



CALVARY
CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY

developing minds

building character

nurturing faith



A GLANCE AHEAD!

May 2026

As we come to the end of another school year, and our final newsletter for 2025-26 school year I want to leave you with something sturdy your family can carry into summer and into whatever next year holds.

I've been reading and teaching through 1 Peter this year and the more time I spend there, the more convinced I am that Peter's opening words are exactly what our children, and we ourselves, need most right now.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you." — 1 Peter 1:3-4

Peter was not writing to comfortable people. He was writing to believers who were displaced, marginalized, and suffering simply because of who they believed in. Their world was shaking. And into that shaking, Peter did not say "cheer up" or "things will get better." He pointed them to two extraordinary truths: he caused us and a living hope.

Don't rush past those first three words. He caused us. This is not something we achieved or earned. It is not a hope we generated by trying harder, believing better, or parenting more perfectly. God initiated it. God accomplished it. God secured it. As Paul says in Ephesians 2, He made us alive even when we were dead in our wrongdoings.

What a relief that is for parents. Because if our children's hope depended on our ability to protect them from every hard thing, to say every right word, to model every moment perfectly, we would be crushed under the weight of it. But Peter says the hope we want most for our children is a hope God Himself causes. We get to plant and water. He gives the growth.

And the hope He causes is not ordinary. Peter calls it a living hope. Our children are being handed a thousand counterfeit hopes every day. The algorithm hopes they find their worth in likes. The culture hopes they find their identity in performance or popularity. Their own hearts will be tempted, as ours are, to pin their hope on relationships, careers, or achievements that were never designed to carry that kind of weight.

Every one of our children will, at some point, experience the stripping away of something they thought they could count on. We know that, we've lived it. A friendship will end. A dream won't pan out. Someone they love will get sick. A foundation they thought was solid will crack.

When that happens, and it will happen, what will hold them?

This is why what we are doing together at CCA matters so deeply. When we help our children hide God's Word in their hearts, when we open Scripture every day in the classroom, and at home, or during our Chapel times, we point them again and again to the risen Christ, we are anchoring them. We are giving them a hope built not on circumstances or feelings, but on the fact that Jesus Christ walked out of the tomb and is alive today.

As this school year draws to a close, let me leave you with a few encouragements for the summer:

- o Keep Scripture open in your home. The verses your children memorized this year are seeds. Water them. Talk about them at the kitchen table, on car rides, before bed.
- o Model hope that is anchored beyond circumstances. Your children are watching how you respond when things don't go your way. They are learning where your real hope is.
- o Pray with your children and for your children. Pray that God would cause them to be born again into a living hope, one that will hold them long after they leave our hallways.

We are doing holy work. And the good news of the Gospel tells us that our hope is not something you have to manufacture for them. He has caused it. It has already been secured. It is kept in heaven for us. And God Himself is at work in our lives.

Thank you for partnering with us this year. May your summer be filled with rest, with joy, and with a deepening awareness of the living hope we have in Christ.

Mr. Bourne



Registration

Please continue to spread the word to friends, family and church members that registration is now open to the public for the upcoming 2026-27 school year. If you know families interested in CCA, please direct them to our office - thank you! As ambassadors of CCA you will earn a \$500 discount off your tuition when your contact enrolls. This is our way of saying thank you.

Apple Seeds Preschool

Apple Seeds Preschool is full with a wait list for next school year. Our license with the Ministry of Education is for children from 2.5 to 5 years of age. If you have any questions about the day care, please contact Christine Martel at cmartel@calvaryca.com

Assembly - Parents Welcome - Tuesday, May 26 @ 2:15 pm

Our final assembly will take place on Tuesday, May 26th. Parents are always invited.

Community Event - Amazing Race - Saturday May 9

Get ready for a fun-filled adventure at our upcoming Amazing Race! The race will kick off at the Library in Carleton Place and send teams out to explore nearby businesses through a series of exciting challenges and clues. You can come with your own team or join one when you arrive—everyone is welcome! Be sure to arrive by 10:00 a.m. to get started on what promises to be a memorable and energetic morning.

The cost is \$10/person, please sign up in advance. There will be an optional BBQ at CCA after the event.

Chess Club

The CCA Chess club will be starting on Tuesday May 5th. It will take place under the gazebo at recess on Tuesdays for the month of May. It will be for students grade 1 to grade 8.

