



BRANCHES



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Volume 29
Issue 1
Sept. 2, 2016

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....

Chris Hoff

Well, it is that time of year again. This summer has certainly passed quickly, and we are already back into the more structured rhythm of daily life. The school staff has already spent considerable time preparing for the upcoming year. On top of their busy summer plans, many folks from the community were also very active this summer preparing the building. The gym renovations look great, PA system is in, the FM system is ready to go in Grade 2, there is a new layer of gravel on the gravel field ... and the list goes on. Thank you to the Maintenance Committee and all who took leadership in delivering these projects over the summer - but also thanks to all those who contributed with labour and supplies.

And in a few days children will again arrive for the first day of school. Some will be quite excited, some will be a bit more guarded, and perhaps others will be a bit uneasy. I suppose no group of students would be more excited than the throng of Kindergarten children. This is a big step for them. Even in their young minds, they understand that this is the formal beginning for preparation for life. With God's blessing, each of these children will be trained in our collective school system for 13 years. Upon graduation, each of these children will have been trained as disciples and ambassadors of Christ, charged with their own office in God's master plan. Over this time many influences will shape these children - at home, in the church, with family and friends, as well as many sources outside our covenant community. We hope and pray CCES will serve an important influence in inculcating a Reformed worldview that enables children to faithfully interpret the times, and apply disciplines learned at school with discernment.

Elsewhere in this edition of *Branches* you will find a list of Kindergarten students. We also welcome families who may have been members for some time, but are sending their first child to school: Roger & Karen Aikema, Devon & Crystal Dykstra, Mark & Katie Meerstra, and Ian & Jolene Moes. We invite you to become heavily involved in school activities (if you are not already), from volunteering in various capacities to serving on the Board and its committees.

.. and a few more Welcomes

Of course we must also welcome new staff members. Jenn Harink moved from Ontario to British Columbia

this summer so that she could teach Grade 7 next year, along with her good friend Diana Nobel. Last year Freda Struik helped fill in as an Educational Assistant, and we welcome Freda back this year on a more permanent basis. We have had a bit more of a difficult time filling the intermediate music teaching position this year. Right now we are pleased to announce that Yvonne Jacobi will teach Grade 5 music, and we are presently considering our options for the other grades.

We have 223 students enrolled this year, which is the largest student body on the history of CCES. This is in part due to a number of new families that we welcome into our midst this year:

- Will and Gloria Faber's children Matthew (gr. 7), Peter (gr. 4) and Nadia (gr. 1) have joined us from William of Orange.
- Hugo and Erica Feunekes and family (Marc - gr. 7 and Brynne - gr. 6) have returned after 10 years of service in Indonesia with Mission Aviation Fellowship. Their other school aged children - Christiaan and Aiden - are enrolled at CCHS.
- Josh and Henriette Poppe and family, with their children Rhys and Rico in Grade 6 and Esaias in Grade 3 have transferred their children from Langley Christian
- Richard and Linda Welfing whose daughter Madelyn has joined Grade 1 from William of Orange.
- Long Xue and Dongmei Pei and their son Joseph (gr. 1), who are members of the Willoughby congregation.

We also bid farewell to the Ken Stam family, who have transferred to Langley Christian.

Board Matters

September also marks the beginning of another 'Board year'. As a Board, outside of miscellaneous matters, things have been fairly quiet over the summer. Soon we, and the various committees, will set plans for what we hope to accomplish this year. Regular meetings, sub-meetings and other various activities will again begin in earnest. Much time is spent by these members on the affairs of this school. Many decisions are made on behalf of the membership, some of them easier than others. As we enter into a new year it is our prayer that the Lord will guide each of us and grant us the wisdom to govern this school in a way that pleases Him.

From the Principal....

Otto Bouwman

Welcome to the beginning of a new school year at Credo Christian Elementary School! The summer has quickly wound down and a new season of teaching and learning is upon us. Welcome back!

Though it feels like the previous school year just ended, we have all had many impactful experiences in our individual lives this summer. Some travelled to destinations close to home while others traveled the world. Some enjoyed a quiet and relaxing and predictable summer, while others had a summer that was entirely different than had been anticipated. For all of us, though, the words of last year's theme - "Be still, and know that I am God" - could resonate. As we enjoyed the grandeur of God's created world, or contemplated the devastating reality of unexpected death, we could remind ourselves as well as each other of God's gracious care in our lives. In this respect we offer our condolences to Stephen Chase and his family as the Lord has taken his grandfather in Denver to himself this past week. May the comfort of Father's promises surround all who grieve.

