



Volume 23 Issue 1
Sep. 2, 2011

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....

Chris Hoff

Welcome back to all!

After just one more statutory holiday the new 2011-2012 school year will begin! After a time of rest and relaxation over the summer, the enforced discipline of earlier mornings, making lunches, getting to the school bus, or dropped off on time will resume. Many new opportunities will present themselves - relationships with new teachers, new friendships, and many new things to learn as teachers open up the world of learning to the students. We hope that students, teachers and administration alike had a refreshing summer, and have renewed energy to begin the new school year.

For many parents, perhaps there will be a sense of relief that summer vacation is over; but also perhaps melancholy. Each new year marks an increased measure of independence. On the first day, no doubt some tears will be shed as children turn from their mother's embrace and run toward the school. For grade 7 students, a higher level of personal responsibility is expected as Ms. Vanderhorst prepares them for an entirely new experience at high school. Each new grade in between represents another step in the progression toward adulthood, and another step towards being productive servants in God's kingdom work.

At a time like this, it is good to reflect on the vision for CCES. It could be that, over all the *Branches* you have read in the past, you have not noticed it, italicized in the vertical column on the left hand side of this page:

"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."

It is clear that the mandate for CCES extends beyond teaching academic disciplines within a context of a Reformed worldview towards a more holistic child development. In partnership with home and church, CCES exists to inspire students to strive for excellence, and to encourage them to put Godly virtues and attitudes into practice in a complex social environment. This is no small challenge, and we pray that the staff, students, volunteers - and parents - will be supplied with discernment, strength and wisdom.

The Maintenance Committee has been busy over the summer preparing the school for the new year. As you walk through the school you may notice the renovations in the front office, new carpets and paint in the Grade 4-7 classrooms, and new storage areas on the main floor. This is just a sample of all the work undertaken this summer, and we thank the Maintenance Committee for their diligence. It is also good to extend thanks to those that attended the summer work-bee on August 20. Quite a bit was accomplished that day - perhaps others will

be sure to help out next summer as many hands make light work for all. Thanks also to Fritz and Corrie DeWit for preparing the school over the summer.

To date we do not have announcements regarding new families and students - but we do welcome families that are sending their first child to Kindergarten. A full list of Kindergarten students can be found elsewhere in this edition of *Branches*. We also welcome Kim Gelderman in her first year as a Special Education Assistant. No doubt your first year is exciting for you as well and we are sure you will be a great addition to the school. This September also marks the last school term for Diane Vanderboom, as she

expects to retire in December. Her replacement - Stephen Chase - has been present over the last week working on transition with Diane.

As a Board, outside of miscellaneous matters, things have been fairly quiet over the summer. Soon we, and the various committees, will begin to meet regularly. We covet your prayers for all who are involved. 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.

Welcome to the new Kindergarten students:

Carson Bisschop (Robert & Nellie)

Ryan Bontkes (Timothy & Petra)

Russell Deboer (Mindert & Emily)

Caleb DeWit (Brian & Mandy)

Jesse Hofsink (Darryl & Leanne)

Jaina Kang (Paul Kang & Leslie Scholtens)

Paul Leyenhorst (Kevin & Jacoba)

Austin Leyenhorst (Steven & Audrey)

Krista Lof (John & Debbie)

Robin Luiten (Jon & Rosanne)

Michaela Luiten (Matthew & Cindy)

James MacKay (Daniel & Patricia)

Justin Saide (Dieter & Loretta)

Gideon Scholtens (Michael & Mirjam)

Joshua Souman (Rev. Anthon & Annette)

Anna VanBostelen (Troy & Margaret)

Sara Vandeburgt (James & Michelle)

Helena VanDelft (Colin & Alice)

Naomi Vandergugten (Mike & Esther)

Thomas VanPopta (Greg & Melissa)

Lauren VanRhee (Kees & Natasja)

Myles Vantil (Maurice & Rachel)



Principal's Report

Heres Snijder

Think About Such Things!

