



BRANCHES



In This Issue:

- ***From the Chairman***
- ***From the Principal***
- ***2017/2018 School Calendar***
- ***School Theme***

- ***Supply List***
- ***Opening Assembly***
- ***Credo Aid Update***
- ***Welcome (back) to CCES !***

Volume 30
Issue 1
Sept. 1, 2017

The purpose of our parental Christian School is to educate our children to develop their individual potential and to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed for a life of responsible stewardship in God's Kingdom.

From the Chairman....

Tim Bontkes

I would like to start off by welcoming all of the students, teachers and administration back for another school year at CCES. A special welcome goes out to our newest Kindergarten members and to those new families which will be joining us this year. To our newest staff members, Nadine Krikke who will be teaching Grade 7 this year, and Mekayla Knol who will teach music to Grades 6 & 7, I extend the same wish. On behalf of the Board I wish you all a smooth transition and that you start to feel at home in the CCES family as soon as possible!

God's Handiwork

Our school theme this year is based on Colossians 1:16a, "***By Him all things were created***". I find this message very fitting as I write my first Chair Report for this school year. God's handiwork has been so evident for many of us as we enjoyed his beautiful creation this summer. As we prepare for another school year it is also very evident in each of the students which have been entrusted to CCES. Each of these students is uniquely created in God's image and as each one of them passes through the doors of Credo we again witness his marvelous handiwork.

As we reflect on the wonderful gifts from God in his creation around us and in his children he has provided us, we are also reminded that we still live in a difficult world with challenges for many of us. We are reminded daily that we live in a broken and imperfect world. Over the last couple of months we have witnessed this with devastating forest fires and flooding. Also, even though we have been made in God's image, we are imperfect and sinful. We see this in our own children and ourselves as parents

and educators; we all have our own struggles and we pray that each of us receives the strength and support as we face these challenges.

Summer Activities

Much has happened over the course of the summer. Even though July and August are meant to provide time off for the teachers and the Board, this is rarely the case. As you enter the school property and the building itself you will notice that the maintenance committee and many community volunteers have spent quite a bit of time getting the grounds and the building cleaned up and looking sharp. You especially might notice the pleasant temperature as you enter the building. Special thanks goes out to those involved in the HVAC renovation. The new air conditioning and ventilation upgrade will be a welcome addition for the students and teachers. Also to those who financially supported this cause over the past year a special thank-you as well.

Thank you as well to many other volunteers who have been busy assisting in the preparation of the school year ahead of us. Credo Elementary is a blessing for us all. As Board we ask you to continue to pray for all those involved in the operation of the school. Please pray for us as Board members as we govern the school, pray for the teachers and administration as they educate our children and operate the school, pray for the students as they continue in their education and pray for us as parents as we continue to raise up our children in the way of the Lord.



You are cordially invited to join us for our

Opening Assembly

Tuesday, September 5

at 10 a.m.

in the Langley Canadian Reformed Church

From the Principal....

Otto Bouwman

Welcome Back!

This coming week, after many preparations, another school year is about to begin. The preparations which have taken place are substantial.

Teachers began preparations for the new school year, not just by making sure they were well-rested after the pressures of last year, but also deliberately engaging in other activities which professionally challenged us during our time away from the classroom. Some examples of staff professional development activities included enrolling in a course on Reformed Foundations, delivering lectures and presenting workshops, reading, working on curriculum development with colleagues from other school, visiting other educational institutions, as well as engaging in other coordinating activities with children. We were thankful as staff to be able to begin formally meeting again together this past week, and look forward to the opportunities to work together. It was especially good to welcome Nadine Krikke, our new grade 7 teacher from Ontario, to our midst in recent weeks. We also look forward to welcoming Mekayla Knol, too, when she arrives in the near future.

The Maintenance Committee, under the direction of the Board, also had substantial preparations to complete for the summer time: we now have air conditioning functioning throughout the school, which has certainly been most welcome this past week. The staff is very thankful for this cool phenomenon in the school, and we trust that the enhanced teaching / learning environment will serve everyone well. The staff is also very appreciative of the work that could be done at the Saturday work bee recently; having a neat-looking school is such a privilege.

