



February 2, 2009



Newsline 20

Principal's Message

Greetings WCS,

As some of you may know, I have begun taking classes toward a Masters in Educational Christian Leadership. My first course began online though Calvin College last week Monday. This course will last for 14 weeks with many articles and books to read.

The course content focuses on investigating philosophy's questions regarding the nature of humanness and schooling, history's account of the role of schools, and social science's view of structures, ideologies and agency as they relate to schooling. The Christian lens will be sharpened in an examination of the interaction between schooling and sustainability, globalization, economic and social justice, and the role of educators as agents of change and transformation.

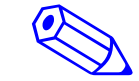
Ok, that sounds really deep and possibly confusing, but what I will be doing over the next little while is using parts of what I am learning, and posing statements and questions to you, as I am learning and seeking understanding.

One of my first articles, Education as a Moral Practice that I was required to read presented a growing trend in education to view the learning from a business model. This means, if we feed children subjects **a**, **b**, and **c**, then we can expect them to produce product **d**. This is one of the main reasons why there has been a greater push in the last 10 years for government run tests to see what our children are achieving in school. In the announcement section of this Newsline, you will see something pertaining

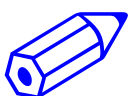
to the CTBS results. However, the concern I have with this article, and the formalized tests, is that they don't show us any data on the moral development of children. There is no area that indicates our students' values, or how they are shaping into well-rounded spiritual, physical, and emotional humans. It only focuses on the intellectual side of their learning.

These thoughts also led to another idea as I read my second article, Widening Ways of Economy, Justice, and Peace. It was suggested that, as educators, we need to have a periscope attitude — concerned about more than just the subject matters. We live in a world where students are bombarded with media and the negative reports of repaying evil for evil. The students' minds have been filled with the philosophy that self-preservation at all costs replaces the law of love for one's neighbour. Do they see the rest of the world as dealing with problems without dealing with the root of the problem? Do they know no alternative? Have they been exposed to the ideas of reconciliation?

I think one way this can be done is through modelling in the life of the teacher. I think this points to our calling. We are called to use our creativity to contribute to solutions, ways that might help others to escape from their present paralysis and open themselves up to a new vision, under the wisdom and discernment of Christ. This means we have to address the problems AND give



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the students some solutions.

This is why currently our Education committee is looking into a program that addresses bullying in school. I was given an article that might be of interest to many of you which examines Bullying in Christian School.

<http://circle.adventist.org/files/jae/en/jae199759032206.pdf> Please give it a read, for I would like to discuss this more in upcoming Newline articles.

For now it is back to reading many mind-opening educational articles, and the running of day to day activities at school. This past week was fully packed with events like the Basketball Tournament, a snow day, and Winter Fun Day. You can see photos of these events on our website (well, except for the snow day, unless you are looking for a principal shovelling the sidewalks of our school).

As for this week, it will be no different, for we will be having our **Open House / Registration for 2009-2010** on Tuesday and Wednesday. Please keep this in your prayers, for our Marketing Team (our newly renamed Promotion Committee) has been praying for 15 new families for next year.

Shalom,
Mr. Andy J. Alblas

SCHOOL NEWS ITEMS:

CTBS

The results of the Canadian Test of Basic Skills are in. If you are interested to see how your child (Grades 3-8) did on the tests that were taken in October, please arrange a meeting with your child's teacher to go over the results. Overall, we have done well compared to other Christian Schools, and much better than the public school.

Basketball Tournament

We wish to thank all our athletes for their hard work and determination. It was great to see the effort you put into all the practices and the tournament. You have all worked hard and now have the opportunity to rest before we start practising for Track and Field!

Winter Fun Day

Thank you to the Grade 7 & 8 students for organizing this annual event. I would also like to thank Mrs. Workman and Miss Loxton for providing treats. This year we also had many alumni students assisting us, so thanks to Mike Foster, Mark Hill, Alyssa Kraayenbrink, and Trevor McLaughlin for assisting in various areas. Our students had an amazing day, with more snow than was expected. This will be a well-remembered day by all!

