



*developing minds*

*building character*

*nurturing faith*



## A GLANCE AHEAD!

DECEMBER 2023

**A**round here, if a child is feeling particularly fond of you oftentimes it is expressed by an invitation to their birthday party. Conversely, if they are unhappy with you it may result in a revoked invitation to said party "You're not coming to my birthday anymore". And those words sting. To kids, there is nothing worse than feeling left out.

We would be kidding ourselves if we think adults grow out of this feeling. Am I the only one that still feels the sting of feeling left out from an event or fun night? I wonder why no one invited me? On the contrary, I light up when I receive an unexpected invitation out of the blue. Even if I can't attend, I feel energized by the thought, and my heart is warmed because someone thought of me.

This reality for children and adults alike is part of who we are. We want to belong, be included and be liked. We want to feel loved. I love that this is the exact spot where God reaches us. Whatever stings you have been hurt by (rejection, guilt, fear, heartbreak, dysfunction, loneliness) God fills that space. It's been said that there is a "There is a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of every [person] which cannot be filled by any created thing, but only by God the Creator, made known through Jesus Christ." We have a longing for something that will not be satisfied by anything but Him.

The GOSPEL is the GOOD NEWS this season! Jesus doesn't leave anyone out, there is no sting with Jesus. The Bible is like Jesus saying YOU are invited to His birthday party! Afterall, His birth is the reason we celebrate Christmas. His birth was planned to bring all of us together from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb (Revelation 7:9). His birth and eventual death to cover the cost of our wrongs - is the real gift that is offered to us this season.

Jesus birth, as foretold in the Bible, is recorded in history points us to a celebration in heaven. A celebration that everyone is invited to, and no one is left out - will you accept His invitation?

Merry Christmas!

~Sylvia Bourne

### **Annual General Meeting - Tuesday December 5**

Please be reminded that our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Updates and information will be given on the various activities of the Academy. The meeting is approximately 90 minutes in length. Following the meeting, there will be a time of refreshment and fellowship. An email was sent on November 28<sup>th</sup> with more details.

### **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. Parents are always invited to join us for assemblies and chapel.

Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. - Regular Assembly.

Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 p.m. - Christmas Assembly



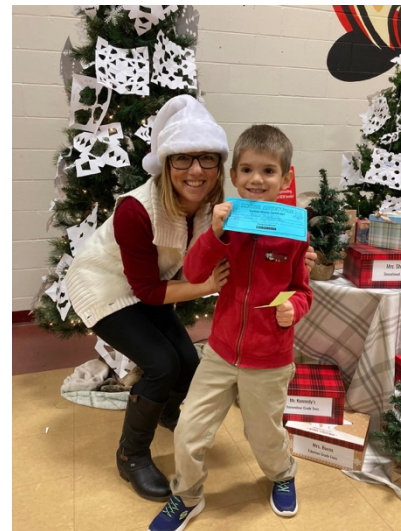
### **Basket Items**

Each class was assigned a theme for a classroom gift basket. Each student is asked to contribute one item valued at \$10 toward their classroom basket. Items were due by the end of November. If you have not yet sent your item in, please do as soon as possible. We are looking for 10 more baskets and a couple of volunteers to assemble the baskets. If you would like to help, please contact the office.

### **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 \$4,500 earning us 60% back in Scholastic Rewards! Thank you!



### **CCA Parent Facebook group**

If you are interested in joining the CCA Facebook parent page search CCA Parent 2 Parent Connection. It's a good place to track down lost uniforms, arrange carpooling and connect with other parents.

### **Christmas Cards - Due by December 18<sup>th</sup>**

This season Mrs. Vala 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. Vala who will collect and distribute them in time for Christmas.

### **Christmas Carols**

Staff and students will begin 15 minutes each morning singing traditional Christmas Carols in the gym for the final two weeks of school before the Christmas break. We want to help foster the Christmas spirit and start the day in a joyous way.

### **Christmas Holidays**

CCA will be closed for Christmas holidays. The last day of school is Thursday, December 21. Classes will resume on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### **Deer Hunter**

The tradition of the "Deer Hunter" game during deer hunting season continued this year in the junior division Griffin West placed first -great job!! In the senior division, siblings battled it out on the field in a one-on-one chase that resulted in Gavin Sanford placing first over his sister, Hannah - good job to all of you! Thank you Mrs. Reid for organizing the game.

### **Events**

#### **Arise Ballet- Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> - 2 Presentations**

We are looking forward to welcoming Arise Dance Studio to present 2 back to back performances of their Christmas ballet. Kindergarten to grade four will watch at 9:30 and grades five to twelve will watch at 11:30. The ballet is about 45 minutes. Parents are welcome to join us for either performance.