Welcome and welcome back to a new school year:

July and August have come and gone, providing much opportunity for respite and relaxation. September is already here! For the last two weeks, teachers have been in and out of the school building to prepare for the school year that lies ahead. Carpet layers and painters, along with Maintenance Committee members and other volunteers have diligently worked throughout the summer, leaving the building in tip-top shape! These are only some of the many causes for humble gratitude: many more could be added. Wherever we look, we notice the input and involvement of supporting members. The ceilings in all grades show evidence of Credo Aid's support: ceiling mounted projectors have been installed now in all classrooms, including Kindergarten! Soon, Smart boards will be installed in two primary classrooms. Even landscapers and contractors put their touch on the property by replacing the old school sign by the road with a brand new one! . In short, Credo is a happening place! Wonderful!

A New School Theme:

Think About Such Things!

"... Whatever is TRUE, whatever is NOBLE, whatever is RIGHT, whatever is PURE, whatever is LOVELY, whatever is ADMIRABLE, if anything is EXCELLENT or PRAISEWORTHY, THINK ABOUT SUCH THINGS!!

(Philippians 4:8)

These stirring words from Paul impress on us to fulfill Credo's Mission: 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. That kingdom is within us and among us (Luke 17) and we are directed to

determine our thoughts, words and actions by that reality. Locally, (myself, my community, my school, my city, our homeless, our sick) and increasingly more globally (others, other communities, other schools, the world, homeless and sick world wide) we have numerous opportunities to do what God desires and requires: to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with Him (Micah 6). As a community of Christ-followers we are challenged to build and shape character. This requires intentional reflection on how to best bring that about

May God grant us all a blessed, safe and fruitful year at Credo Elementary!

New Staff:

During last week's prep meetings, staff could welcome Steven Chase - and Kim Gelderman. What a great blessing it is to have both of you join Credo's staff, and do so enable a smooth transition for the benefit of the students. We pray God's blessing over you, Steven, as you complete your final term of practice teaching. Kim, blessings to you as you take on the professional growth opportunities in the resource room: may you soon feel at home here at Credo as a trained Special Education Assistant.

New Parents: a special welcome to Mindert and Emily DeBoer, Brian and Mandy DeWit and Jonathan and Rosanne Luiten, who are sending their first child off to Kindergarten this Tuesday. We are looking forward to your participation and feedback for many years to come!

New looks:

There are new carpets in the four intermediate classrooms, new countertops, newly painted walls and new blinds! There are new desks in the Grade six classroom, along with new ceiling mounted projectors in the primary grades! The playground structures behind the gym look like new: amazing! The old cedar tree that has

overshadowed the teeter-totters for all of the 24 (!) years of Credo's existence has been removed: it would have become a safety hazard sooner or later.

New approaches to teaching...

Technology continues to keep us on our toes. Currently, staff members are considering whether they should enroll in global education training courses. Via Skype, a presenter of such a course joined Credo's staff last Wednesday for an info session.

Parents and teachers, servant leaders. Servant leadership is what we have in common with each other as we purposely follow Christ who, getting up from his knees after washing his disciples' dusty feet, told His disciples to treat each other in the same way.

This year's school theme will help us direct our educational efforts towards God who invites and encourages us think about everything that is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent or praiseworthy, (Philippians 4:8).

We are each other's most valuable assets and resources.

Traveling safely on the information high way.

During the summer, the [Safesearch](#) program has been installed on all Credo's Computers on Wheels. The website states:

"SafeSearch is locked on for Bing, Google, Yahoo! and other popular search engines. One particular setting allows all websites but lets you know if kids go to potentially inappropriate ones. The Family Safety website gives parents [and teachers] control over when kids use the computer, what games they can play, and what programs they can run."... It can be used to block Facebook and other social media.