Our students and families have also conducted a wide variety of activities during the summer months. Traveling opportunities, summer camps, regular life at home, and everything else the students might have done during the summer all provided opportunities for continued personal growth and development. Though some might have had to cope with relatively minor health-related challenges, we

can be very thankful that we could experience the Lord's providential care and protection during recent months. Our sister school in Calgary opens its doors this week as well, but with one student less than was anticipated - one of their students was tragically killed in a car accident several weeks ago. This event, along with significant injuries which others experienced recently bicycling or in other types of accidents powerfully remind us of our fragility and continued dependence on our Father's continued care. May God provide healing to the hurting, comfort to the distressed, and strength to us all as we help and encourage each other in life's journey.

A special word of welcome is extended to our new students. We have new students in Kindergarten, and some of them are the oldest children in families. We hope students as well as families who are new to the school quickly feel comfortable in the Credo surroundings, and encourage you to do what you can to take ownership of this wonderful institution.

School Theme

This year our school theme comes from Colossians 1. Paul speaks of the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ, and instructs us that "*He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*" Christ's pre-eminence over all of creation is a Scriptural perspective that our children need to understand in this broken world. It was evident in his work in creation, and it continued in his work of recreation, as Paul explains in the verses following the ones quote above. The teachers hope to work with this theme throughout the year. More elaboration about the theme will be shared at our opening assembly, which will begin at 10:00 in the Langley church on the first day of school. We look forward to seeing many of you there!

Volunteers Welcome!

Though the staff is genuinely excited about our

opportunities to serve again this year, that should not be construed to mean that we are confident we can do our work without the deliberate input and collaboration with parents and others in the community. As a matter of fact, as we begin this year, we wish to reach out and deliberately request an increase in parental (and perhaps other) assistance in the school. There will be many opportunities for service in the school in the coming year. Consider that we have numerous students who require more attention than our teachers and educational assistants can reasonably be expected to be able to provide. Though the staff would love to assure all parents that every child will indeed be receiving all the attention they ideally should have, the reality is that we would really appreciate additional assistance. If you feel like you might be able to help out at the school on a regular basis, I would love to hear from you. I would be thrilled to do what I can to help you help the school.

Is Your Home a Learning Environment?

An interesting article that the staff interacted with this past week was about “automaticity.” The authors argued that if children are not able to read age-appropriate literature at a good speed, and / or are not able to quickly recall basic math facts, then their brains will have a hard time engaging successfully in other more demanding tasks. A few quotes jumped out at me:

- “Strangely enough, we really do not have a great deal of knowledge on how to teach for automaticity. It can require a large investment in time within the school day to provide the necessary practice conditions in which students become fully automatic in basic knowledge skills.”
- “The assumption is that students develop automaticity through recurring experiences within their young lives beginning with stimulation and encouragement in the home. Time spent in shared reading experiences and number games is of key importance.”

- “Development requires time devoted to practicing lower order skills under conditions of relative ease, enjoyment, and strong motivation. Whatever a child spends a great deal of time doing, then skillfulness and automaticity will follow to support the fundamental cognitive demands of that very same activity. But if an activity does not take place, then development cannot proceed. This may be a simple theory of knowledge development, but it comes with profound implications.”

I share these thoughts in the hope that homes and school work together, creating learning environments for the well-being of each of our children.

Reformation 500!

One of the topics the staff is discussing is how to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Because of the timing of the deadline for publication of this *Branches*, I can't yet describe what exactly we will do. However, we are committing to ensure that our students get caught up in the excitement surrounding this event in the coming months. Stay posted.

In Closing

As we approach another school year, we confess our continued dependence on our Father in heaven. We also express our appreciation for the countless hours put in by so many people behind the scenes, enabling another year to begin smoothly. And we re-affirm our desire to work in close cooperation and collaboration with the parents of our children. Please don't wait for problems to develop before you take up contact with the teacher or me. Drop by for a coffee; your parental school loves meaningful and ongoing communication with the homes we serve.