Crochet Club

Our Crochet Club was another wonderful experience this year! As students learned the art of crocheting, they also built meaningful friendships and encouraged one another along the way. A special thank you to our high school mentors, Anita Garvin and Anneka Racine, for helping out in our group. One highlight was completing a prayer shawl for Mrs. Agnew, which was prayed over by students and staff. The old-fashioned tea party at the end was a lovely way to celebrate all we had accomplished. I feel truly blessed by these special moments and am grateful for the opportunity to watch our students create something from nothing while building meaningful connections in a fun and supportive environment. Mrs. Vala



Dress Down Day for \$2 - Friday, May 15

Our final dress down day will be on Friday, May 15th. Funds raised through the dress down days will be sent to the Wall family in Mexico to help with general funds where needed - thank you for contributing all year!

Events Calendar

As events are scheduled, they are added to our events calendar on the website. You can keep up-to-date on the events by subscribing to the calendar on your mobile device. Go to calvaryca.com to subscribe.

Field Trips / Events - May and June

War Museum - May 15 (Grades 6-7)

This month grade 6 and 7 students will be bussed to the War Museum in Ottawa. Details about the field trip will come from the homeroom teacher through email. Students will need to pack a bagged lunch, snacks and water for this trip. Students will wear their CCA uniform. Departure from CCA is at 9:00 am (by bus). Departure from the museum is at 2:00 pm, arriving back at CCA at 3:00 pm. If you prefer to meet or pick up at the museum, please let the homeroom teacher know.

Uniforms are required for those going on the trip.

Outdoor Education Days at CCA - May 21 and 22

All grades will spend time outside on CCA's own 50-acre nature property exploring the habitats in our very own backyard. Be sure to dress down, send rubber boots AND set of spare clothes, children will get soaked ☺ If you have a small net and bucket please send it along. Parent volunteers are welcome to come and help for the day.

Thursday, May 21

Mr. Ceballos Grade 6 with Grade 1, Grade 8 with Junior Kindergarten, and Grade 4 and 5.

Hike/ Nature Walk and Pond Exploration - need parent volunteers

Friday, May 22

Mrs. Burns Grades 3/4 with Mr. Kennedy's Grade 3, Mrs. Lee's Grade 7 with SK, and Mrs. Reid's Grade 6/7 with Grade 2.

Hike/ Nature Walk and Pond Exploration - need parent volunteers

Saunders Farm - May 27 (JK-Grade 5)

JK - Grade 5 will be bussed to Saunders Farm for a fun day outdoors. Please pack a bagged lunch, snacks and water for this trip. Uniforms are NOT required for this trip.

If you would like to volunteer, please be sure to have a completed vulnerable sector check, and sign off on the volunteer policies in the office.

Upper Canada Village - June 2-3 (Grade 5)

Grade 5 will be participating in the Upper Canada Village live-in program overnight. Information and permission forms went home already and should be returned by now with payment. Parents are responsible for arranging transportation to and from the Village.

Grade 8 Graduation Trip - June 8-9 (Grade 8)

A big thank you to everyone that contributed to the grade 8 fundraising throughout the year. This awesome group of 25 students will travel to Toronto to celebrate graduating elementary school. With a packed itinerary they are sure to make some great memories! Well done grade 8's!

Grandparents' Day - Wednesday, May 13

We will be celebrating our grandfriends on Wednesday, May 13th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Please invite them to enjoy the afternoon with us. The afternoon will consist of light refreshments and presentations from each class. Please note that this has become a very popular event and due to space restrictions, we need to restrict this to grandparents/seniors only.

We still need several families to help with sending refreshments from home, please fill out the google sheet or contact the office if you can help with sending in food. These hours count toward your volunteer hours! Thank you for making this day special for our guests.

*****Dress Uniforms for all students*****

Pastors Appreciation Lunch - Thursday, May 14 at 1:00 pm (CCA Gym)

Invite your pastors and their spouses to join us for a special luncheon and time of fellowship as we express our gratitude for their faithful service.

Please RSVP to tickets@calvaryca.com

Music Festival - Monday, May 25, 6:30 pm (CCA Gym)

Mark your calendars! Students who take lessons for voice/instrument (or have a musical talent) can sign up with Mrs. Cousins to participate. (Christian, classical or children's music only) Limit of one entry per student, please. Sign up deadline is Thursday, May 21st. For more information email Mrs. Cousins:

bcousins@calvaryca.com

CCHS Spring Production and Praise Concert - Thursday, June 11, 1:30 pm (CCA Gym)

Students will enjoy a play and praise and worship concert put on by CCHS as we celebrate God's faithfulness at the Academy and continue striving toward generations and communities flourishing through a relationship with Jesus.