This year's theme is "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Though these exact words are taken from Proverbs 9:10, there are numerous places in Scriptures which echo the same phrase. Rather than expand on the theme here in the Branches, I invite the school community to come to our opening assembly, which is scheduled to begin at 10:30 in the Langley church building. There the theme will be introduced more fully.

The staff was very grateful to return to a cleaned and cleaned up school building, when we all gathered together for our first formal meetings this past week. As is usual, staff members were popping in and out of the school throughout the summer, but we couldn't help rejoicing together about how neat the school looks. Not only our janitor, but also our Maintenance Committee as well as all the volunteers who helped out in building and property improvement recently deserve warm accolades. Have you seen the refurbished gymnasium already? It looks amazing! Make sure you check it out at your first opportunity.

Our Staff

Every year, the staff seems to look slightly different than the year before. Here is a snapshot of how we are expecting the year to go:

- Kindergarten: The 26 students are divided into two classes. Each class comes 50% of the time. Leslie Scholtens teaches the Kindergarten A class, and Jennifer Onderwater teaches the Kindergarten B class.

Since the classes are not in session simultaneously, both teachers and all students have one classroom.

- Grade 1: This year we will have a new arrangement for the 30 students. For most of the school day, Mary MacDougal and Alyson Winkelaar will work together in the large new classroom. However, for opening devotions, for lunch time, and for several subject areas, Alyson will take half of the students to her new classroom - the room which used to be the art room. We hope to find the right balance between teachers collaborating together on the one hand, and personalizing the educational program on the other.
- Grade 2: This year Mark Hoogerdijk is happy to become the second grade teacher. He has 24 students in his class; since this large number of students also requires the assistance of an Education Assistant, Katelyn Mostert will be full time in this classroom as well.
- Grade 3: There are 27 students in Stephen Chase's class. Such a large group of students necessitates the input of an Educational Assistant, a role which Sarah Beintema will fill.
- Grade 4: Again this year Amy Vanderhoek is the grade 4 teacher. She has 24 students in her class. Jac Spoor and Lisa Vanderven, both of who work in half-time roles, will provide assistance as Educational Assistants - in this class as well as in fifth grade.
- Grade 5: As in previous years, Natasja VanRhee divides the teaching responsibilities for this grade with Linda VanSpronsen. Natasja and Linda both work "half time." There are 21 students in this class.
- Grade 6: The 35 students have been divided into two groups. James Kanis has the one group and Jerry Scholtens has the other group. Each of these teachers has their own classroom. Freda Struik also spends her days at this level as an Educational Assistant.
- Grade 7: These 36 students have also been divided into two different classrooms. Diana Nobel is teaching the one group, and the other class will receive instruction from Jenn Harink. Welcome to CCES, Jenn! The staff is also grateful for the assistance that Wilma DeLeeuw is able to provide at this level as an Educational Assistant.

You notice that there are several Educational Assistants. Leading this team is Deborah Huttema, who provides a tremendous service to the staff and students by helping the teachers as they seek to meet the needs of all the covenant children in their care. As the Special Education

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Coordinator, Deborah keeps her team motivated and tries to achieve the best level of education possible for each of the school's 223 students.

At the time of writing this submission, one outstanding part of the puzzle is music instruction in the intermediate grades. Hopefully, we will be able to report on some good developments in the very near future..... In the meantime, we are very grateful for Yvonne Jacobi's willingness to be part of the musical solution, and we optimistically look forward to further clarity in the near future!

In terms of the administration, which seeks to serve the school community by making sure things continue to function decently and orderly, I serve as principal (in a 70% role), Jennifer Onderwater serves as vice-principal, and our secretary Elma Kuntz can almost always be found in or near the front office. Each one of the people identified in this list looks forward to working together again for the upcoming school year!

Our Neighbors

CCES does not work in isolation; there are two other sister schools in the valley (and one in Lynden) as well as a high school across the road. The high school will undergo a change this year as long-time

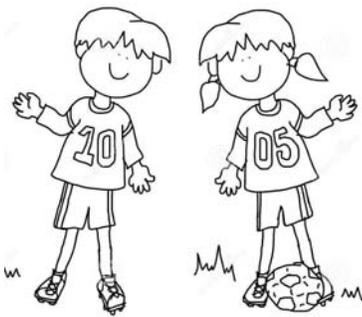
resident Harry Moes has departed as principal and Kent Dykstra replaces him. I look forward to interacting closely with the departing/departed principal as well as the newly-arrived principal across the road this year!

Our sister school in Yarrow, John Calvin, has begun a significant renovation/addition to their building during the past summer. Hopefully they can have everything in place for the beginning of another school year, and then continue the further construction process as the year continues.

