



Volume 21 Issue 5
Feb 28, 2010

BRANCHES

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....



Mike Stam

As I sit to write this, it is another beautiful sunny day. It really doesn't seem like February! For a moment, I felt like I was writing the April Branches. Hopefully everyone can stay focussed on the tasks at hand as we are not quite into the end-of-the-school-year-mode yet. Lots of work still needs to be done!

After the last Branches was published, I realized that we, as Board, had not officially welcomed Leslie Scholtens back. Sorry, for that oversight! Leslie, we welcome you back into the kindergarten class and pray that your return to regular teaching has gone smoothly. At the same time, we extend our thanks to Jennifer Onderwater who worked the extra hours in the fall to cover both kindergarten classes. This arrangement allowed for continuity in the program and hopefully an easy transition period for the students.

On the topic of teaching staff, the Board is pleased to announce the hiring of Nathan Boersema for the upcoming 2010-2011 school year. Nathan taught at CCES for one year before venturing to Nicaragua to work with World Wide Christian Schools. He is now back to teaching and we are glad to have him on staff again.

Since the last Branches, the Development Committee held their annual Bowling Fun-raiser. Once again, this was a fun evening; people of all ages bowling, cheering, eating and making new acquaintances. Many thanks to the organizing committee for their community building efforts!

The maintenance committee held a small work bee on Feb. 12. Several of these hard-working members spent their Saturday working on various tasks like re-lamping the light fixtures in the gym and repainting the Credo sign on the outside gym wall. Check out the sign - it looks great! Many hours are spent by this committee fixing up things around the school, managing ongoing maintenance and planning bigger projects. Those of us who are homeowners understand how much work the upkeep of our own house is. Multiply that by the square footage of the school, not to mention the heavy traffic it endures by all those students and you can appreciate the big job of the maintenance committee!

We, as Board, continue to be busy with planning for the next school year. Visits have been made to all the staff, budgets are being finalized, various committee reports are due in the next month, and preparations for the next AGM are under way. The Board continues to work very hard on the tasks that have been set before them and we ask that you continue to uphold them, as well as the staff and students, in your prayers.

Principal's Report



John A. Roukema

We express gratitude to God for sustaining us also during this past month. We so often take for granted His providence and care over us. The creational patterns and rhythms are evident every day. He grants us rest through sleep, safe travels on our way to school and back, the energy and wisdom to do our work which He daily assigns to us, the answer to prayer that we may do our work with enthusiasm and diligence, the ability and opportunity to marvel at His creation and His wonderful works. Everything attests to His love for us through His Son, Jesus Christ. What a joy it must be to be busy in His garden!

And busy we have been. The Student Achievement Progress Reports you are to receive next Wednesday (March 3) will attest to that. Teachers "burned the midnight oil" to evaluate your students so that as accurate an assessment as possible could be reported on these Reports. Your child spent time to put his or her portfolio/scrapbook together in an organized and presentable manner. Staff and students hope you will appreciate the teacher reporting and the student conferences with your children.

The Parent-Student Conferences are scheduled for upcoming Thursday, March 4 (evening) and Friday, March 5 (all day). A description of the P-S Conferencing format was provided for you in the last issue (Jan. 31, 2010). We remind you once again that baby-sitting/supervision will be provided, but only for the school-aged children and only during the duration of your conferences. Please, no preschoolers!

The Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA) for grades 4 & 7 have also been completed. These will be marked on Monday (March 1). We should know the results within a month or so; too late, obviously, to be included in with the students Reports, which would have been nice for comparison.

The month of February also includes our annual "Change for Change" fundraiser. To that end,

we held an assembly (Feb. 15) to kick-start this event. This year, our target is Bethesda Christian Homes. We urge you to encourage your children to make every effort to raise money for this worthwhile ministry of mercy. Perhaps they can do some chores for you or make money by other means.

With the month of February, 2010 behind us, we are quickly approaching the March Break (March 8-19).