When installed on multiple PCs in the household (or at school), Family Safety enforces the same settings and combines reports from all PCs into one. Monitor activities easily. Use activity reports to easily review your kids' online activities so you can teach them to use the Internet responsibly. Parents who want more control can use Family Safety to block inappropriate content or even limit kids to age-appropriate sites. You can also limit your kids' email and instant messaging access to approved contacts on

Windows Live Hotmail and Windows Live Messenger, so that you'll always know where your kids are hanging out online and who they might be talking to.

(<http://explore.live.com/windows-live-family-safety>)

A New Start: a good time to have a look at the Handbook!

There are many 'best practices' in place at Credo, handily compiled in the Parent Student Handbook. The purpose of this handbook is to inform parents, students and others involved in the operation of the Credo Christian Elementary School, about its organization and its programs. Through this means we hope to erase any confusion or misconceptions about requirements as well as inform students and their parents what is being taught and what student expectations ought to be. It is expected that parents communicate these to the student. This Handbook explains many of our policies, procedures and expectations. Suggestions for improvement are always welcome!

Of the many 'best practices', please be reminded of the following that have immediate relevance, right from day one.

Credo is peanut-free!

Please remember that CCES has students who are allergic to peanuts. Please do not pack peanuts or peanut products in your child's lunches: a peanut-allergic reaction could be fatal.

School Calendar Matters:

Please consult the School Calendar elsewhere in this issue of *Branches*. Note that special day assemblies have been included also. Kindergarten classes are scheduled for Mondays and Wednesdays and every other Friday.

Rain and recesses:

Grade 4-7 students will be outside for recess, also when it rains. Could you please send your son and daughter to school with weather appropriate attire, also on rainy days.

School closures:

Should the school be closed due to inclement weather or adverse road conditions, this information will be relayed to the radio station

CKNW 980. This info will also be posted on Credo's Website. Please note that you will not receive a phone call in the morning.

School hours:
School starts at 8:40 am!

Moving about:
Please be reminded that roller blades, wheelies, scooter shoes, shoes that leave black marks are not allowed on the school premises.

Electronics:
CD players, MP3 players, iPhones, cell phones, digital cameras etc., are to be left at home, unless the teacher has specifically included these communication devices in a lesson or project.

School emergency protocol:
For each month of this year an emergency preparedness drill is scheduled, in case of a fire,

an earthquake or a situation that calls for a lock-down procedure. School emergencies can be tragic and traumatic. For that reason CCES makes every effort to deal with emergencies in an organized and orderly manner.

Opening Assembly:
Staff is looking forward to your presence on September 6 at 10:00 to start the new school year in song, scripture reading and prayer, to commit this new season of learning together to the LORD and ask for His indispensable blessing.

Finally, please feel free to contact me at school on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, or any time on Wednesdays and Fridays. I'm looking forward to working with you and for you to address any concerns or questions you may have.

CCES Staff Assignments and enrollment 2011/12		
Grade	Teacher	# of students
K	Leslie Scholtens	22
1A	Mary MacDougal	14
1B	Jennifer Onderwater/Jane Deglint	14
2	Diane Vanderboom (to Dec. 2011) Stephen Chase (to commence in Jan 2012)	25
3	Nathan Boersema	23
4	Jerry Scholtens	26
5	Linda VanSpronsen/Heres Snijder (70/30 split)	20
6	Jessica Dokter	24
7	Rachel Vanderhorst	18
	Leanne Hofsink -PE gr 5/7	
	Jane Deglint -Music gr. 4-7	
	Total	186
Special Ed Personnel:		
SpEd Coordinator	Deb Huttema	.5 FTE
SEA	Tessa Siebenga	1.0 FTE
SEA/TA	Kim Gelderman	1.0 FTE
	Jane DeGlint	.4 FTE
LA	Angela VanSpronsen	0.5 FTE
	Jac Spoor	0.5 FTE

Credo Aid Update



Welcome back everyone! We hope you all enjoyed your summer break and are refreshed to get back into the swing of things. There will be a few changes this year regarding the way Credo Aid is run, with the most obvious one being only one general meeting happening in the fall. No date has been set but keep an eye out for it in the leaflets. If anyone has any suggestions/comments on new fundraisers or to volunteer to help out with the current ones the board is only an email or phone call away.