God bless you and us as we take up our tasks for another year of kingdom service!

Supplies and Personal Items for September 2017

Primary Personal Items List for 2017-18	K	gr. 1	gr. 2	gr. 3
indoor shoes (NO LACES) (These are also gym shoes and should stay on firmly)	✓	✓	✓	✓
head phones for netbooks			✓	✓
towel or blanket (no larger than a beach towel)	✓			
box of tissues	✓	✓	✓	✓
Intermediate School Supplies List for 2017-18	gr.4	gr.5	gr. 6	gr. 7
good quality 3 ring binder 1 1/2"	1	2	2	2
looseleaf paper	✓	✓	✓	✓
binder dividers (pkgs)	✓	2	2	2
HB pencils	✓	✓	✓	✓
pencil sharpener, scissors	✓	✓	✓	✓
erasers	✓	✓	✓	✓
pencil crayons	✓	✓	✓	✓
blue or black pens, red pen	✓	✓	✓	✓
highlighter	✓	✓	✓	✓
white board markers	✓			
glue stick	✓	✓	✓	✓
pencil case -no magnetic pencil holders	✓	✓	✓	✓
Math notebooks/quad ruled/spiral back (+ .5 cm squares preferred)	✓	✓	✓	✓
basic calculator, USB Stick			✓	✓
metric ruler	✓	✓	✓	✓
indoor (gym) shoes	✓	✓	✓	✓

From the Treasurer

Oliver Hansma

Fees for the 2017-2018 school-year are as follows :

Kindergarten	320.00	Junior High (8-10)	695.00
Elementary (1-3)	530.00	Senior High (11-12)	745.00
Elementary (4-7)	550.00	Membership	125.00

**Pre-Authorized Debits (PAD) will be adjusted to the new rates as of September 1st.
Thank you for your continued support.**

CCES SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017-18

September	5	First day of school	
	12	School photos Kindergarten B	
	13	School photos	
October	5, 6	Teachers' Convention	no school
	9	Thanksgiving Day	no school
	25	School membership meeting	
November	10	Pro-D Day	no school
	13	Remembrance Day holiday	no school
December	1	Report Cards	
	5, 7	Parent-Teacher Conferences	
	22	Last day before Christmas Break	
	25–Jan 5	Christmas Vacation	no school
January	8	School reopens	
February	9	Pro-D Day	no school
	12	Family Day	no school
March	13	Report Cards	
	15, 16	Student-Led Conferences	
	19-29	March Break	no school
	30	Good Friday	no school
April	1	Easter Sunday	
	2	Easter Monday	no school
	3	School reopens	
May	4	Public Speaking Contest	
	10	Ascension Day	
		Sports Day	
	17	Grade 8 Day	
	18	Pro-D Day	no school
	21	Victoria Day	no school
	20	Pentecost	
	30	School membership meeting	
June	4	Track & Field Day Gr. 6& 7	
	22	Last day, report cards	
	25	Gr. 7 grad	
	25-27	Administrative days	no school

Credo Aid Update....

Last year - 2016/2017 was another good year for Credo Aid! We raised a total of \$28,000 for our schools! All these funds have allowed us to continue to provide so many extra-curricular activities and opportunities for our students. Events included Hot Lunches, Year End Treats, School Skating, Field Trips and Special Visitors, Grandparents' Day, Mother's Day Fair and so much more!

A special thank you goes out to member Angela Vanspronsen as she finished her terms as Treasurer. You did a wonderful job taking care of the books and we have big shoes to fill to keep them up! This year there are no new members joining the Credo Aid board, but within the committee we have just switched the roles around. Thank you Jen Sikma for taking on the Treasurer duties and we welcome Leona Huttema in the President position.

We would also like to acknowledge all the parents and grandparents that have helped out in various activities and events over the past year. We all have busy days, so please know how much your efforts are appreciated!