Upon our return, we hope to continue practicing for the Easter Concert. Two rehearsals are scheduled for the last week of March. Our concert is scheduled for Thursday, April 1, in the Langley Canadian Reformed Church building, starting at 7:30 p.m. We are looking forward to celebrating "God with us" through the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ, and we invite you, the covenant community, to celebrate with us.

The Education Committee has been reviewing the School Satisfaction Survey for several months. One of the main concerns expressed in this survey was the matter of bullying in our school. To that end the Board has agreed to solicit the services of Mr. Heres Snijder to present us a presentation on anti-bullying. For particulars please refer to the announcement elsewhere in this issue.

The Library Challenge: Sometimes, parents ask us if they could donate a book or two to our school library. CCES encourages anyone to donate library books. We're calling it the "Library Challenge". That is, if you have a book that you think might be of interest to the school then please feel welcome to buy it for the school. To facilitate matters for you, we will place a list of "wished" books on the CCES website, so that you can utilize it as a matter of reference before donating. This list should be available in a couple of weeks. No offense to anyone, but we would appreciate that you do not donate old or discarded books.

Short Report of Board Meeting

Short Report of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of Credo Christian Elementary School January 12, 2010

- Opening: The Chairman, Br. Mike Stam, opened the meeting through reading a Psalm and prayer. Those present were welcomed to the meeting. Br. Chris Hoff was absent with notification. Br. Ed Visscher was late with notification.
- Approval of Minutes and Short Report: The short report for the Board meeting held December 08 2009 was approved for publication.
- Matters from the Minutes: Outstanding matters from previous minutes were deferred to the next meeting.
- Incoming Correspondence: One letter was received and tabled to the next Board meeting.
- Outgoing Correspondence: None.
- Chairman's Report: Br. Mike Stam reported on a Principal/Chair meeting held on January 06 2010 and principal transition. Sr. Janet Schouten and Br. Tim Bontkes will review the vice-principal job description and remuneration.
- Principal's report: The Principal's report was discussed including the enrollment of the Feunekes family in January 2010, the scheduled Science/Art Open House, the departure of the Hovius family to Chilliwack and the planned administration of FSA tests in early February.
- Special Education Committee: Resources to support the Special Education teachers will be explored.
- Development Committee: In order to provide continuity, Br. Paul Sikma has agreed to serve on this committee for an additional year. The committee is planning the annual golf tournament, and is reviewing a draft 'Regular Contributor' donor application.
- Update on Grade 4 Teaching Situation: Matters related to the Leave of Absence of Br. Mike Van were discussed.
- Credo Christian High School: Sr. Valerie Sikkema reported on developments at Credo Christian High School including the permanent appointment of Br. VanWoudenberg, and plans for the High School expansion.
- Maintenance Committee: The maintenance committee is exploring alternatives to improve the soccer fields.
- Transportation Committee: Br. Ed Visscher reported on a recent meeting and noted that the merger of Surrey Christian School and Fraser Valley Christian School may impact the Transportation Board voting formula.
- New Business: Thank you letters will be sent to Sr. Linda VanSpronsen and Br. Troy VanBostelen acknowledging their contribution on the "Principal Search Committee". An Ad-hoc Full-Day Kindergarten committee was commissioned. Br. Chris Hoff will convene this committee and seek participants from the Finance Committee, Education Committee and staff. A policy for recognition of Staff Years of Service was adopted.
- Finance Committee: Br. Tim Bontkes reported on progress with arrears accounts. A report from the Salary Committee was presented, and will be discussed further at a Combined Boards meeting planned for January 25th 2010. An 'Automatic Payment Option' will be made available to membership.
- Items for the Next Board meeting: Include projected enrollments and staffing requirements, and preliminary budgets from committees.
- Question Period: None.
- Next Meeting: Scheduled for February 09, 2010.
- Thanksgiving and prayer: Br. Tim Bontkes led in prayer.
- Adjournment: Br. Mike Stam adjourned the meeting.

