPIRIT WEAR



Online ordering will be open from January 27—February 8. New additions: Zip up hoodie and Red Fan shirt supporting the Elementary Floor Hockey Tournament happening in March. Please note—this is your **last chance** to purchase these items for the remainder of this school year. [Shop now here.](#)

SPRING FUNDRAISER DINNER AND AUCTION



Join us on March 3 at our Annual Fundraiser with an Hawaiian theme this year. Invitations have been sent out and tickets are on sale now at both campuses. Purchase on or before **February 3** to be entered the early bird draw to win \$200. Help us meet our fundraising goal for this year of \$160,000!

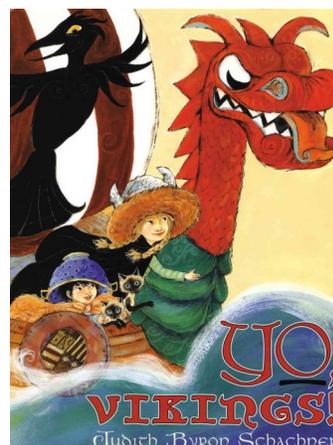
In addition to an amazing buffet dinner created by Roma Catering, there are many unique and interesting auction items to bid on. Exclusive to this year: The [West Coast Trail](#) with experienced guides Jason Kupery and Jean Dube! Combined they have over 30 years of experience and will guide you and 7 guests along this challenging and amazing 7-day hike in the summer of 2018.

Get your [event tickets today!](#) Check out our [fundraising page](#) for more amazing items.

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS UPCOMING EVENTS

Congrats to Trinity S, Grade 9 French hornist, who has been nominated to be participate in the Southern Alberta Honour Band and will represent our school. They will perform at Glenmore Christian Academy on Friday, Feb 17 at 7:30 pm.

- Grade 8/9 band at AIBF Festival at the Rosza Center, U of C at 9:00am on Wednesday, February 22
- Senior High band AIBF Festival at the Rosza Center, U of C at 3:00pm on Monday, February 27
- Grade 7 band at AIBF Festival at Bishop Carroll High School on March 14 or 15 (TBA)
- HS Choir to Choralfest at Knox United Church at 4:00pm on Thursday, March 16
- MS Choir to Choralfest at Knox United Church at 9:00am on Friday, March 17



Yo, Vikings!

Presented by
CCS Secondary students

A musical adaptation of the children's book of the same name by Judith Schachner

Performances

Wright Theatre at Mount Royal University
Doors open 6:30pm
Curtain at 7:00pm

Open Dress Rehearsal - March 22 (\$12)

March 23, 24 & 25

Tickets now available in the Business Office

Students thru Grade 6-\$15 Seniors (65+)-\$18 General Admission-\$20

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ALUMNI CONNECTION REUNIONS

Did you know? Calgary Christian School didn't always have a high school. In fact, grades 10 and 11 were only added for the 1975-1976 school year and grade 12 in the following year. Several students who had previously graduated in the grade 9 class of 1974 returned after a year away to join their classmates at CCS once again. The very FIRST grade 12 graduating class was the Class of 1977. That was nearly 40 years ago! Many of these classmates still keep in touch and many are STILL connected to the school!! All of these are reasons to celebrate! Plans are being made for a 40-year reunion (wow!), including the students who graduated in 1974 or 1977. Reunions are also being proposed for the grade 9 class of 1972, the Classes of 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2007 and 2012. If you haven't yet heard from our Alumni Liaison, or if you would like to help plan your class reunion, email Karen at kdees@calgarychristianschool.com.



MAKING MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS VOLUNTEER FAIR

Parents: we encourage you to attend InspirAct to see the vast opportunities available for your student and how they can impact their employment and scholarship options. From 11am – 12pm, we will have coffee and maybe you will find a place to serve too! InspirAct takes place from 9:30 - 3:00pm on February 8 at the Secondary Campus with over 40 agencies from across the City available to teach our Secondary students the benefits of volunteering. More [details on our website](#).

