



June 16, 2010

Theme: "Helping all to Serve" (H.A.T.S.)

News #38

"Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up. And we urge you, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each and to everyone else."

1 Thessalonians 5:11a, 14 & 15

Calendar of Events:

June 17	-	Grade 8 Graduation - Ceremony at 8 p.m. Fellowship Church (641 Elm St.)
June 18	-	Last day of School (½ day); SK Graduation at 12 noon/ Closing Assembly



From Mrs. Baird's Desk:

This is the last newsletter of the 2009/2010 school year. As always the year has flown by and the staff and I wonder how the end came so quickly. We sincerely thank all the parents for a year of support, prayers and partnership in educating your children this year. May you have a wonderful summer as families.

This is also my goodbye to STCCS as principal. I have been the principal for 5 years and am grateful for this amazing experience. I have been reflective about what I would miss and many things come to my mind. I thought I would let you in on my meanderings.

1. I will miss the students most of all. I could never convey enough to you the joy I have experienced in watching them over these last years.
2. I will miss working with the staff. Having a common goal is invigorating and there is a sense of community we have that I will miss.
3. I will miss the naughty students. I could write a book on the creative ways students intentionally or unintentionally get into mischief.
4. I will miss greeting students and families when I do yard duty in the morning.
5. I will miss working with a Board who works diligently behind the scenes.
6. I will miss grocery days where I can touch base with the broader community. Picking up cheese and peppermints is one way among many that our extended community supports us.
7. I will miss Judy. We became a team over 5 years and she knows how I think. She knows my strengths and weaknesses and works in and around them. She knows my sense of humour and we have had many good laughs in the office.
8. I will miss talking with parents about their children. I have always loved the sense of partnership as we struggle, plan and yearn together what is best for a child.

The mission of St. Thomas Community Christian School is to assist Christian parents in providing Christ-centred quality education, in a caring environment, to develop the academic abilities and talents of children through the integration of faith and learning and living.

Although there are many things I will miss, I am predominantly excited about the future. STCCS is in the hand of our all powerful loving Father. He loves our children more than we do. He will be faithful in our attempts to offer Christian Education to the families of St Thomas and area.

Christian education is worth it. Keep running the race. Be encouraged. Encourage each other. Be community to each other. Pray for the school every day.

Personally, I am very excited about my new chapter. I expect I will always have a hand n Christian education in some capacity. I am also happy to be more connected to ministry with my husband and I have more dreams in my head than I can write about.

If you see me around town, please stop and fill me in on what is happening with you and your children. Until then, thank you for 5 wonderful years.

GENERAL:

- * **Bus for last day of school** - Due the LDCSS exam schedule, the bus will be running its regular schedule on Friday. Therefore, we are asking **parents to please pick up their child(ren) at the end of our school closing (12:30 p.m.)** on Friday.
- * **Strawberry Social After Grade 8 Graduation** - We need 2 to 3 parents to help serve strawberries and ice-cream after the graduation at Fellowship Church and clean up afterwards. Please call Aukje DeVries (631-6107) or Judy at the office if you are willing and able to lend a hand.
- * **Camps and Other Church Events** - From time to time, the office receives pamphlets and brochures from area churches and camps for school aged children. If you are interested in perusing them, please drop in the office and pick up the info.
- * **Yearbooks** - **LAST CHANCE to order your colourful book for memories!** Please get in your order no later than Friday! Cost is \$25 and order must be prepaid. See order form attached.
- * **CERTIFICATE ORDERS** - Just a reminder that this summer we will have ONE certificate day on August 4th, so please plan your orders accordingly. We will then start up certificates again on September 8. If you would like to have your email address added to our Grocery/Certificate reminder list, please send an email to lindakoopman14@hotmail.com requesting to be put on the list. Thanks so much!
- * **2010 International Plowing Match** - STCCS and Immanuel Christian School are joining together for the upcoming Plowing Match. The Plowing Match will be held September 21-25, 2010 right here in St Thomas. For this event to be a HUGE fundraising success we need your HELP! We will need volunteers to help at the food booth, help set up/take down the booth, help make pies prior to the event, babysit for others who wish to help at the booth, donate money to go towards expenses, clean up dishes each evening after the plowing match, and probably more! We are splitting the costs and funds raised 50/50 which also means we are splitting the work for the event 50/50. Contact: Sylvia VMS if you wish to help in any way. 519-488-5107 or gscheppink@amtelecom.net. Feel free to contact now with days/times you are available to help. We hope to make pies as the fruit is in season.
- * **Boston Pizza** - Thank you to all our families who enjoy Boston Pizza! Throughout the year, families from our school collected their receipts for their meals and submitted them to Boston Pizza to receive a 5% rebate for our school. This year we received \$120 in rebates!
- * **Before and After School Care** - If you need care for your child(ren) on the first day of school, Sept. 7th, please call Samantha Fox at 633-3165 to make arrangements. The regular before and after school program of care will begin the second day of school.

* **School Office Hours** - The office will be open until Thursday, June 24th and close for the summer. It will reopen on Monday, August 23rd. Have a blessed summer.

SENIOR KINDERGARTEN - MRS. VANDENBRINK

Just a reminder to come for cake and punch at 11:30 on Friday morning for our SK graduation celebration. The graduation will begin at 12 noon along with our school closing. We look forward to seeing you there!



GRADE 1 & 2 - MRS. DEWEGER

Our class trip yesterday was awesome! A big thank you to the parents who came along!

Our class enjoyed the fruits of their labour today! As the winners of the Scavenger Hunt, we had a free pizza lunch and ice cream for dessert! Hopefully, Ms. Mosterd can keep the championship in grade 1/2 for the third time next year!

Student Portfolios as well as clothing, mittens(yes!), hats, socks...are coming home tomorrow with your child.

As my teaching career is coming to an end, God is just flooding my mind with the thousands of blessings I have received through the many children He entrusted in my care. I will miss the students very much but my heart and my prayers will always be with them and with this school. I really do feel so privileged to have been given a small role in helping to train God's children to love Him with all their hearts, souls, and minds! Thank you to the many parents who have supported me throughout the years!

GRADE 3 & 4 - MR. VANDER KOOI

We enjoyed our field trip yesterday very much. The zoo was interesting, the weather was beautiful and the park was lots of fun. Thanks again to the parents who drove and made the trip possible.

Today we are going to spend part of the day pretending that we are in a pioneer school house. This means we will have a switch for disobedient students, a dunce cap, reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic, as well as some new recess games. We'll also be making bread and butter the old fashioned way...well not exactly as we are using breadmakers. Tomorrow we will invite the other classes to come and look at our pioneer village, and share some of our bread and butter with them. It should be a fun couple of days.

GRADE 5 & 6 - MS. SAARLOOS

To all of the parents, students, grandparents, helpers and friends of S.T.C.C.S., I want to leave you with my deepest thanks for the kindness, support, and overflowing of Christ's love to me. The past five years that I have been teaching here have been a blessing as I have learned and grown from knowing you and working with you and your children. Thank you for all of your commitment to this school, its teachers, and Christian education. I am sad to leave, but I know that this is part of God working out his plan to bless the both of us through new experiences and new beginnings. - Ms. Saarloos