Credo Aid Update



Spring is just around the corner (actually, it feels like it is already here!) and we have lots in store for you!

CREDO AID GENERAL MEETING: Our next meeting is set for Friday, March 26 @ 9:30am at Langley Church. Mark your calendars - and if you haven't made it to a meeting yet, we love seeing new faces! Hope to see you all there as we discuss the school 'wish lists' and our fundraising ideas for the last months of the school year!

NEW! DIGITAL EDITING WORKSHOP: Learn how easy it is to edit your digital photos using an amazing free program called Picasa. This workshop will teach you the basics of organizing and editing your photos, resizing for email, cropping, red-eye removal, retouching, adjusting lighting, adding filters like soft focus and many other practical skills that will help make your photos look better than ever. You will also review methods for creating a photo gallery on the Internet to share with friends around the world. Your instructor, Nick Vanderven, teaches Digital Media classes and is the IT Administrator at Credo Christian High School.

Don't miss this chance to help out our school while learning a new skill (or brushing up on what you already know!) This class is offered through Langley Continuing Education for the cost of \$44.95 for a 3 hour workshop. As a fundraiser for our school, Nick has offered to teach a 2 hour class on the evening of Friday, March 5 for the cost of \$25, with all proceeds going to Credo Aid! The class will run from 7:30 to 9:30pm. Don't miss this opportunity! To sign up, email at nicknlisa@gmail.com or call 604.856.2507.

SPRING BREAK MINI-CAMPS: Looking for something to do in the spring break? Credo Aid is offering four 1-day sports mini-camps. Camps will run 9:00 - 11:30 for a cost of \$3.00 per camp. Juice and a small snack is included...you may want to bring your own water bottle.

Tue. March 9 - Basketball - grades 4-7

Thu. March 11 - Basketball - grades 4-7

Tue..March 16 - Basketball - grades 4-7 - Girls only

Thu. March 18 - Volleyball - grades 6 & 7

Call Shauna Stam to register @ 514-9805 or msstam@shaw.ca

SCHOOL LOGO ITEMS: There is still a chance to order water bottles and totes with our school logo on them! Please contact Lisa Vanderven @ 604.856.2507 or email her at nicknlisa@gmail.com for more info or to place an order.

Note: Is your water bottle leaking? Some people have been mentioning that their water bottles are leaking - this is most likely because the little stopper under the lid has slipped out. Unfortunately, they are small and probably down the sink! We have contacted the company and replacement lids are on the way. Please remember to keep an eye on the stoppers when washing out your water bottle, because they keep your bottle from leaking.

There are also just a few sweatshirts (varied sizes) available

CERTIFICATES: Regular grocery certificates are always available and are just a phone call away - please contact Shauna Stam @ 604.514.9805 or fill in the order form today for many great choices! Certificates are also available from Fiona Jansen (Willoughby Church) and Ang Deboer (Aldergrove Church). Did you know that you can also submit an order form online? It's easy - just go to the CCES website, click on the "Credo Aid" tab on the left-hand side, and then click on the "certificate order form." You can fill it out and submit online, or print off an order form to fill out by hand. Give it a try!

STAY TUNED: CROP 'TIL YOU DROP is coming soon! We are planning another exciting scrapbooking/card-making evening in late April. More details will be coming soon!

ECO-CLOTHS: A reminder that these wonderful, versatile cleaning cloths are always in stock and available for sale for only \$5 each! To purchase, contact Wenda Sikma @ 604.534.7875 or at philandwenda@shaw.ca

(New) **FRIENDLY REMINDER:** We are missing many of the tea towels from the kitchen. If you have some at home, could you please return them as soon as possible? Thank you! If you would like to borrow the booster seats or items from the kitchen, please contact Wenda Sikma beforehand, so that we can keep track of our supplies.

