



A GLANCE AHEAD!

DECEMBER 2022

I don't know anyone that doesn't love a gift. No matter what the gift is, it's just nice when someone thinks of you. Sometimes when a student comes to the office crying, I try to distract them by saying "hmmm...I think I have something for you" then I go around my desk to a little bag of random things I keep and find something small that I think they would like. The best part about this little thing I do isn't the gift, it's usually some small thing that was sent to the school for a promotion, a sticker, or some thing from the scholastic sample pack. The best part is watching the tears stop and the intrigue that replaces their emotions while they wait to see what Mrs. Bourne has for them. Almost without fail (that time it was a broken arm) that little distraction of getting something is enough to stop the tears and allow me to find out what's really happening. The power of a gift.

At this time of year, we hear about gifts a lot. We ask our kids for gift ideas, maybe send a list of gift ideas to Grandparents, we pick up gag gifts, and make special gifts. It's such a joy when you find something that the receiver will really love. Children go to bed on Christmas Eve wondering what special thing they may get in the morning, and excited to watch parents open the special gift they made at school or bought. Those are the best gifts, ones that are given out of love and sacrifice.

A quick google search defines a gift as "something we often give to re-confirm or establish our connection with others, which means that they're a reflection of both the giver and the receiver, as well as their unique relationship. Giving a gift to someone we care about allows us to communicate our feelings and appreciation for them."

That's cool because it's very similar to the Bible's description of a gift too. In Romans 6:23 we read that "the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord". That gift, Jesus, is what God gave us to confirm and re-establish our connection to Him. Jesus, God's gift, is a reflection of the giver, God. Jesus is the connection to a unique relationship we can share with God when we communicate our feelings and appreciation - to God - salvation!

This season as we give and receive gifts, we can consider Jesus, the gift from God. How Jesus is the way to connect with God, that He perfectly reflects the giver - God. Jesus is a gift given out of love and the ultimate sacrifice - will you receive Him this season?

Merry Christmas, Sylvia Bourne.

Auction Update

Many of you will know that one of CCA's biggest fundraisers since CCA began is the annual Christmas Charity Auction. The Auction was key to helping keep tuition affordable by generating about \$30,000 for the annual budget. After a pause due to COVID and then an online version of the auction - there was time to reflect and contemplate whether the Auction is bringing in enough funds to warrant the hundreds of hours it takes by many individuals to run it. There were several factors considered and thought through before determining that it is time to rethink the Auction. For a couple of years, administration has been considering a different type of event and believe it to be a suitable substitute for the Auction, accomplishing most of what the Auction did and requiring much less work by so many.

This year CCA will be hosting a "Night of Gratitude Gala", on January 27th. The Night of Gratitude Gala will have multiple purposes:

- build and foster community with a shared goal the way the auction did
- allow those that are able to give financially an opportunity to do so - the way the auction did with a goal of raising \$50,000
- celebrate and promote what God is doing at the Academy - the way the auction did
- invite others to learn about CCA - the way the auction did
- refresh individuals and couples with a night out - the way the auction did

The night will consist of a full evening program, including a dinner, comedy show, video, and an opportunity to bid on silent auction items that have been solicited.

Interested businesses have the opportunity to contribute to the evening by sponsoring a portion of the night. If you are interested in being a corporate sponsor, please contact the office.

Corporate Sponsor Levels

Platinum \$5,000

Gold \$3,000

Silver \$1,000

Bronze \$500



More information will be sent out about this fun and exciting community event!

Assemblies

Assemblies are a highlight of our week, watching kids battle their nerves to show a talent or gift, tell a joke, skip, dance or perform a skit. It's always a good variety and provides a chance to highlight individual skills and share something they've passionate about. Regular assemblies will resume in January.

Thursday, December 22nd at 2:00 p.m. - Christmas Assembly - Parents Welcome

After School Care - Interruption to Program

Due to a shortage of staff, there will no aftercare program from the 13th of December to the 22nd.

Book Fair

A huge thanks to all families who participated in our book fair.

Thank you to those who purchased books for your student's classrooms. New books to choose from at reading time are always appreciated! Thank you to Mrs. Connor for organizing the book fair. We spent a record breaking \$ earning us % back in Scholastic Rewards! Thank you!



2023 Calendars \$25 each or 2 for \$40

Everyone needs a 2023 wall calendar, right? Why not buy one from CCA? Every month is original artwork, with a beautiful watercolor painting of the Academy on the cover. These calendars would make a beautiful gift for Grandparents! Order through the office, while supplies last - you won't be disappointed. Calendars are \$25 each or 2 for \$40.

