



*developing minds
building character
nurturing faith*



A GLANCE AHEAD!

DECEMBER 2020

Jeremiah 29:11 reads "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

This summer I lost a waterski. While we were water-skiing, one of my boys dropped it to slalom ski. In the excitement of his success, we forgot all about picking it up. It wasn't until later when we needed that ski again did we remember the lost ski.

We strained our eyes over the water for hours looking around the lake for our lost ski, with no success. In an extra attempt to find this ski that I was sure had drifted to shore, I suited up and kayaked very slowly and carefully combing the shoreline of the lake for the lost ski. I turned over waterlogged logs, lifted low hanging branches, looked under every dock, paddled through Lilly pads, only to find a few lost lures and floating garbage. No ski. With each inch of the shore I searched, I was more certain it was going to be around the next corner, tucked in the next rock or just around the bend.

If someone would have told me at the start of my journey that my search would be useless, I would have saved myself the sunburn, sore neck muscles and forearm workout. But that's the thing, I thought I was going to find it. I was sure that I was going to find it. I was certain it was there, I just needed to keep going. I was confident that my careful attention and effort would find it. I was **HOPEFUL** that I was going to find and return the ski and everyone would be happy.

HOPE is what kept me going and is what keeps us going. **HOPE** is what fuels us when logic wants us to stop. **HOPE** is an expectation that must be met. **HOPE** is a firm belief that what we are counting on will materialize. **HOPE** inspires against all odds. **HOPE** is what enables ones in impossible situations to continue. **HOPE** defeats defeat.

In the verse above God tells us He has plans for us, plans for **HOPE** - this brings comfort to me in because of **WHO** our hope comes from. My own efforts are about as fruitful as finding a ski in a huge lake - I never found it. I misunderstand, I miscommunicate and generally make a mess of things if I do it all in my own strength. (please don't worry I triple check plans that involve students 😊)

As we look back at 2020 maybe you could say that you have lost hope in something, maybe you feel that it is better not to hope and be disappointed, or you may say that you "hope" but not really expecting.

As 2020 comes to an end we can confidently look forward to 2021 with a firm **HOPE** in the one who has plans for our future, good plans to prosper us! I pray a special prayer for all those who have lost in 2020, for those who may have lost a little bit of hope too. I pray that as you look closer at Jesus this season you can see that His plans are always good and never to harm. I pray that as you consider the year ahead you rest your **HOPE** in Him with full assurance that "He's got you". Christmas season blessings to each of you and yours this December!

Sylvia Bourne

2021 Calendars for Sale

Please consider buying your 2021 Calendar from CCA, this is a great way to support the Academy while buying something you need too! The original artwork is done by a local artist Pegmaster Art and is a neat sketch of CCA in the summer or winter. We hope this will inspire conversation about our school while at home and remind you to pray daily for the academy community. Calendars are 8.5 x 11. The cost of the calendar is \$40 and net proceeds go to CCA.

Assemblies - Virtual

Please send short videos or pictures to the office for our virtual assemblies. They will be compiled and shared for classes to enjoy together on assembly days. If there are too many submissions, they will overflow to the next assembly.

Wednesday, December 9 at 2:00 p.m. - Virtual Assembly.

Book Fair

A huge thanks to all families who participated in our book fair.

Thank you to those who purchased books for your student's classrooms. New books to choose from at reading time are always appreciated! Thank you to Mrs. Connor for organizing the book fair.

CCA Parent Facebook group

If you are interested in joining the CCA Facebook parent page it is called CCA Parent 2 Parent Connection and is a good place to track down lost uniforms, arrange sports event rides and so on.



Christmas Cards - Due by December 10th

This season CCA wants to bless senior citizens who may be feeling lonely this season. We will be making homemade Christmas cards, or pictures - as many as we can and deliver them to local homes for residents. Please consider spending time as a family to make some thoughtful Christmas cards with a message or picture for a senior citizen. Families are encouraged to sign the cards but not to address them. Staff at the home will give the cards where they are most needed. All art abilities are welcomed and encouraged! Cards can be given to Mrs. Mayhew who will collect and distribute them in time for Christmas.

