

September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Grade one!! We are looking forward to teaching your child and we are really excited about getting to know each and every one! Each month throughout the school year, we will be sending a newsletter that lets you know the "happenings" in Grade one. Future letters will be shorter - this time around we have lots to share with you.

The school theme this year is from John 1:14 (NIV)

THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND MADE HIS DWELLING AMONG US. WE HAVE SEEN HIS GLORY, THE GLORY OF THE ONE AND ONLY SON, WHO CAME FROM THE FATHER, FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH.

We look forward to unfolding this with your child over the school year.

Grade One Team

We are pleased to introduce our Grade 1 team: Mrs. Bowen, Mrs. Parschauer and Mrs. Schollaardt. Mrs. Ermter will be teaching Math in 1S. Ms. Gatus teaches our Music. We are already enjoying working together and are having a great time getting to know one another.

Dates to remember

September:

12th ES School Social 5:30-7

18th Photo Day! :)

23rd PD Day, no school

24th Field Trip to Edworthy Park

(See Page 3 for more information)

October:

4th Harvest supper potluck

10th Parent Teacher Conferences 4-8pm

14th Thanksgiving Day, no school

15th Parent Teacher Conferences 4-7pm

24-25th PCCE Teacher's Convention, no school

Scholastic Book Orders

Scholastic offers monthly book sales and you are welcome to order. If you prefer not to receive these monthly flyers, please let us know. Please send **cheques (no cash, please)** payable to "Scholastic Canada Ltd." You may also pay **online** by searching for "Grace Ermter" at <https://parentpay.scholastic.ca/pay>. The current orders are due by **Sept 13**.

Pizza and Hot Dog Lunches

Thanks to our dedicated parent volunteers, we will again be able to enjoy special lunches on Wednesdays. Stay tuned to calgarychristian.hotlunches.net for information on dates and ordering. If you are able to help out with this much appreciated program, please contact the office.



Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering in the classroom, we would **love** to have you. You would be helping with a variety of tasks, from working with students to material preparation. Teachers will set up Signup pages later in September.

School policy requires that all parents have a current **Police Check** form on file in our office if they will be with children. Details are on the school website: "<http://calgarychristianschool.com/parents/volunteers>" for all the info you need!

It's already time for our first GRADE ONE FIELD TRIP!

On Tuesday September 24, we will be exploring Edworthy Park, searching for signs of FALL. You are very welcome to join us, sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabae2ea6f49-fall2>

(Please note that only parents with current police checks, or checks in progress, may volunteer for field trips. Please also ensure you have stopped at the office to sign the confidentiality form for this year). We will leave the school first thing in the morning, and return around 11:30am.

Please ensure children are appropriately dressed (layers, closed shoes, sunscreen) for this trip.

What is Teaching for Transformation (TFT)?

The biblical truth that resounds in our Christian school's curriculum is that all things in the world belong to God. It is important that we not presume that this truth is obvious or apparent to all. The task of a Christian school teacher is to help **reveal God's grand story** in all things. Thus, a teacher's task is one of Christian-story telling, of seeking out and helping students to "See The Story" in all areas of study.

We do this by teaching under the principle of all things. God created all things. It is into this story the Teaching for Transformation Throughlines, as developed by The Prairie Centre for Christian Education (PCCE) region, provides a framework for the development of authentic and integral Christian learning experiences that are grounded in a transformational worldview with a focus on the Biblical story.

The **BIBLICAL THROUGHLINES** help us all, teachers and students, to understand what our roles are, what our calling is. These characteristics weave through the Bible, and describe a calling to "be", not simply to "do". And what does God call us to "be?" He calls us to be **Servant-Workers**, to be **Justice-Seekers**, to be **Earth-Keepers**, to be **Community-Builders**. He calls us to be **Creation-Enjoyers, Idolatry-Discerners, Order-Discoverers, Beauty-Creators**. And in all of these He calls us to be **God-Worshippers** and **Image-Reflectors**.

We call these "Biblical Throughlines," and describing our roles or calling in these terms helps us understand who God wants us to be and what He wants us to do in the **restoration of His Kingdom**. They describe, exactly and profoundly, what students (and teachers) should "be" as a result of Christian schooling. ~ TFT Handbook



Curriculum and learning information for the beginning of Grade One.

Here's where we start – and a little bit about where we are heading in the days and weeks ahead.

Language Arts

- Initial consonants, vowel sounds, sight words. **You MAY receive word cards to practice with your child.**
- Letter printing - emphasis on lower case, concentrating on direction - top to bottom, left to right
- Enjoyment of literature!! Predictable books, alphabet and number books
- Writing with sentence starters/frames
- Writing using invented spellings

Math

- Reciting/counting numbers: forward/backward
- Free exploration with manipulatives
- Recognizing quantity without counting
- Recognizing numerals to 12 and number words to ten; printing numerals
- Learning left/right directions
- Introduction to calendar; days, months, etc.
- 1:1 correspondence to 12

Social Studies

We will begin with a unit entitled "Belonging in God's World." A big part of our Social Studies curriculum includes the concept of community (a huge value at CCS). It will be wonderful to examine how we are part of various communities and what we can contribute to each other by being part of various groups.

Science

Our focus will be on "Fall", but not until the last week of September. Fall begins **September 22!** We will explore the changes that happen to and in plants, weather, animals, and people. As we look at these changes as a gift from God, we will also discover that he has an amazing plan for our world and that's why we have seasons. We are blessed to have Edworthy Park close to CCS where we will be able to explore the "changing seasons" on Tuesday Sept 24. Our own school gardens will be a wonderful resource as well.

Bible

We are beginning our exploration of God's story. As we focus on the stories of the Bible, we want to continually integrate them with conversations about our relationship with Jesus. In response to His love, His greatest treasure for us, we want to become a loving community that brings and sets examples for each other daily. We want to walk with Jesus and change to be like him!

Memory Words for September:

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and earth. God saw all that He had made and it was very good." Genesis 1:1 and 31

Physical Education

Students will enjoy P.E. three times each week. Please ensure that your child has a pair of indoor shoes (non-marking) so our new gym floor will remain streak free! **If your child has lace-up shoes please continue to work at home on learning to be independent in tying them up!**



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