#### **Field Trip, Grade 7/8 - Tuesday, Dec 5, 2023**

To apply hands-on knowledge to the curriculum, Mr. Salisbury and Mrs. Lee planned a day trip to Carleton Place. Students will learn about Forces, work, and force x Mass and some history about the industrial revolution. Thank you to the Houles at Park-it 360, All Nations Church and The Wool Shop for hosting. Details were sent to 7/8 families by email.

#### **\$2 Dress Down in Red and Green - Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

Dress-Down day for a \$2 donation for the Lanark Interval House. Families wishing to bless the Interval House residents could donate new socks, pajamas, hats and mitts.

#### **Candy Cane and Hot Chocolate- Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**

We will enjoy candy canes and hot chocolate at last recess on the last day of school before the winter break. 😊

#### **Grade 8 vs Staff Volleyball Game - Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**

Staff are taking on the graduating grade 8 class of 2024 in a friendly game of volleyball on Thursday December 21<sup>st</sup> beginning at 9:30 a.m.







### Christmas Play - Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>

With the growth of our student body, this year CCA will have two Christmas play performances. The matinee performance will be held at 1:30 pm for friends, grandparents and guests. The regular 7 pm performance is limited to two guests per student due to limited space.



**NEW** - On December 20<sup>th</sup> students should be dropped off and picked up at Calvary Pentecostal Church in Carleton Place following the regular school schedule. Bus students will be bused to and from the church.

That evening, students are expected to be back at the church for 6:30 pm. Students will make their way to the basement and parents will find a seat in the auditorium.

### Christmas Play - Costumes

JK/SK/Grade 4 (*Little Drummer Boy*)

Dress for performance:

Boys: White collared CCA dress shirt and red bowties (supplied by CCA) and black pants.

Girls: white or red dress, or skirt/top combination. Matching hair accessories.

Grade 1, 7, and 8 (*Joy to the World*)

Dress for performance:

Boys: CCA red collared shirt with black bowties (supplied by CCA) and black pants.

Girls: red or black dress, or skirt/top combination. Matching hair accessories.



Grade 1/2, 3 and 5 (*Light of the World*)

Dress for performance: Plaid Theme

Boys: Plaid shirt (Christmas colours - any combination of reds, white, blue, green, black, etc...) and black pants.

Girls: plaid or solid Christmas coloured dress or skirt/top combination.

Grade 2, 5/6, and 6 (*What a Glorious Night*)

Dress for performance: Christmas sweater theme

Boys: Christmas sweater (knit, Christmas themed or solid colours are fine) and black pants.

Girls: Christmas sweater with black bottoms/skirt, or Christmas coloured dress.



### 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.

### Fundraiser

The grade 8 class is selling Canadian made 7-bit screwdrivers. These are a perfect gift idea and will be available for pick up the week of December 11th.



Buy one for your house and one for the car and tool box. \$20 each (including tax) or 3 for \$50. Email [jsalisbury@calvaryca.com](mailto:jsalisbury@calvaryca.com) to order.

### Save the Date - A Night of Gratitude Gala - Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Save the date for the 2023-24 Gatitude Gala - a night of gratitude. You already have two tickets included in your tuition - it's a free date night. Dinner and a comedy performance are sure to brighten a cold January night. Planning is already underway for the gala. Last year \$50,000 was donated through sponsorship, pledges and individual donations, we are excited to see how God provides this year. We need your support in gathering sponsors for this event. CCA is looking for organizations that have a generational mindset and see value in investing in the school's future. Is your business interested in investing in an organization like CCA? Are you willing to make a one-time donation, or partner monthly with us? We would love to find a donor that is willing to match pledges? Since CCA is a registered charity, your donation tax-deductible\*.

\*Donations can be made in the 2023 calendar year for a 2023 tax receipt.

### **Inclement Weather Information**

If STEO cancels ALL transportation, CCA is closed. There may only be specific routes cancelled, or bus delays, in this case school is open. CCA's bus is a private charter and not listed on the delay or cancellation list, CCA bus cancellations will come by email.

Bus and school cancellations will be communicated by the office through email by 6:30 am. There will also be a message on the parent Facebook page detailing the decision. If you have NOT received an email about a school closure, school is open. If you ever feel unsafe driving, please do not drive. Let the school know you will be home for the day.

In rare circumstances, our bus may not run due to freezing, mechanical or other problems, in this case, only bus families will receive an email and school will be open.