Pasta Fundraiser

Reminder! Pasta Order Forms are due in to the school today! If you have not done so please make sure you have your order form into the school as soon as possible. Once the order is placed to the company, we cannot add to it. Orders will be available for pick up the end of next week; watch the Newline for details. **Thank you** to everyone for all your hard work and commitment to our fundraising events!

Hotdog Day

We made a profit of \$90.27 on our last hotdog day! Thanks to everyone!

K-4 Class Trip

On Thursday, February 19, the Kindergarten to Grade 4 class will be spending the day at Chatham Cultural Centre. We will be leaving the school at 9 a.m. and will be returning at 3 p.m. We will be participating in two workshops: pottery and water colours. Please make sure your child wears old clothes that day. The cost is \$ 5.75 each. That is half the price of the original. Please bring that in as soon as possible.

Deconstruction Darwin

The **Dresden Christian Reformed Church** and the **Dresden Ministerial Association** are sponsoring a **FREE 2-day conference** entitled **Deconstructing Darwin**. This event is designed specifically to equip Christians with answers to refute evolution using logic and cutting-edge science. It will feature Dr. Emil Silvestru and Calvin Smith and will take place at Dresden Community Church, 29043 Community Rd (located just south of Dresden on Highway 21), Dresden. Come to one session or come to all the sessions, but registration for the Saturday meal is necessary. Consider bringing a class, youth group, bible study group or entire church!

Dates and Times: Friday, February 6 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. and Saturday, February 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. with a supper break from 4:30-6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Pastor Richard Vander Vaart or Brenda Goodreau at 519-683-4443 or e-mail at dresdencrc@kent.net **Please go to www.dresdencrc.org to register.** Consider visiting: www.deconstructingdarwin.com for more on Deconstructing Darwin.



Prayer Corner

- † *Anita Lubbers (mother of Jillian - Gr. 2 and Connor - SK) underwent surgery today to remove her gall bladder and part of her liver. Please pray for God's healing and strength for the entire family.*
- † *Russell Kraayenbrink's (SK) surgery went well and he is in school again. Thank you for your prayers.*
- † *Gordon Kraayenbrink (school supporter and grandfather) will have knee replacement surgery tomorrow.*

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesday, Wednesday,
February 3 & 4

Thursday, February 12

Friday, February 13

12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Monday, February 16

Thursday, February 19

Wednesday, February 25

Thursday, February 26

Friday, February 27

9:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Registration and Open House

Hot Lunch Day – Lasagna

Speeches

School Skating

Family Day – no school

K-4 Class Trip to Chatham Cultural Centre

JK Hotdog Day

Hotdog Day – Gr. 7-8 and K to bring treats

P. D. Day – no school

Reminder from the Cleaning Committee:

If you are having someone clean for you, please send your money in on the Wednesday (cost is \$35).
If you are writing a cheque, please leave the name blank, as there are 4 different people who clean.
Contact Patti at 519-627-5228 for more information.

February 6

KRAAYENBRINK, Bernard
KRAAYENBRINK, Brian
KRAAYENBRINK, F & V
KRAAYENBRINK, H & J
KRAAYENBRINK, J & L

February 13

KRAAYENBRINK, L
LUTH, G & A
LUTH, G & W
MALOTT
MARTIN

February 20

MCLACHLIN
MCLAUGHLIN
METAYER
KRAAYENBRINK, Herman
KRAAYENBRINK, E & I

CLASSROOM NEWS ITEMS:

Junior Kindergarten

Today we celebrated Groundhog Day with activities in the afternoon. Ask us about shadows. In the morning we made a special treat for our birds - yummy peanut butter and birdseed!

The next two weeks we will be spending time talking about friendship and caring for each other.

We are learning about the heart shape and the letter Qq.

Kindergarten:

The letter this week is **Nn**. The alphabet pal is Nancy Nightingale. The Bible verse is "No one can serve two masters." Matthew 6:24 The Bible character is Noah. Please pray for the people in New Zealand. Snack will be provided by Emily.

Watch for the Kindergarten newsletter on Thursday, February 5.