Credo Aid

CERTIFICATE ORDER FORM

GROCERY STORES – ALWAYS AVAILABLE

Superstore (5%) _____ x \$50.00 = \$ _____
 _____ x \$100.00 = \$ _____
 _____ x \$250.00 = \$ _____

Save On Foods (6%) _____ x \$50.00 = \$ _____
 (Pricesmart) _____ x \$100.00 = \$ _____

IGA (7.5%) _____ x \$50.00 = \$ _____
 Safeway (8%) _____ x \$50.00 = \$ _____
 _____ x \$100.00 = \$ _____

Safeway coupon booklets (40%) _____ x \$20.00 = \$ _____
 (booklet of coupons...4 x \$5 off purchase coupons....extra airmiles...\$\$ off select items)

COFFEE AND TREATS

Tim Horton's (5%) _____ x \$10.00 = \$ _____ (booklets of 5 x \$2 certificates)
 Starbucks (5%) _____ x \$10.00 = \$ _____
 _____ x \$25.00 = \$ _____
 Esquires (10%) _____ x \$25.00 = \$ _____

RESTAURANTS

Available in \$25's:

Domino's (15%)
 Olive Garden (7%)
 Earls (7%)
 The Keg (7%)
 Kelsey's Multibrand (3%) (Milestone's, Kelsey's,
 Montanna's, Second Cup)
 Moxie's (10%)
 Red Robin (7%)
 The Boathouse (7%)
 White Spot (7%)
 Wendy's (3%) and Subway (5%) also available in \$10

SPECIALTY STORES

Available in 25's

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| American Eagle (6%) | La Senza (7%) | Pier 1 (5%) | Suzy Shier (7%) |
| Best Buy (2%) | Roots (7%) | The Body Shop (5%) | |
| Canadian Tire (3%) | M&M Meat Shops (3%) | Shoppers Drug Mart(3%) | Toy's R Us (2%)(or \$10) |
| Coast Mountain (4%) | Mark's Work Wearhouse(7%) | Sport Chek (4%) | Winners (7%) |
| Old Navy (7%) | Sport Mart (4%) | Chevron (2%) | Banana Republic (7%) |
| Future Shop (2%) | Payless Shoe Source (7%) | Staples (3%) | Petro Canada (2%) |

Available in \$20's – Shell (2%) , Chapters (10%), Blockbuster (7%), Roger's Video (7%)

DEPARTMENT STORES

Available in \$25 and \$100's

Sears (2%)
 Hbc (3%) (The Bay,
 Zellers, Home Outfitters)

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Available in 25's and 100's
 Home Depot (2%)
 Home Hardware (3%)
 Rona (3%)

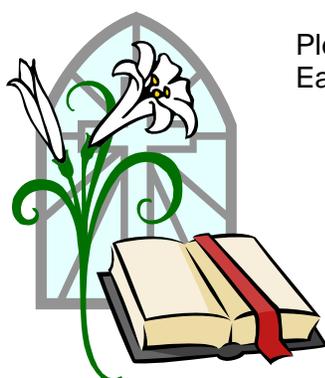
Please use this space to write your orders for specific stores (other than grocery/coffee):

Send your form to the school (marked Credo Aid) or phone Shauna Stam 604-514-9805

School Calendar Update



| | | | |
|-------|----|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| March | 03 | Report Cards | |
| | 04 | Parent-Student Conferences (evening) | |
| | 05 | Parent-Student Conferences (all day) | |
| | 08 | March Break starts | |
| | 19 | March Break ends | |
| | 22 | first day back after March Break | |
| | 29 | Anti-bullying workshop | |
| April | 01 | Easter Concert | |
| | 02 | Good Friday | no school |
| | 05 | Easter Monday | no school |



Please join us as we celebrate in our Easter Program:

God With Us

on Thursday, April 1,
in the Langley Canadian Reformed
Church building
7:30 p.m.