With regard to William of Orange, our western neighbor, I have agreed to serve as principal there in a 30% capacity; in a normal week, I expect to be there 30% of the time (Tuesdays and Thursday mornings). Evidently, this will be an interesting arrangement, and all parties will be interested to see how this progresses.

As we take up our respective tasks again this school year, it is my hope and prayer that the Lord bless each of us in our respective roles, and gives to each of us the grace and love that is needed to work cooperatively and joyfully together, educating "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."

Student Dress...



Please note these guidelines:

Slogans and graphics must be in keeping with Credo's community standards.

Skirts and pants or shorts must be worn at the waist, and be of adequate length.

Shirts are to provide coverage from shoulders through the waist.

Traffic and Parking at CCES

On the south side of the school there are a few signs which are intended to ask drivers not to park their vehicles in those stalls at the end of the school day. Since many of our 223 students line up for there for the bus ride home, things work most smoothly if there are no cars parked in those stalls.



Instead, all visitors in the late afternoon are requested to park in designated spots on the east side of the building. Those drivers wishing to leave that area should not depart without having received a nod of approval from a teacher who is supervising that area.

Lastly, staff requests that all drivers exercise appropriate caution when dropping off and picking up children. A few reminders include:

- do not exceed a maximum 10 kph once past the gate
- be sure to come to a complete stop before any doors are opened in your vehicle
- try to pull to the side so buses can still pass you in the traffic circle
- be sure that all doors are completely closed and children properly seated before moving your vehicle
- remain on heightened alert at all times while driving on school property

Exercising an appropriate level of caution is much better than living with a lifetime of regret.

From the Treasurer

Oliver Hansma

Fees for the 2016-2017 school-year are as follows:

Kindergarten	305.00	Junior High (8-10)	680.00
Elementary (1-3)	515.00	Senior High (11-12)	730.00
Elementary (4-7)	535.00	Membership	125.00

Please note:

- Pre-Authorized Debits (PAD) will be adjusted to the new rates as of September 2016
- If you have not signed up for this option, please complete the form and return it to the elementary school as soon as possible with a void cheque. If you need a form it is available on the CCES website via the link on the home page www.credoces.org or under Publications.
- For those not wishing to use PAD, the board-approved payment policy requiring tuition-paying members to forward postdated cheques made out to "CCES" in September of each year, will remain in effect.

Supplies and Personal Items for September 2016

Primary Personal Items List for 2016-17	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 2016-17	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)	✓	✓	✓	✓
basic calculator, USB Stick			✓	✓
metric ruler	✓	✓	✓	✓

Credo Aid Update....

Last year - 2015/2016 was a great year for Credo Aid! We raised a total of \$31,000 for our schools! All these funds have allowed us to continue to provide so many extra curricular activities and opportunities for our students. Events such as Hot Lunch, 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 members, Cindy Luiten and Sue Stam, who have completed their terms on the Credo Aid Board. We are excited to welcome Leona Huttema and Audrey Leyenhorst.

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 September 14. We 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. We have eliminated the hard copy of the newsletter, it will again be in the leaflets on Mondays and on our Facebook page, which you can be added to on request. Just search 'Credo Aid' in your search bar.

In preparation for this year, we have created a form to help streamline filling positions that need filling. We currently have organizers for each event, but often have difficulty finding people to help out, even on a minimal basis. You are not committing to anything by completing this form, it simply gives us an overview of the volunteers who are potentially available.

Credo Aid Activities

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please check off any of the events you might be able and/or willing to help out with and return this form to the school.

Veggie Packs	<input type="checkbox"/>	School Meeting Refreshments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purdy's	<input type="checkbox"/>	Year End Treat	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hot Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sports Day Concession	<input type="checkbox"/>
Croquetten	<input type="checkbox"/>	Christmas Treat Program	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skating Day	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shop Easy	<input type="checkbox"/>

CCES SCHOOL CALENDAR 2016-2017			
August	29-Sept. 2	Staff Orientation/Prep Week	
September	6	First day of school	
	14	School photos	
	15	School photos Kindergarten B	
October	6, 7	CTA Convention	no school
	10	Thanksgiving Day	no school
	26	School membership meeting	
November	11	Remembrance Day holiday	no school
6 PST	24	Report Cards	
	25	Pro-D Day	no school
	29, Dec. 1	Parent-Teacher Conferences	
December	15	Christmas Program	
	16	Last day before Christmas Break	
	19-Jan 2	Christmas Vacation	no school
January	3	School reopens	
	30	Book week begins	
February	9	Grandparents' Day	
	10	Pro-D Day	no school
	13	Family Day	no school
March	7	Report Cards	
12 PDT	9 & 10	Student-Led Conferences	
	13-24	March Break	no school
	27	School reopens	
April	14	Good Friday	no school
	16	Easter Sunday	
	17	Easter Monday	no school
May	5	Public Speaking Contest	
	18	Grade 8 Day	
	19	Pro-D Day	no school
	22	Victoria Day	no school
	25	Ascension Day	
	31	School membership meeting	
		Sports Day	
June		Track & Field Day Gr. 6& 7	
	4	Pentecost	
	19	Grade 7 Grad	
	23	Last day of school, report cards	
	26-28	Administrative days	no school

Welcome to new students at CCES!