Christmas Carol Songs

Staff and students will begin each day listening to a traditional Christmas Carol over the PA System during the final two weeks of school before the Christmas break. They will have the opportunity to sing along in their classrooms to help foster the Christmas spirit and start the day in a joyous way.

Christmas Charity Auction

A huge thanks to everyone who helped make this year's virtual auction a success! There were so many great items to bid on - thank you for all your soliciting and donations. Great job everyone! Thank you to Jenny Erwin our Auction Coordinator and to Rob Walker from Auctria for organizing the event.



Christmas Holidays

CCA will be closed for Christmas holidays starting Friday, December 18th. Classes will resume on Monday January 4th, 2020.

Deer Hunter

The tradition of the "Deer Hunter" game during deer hunting season continued this year in the junior division Angelica Adegbile placing first in the younger division and her brother Emmanuel placing second - great job!! In the intermediate division, Livia Kruszelnicki and Caleb Bourne battled it out on the field in a back and forth result with Caleb placing first and Livia second - good job to both of you as well!! Out in high school, Ewan Buckley and Joryn Erwin were a close match in the final moments with Ewan coming out on top! Great job to everyone.

Events

Friday December 4th and 11th - Donation Dress-Down Days

You can enjoy a CCA dress-down day (i.e. no uniform) for \$1 or a donation to the food bank. Proceeds will support Lanark County Interval House or the food bank.

Each year CCA has the opportunity to bless the Interval House with a generous donation of new pajamas, toys and gift cards. This year the need is great, please consider donating to this cause. A cash donation is also appreciated, and tax receipts can be provided (by the Interval House)



Friday, December 11 at 2:00 p.m.

Christmas Virtual Presentation by Arise Dance Studio

Monday December 14th - Christmas Shopping Day

It is our desire this year once again to provide an opportunity for children in Kindergarten to grade 8 to shop for Christmas gifts for their friends and family. A supply of NEW gifts have been donated and will be available for children to buy for loved ones. (while supplies last) CCHS students will wrap and label the gifts before they are sent home. This will be a great opportunity for students to do their Christmas shopping in one place. More details will come from CCHS soon. *Proceeds from the Shopping Day event go towards the CCHS Fundraising efforts.*

Wednesday December 16th - Christmas Play

Our Christmas presentation this year is called C.A.K.E. (Christmas Acts of Kindness Experiment). Upbeat songs by each class will weave together the story of a group of students challenged to reach out to their friends and neighbors with Christ's love over Christmas break. At first they complain because their teacher gave them HOMEWORK! But along the way, a group project becomes much more to them than they could have ever imagined. God's kindness proves God's love for us and is at the root of every detail of the Christmas story!

This year the play will be videotaped during school hours and a video link will be provided to each family.

Thursday December 17th - Grade 8 vs Staff Volleyball Game

Staff are taking on the graduating grade 8 class of 2021 in a friendly game of volleyball on Thursday December 17th beginning at 9:00am

Thursday December 17th - Candy Cane Hunt and Hot Chocolate 2:00 pm

We will continue our tradition of an outdoor candy can hunt and hot chocolate on the last day of school before the winter break. Students will spend the afternoon outdoors.

Food Program

We are happy to announce that our freezer is scheduled to arrive this week and we are hopeful (and expecting) that the food program will resume in the new year! Order forms and payment will be due before the break. More information will be sent out soon. Thank you to our cook Amy Loewen for her consistent care, dedication and flexibility with the food program.

Grade 8 Fundraising

The grade 8 class is excited to partner with Equator Coffee for our December fundraiser! Are you a coffee lover or do you live with a coffee lover? Now you can quench your coffee craving AND help the grade 8's fundraise for their year-end trip!

We are selling dark, medium and espresso roast coffee as well as tea, hot chocolate and some goodies - you can look forward to more information coming soon!

You can ask any grade 8 student for an order form to place your order, or email cmonaghan@calvaryca.com to get an order form sent directly to you. Thanks for your support of the grade 8 class!