CCA Parent Facebook group

If you are interested in joining the CCA Facebook parent page it is called CCA Parent 2 Parent Connection and is a good place to see pictures from the day, track down lost uniforms, arrange sports event rides and so on.

Christmas Cards for Seniors - Due by December 12th

This season Mrs. Mayhew will be leading CCA in blessing senior citizens who may be feeling lonely this season by making homemade Christmas cards, or pictures - as many as we can and deliver them to local homes for residents. Please consider spending time as a family to make some thoughtful Christmas cards with a message or picture for a senior citizen. Families are encouraged to sign the cards but not to address them. Staff at the home will give the cards where they are most needed. All art abilities are welcomed and encouraged! Cards can be given to Mrs. Mayhew who will collect and distribute them in time for Christmas.

Christmas Carol Songs

During the last two weeks of school, staff and students will begin each day singling traditional Christmas Carols during the final two weeks of school before the Christmas break to help foster the Christmas spirit and start the day in a joyous way.



Cold and Flu Season

We are experiencing a high number of cold and flu symptoms among families and staff. A cold/flu seems to be making its way through families, and classrooms. In conversation with the Health Unit, we are not alone in this. Schools, daycares, and seniors' homes are all experiencing the same thing. The Health Unit just asked us to remind everyone that the screening tool is available if you need guidance and to remember all we learned about pathogens, during Covid. Stay home if you are sick, wash your hands frequently, and practice respiratory etiquette by covering your cough or sneeze.

If a student feels or has any of these symptoms, they need to be picked up:

- Gastro symptoms - home for 48 hours after symptoms.
- Nausea/vomiting - home for 48 hours after symptoms.
- Uncontrollable coughing fits
- Generally unwell and tired
- Fever - home for 48 hours after symptoms.

Screening Tool:

<https://www.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

We understand that some coughs are lingering over weeks, and expect some coughing may last a little while.



Christmas Holidays

Our last day of school before Christmas holidays is Thursday, December 22nd. Classes will resume on Monday, January 9th, 2023.

Events

Dress Down/Donation Christmas Themed Days - Wednesday, December 7th and 14th

You can enjoy a CCA Christmas Spirit Dress-Down day for a \$2 donation or a non-perishable food item for the food bank (Canned fruit, Canned vegetables, Baked beans, Cereal, Cans of soup, Condiments (Ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise), Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Muffin/cookie mix, Stuffing mix, Juice, Juice boxes, Honey, Jam, Peanut Butter, Sugar, Instant coffee, Coffee whitener, Chocolate)



Arise Christmas Ballet - Christmas Presentation - Friday, December 9, 11:30 and 1:15*

We are looking forward to welcoming Arise Dance Studio to present 2 back-to-back performances of their Christmas special, Born in Me. Grade 4-12 will watch from 11:30-12:15 p.m. and grade K-3 will watch from 1:15-2:00 p.m. Parents are welcome and encouraged to join us for either show. * Times are different than noted in November newsletter.

A Christmas Blessing - Donations needed

Each year CCA has the opportunity to bless the Interval House with a generous donation of new pajamas, toys and gift cards. This year the need is great, please consider donating some of these items. A financial donation is also appreciated, and tax receipts can be provided (by the Interval House)

Candy Cane Hunt 1:30 p.m. - Thursday, December 22

We will continue our tradition of an outdoor candy can hunt and hot chocolate on the last day of school before the winter break. 😊

Grade 8 vs Staff Volleyball Game - Thursday, December 22

Staff are taking on the graduating grade 8 class of 2023 in a friendly game of volleyball on Thursday December 22nd beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Christmas Play - Wednesday, December 21, 7 pm

Our focus in this year's play and musical presentation, is that it is not our story, it is HIS story. Through this production, we invite you to ponder the following: Jesus came to this earth to die so that we may have life. Do you realize that Christ came for you?

When : December 21st, 2022

Where: Calvary Pentecostal Church, Highway 29, Carleton Place

Time: 7:00- 8:30 pm - please arrive between 6:30-7:00 and have your child brought downstairs in full costume!