Fundraisers

A lot of excitement is building in the high school as we head toward the seniors' Lancaster trip (May 6-8). Thank you for all the support in fundraising for our senior trip. The father-daughter night was a real highlight.

Ice Cream/Popcorn - Sales will alternate on Fridays. Ice Cream bars are \$1.50 each and Popcorn is \$2. Cash only please.

Homemade Pancake Breakfast - The grade 8's will have one last pancake breakfast on Friday, May 15 from 8:00- 9:00 am. For \$6 you can start the day with HOMEMADE pancakes with real maple syrup, bacon, OJ or coffee and orange slices. Thank you for the support over the year.

Daffodils

Grade 8 students will be selling home-grown daffodils for \$2/flower, or \$10 for 6, at the end of the day as they become available.

Family Photo Shoot - May 23, 10-1 pm

More information to come from the office. Limited space available, a signup sheet will be sent through the office.

Gemmell's Gift Cards

Support the Grade 8's by purchasing a Gemmell's Gift card, a percent of each gift cards comes back to the gGrade 8's.

Cookie Platters \$20 - May 11- 15

Just in time to help you with your May long weekend celebration, the high school is going to be selling platters with baked goods. Whether you are having company over on the long weekend or just want to treat yourself...we have you covered! Stay tuned for an email from the office.

Giant Teddy Bear Silent Auction - April 27- May 1

We are holding an online auction for a life-sized teddy bear. The auction will open on April 27th and close on May 1st at 4:00pm. This cuddly guy would be a great addition to any home!

Holiday

Victoria Day - Monday, May 18th

Head Lice

We kindly ask that families take time this week to perform routine head lice checks at home. While CCA has previously arranged in-school lice checks, this year we are asking each family to monitor and treat as needed. You do **not** need to notify the office if lice are found. Please refer to the guidelines found at the Health Units website.



Lego Robotics Provincial Competition

Mr. Ceballos and Mrs. Connor and several students in Grade 5-8 have been training to compete at the provincial level at the Ontario Skills Competition in Toronto in Lego Robotics. CCA will have two teams representing the school in the Lego Mechanical Engineering category.

New Hires for 2026-2027

We are excited to share that we have hired two new team members for the 2026-2027 school year. It is a pleasure to introduce Andrew Walcott and Avery Surette.

Andrew Walcott is a graduate of Redeemer University, where he played varsity volleyball for four years as a libero and served as a team captain. He grew up in Picton and attended Sunrise Christian Academy and Quinte Christian High School. Andrew comes from a strong Christian education background, with his father having served as Board Chair at Quinte Christian Region Schools and his mother as a principal at Sunrise Christian Academy. He brings both experience in Christian schooling and a clear desire to serve God.

Avery Surette grew up in Barrie, Ontario, and is also a graduate of Redeemer University, where she was a standout member of the women's varsity volleyball team for four years. Avery played left side and finished top 10 all time in different categories. Avery has a strong heart for the Lord and has been actively involved in serving within her church community. You may also recognize her family, as her mother was one of our guest speakers at our recent book fair.

Andrew and Avery will be getting married in June 2026 and will begin their professional journey together at CCA/CCHS shortly thereafter.



PD Day - Friday, May 29 (no classes), June 5 (Report Card Writing Day, no classes)

Remembrance Day Posters

Each year CCA participates in the Branch 192 Remembrance Day poster contest. Congratulations to our students who were recognized this year.

Aliyah Ivay, Anneka Racine, Blythe Wills, Eden Wills, Elsie Preece, Esme Halitsky, Fiana Lefor, Gavin Ulker, Grace Bauder, J.J. Aubrey, Jeremiah Burns, Mariyka Lee, Naomi Yates, Ruth James, Terry Burns, William Ivay

Science Fair - Regionals

We are delighted to share the official results from the RLSLF held on Friday, April 10th. Congratulations to all of our students who participated—you represented the school so well! We are especially proud to highlight a number of achievements.

In the Junior categories, Zoe Lefor earned 2nd place in Biological Curiosity for her project *Shell Shocked*. Emmett Christink and Gavin Hodder received an Honourable Mention in Environment & Climate Change for *The Science of Tornados*, and Owen Bonin and Bennett Stanistreet earned an Honourable Mention in Technology for *Angles of Attack: It's Not What You Think*.