Healthy School

Each of you are (hopefully) receiving our weekly Health and Wellness Updates, we hope that you feel informed and confident in sending your children to school. Staff continue to hold the bar high with Covid precautions that have now become habit and routine. As we approach the Christmas break, please continue to do your part in staying healthy and well. January will see a continuation of the existing procedures for sickness (all member stay home) and attestation upon return to school (only in the case of illness). We sincerely appreciate all of your efforts and prudence in helping keep our school healthy. Our local school/ parent phone line for advice is 1-866-236-0123.

Inclement Weather Info

School closures or class cancellations will be circulated by email generally by 7:00 a.m. There will also be a message on the school phone detailing the decision. CCA follows the UCDSB cancellations, which means that if the UCDSB cancels local bus services, our school is closed.

The Student Transportation of Eastern Ontario website will post bus delays or cancellations.
www.steo.ca

Non-Uniform Days

Dress down day on Dec 4 and 11 for \$1.00 or a donation to the food bank. Proceeds are going to the Lanark County Interval House and local food bank.

Operation Christmas Child

A big thank-you to Sharon Connor and each of you that that made our 2020 Operation Christmas Child campaign another success! Much effort, energy, time and resources are put into this campaign. Each of us are blessed as we reach out to bless less fortunate children around the world. **The total number of shoeboxes packed and collected at CCA was 182!**



Skating Rink

You may have noticed we have begun the base of what will be our very own skating rink at CCA. Classes will have the opportunity to use the rink for phys ed class or special events as determined by homeroom teachers. Parents are encouraged to have a pair of skates for children and be able to send to school on skate days. Our thrift shop often has skates for sale, if you need a pair.

Special Storeroom Event

This year the storeroom is hosting a KIDS SHOPPING DAY on December 12th. This day will be dedicated to KIDS only - no adults allowed. We need a few of you to help volunteer for the evening. Your role will be to assist kids in choosing a gift for the people on their list or wrapping gifts so the adults in their lives don't know what they've bought.

The sale will be held at the store (133 Bridge Street, Carleton Place) from 4-8pm and we will need a team of about 5-6 people who are speedy wrappers and willing to help kids shop. Please reply to the office if you would like to help on this day and more information will be sent to you. Similar to the sale we have hosted at the school, kids will pay what they can afford, or what they come prepared to spend and complete their shopping.

If you have gift bags, tags, wrap, tape or bows that you are willing to donate for this special event please send them in with your children to be dropped off at the office.

Sports

Football

Grade 7/8 and CCHS took full advantage of the beautiful November weather we had and participated in some flag football on the field. CCHS will continue to compete for titles over the month of December at the indoor turf in Beckwith just around the corner.

Volleyball

CCA and CCHS are always a good competitor for placing in the top spots in local tournaments. We are continuing to train for whenever we get back to tournaments. We have been working hard at the fundamentals of the game and enjoying playing in gym class. Some teams will begin before school practice soon - watch for more information about that.

Student of the Week

Beginning in January homeroom teachers will be submitting a name for Student of the Week. The student of the week is a student who engages in the classroom, sets a positive example to their peers and is a leader by their example. Nominees are announced on the announcements and presented with a certificate of achievement. You can look for monthly nominees in the newsletters!



The Storeroom

The Storeroom continues to be a blessing to CCA donating over \$150,000 to date!! The Storeroom is a blessing to the surrounding community as well. We are still in need of volunteer to sort donations and pick up donations. We are looking for volunteers over the Christmas holidays so if you have some free time or maybe a child in high school looking for volunteer hours, we'd love the help you can contact the office.

The Storeroom sale changes hands on February 15th but remains open and in support of the Academy until then.

Please continue to donate quality used goods and furniture to the store. For information about donation drop off hours you can contact the office.

Volunteer Opportunities

Each family is responsible for 25 hours of volunteer hours. We know that because of Covid restrictions and the resulting changes to programming, it can be more of a challenge to get your

volunteer hours. Each month we will provide volunteer opportunities and we think that each one will find something that suits their interests and abilities. If you have strengths or interests and would like to offer assistance in some area please email the office.