Field Trip

In November we thoroughly enjoyed hosting the Junkyard Symphony for a musical presentation on the importance of reduce, reuse and recycling. We learned a lot and had a ton of fun! Students were impressed with some of the staff's dance moves when they were called up to the front 😊

Fundraiser - Christmas Wreaths

The grade 8 class will be selling live Balsam Fir Christmas wreaths for \$25 each. The wreaths will be delivered on December 12th. Preorder with a grade 8 student or by emailing jsalisbury@calvaryca.com. Etransfers can be sent to jsalisbury@calvaryca.com password "wreath".

Fundraiser - Candy Grams

Highschoolers will be selling candy grams, at lunch time on Dec 12,13. . A full sized candy cane will be anonymously delivered the week of the 19th. Candy grams are a fun way to let someone know that someone was thinking of them. Every student will receive at least one candy gram. If you would like to buy candy grams for a class, please email your order to kchapman@calvaryca.com and etransfer the office.

French Fun

The last Friday of each month is French Fun! Mme. MacFarlane spends the day outdoors with each class. It's a great opportunity to enjoy the beautiful property CCA has.



Inclement Weather Info

Bus cancellations and school closure will be circulated by email generally by 7:00 a.m. There will also be a message posted on the parent Facebook page. CCA follows the UCDSB cancellations, which means that if the UCDSB cancels local bus services, our school is closed.

You can check the Student Transportation of Eastern Ontario (STEO) website for bus cancellations. www.steo.ca

On snowy days, please use your best judgement, if you ever feel it is unsafe to drive to school, just send a note to the office informing us of your absence.

Hot Lunches

January-March order form will be emailed out this week and be available online. Please get your order in before December 12th. Payments can be made by etransfer to the office using the password CCA2022. <https://calvaryca.com/food-program/>

Non-Uniform Days Dress Down Days

Christmas Dress down day on Dec 7 and 14 if you bring \$2.00 for the Interval House or a non-perishable food donation (cereals, pasta, peanut butter) for the food bank.

Operation Christmas Child

A big thank-you to Sharon Connor and each of you that that made our 2022 Operation Christmas Child campaign another success! Much effort, energy, time and resources are put into this campaign. Each of us are blessed as we reach out to bless less fortunate children around the world. **The total number of shoeboxes packed and collected at CCA was 273!**



Parking Lot Reminders

With the arrival of winter, slippery roads and slush we hope to make your commute, arrival and departure as safe as possible. Please practice safe parking lot etiquette by parking in a spot and waiting for the bus to pull away before starting the loop line up. Please do not reverse in the parking lot, park in such a way that you can pull forward. Please do not line up at the mouth of the driveway or on the highway. Use the side street for overflow traffic if needed. The loop line is meant to be a drop and go or pick up and go - quick stop. If you need time to say goodbye or find belongings, please park in a parking spot to do so.

Right Now Media - Free Gift - Online Library

This season would you consider accepting the FREE Right Now Media account as a resource to you. Right Now Media is a Christian resource for men, women, and children of all ages. CCA has paid for a group membership for all CCA and CCHS families, please sign up and take a look at the timely and relevant programs and resources offered there. We'd love to hear what you are watching so send us a note with some of your favorites - especially this Christmas Season. The private invite/link can be emailed to you for your family account.

Skating Rink – Parent Volunteers Needed

This year we would love to have a skating rink again so classes will have the opportunity to use the rink for Phys. Ed class or special events. We are looking for a team of volunteers that have experience with outdoor rinks and are willing to build and maintain the rink.

Spirit Days

Thank you to everyone who dressed up for November's Spirit Days, it was fun to see such creative and colorful costumes! Below are some pictures from the 6 spirit days.



Special Shopping Event for kids – December 7 –Gently used items needed

This year the Grade 8's are bringing back one of the kids favorite events – kids shopping day! On December 7th, the gym will be set up as a shopping center for kids. Each grade beginning with JK will have the opportunity to shop for their loved ones and bring home a wrapped specially chosen gift – for you!

For this event we need your no-longer-wanted- but-still-in-good-shape gift items. These items will be organized by the Grade 8 class, and little shoppers will have the opportunity to buy gifts with the help from Grade 8's. The gifts will be wrapped and labelled and sent home that day. Please send cash to shop with, whatever amount of money they bring will be sufficient for their shopping.

In preparation for the shopping day your little shopper will need a list of people to shop for, it is helpful if you can include ages so we can help steer them in their selection. (see sample list below).

Please send in your gently used items beginning December 1st. You can also send in tape, ribbons, gift bags, bows, and gift wrap and lots of shopping bags (plastic and reusable).