Several students also received special awards, with Zoe Lefor standing out by earning the Real Environmental Action Award, the Recorder & Times Media Award, the Watters Biology Award, and the Community Changemaker Award for *Shell Shocked*.

Owen Bonin and Bennett Stanistreet were also recognized with the Junior Physics Award for their project. Congratulations again to all participants on an outstanding showing!



Spelling Bee

Great Job to everyone who participated in the 2025-26 Spelling Bee. Thank you Mrs. Connor and Ms. Molly for organizing the event, and thank you, Mr. McDonald, for the cool trophies. Congratulations go out to all of those who participated and especially to the divisional winners:

Primary Division: Grace Bauder

Junior Division: Esme Halitsky

Intermediate Division: Amaya Saint

Spring Cleaning Bee - Saturday, May 2 9:00-12:00

Volunteers are invited to a spring cleaning at CCA. At the cleaning bee there will be indoor and outdoor cleaning jobs led by CCA staff. The Cleaning Bee is meant for adults only, this is a great way to complete any outstanding volunteer hours. No need to sign up, come to the school and choose a job - stay as long as you are able. Thank you!

Spring Play - Friday, May 1 at 7:00 pm - The Enchanted Bookshop

Join us for an exciting evening of mystery and laughs as the Enchanted Bookshop comes to life! A comical heist featuring larger than life book characters, bumbling thieves, and two struggling book store owners caught up in the drama.

Sports - CCA

CCA Track and Field Day - Tuesday, May 19

CCA's annual Track & Field Day will be held on May 19th. If you would like to help with the track meet by being a timekeeper or helping to run one of the events, please contact the office at (office@calvaryca.com). The CCA track meet will run from 9:30-3:00.

All students from Grades 1 to 8 will be participating in the Track and Field day on CCA grounds. Be sure to send a sun hat and a water bottle.

Students should come in gym uniform and for younger grades, athletic clothing.

Christian School Track Meet - Friday, June 5 (PD Day)

Mrs. Reid will be travelling to supervise students who qualify for the Christian Schools Track Meet, held at the Terry Fox Athletic Facility in Ottawa. Eligible students in grades 3-8 will have the option to attend. Please note that this event takes place on a PD Day, and parents are responsible for arranging transportation to and from the meet.

Badminton

Grade 7/8s have been working hard in the gym with their coaches preparing for the county tournament at the end of the month.

Jr. Track and Field (Grades 3-6)

Students in grades 3 to 6 who qualify will participate in the local track meet in Almonte on June 9th.

Running Club - (Grades 1-8)

Running Club is a long-standing tradition at CCA that builds character and promotes healthy living after the winter months. It's a great way for students to increase endurance, support one another, and prepare for track and field or cross country. Once the track is dry, students can run or walk two laps during their lunchtime break on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Let's keep striving for healthy bodies and a strong school community!

3 Pitch Baseball

Mrs. Vala and the junior 3-pitch team will be heading to a 3-pitch tournament on Friday, May 22nd. More information and the date will be provided to athletes as soon as its available.

Mrs. Lee and the senior 3-pitch team will be heading to the ball diamond for a 3-pitch tournament on Wednesday, May 20th.

Sports - CCHS

Looking back on April, we saw tremendous growth in the gym. Many students developed a strong interest in badminton, demonstrating impressive commitment and skill development. In our first year in the Lanark County Athletics Association, CCHS has represented itself well at both team and individual events. Several achievements are worth highlighting.

At the April 9 tournament hosted by St. John's Catholic High School, Isaiah Connor and Addi Wissink captured gold in the senior mixed division, showcasing excellent teamwork through their encouragement and communication. William Bourne also earned gold in junior boys singles, powering through the tournament without dropping a single game.

On April 15, competition continued with the doubles categories. Caleb Bourne and Nathanael Schilke secured gold in senior boys doubles with an undefeated performance, their four-year partnership clearly evident on the court. Beck Yates and William Bourne pushed through strong competition to earn silver in the same division, facing their CCHS teammates in the finals. Livia and Haavah Kruszelnicki also competed in the senior division, overcoming early setbacks to reach the semifinals and narrowly missing a spot in the finals after a thrilling three-set match. Well done to all our athletes for their outstanding efforts.