If you were in charge of organizing a fundraiser last year we ask that you please email Ang de Boer at bandadeboer@shaw.ca to let her know if you are willing to help out again or not.

Speaking of helping out, the wonderful ladies who whetted our appetites every Christmas with their delicious croquettes, have decided that they need a break. This is one fundraiser that everyone loves so we need 2 more ladies to keep the tradition going. If you can help out in the organizing part please let us know.

We also have one NEW FUNDRAISER happening this year in the spring. A BOOK SALE! So exciting! In order to have a book sale however we need a lot of books! So it may be time to go through those book shelves and clear out some oldies but goodies that are collecting dust and set them aside for the book sale. More info will be available as specific details are made.

Gift Certificate Program

As you all probably know, the gift certificate program continues to be the biggest fundraiser for Credo Aid, and the monthly post-dated cheques are the best thing for the program. In order to increase the number of families who contribute in this way, we'd like to offer a bit of a promotion. Each family that sends in 12 post-dated cheques for gift certificates will receive one \$10 gift card to Tim Horton's or Starbucks (your choice). The minimum monthly amount is \$200 (larger amount are gratefully accepted), and the cheques can be dated for whatever works for you (although the 1st of the 15th allows for the most consistency). The deadline for taking advantage of this promotion is Friday, September 16th. We thank all our faithful participants already in our post-dated-cheque program, as well as the many that purchase cards regularly. Gift cards are always available from Ang Deboer, Marcia Wildeboer, or Shauna Stam. Call Shauna if you have any questions.

Looking forward to a wonderful year of working with all the Credo Aid members,
Your board,
Ang de Boer
Esther Vandergugten
Ang Vanspronsen
Lisa Vanderven

For School Supplies lists please see the website: www.credoces.org or the June 2011 issue of *Branches*

Dear Parents,

At Credo part of our school vision is to create in children an awareness of the needs of others both in our local community and in the world around us. In the past, we have had many fundraising events throughout the year to fulfil this mandate (food drives, Change for change etc.). Our plan this year is to outline to you all of our fundraising activities at the outset of the year so that your child can work towards fulfilling this commitment as well. Every other month we will have a new goal and we would be most pleased if each student could participate. (*We would suggest a donation of \$1.00 per month per child or as they are able*). Our commitment to San Pedro of 25 cents per month per student would continue as well. Through this initiative we are trying to encourage students to live a life of service both in the local community and globally.

Diane and Nathan

Fundraising Events @ CCES

2011-2012

September/October:

Road2Hope – EduDeo Ministries
Date: October 21

Assembly Date: September 12 Race

We have a Christian school that provides us with Christian education. We want to help other children receive Christian education.

November/December:

Andrew & Megan Van Andel - Wycliffe Bible Translators

Assembly Date: October 24

We have the Bible in our own language. We want to help others receive the Bible in their own language.

January/February:

Jump for Heart - Heart & Stroke Foundation

Assembly Date: January 9

We are healthy and want to stay active. We want to help the sick become healthy again, locally and globally.

March/April:

Food Drive - Rice Raisers

Assembly Date: March 26

We have food. We want to give food to others, locally and globally.

May/June:

Voice of the Martyrs

Assembly Date: May 7

We have the freedom to be Christians. We want to help the persecuted.