CCES Position

Credo Christian Elementary School is in need of a part-time (50 %) Teacher Assistant for the Grade 3 classroom for the 2010-2011 school year.

Persons interested are asked to contact the principal,
Mr. J. Roukema: 604.530.1131 (school), 604.856.0544 (home)
ccesprincipal@telus.net

CCES BULLYING WORKSHOP

Monday, March 29, 2010
Langley Can. Ref. Church Fellowship Hall
8:00 p.m.

- Opening and Introduction
- Staff member sharing on anti-bullying
- Bullycide: The Bully, the Bullied, and the Bystander: Heres Snijder
- Small groups discussions
- Plenary session/questions



Credo Christian Elementary School
21919 52 Ave. Langley BC V2Y 2M7
Phone: 604-530-1131 Fax: 604 530-4268
e-mail cces@telus.net
web site: www.credoces.org

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Board of Directors | |
| Mr. M. Stam (2010) | Chairman |
| Mr. E. Visscher (2010) | Vice Chair/CCSTA |
| Mr. T. Bontkes (2011) | Treasurer |
| Mr. Chris Hoff (2012) | Secretary |
| Mr. R. Bredenhof (2011) | Maint./Finance |
| Mrs. J. Schouten (2011) | Ed. Com |
| Mrs. V. Sikkema (2011) | CCHS/SpEd |
| Mr. S. Pol (2012) | Development |

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Education Committee | |
| Mrs. J. Schouten | Mrs. P. Hoff |
| Mrs. J. Onderwater | Mrs. C. Pol |
| Mrs. L. Huttema | Mr. R. Jacobi |
| Mr. J. Roukema | Mrs. N. VanRhee |

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Development Committee | |
| Mr. S. Pol | Mrs. M. Scholtens |
| Mr. W. VanOene | Mrs. F. Jansen |

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Special Education Committee | |
| Mrs. V. Sikkema | Mrs. D. Huttema |
| | Mr. J. Roukema |

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Finance Committee | |
| Mr. T. Bontkes | Mr. R. Bredenhof |
| | Mrs. E. Kuntz |

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Maintenance Committee | |
| Mr. R. Bredenhof | Mr. R. Wiegiers |
| Mr. J. Roukema | Mr. C. Vandergugten |
| Mr. D. MacKay | Mr. R. VanSpronsen |

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Staff | |
| Mr. J. Roukema | Principal, Gr. 5 |
| Ms. L. Scholtens | Kindergarten 1 |
| Mrs. J. Onderwater | Kindergarten 2 |
| Mrs. M. MacDougal | Grade 1 |
| Mrs. D. Vanderboom | Grade 2 |
| Miss J. Dokter | Grade 3 |
| Mr. M. Van | Grade 4 |
| Mrs. L. Vanspronsen | Grade 5 |
| Mr. G. Scholtens | Grade 6 |
| Miss R. Vanderhorst | Grade 7 |
| Mrs. D. Huttema | SpEd, LA |
| Mrs. L. Hofsink | Grade 5,7 PE |
| Mrs. J. Deglint | Music, TA |
| Miss T. Heetebrij | SEA |
| Mrs. J. Spoor | SEA |
| Miss E. Boot | TA |
| Mrs. M. Ezinga | TA |
| Mrs. E. Kuntz | Secretary |
| Mr. & Mrs. J. Dewit | Custodians |

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Credo Aid | |
| Mrs. W. Sikkema | Mrs. M. Ezinga |
| Mrs. A. Deboer | Mrs. L. Vanderven |
| Mrs. J. VanSpronsen | |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Fee Structure 2009-2010 | |
| Membership | 100.00 |
| Kindergarten | 240.00 |
| Elementary (1-3) | 430.00 |
| Elementary (4-7) | 450.00 |
| Junior High | 575.00 |
| Senior High | 625.00 |

CCSTA office 604-856-0806
Rick Ostermeier: email: CCSTA@telus.net