The Student Transportation of Eastern Ontario website will post bus delays or cancellations.  
[www.steo.ca](http://www.steo.ca)

### **Hot Lunch Order - Due December 13<sup>th</sup>**

January's order form is coming soon and will be available online too. Please get your order and payment in before December 13<sup>th</sup>. <https://calvaryca.com/food-program/>

### **Non-Uniform Days - Christmas Themed Dress Down Days**

Christmas Dress down day on Dec 15 for a \$2.00 or a donation to the Lanark Interval House. (food, new pyjamas, socks, hat, mitts).

### **Operation Christmas Child**

A big thank-you to Sharon Connor and each of you that that made our 2023-24 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 275!**

### **Right Now Media - Free Membership to online bible studies, videos, lessons, and more**

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 reach out to the office to learn how to get a free membership. You will find so many 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.

### **Student Life - 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 four spirit days.



## Student of the Week

Beginning in January homeroom teachers will choose one 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 at Chapel each Monday and presented with a certificate of achievement. You can look for monthly nominees in the newsletters!

## Special Shopping Event for kids - Gently used items needed

The Grade 8's are busy planning one of the kids favorite events - kids shopping day! On December 13<sup>th</sup>, the gym will be transformed into 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 gifts.

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 the same day.

Please send your children with cash. Whatever amount of money they bring will be sufficient for their shopping list.

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 continue to send in your gently used items for the sale. You can also send in tape, ribbons, gift bags, bows, and gift wrap and lots of shopping bags (plastic and reusable).

*Sample List → Mom - knitting & reading, Dad - coffee & tools, Brother Scot- 12yr cars, games*



## Sports

CCA's athletes have been practising their volleyball skills. The following are the upcoming tournament dates. Tournament times will be sent home with the students once we have received a schedule.

Junior Girls: Thursday, November 30 at St. John's Catholic High School (Perth)

Junior Boys: Tuesday, December 5th at Holy Name of Mary (Almonte)

Senior Girls: Thursday, December 7th at St. John's Catholic High School (Perth)

Senior Boys: Thursday, December 7th at Notre Dame Catholic High School (CP)

### CCHS Volleyball

The CCHS Varsity Boys Volleyball team concluded an impressive season at Quinte Christian High School during the Ontario Championships. Over the two days of competition, the team displayed commendable skill and teamwork, making it to the quarter finals before being eliminated. The boys exemplified the spirit of CCHS admirably, and we are immensely proud of their achievements, their camaraderie, and the fine young men they are developing into.

I'd like to extend a special congratulations to our three graduating students, Timothy, Micah, and Carter, for their outstanding volleyball careers at CCHS and CCA. Their presence and contributions to the team will be deeply missed.

Best regards,  
Coach TB



### CCHS Road Hockey

Olivier's Dekes of Hazard won the annual road hockey - only letting in two goals over the course of the day. In true Canadian fashion, they played through miserable weather but were rewarded with Mrs. Mahmoud's hot chocolate. December is jam-packed with fun activities as we build toward our Christmas party on December 21st. We will be beginning our secret gift giver on December 1. Students will be informed of many fun dress-up days and events taking place throughout the month. We are excited to announce that CCHS is in the beginning stages of developing its first band! Mrs. Cousins is lending her musical expertise to the group. We have so many talented individuals - not to get carried away or anything - but you will surely see the CCHS band "on the road" in no time!!



## 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, are necessary for all grades\*. If students are not dressed warm enough they will be kept at the office during recess.

\*Grades 7/8 are not required to wear snow pants, but if they choose to not wear them, they are limited to the standing under the canopy.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Each family is responsible for 25 hours of volunteer hours through the year. Each month we 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 offer assistance in some area please email the office. Before volunteering, please provide the office with a current vulnerable sector check and sign off on the Volunteer Policy Binder, located in the office.

Volunteer Opportunities this month include;

**Cleaning** - We are always 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.

**Planters** - We would love for someone to fill the two outdoor planters at the main entrance and one at the kindergarten entrance with something wintery. There is a small budget for this. Please let the office know if you are interested in this job.

**Kids Shopping Day** - We are looking for 3-4 volunteers to help with the Kids Shopping Day. Set up, clean up, helping shoppers, wrapping gifts. Contact [jsalisbury@calvaryca.com](mailto:jsalisbury@calvaryca.com)

**Gala** - We still need a few volunteers to help with the Gratitude Gala in January. Set-up, clean-up, silent auction and assembling classroom baskets, and food are some areas where there is need.

## **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://www.skicanada.org/grade-4-5-snowpass/>

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