Opportunities this month include;

Painting - Over the break we would like to have the portables painted. We estimate this will take over 20 hours and require some light mudding and sanding to finish well.

Cleaning - We are also looking to form a list of volunteers for a deep clean team that can self-schedule to come in over the break or periodically in the new year (weekend or evenings) to deep clean areas of the school that need it. Supplies will be provided.

First Aid Kits - We need one person willing to take responsibility for the first aid kits that we use for field trips and tournaments. Making sure they are up-to date and equipped properly. Kits can be brought home, sorted, stocked and returned.

Classroom Help - Homeroom teachers will send out requests as needed. If you have a particular interest or skill that may be helpful or useful in the classroom, feel free to reach out and offer your time. Some examples are art or craft prep or lesson, video presentations or lessons.

Planters - We would love for someone to spruce up the 2 planters at the main entrance and one at the Kindergarten entrance with something wintery. There is a small budget for this. Please let the office know if you are interested in this job.

Making Playdoh - The younger grades are in need of 3 batches of playdoh per month. A recipe will be provided. If you think you can help with making playdoh once a month please let me know.

Community

Snow Pass Program

The Canadian Ski Counsel offers a "Snow Pass" for grade 4-5 students. For \$29.95, kids can ski at hills across the country up to 3 times each year with no additional lift fees. This program is not run through the school so please check out their website for more information.

<https://www.skicanada.org/grade-4-5-snowpass/>

NEW -Alumni Spotlight

Each month we are going to spotlight different alumni students.

Kaitlin Law - CCA Graduate Class of 2012:

What path of schooling did you pursue after CCA? Where are you on this path?

After graduating high school, I went straight into nursing school at the University of Ottawa. I graduated with my nursing degree earlier this year and am now working as a Registered Nurse.

Do you still have connections to CCA?

I absolutely have connections back at CCA, in fact one of those connections with another CCA family is the reason I am working at my current nursing job! I have numerous lifelong friendships which started at CCA and continue to be blessings in my day to day life.

What would you like to share with the Academy students and families today?

I would say that CCA gave me an amazing base growing up to be able to go into high school, university, and the working world, now knowing my worth in Christ.

How can we pray for you?

Pray for me as I continue in my nursing career and hope to help others as much as I can!

Are there any special memories from your time at CCA?

One of the most life changing things to happen for me at CCA was meeting my fiance, Lobban! I wouldn't be getting married in only a couple weeks if it wasn't for us meeting at CCA almost a decade ago. I also just have so many amazing memories from CCA, from all the sporting and running club events to all the fun ways of learning, from the wonderfully creative teachers like Mrs. Reid, Mrs. Hamelin, Madame Macfarlane, and all the others at CCA.

Lobban Erwin - CCA Graduate Class of 2012:

What path of schooling did you pursue after CCA? Where are you on this path?

I studied Communications and Media Studies at the University of Ottawa. I have finished my studies, and am currently completing a work placement in communications at Global Affairs Canada.

Do you still have connections to CCA?

Yes, for sure. Two of my brothers are currently attending CCHS, and my mom organizes the annual auction. Also four of my university roommates and closest friends are from my class at CCA.



What would you like to share with the Academy students and families today?

Be yourself, and follow God. I feel like this applies to anyone, regardless of the stage of life they're in. As you enter high school: Be yourself, and follow God. As you enter relationships: Be yourself, and follow God. As you enter the workforce: Just be yourself, and follow God.

How can we pray for you?

Pray that I will grow; in faith, in character, and in relationships with my friends, family, and future wife.

Are there any special memories from your time at CCA?

I know it sounds like an exaggeration, but I genuinely have nothing but good memories of my time at CCA. I look back and remember all the fun events, the creative projects, the great teachers, and the insanity that was the grade 8 classroom in the portable. Not to mention the fact that CCA was where I met Kait, who would become my fiancée, and one day soon, my wife. I am so grateful for the time I had at the school.

Thank you to Lobban and Kaitlin for taking the time and sharing with us.

A warm Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each of you!

Tom Bourne, Principal