CCES School Calendar 2011/2012

September	6	first day of school, Opening assembly	
	26	school photos	
October	5	Thanksgiving Assembly	
	6 & 7	CTA Convention	no school
	10	Thanksgiving Day	no school
	26	school membership meeting	
	31	Reformation Day Assembly	
November	10	Remembrance Day Assembly	
	11	Remembrance Day	no school
	25	Pro-D Day	no school
	28	Report Cards	
	29 & Dec. 1	P.T. Conferences	
December	16	Christmas Assembly	
	16	last day before Christmas Break	
	19 –Jan 2	Christmas Vacation	no school
January	3	school reopens	
	27	Combined Pro-D Day	no school
February	24	Pro-D. Day	no school
March	6	Report Cards	
	8	Students/Parents Conf.(evening)	
	9	Students/Parents Conf.(all day)	
	12 -23	March Break	no school
	26	school reopens	
April	5	Easter Assembly	
	6	Good Friday	no school
	9	Easter Monday	no school
May	4	Public Speaking Contest	
	17	Ascension Day	
	18	Ascension/Pentecost Assembly	
	18	Grade 8 Day	
	21	Victoria Day	no school
	27	Pentecost	
	30	school membership meeting	
	25	Sports Day	
June	22	last day of school	
		Closing assembly, graduation	
	25-27	administrative days	no school



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 (2012)	Chairman
Mr. W. Bulthuis (2013)	Vice Chair/Ed. Com
Mr. T. Bontkes (2011)	Treasurer
Mr. E. Visscher (2013)	Secretary
Mr. R. Bredenhof (2011)	Maintenance
Mr. J. Lof (2013)	Finance
Mrs. V. Sikkema (2011)	CCHS/SpEd
Mr. S. Pol (2012)	Development

Education Committee

Mr. W. Bulthuis	Mrs. P. Hoff
Miss. J. Dokter	Mrs. C. Pol
Mrs. L. Huttema	Mr. R. Jacobi
Mr. H. Snijder	Mrs. C. Visscher

Development Committee

Mr. S. Pol	Mrs. C. Stel
Mr. W. VanOene	Mr. B. Deboer
	Mrs. J. VanVliet

Special Education Committee

Mrs. V. Sikkema	Mrs. D. Huttema
	Mr. H. Snijder

Finance Committee

Mr. T. Bontkes	Mr. J. Lof
	Mrs. E. Kuntz

Maintenance Committee

Mr. R. Bredenhof	Mr. H. Snijder
Mr. M. Homan	Mr. C. Vandergugten
R. VanSpronsen	Mr. R. Wiegers

Staff

Mr. H. Snijder	Principal, Gr. 5
Ms. L. Scholtens	Kindergarten
Mrs. M. MacDougal	Grade 1A
Mrs. J. Onderwater	Grade 1B
Mrs. J. Deglnt	Gr. 1B, Music, SEA
Mrs. D. Vanderboom	Grade 2
Mr. N. Boersema	Grade 3
Mr. J. Scholtens	Grade 4
Mrs. L. Vanspronsen	Grade 5
Miss J. Dokter	Grade 6
Miss R. Vanderhorst	Grade 7
Mrs. D. Huttema	SpEd, LA
Mrs. L. Hofsink	Grade 5,7 PE
Miss T. Heetebrij	SEA
Mrs. J. Spoor	SEA
Miss K. Gelderman	TA
Mrs. A. VanSpronsen	TA
Mrs. E. Kuntz	Secretary
Mr. & Mrs. J. Dewit	Custodians

Credo Aid

Mrs. A. Deboer (chair)	Mrs. L. Vanderven
Mrs. E. Vandergugten (secr.)	Mrs. M. Vantil
Mrs. A. VanSpronsen (treasurer)	

Fee Structure 2010-2011

Membership	100.00
Kindergarten	250.00
Elementary (1-3)	450.00
Elementary (4-7)	470.00
Junior High	605.00
Senior High	655.00

CCSTA office 604-856-0806
 Rick Ostermeier: email: CCSTA@shaw.ca



You are invited to join us for our
Opening Assembly
 Tuesday, September 6, 2011 10:00 a.m.
 in the Langley Canadian Reformed Church

Our School Theme for 2011-2012 is
Think About Such Things!