Please mark your calendars for our Annual General Meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, September 13. 8:00 pm. We really hope you all can come and we can see some community support in helping to

fundraise for our schools. So put some coffee in your travel mugs, or pick up some Timmies and come join us at the elementary school. Check our Facebook page for an update to which room we will be hosting in.

We will also be keeping you updated on current events on Facebook, as well as adding updates in *leaflets* on Mondays. If you are not on the Facebook Page, just search 'Credo Aid' in your search bar and we will add you upon request. To reach all members of the community we will continue with *Branches* through out the year.

Please contact a board member if you have any questions, suggestions or would just love to get involved! Being involved with Credo Aid is an excellent chance to get to know the other members of our community, as well as using our abilities and talents for a greater good, to glorify the Name of our Heavenly Father.

We look forward to this year ahead and we hope you are just as excited to fundraise for our children as we are!

Leona Huttema
Kaitlyn Scheper
Audrey Leyenhorst

Renee Leffers
Jen Sikma

Presentation:

When to Worry About Worry: Understanding Anxiety in Kids & Teens

Date: Thursday, September 21, 2017

Location: Christ Covenant Church
6866 Glover Rd, Langley, BC (enter off of Maxwell Cres.)

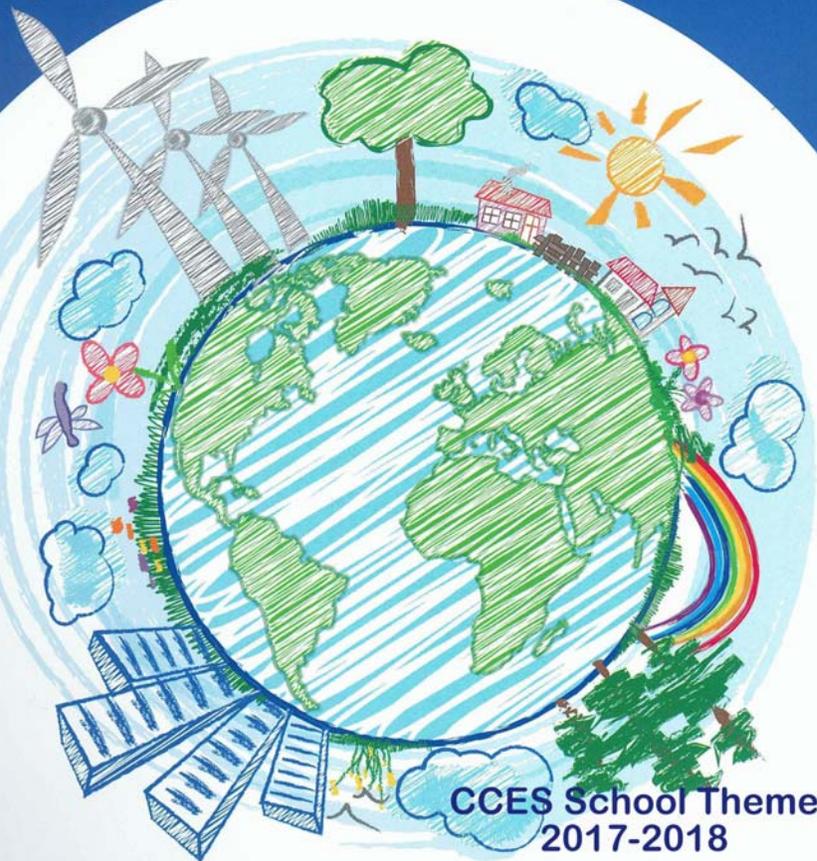
Time: 7:30 - 9:30pm

Please join us for this presentation that aims to help parents/caregivers tell the difference between typical levels of anxiety and when there is cause for concern. We will do this by examining anxiety-related issues across development, as well as discussing the most common anxiety disorders in children and teens and how they often present. We will also talk about treatment options and available supports for kids and their families. There will be an opportunity for some questions afterwards. This talk is presented free of charge by Eirana Support Services.