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INFO

SKATING PROGRAM THANK YOU!



A HUGE thanks to all the parents who came and helped make the Kindergarten and Grades 1-3 skating program a success. We really appreciate you taking the time to help the students and teachers.

SPECIAL LUNCHES COMING SOON!

Students can participate in two special lunches - the first on February 14 from Edo Japan and the second on March 17 from Inglewood Pizza. Details are available here on the [hot lunch page](#). Please remember the cut-off to order is the WEDNESDAY prior!

FLOOR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT MARK YOUR CALENDAR

On March 23, CCS will be hosting 5 schools and special guests. A red fan t-shirt is available again this year. Follow this [link](#) to our online store; **only open until February 8 so order now.**



PARENT SESSION POSITIVITY

FREE SESSION: CCS is hosting a *Parent session* facilitated by [the Positivity Centre](#) on February 8 at 7pm at the Secondary Campus. Join us to learn what positivity is, how it connects to your faith and how God designed you to be at your best. Life is uncertain so choose to participate in positively shaping yours – fill your cup with tools and strategies to increase your positivity. [RSVP here](#); it's not required but helpful.

Then clear your Wednesday nights in March as the **Parenting Positivity Essentials Course** is coming to CCS! Call your babysitter or relatives to watch your kids. Have another parent take your child to their team sports or extra curricular activities. If you're in a Small Group or Bible Study, ask them to join you! Friends and family are welcome to join you for this amazing course. March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 from 7-9pm in the LINC at the Secondary Campus, with a follow-up session on April 19! Discounted cost is \$69/person or \$119/couple. To register and for more details go to the [POSITIVITY CENTRE WEBPAGE](#).

JUSTICE SEEKERS EFFECT CHANGE

Grade 9 Language Art students have been working hard learning to write an effective business letter. Before it mattered on the P.A.T. this week, it mattered in the real world. Students had a chance to use their skills as part of Amnesty International's Write for Rights. After examining cases of social injustice in Malawi, Australia, Canada and the United States, each student chose one of those cases and wrote a letter urging leaders to take action. What a powerful way for students to use their skills to be Justice Seekers and as part of such a widespread campaign, these letters *will* effect change!

LEGO SHOWCASE 2017 GETTING CREATIVE



Over the last few years we have hosted a Lego showcase in our Library, which is a great way for students to put their skills to work. Following step-by-step instructions or being creative and building from scratch, we encourage everyone to work at their level. BUT we need parents to help run this special event at the end of April. If you are willing, please volunteer on [this SignUp](#), questions can be directed by [email to the Community Relations Office](#).

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES ONLINE MANAGER



Parent-Teacher Interim Conferences will take place on February 2 & 7. The Conference Manager is now open. Instructions on how to book can be found [here on our website](#). Please note these conferences are for parents of Grades 1 - 6. Kindergarten conferences will be held in March.

SECONDARY SCHOOL INFO

CAREER AND ACADEMIC COUNSELLOR

MRS. FOSTER

As High School Course selection approaches (Feb 28) take this opportunity to meet with our academic counsellor. Click the links to [schedule an appointment](#) or [send an email](#) to connect with Mrs. Foster.

- Considering a career in law enforcement? Check out the all-expenses-paid [RCMP Depot Summer Camp](#) for grade 11 and 12 students (August 7-11).
- Are you a girl considering a career in science, technology, engineering or math? Are you a guy considering a career in nursing, nutrition or human ecology? Check out the [WISEST Summer Research Program](#) for grade 11 students from July 5-August 16.
- Have you applied to College or University for the fall? Make sure to complete your financial award application ASAP (even if you haven't received your acceptance yet).

SCHOOL COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 1



This Secondary-focused school council meeting will be at 7pm in the LINC . All parents of Secondary students are invited to attend. Find out about the High School Re-design along with special guest Josephine Tite from the Positivity Centre. Meeting agenda can be found [here](#).