Mom – knitting, reading

Dad – coffee, tools

Brother Scot 12 – cars, games

Student of the Week

Beginning in January homeroom teachers will be submitting a name for Student of the Week. The student of the week is a student who engages in the classroom, sets a positive example to their peers and is a leader by their example. Nominees are announced on the announcements and presented with a certificate of achievement. You can look for monthly nominees in the newsletters!

Sports

Flag Football

Mrs. Lee and Mr. Salisbury were so proud of the Grade 7's for placing 2nd in the "B" category, and grade 8 came in 3rd in the "A" category. Most importantly, the kids were good sports, had a lot of fun and encouraged one another.

CCHS Road Hockey

CCHS had their annual Road Hockey Tournament on Friday, November 18th. Congratulations to Nathan Shoemaker, Tim Bourne, Anthony Geerts, Miriam Schilke and Kienna Foster for taking home the cup!

Grade 7/8 Volleyball - December 1

The Grade 7/8's will participate in a tournament on December 1st. Girls will be held at Notre Dame in Carleton Place and the boys at St John's in Perth. The teams have been practicing hard and hope to place.

Grade 5/6 Volleyball - December 15

The grade 5/6's will participate in a tournament on December 15th. Girls will be held at Holy Name of Mary and the boys will be at St. Francis in Smiths Falls. The teams have been practicing hard and hope to place. More information will be sent home with the athletes.

CCHS Volleyball

CCA and CCHS are always a good competitor for placing in the top spots in local tournaments. We are happy that sports have resumed in a limited capacity this year and are proud of our CCHS Senior Boys who placed second in the Ontario Christian Schools tournament in Trenton. We look forward to cheering on the girls as they begin their season this month.



Thank you

Thank you for all the outdoor toys donated to the kindergarten yard by CCA families. The kids (and Ms.Martel) love them ! Thank you so much.

Winter Wear

Now that the winter is here, please be sure to send appropriate winter wear for your child. Hat, gloves, winter coat, boots, and snow pants when there is snow, are necessary for all grades. If students are not dressed warmly enough they will sit outside of the office during recess. Students that repeatedly forget winter wear will receive an assignment to complete.

*Grade 7/8 are not required to wear snow pants, but if they choose to not wear them, they cannot play in the snow. They are required to wear all other winter wear.

Volunteer Opportunities

As you know, each family is responsible for 25 hours of volunteer service to the Academy. We know that because of Covid restrictions and the resulting changes to programming, it can be more of a challenge to get your volunteer hours. Each month we will try to provide volunteer opportunities and hope that each one will find something that suits their interests and abilities. If you have strengths or interests and would like to help in some area, please email the office.

Volunteer Hour Opportunities this month include;

Nightly Cleaning -Dec 13, 15, 19 We need nightly cleaners to help with the nightly cleaning. If you can clean one or more of the days, please let the office know.

Deep Cleaning - We are also looking to form a list of volunteers for a deep clean team that can self-schedule to come in over the break or periodically in the new year (weekend or evenings) to deep clean areas of the school that need it. Supplies will be provided.

Classroom Help - Homeroom teachers will send out requests as needed. If you have a particular interest or skill that may be helpful or useful in the classroom, feel free to reach out and offer your time. Some examples are art or craft prep or lesson, video presentations or lessons.

Outdoor Rink - We are looking for a team of volunteers to help build and maintain an outdoor rink.

Gala Team - We will need a set up and take down teams as well as a silent auction organizer for the Night of Gratitude. If you are interested in helping with this, please let the office know.

Kitchen Help - The kitchen is looking for a Wednesday helper, if you are able to help Wednesdays in the kitchen, please let us know.

Yearbook Team - Mrs. Cousins is looking for some volunteers to help with the Yearbook. You do not need to have graphic design experience. The program that I use (Pictavo) is easy to learn! You can sign up and just do a couple hours, or if you really enjoy it, there is enough work that you can probably earn all of your volunteer hours for the year! (I can provide training with the program anytime) This can be worked on at home, on your own computer, at your convenience. This does not have to be a full year commitment. Only what you want to offer of your time. Please contact me directly if you're interested or have questions. Bethany Cousins: bcousins@calvaryca.com

Community

Snow Pass Program

The Canadian Ski Counsel offers a "Snow Pass" for grade 4-5 students. For \$29.95, kids can ski at hills across the country up to 3 times each year with no additional lift fees. This program is not run through the school so please check out their website for more information.

<https://snowpass.ca/>

A warm Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each of you!

Tom Bourne, Principal