KINDERGARTEN:

AIKEMA, Kaylee
 BONTKES, Abigail
 DEWIT, Gavin
 DYKSTRA, Carson
 DYKSTRA, Desi
 HANSMA, Emma
 HUTTEMA, Joni
 JANSEN, Scott
 KOAT, Miles
 LEFFERS, Foster
 LUITEN, Tanner
 MEERSTRA, Henry
 MEERSTRA, Logan
 MOES, Aliana
 NOORT, Jane
 SCHEPER, Olivia
 SCHOLTENS, Claire
 STIKSMA, Mason
 VANDEBURGT, Callie
 VANDEBURGT, Dailyn
 VANDERGAAG, Quinn
 VANDERHORST, Kate

VANDERHORST, Lucy
 VANDERVEN, Amy
 WILDEBOER, Travis
 YU, Daisy

GRADE ONE

FABER, Nadia
 WELFING, Madelyn
 XUE, Joseph



GRADE 3

POPPE, Esaias
 GRADE 4
 FABER, Peter

GRADE 6

FEUNEKES, Brynne
 POPPE, Rhys
 POPPE, Rico

GRADE 7

FEUNEKES, Marc
 FABER, Matthew



You are cordially invited to join us for our

Opening Assembly

Tuesday, September 6, 2016
 at 10:30 a.m.

In the Langley Canadian Reformed Church



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. C. Hoff (2018)	Chairman
Mr. B. Huttema (2017)	Vice Chair/Ed. Com
Mr. W. VanOene (2016)	Secretary
Mr. O. Hansma (2018)	Treasurer
Mr. N. Dykstra (2017)	Development/CCSTA
Mrs. F. Jansen (2016)	CCHS/SpEd
Mr. A. Leyenhorst (2016)	Maintenance/CCSTA
Mr. T. Rook (2017)	IT/Finance

Education Committee

Mr. B. Huttema	
Mrs. M. Dewit	Mr. I. Schepet
Mrs. W. Sikma	Mrs. M. VanPopta
Mr. O. Bouwman	Mrs. J. Onderwater

Membership Committee

Mr. N. Dykstra	Mr. B. Graham
Mrs. S. Sikma	Mrs. M. Vanderhorst
Mrs. D. VanDyke	

Special Education Committee

Mrs. F. Jansen	Mrs. D. Huttema
	Mr. O. Bouwman

Finance Committee

Mr. O. Hansma	Mr. T. Rook
	Mrs. E. Kuntz

Maintenance Committee

Mr. T. Bontkes	Mr. A. Leyenhorst
Mr. R. Bisschop	Mr. D. Hofsink
Mr. B. VanOene	

Staff

Mr. O. Bouwman	Principal
Mrs. J. Onderwater	VP, Kindergarten B
Ms. L. Scholtens	Kindergarten A
Mrs. M. MacDougal	Grade 1A
Mrs. A. Winkelaar	Grade 1B
Mr. M. Hoogerdijk	Grade 2
Mr. S. Chase	Grade 3
Miss A. Vanderhoek	Grade 4
Mrs. L. Vanspronsen	Grade 5
Mrs. N. VanRhee	Grade 5
Mr. J. Kanis	Grade 6A
Mr. J. Scholtens	Grade 6B
Miss D. Nobel	Grade 7A
Miss J. Harink	Grade 7B
Mrs. D. Huttema	SpEd, LA
Mrs. S. Beintema	Educational Ass't
Mrs. W. Deleeuw	Educational Ass't
Miss K. Mostert	Educational Ass't
Mrs. J. Spoor	Educational Ass't
Miss F. Struik	Educational Ass't
Mrs. L. Vanderven	Educational Ass't
Mrs. E. Kuntz	Office Administrator

Credo Aid

Mrs. J. Sikma	Mrs. L. Huttema
Mrs. K. Scheper	Mrs. A. VanSpronsen
Mrs. R. Leffers	Mrs. A. Leyenhorst

Fee Structure 2016-2017

Membership	125.00	Kindergarten	305.00
Elem. (1-3)	515.00	Elem (4-7)	535.00
Junior High	680.00	Senior High	730.00

CCSTA office	778-986-9011
Alan Dyck	email: ccsta2015@gmail.com