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL UPDATE

GO COUGARS!



See how our high school teams have been doing here on this [Athletics page](#). Congrats to the coaches and athletes as both team and individual development have been evident. Your recent success is to be applauded.

PRINCIPAL UPDATE

FROM MR. LLOYD BOODY

Welcome back to school in 2017, we trust our students have prepared their best to complete the first semester courses. New classes are just around the corner - starting January 31. There were lots of things to celebrate in December, so let's review some highlights....

Congratulations to our choirs, bands, and alumni and community musicians who delivered such fine concerts before and after Christmas. Our **music program** is an essential part of our students' development, and we value the investment and expertise Rick VanderWoude and his team bring to our learning community.

Also getting underway is **our drama team**, led by Linda Delaney. Her cast and crew will be presenting "Yo, Vikings!" later this spring, and they are already in rehearsals. Both drama and music - **performing arts** - offer our students a team context that is unique and invaluable in their social, emotional, and personal development. We combine those opportunities with second languages and visual arts such as photography, cinematography, drawing, painting and sculpting to offer a broad program that complements and enhances students' learning across the curriculum.

Basketball season is our second major sport cycle, and we are already seeing growth in our players and teams. A huge factor in our students' learning is the opportunity to pursue their interests and challenge themselves; Mark Jonker and Kevin Fransisco (our Athletic Directors) make this possible with the help of an extensive team of volunteers:

- Gr 7 Girls - Kim V, Mr. Vriend, Teena M
- Gr 7 Boys - Richard W, Mark R, Dennis V, Mr. Beeksm
- Gr 8 Girls - Elaine B, Chris R, Mrs. Reitsma
- Gr 8 Boys - Mr. Jonker, Lisa K
- Gr 9 Girls - Stephanie L, Aden W, Mrs. Olson
- Gr 9 Boys - Randy H, Cam D, Trent O, Mr. Barthel
- Varsity Girls - Chris T, Sara W, Mrs. Simmonds
- JV Boys - Jesse R, Mr. Robichaud
- Varsity Boys - Mr. Bonk, Dan J, Matt B, Caleb B

Work Experience and off-campus education have long been options for senior high students, and we are involved in two initiatives to increase awareness and access to those concepts. CCS is proud to pilot a Dual Credit partnership with Ambrose University and Palliser Regional Schools this term. We have our initial two students enrolled in Religion 105 at Ambrose, where they will receive instruction from Dr. Colin Toffelmayer and post-secondary credits from Ambrose. We anticipate this to be the pilot of an ongoing program that will offer grade 11 and 12 students a chance to earn credits for both high school and post-secondary transcripts while previewing the university learning environment. Thank you to Palliser, Ambrose University, and our society for their financial support to make this program possible.

Work Experience has additional planning underway to increase awareness and opportunity for students to earn credits in off-campus, on-the-job settings. We have already planned for some students to join our elementary classes as teacher assistants, and there will be further opportunities highlighted in information coming to grades 9 - 12 classes in early March.

Finally, work continues on understanding and gaining information related to Moving Forward with **High School Re-Design**. Our teachers are compiling diagnostics, and a school-wide survey is coming in February to provide additional data. The February 1 School Council meeting will preview the process for parents as well. Parents of grade 7 and 10 students, you will be receiving surveys from Alberta Learning in the mail in late January. Thank you for providing that feedback for us; obviously it gives us data in our Accountability Pillar report, but we also take that information and study it seriously as we develop plans for upcoming initiatives. We will also be providing a forum for students and parents to join us for dialog around some critical questions - look for those to come prior to Spring Break.

As the year moves to the halfway point, I am encouraged and energized by what has been accomplished, what lives we have influenced, and what eternal investments have been made. Let's not get tired of doing well; rather, let's continue to draw our strength from Christ, for we can do all things through Him.