Presenter: Dr. Da Silva is a Registered Psychologist who works at the North Shore Stress and Anxiety Clinic. The focus of her clinical practice is on providing treatment and support to children and adolescents who are struggling with anxiety, depression, social challenges and difficulties with emotion regulation.

“...by Him all things
were created.”

Colossians 1:16a



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Board of Directors

Mr. Tim Bontkes (2019)	Chairman
Mr. Ron Scheper (2019)	Vice Chair/Maint.
Mr. Bob Huttema (2017)	Ed. Com
Mr. Will VanOene (2019)	Secretary/Finance
Mr. Oliver Hansma (2018)	Treasurer
Mr. Neil Dykstra (2017)	Development
Mrs. Erica Feunekes (2019)	CCHS/SpEd
Mr. Tim Rook (2017)	CCSTA/IT

Education Committee

Mr. Bob Huttema	Mr. Mindert Deboer
Mrs. Mandy Dewit	Mr. Ivan Scheper
Mrs. Wenda Sikma	Mrs. Melissa VanPopta
Mr. Otto Bouwman	Mrs. Jennifer Onderwater

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Mr. Neil Dykstra	Mr. Bryce Graham
Mrs. Karin Louwerse	Mr. Ryan Sikma
Mrs. Shelley Sikma	

Special Education Committee

Mrs. Erica Feunekes	Mrs. Deborah Huttema
	Mr. Otto Bouwman

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Mr. Oliver Hansma	Mr. Will VanOene
	Mrs. Elma Kuntz

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Mr. Darryl Hofsink	Mr. Kevin Leyenhorst
Mr. Dave Vandeburgt	Mr. James Vandeburgt
Mr. Dan Warkentin	

Staff

Mr. Otto Bouwman	Principal
Mrs. Jennifer Onderwater	VP, Kindergarten B
Ms. Leslie Scholtens	Kindergarten A
Mrs. Mary MacDougal	Grade 1
Mrs. Alyson Winkelaar	Grade 2
Mr. Stephen Chase	Grade 3
Mrs. Debora Minderhoud	Grade 3
Miss Amy Vanderhoek	Grade 4
Mrs. Linda VanSpronsen	Grade 5
Mrs. Natasja VanRhee	Grade 5
Miss Jenn Harink	Grade 6
Miss Diana Nobel	Grade 7A
Miss Nadine Krikkke	Grade 7B
Mrs. Deborah Huttema	SpEd, LA
Mrs. Yvonne Jacobi	Music 4,5
Mrs. Sarah Beintema	Educational Ass't
Mrs. Wilma Deleeuw	Educational Ass't
Miss Katelyn Mostert	Educational Ass't
Mrs. Jacqueline Spoor	Educational Ass't
Miss Freda Struik	Educational Ass't
Mrs. Lisa Vanderven	Educational Ass't
Mrs. Elma Kuntz	Office Administrator

Credo Aid

Mrs. Jen Sikma	Mrs. Leona Huttema
Mrs. Renee Leffers	Mrs. Audrey Leyenhorst
Mrs. Kait Scheper	

Fee Structure 2017-2018

Membership	125.00	Kindergarten	320.00
Elem. (1-3)	530.00	Elem (4-7)	550.00
Junior High	695.00	Senior High	745.00

Welcome to CCES!

Kindergarten

Isaiah Bontkes
Kasen Broersma
Eli De Boer
Diane Doulome
Travis Dykstra
Judah Hoff
Nyles Kang
James Louwerse
Josephine Luiten
Blake Scheper
Cohen Scheper
Gerrit Scholtens
Caleb Sikma
Andrew Stiksma
Morgan VanDelft
Ryder VanDelft
Levi Vandergaag
Eli Vandergriendt

Grade 1

Elias Vandergugten
Jenna Vanderpol
Brandon VanDyke
Eva VanDyke
Andre Vane
Elliott Vanpopta
Amelia Vantil
Dominic Welfing
Noah Welfing



Grade 3

Timothy Lodder

Grade 5

Janelle Vane

Grade 7

Rebekah Lodder
Shauna Vane