Grade 1 and 2:

- Please practice storytelling every night as this **Thursday and Friday the students will be sharing their memorized stories with the class.**
- No Memory Verse this week due to storytelling.
- No Spelling this week due to storytelling.

- **Math P.O.W. sheet due next Monday**
Congratulations to last week's P.O.W. winners:
Grade 1 – Lydia Kraayenbrink
Grade 2 – Brendan McLachlin
- Please continue to read A.R. books and to review math facts flash cards daily!
- On Thursday, February 19, SK and Grades 1 - 4 will be attending a field trip to the Chatham Cultural Centre where we will be participating in art workshops that correspond with our curriculum. We will be leaving the school at 9:30 a.m. and will return to school at the end of the school day. The cost for these workshops is \$5.75 per student. Please send in the money to school by February 17. If you would like to be a chaperone for this field trip please let me know.
- Thank you for sending in snacks for last week's hotdog day!

Grade 3 and 4:

Math: Please practice math facts daily with your child. Beginning this past Friday and continuing through the next two weeks, we will be focussing on the multiplication tables, a new one each day. It is very important that your child is practising these at home as well.

Spelling: List 10. Test on Friday, February 6.

law
washing
caught
taught
talk
walker
forward
horse
force
shorter
north
south
mouth
house
cloud
how
crowded
edges
bridge
jeans
daughter (Bonus Word)

Bible Test: Friday, January 6. A turquoise review sheet went home this past Friday.

Speeches: Student will be presenting their speeches this Wednesday, February 4. If needed we will also present on Thursday as well.

Grade 5 and 6:

Speeches- Speeches will take place in class on February 5th and 6th. Grade 6 will be presenting their speeches on Thursday and Grade 5 on Friday.

Spelling Test- Friday, February 6

Grade 5

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. quarter | 2. hang |
| 3. leaving | 4. theft |
| 5. quick | 6. heading |
| 7. court | 8. quiet |
| 9. jail | 10. wing |
| 11. bent | 12. bloom |
| 13. questions | 14. burst |
| 15. sink | 16. lying |
| 17. queens | 18. tank |
| 19. timber | 20. blast |
| 21. cinquain | 22. thermometer |
| 23. bonuses | 24. crystal |

25. solvent

Grade 6

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. bench | 2. seek |
| 3. polygon | 4. thunderstorm |
| 5. antislavery | 6. overalls |
| 7. miniature | 8. unicorn |
| 9. tomahawk | 10. unknown |
| 11. beech | 12. tractor |
| 13. saucer | 14. watered |
| 15. exercise | 16. officer |
| 17. tidal wave | 18. magnificent |
| 19. gotten | 20. unit |
| 21. intellect | 22. photographer |
| 23. irritation | 24. awesome |
| 25. khaki | |

Grade 7 and 8: Term Two, Week Ten

Journal: due Monday, February 9th. The topic is “What has been your favourite part of the school year so far. Why?”

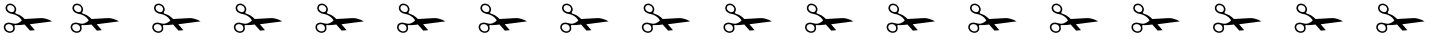
Science Fair: The Experimental Procedure is due **Tuesday, February 3rd**. After they receive approval, they may begin their experiment. All experiments need to be completed by **Friday, February 20th**.

Memory Verse:

12 And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, 13 and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good? **Deuteronomy 10:12-13**

Spelling Test:

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. business | 11. urgent |
| 2. executive | 12. decision |
| 3. Microsoft | 13. disappoint |
| 4. regional | 14. charity |
| 5. vacation | 15. libraries |
| 6. solitude | 16. scholarships |
| 7. educational | 17. transfer |
| 8. foreign | 18. conference |
| 9. treasured | 19. instructor |
| 10. received | 20. construction |



WCS Community Challenge

Please send in this form to the school office when you have completed service hours.

Date: _____ **Hours of service:** _____

Description: _____

_____ *(Parent Signature)*