The Badminton team also travelled to Brock University to compete in the Ontario Christian Schools tournament. This is a big tournament with 25 high schools participating. Our students did great with many of our students making it to the A pool on the final day of competition. Caleb Bourne and Nathanael Schilke kept their winning season going by winning the Ontario Championship. Congratulations lads. Wiliam Bourne had a successful couple days going undefeated before losing in the gold medal game, and the subsequent silver game finishing third. Beck Yates came home with a silver in the Sr. Boys singles C division. Great job representing CCHS!

In May, we look forward to the start of the co-ed volleyball season, beach volleyball tournaments, and upcoming track and field meets. Stay tuned, and be sure to check the CCHS Events Calendar for practice times and tournament dates.

Spring Weather

A reminder that during transitional weather students should bring rubber boots and slush pants to have the freedom to play at recess. Students who do not have slush pants and proper outdoor footwear will be restricted to dry zones.

As the warmer weather arrives and students spend more time outdoors, we want to remind you to stay vigilant when it comes to tick safety. Given CCA's wooded property and outdoor learning spaces, regular checks are especially important. Our Tick Awareness and Prevention strategies are attached. In addition to CCA's strategies, please take a few moments each evening to check your child(ren) for ticks and follow proper removal techniques. The local Public Health unit provides helpful guidance on their website.

Summer Camp

There are still a few spots in Primary Camp. Please reach out to Ms. Martel to register your little one for camp. cmartel@calvaryca.com

Transportation Notice

Families are advised to plan for potential delays when traveling to CCA along Highway 15 from Carleton Place next week and into the future months due to upcoming construction. Please allow extra travel time to ensure students arrive safely and on time.

For more information, please see the article: https://www.insideottawavalley.com/news/lanarkcounty-highway-construction-april/article_812465ea-d996-5ef2-97f8-585dd4980ad9.html

Used Uniform Sale

Used uniform sale - Thursday, May 7th - before and after school at the back shed. Cash only.

Volunteerism

Volunteer Hours of Service Forms are due in the office by the end of May. This form is available in our parent portal under the Policies and Documents Tab. Any hours served can be recorded on the form. If you have not yet fulfilled your 25 hours, feel free to reach out with an idea or offer to complete your family hours. Below are some volunteering opportunities during the last two months of the school year, dates and times are found in the newsletter.

- Grandfriends Day & Pastors Luncheon help and at-home food preparation - office@calvaryca.com
- CCA Track & Field Day - office@calvaryca.com
- Outdoor Education Days - office@calvaryca.com
- Daily/After Hours Cleaning and Deep Cleaning - office@calvaryca.com
- Work Bee Grounds Work and Indoor Cleaning - office@calvaryca.com
- Grade 8 Graduation (Grade 7 and 8 families)
- 2 parents to organize/run a canteen at the Jr. Track and Field meet in Almonte. This includes purchase, sell, deliver, etc. Please contact the office@calvaryca.com

Looking Ahead...



Upcoming dates

May 1	Spring Play Production 7:00 - All welcome
May 2	Spring Cleaning Bee 9:00am-noon - Volunteers Needed
May 3-4	Lego Robotics Competition in Toronto
May 6-8	CCHS Lancaster Trip
May 9	Community Event - Amazing Race
May 13	Grandparents Day
May 14	Pastors Luncheon
May 15	Dress Down for \$2 and Homemade Pancakes 8-9am \$6
May 15	Field Trip to the War Museum Grades 6 and 7
May 18	Victoria Day - No School
May 19	CCA Track Meet -Volunteers Needed
May 20	Sr. Mixed 3-Pitch
May 21-22	K-8 Outdoor Education - Pond Study
May 22	CCA Junior 3 Pitch
May 23	Family Photo Shoot Fundraiser 10-1 pm - \$50
May 25	Music Festival 6:30 pm
May 26	Regular Assembly (last one)
May 27	Field Trip to Saunders Farm Jk-5 - Volunteers Needed
May 29	PD Day - No School
June 2-3	Field Trip Overnight to Upper Canada Village - Grade 5
June 5	PD Day - <u>No School</u>
June 5	Christian School Track Meet - Terry Fox Facility
June 8-9	Grade 8 Grad Trip to Toronto
June 9	Junior Track Meet
June 11	CCHS Spring Play Production and Concert (full afternoon)
June 12	Senior Track Meet
June 17	Grade 8 Graduation
June 18	Final Day of CCA
June 25	Final Day of Preschool





