



**ALL-SCHOOL CHAPEL**  
 Our next all-school chapel will be on  
**Thursday, December 1st at 8:50 a.m.**



IMPORTANT DATES	
All-School Chapel	Thurs. Dec. 1 @
Student Council's HILLBILLY DAY	Fri. Dec. 2
Shop and Support Gift Card Order Deadline	Thurs. Dec. 8
Senior High Art Photo Show and Senior High Drama Production	Thurs. Dec. 15
Early Dismissal (mid-afternoon)	Wed. Dec. 22, 1:56 pm
Christmas Concert @ Deer Park Alliance	Thurs. Dec. 22 7 pm
Christmas Holidays	Fri. Dec. 23- Sun. Jan. 8
First Day of School in 2012	Mon. Jan. 9
Annual Business Meeting @ 7 pm	Tues. Jan. 10
Grad 2012 Meeting @ 8:30 pm	Tues. Jan. 10
All-School Chapel	Thurs. Jan. 12 @ 8:50 am
Grad Photos	Thurs./Fri. Jan 12/13
Senior High Gala	Sat. Jan. 21
Gr. 1-8 Ski Trip to Canyon	Fri. Feb. 3
Senior High Ski Trip (Gr. 9-12)	Fri./Sat. Feb. 3-4
NO SCHOOL Family Day	Mon. Feb. 20
NO SCHOOL Staff Meeting	Fri. Feb. 24

**November 30, 2011**

# KOINONIA KORNER

From the Principal's Pen

**WELCOME TO NEW STUDENTS**

We would like to welcome Mayo and Ere S. to our school. We hope you enjoy attending our school!

**SNOWFALL**

With the coming of real winter weather, we all need to exercise due diligence in driving. We ask parents to please watch when you are depositing your children. **Please do not stop in the middle of the street and let them off. This is not only dangerous but illegal. Police will be coming by the school and parents could be ticketed. Please do not take the chance.** Drive to the end of the street and turn around in the loop. There is a handicap parking zone and a drop-off zone directly in front of the school. Once you have let the children off please do not stay parked there. Move your vehicle ahead to allow other parents the same privilege. This will help traffic flow immensely.

It is great exercise to shovel snow. However, if there are any parents who are able to help out with snow shoveling for a half-hour on days that we have heavy snowfall, that would be so appreciated. Teachers need the time before school to do last minute preparations, and having others help out with the snow shoveling would free up that time for them.

**FIDDLER ON THE ROOF**

We are looking for sponsors for this event. If you or your company wish to

be a sponsor, please contact the office for more details. For businesses, this can be a direct business expense, and for an individual it can be a charitable donation receipt.

**VOLUNTEERS IN THE SCHOOL**

We have sent out letters to some who have wanted to volunteer in the classroom, asking that you wait until we have our volunteer policy in place. This is taking a little longer than expected. Please bear with us as we prepare this document for our insurance company to review and approve. In the meantime, all potential volunteers need to have a criminal records check and a vulnerable sector check completed and returned to the office. Thank you for your patience.

**Prayer Requests**

- \* Please continue to pray for Mrs. Brown as she recuperates from her back injury.
- \* Pray for good health for our staff/students.
- \* Please pray for the Sampson family and for their mom, Susan as she recuperates.
- \* Please that God will prepare the hearts of those in Mexico that will be hearing from our mission team.
- \* Please pray for our school production, 'Fiddler on the Roof', especially our Stage Crew, Light and Sound Technician committees as they plan for this event..
- \* Please pray for Destiny and her family.
- \* Please pray for Mr. D. And Mrs. Illsley who have been ill this week.

### **Mrs. Hoehne—Preschool**

Please remember to check the little Christmas letter that went home with your child on Monday. It has some important dates listed. Thanks. Mrs. H. & Mrs. G.

### **Mrs. Collier—Kindergarten**

Please look for December's calendar and newsletter. It was sent home on Tuesday. Happy birthday this week to Gabriella and Kate. Hillbilly day is on Friday!

### **Miss Plett—Grade 1/2**

Our hearts are so sad for Destiny. We keep praying for her lots since she lost her mom on Friday.

Grade twos, keep practicing your spelling words. How many of you can get 10/10 on Friday?

### **Miss Huslage—Grade 3/4**

Please hand in 'Go for the Gold' sheets for November. December's new Bible memory verse is Romans 5:5-8.

Our class would love to celebrate in the joy of giving to each other. We will be drawing names for our SECRET PAL in the month of December. At our Christmas party on December 21st we will give a gift and guess who was our secret pal. Gifts should cost no more than \$5. Notes and cards of appreciation and encouragement can be plentiful throughout the month.

Any old Christmas decorations you may have for our class would be gladly received.

### **Miss Nielsen—Grade 5/6**

Josiah P. is 'Student of the Week'. Lesson 11 spelling test on Friday. Electricity and Magnetism test on Tuesday, December 13. Students can bring Christmas decorations on Thursday to help decorate the classroom. We enjoyed having James Regehr in our classroom for a class a day to learn about Jewish culture. Have a great week.

### **Mr. Amthor—Grade 7 Homeroom**

**Bible 7**—Students can continue skimming/re-reading two lessons and the key each day before our unit 1-3 test.

### **Mrs. Bradley—Band & Elementary Music**

**Band** —We will have James Regehr, the Jewish culture specialist attending our rehearsal on November 30th. Come with some questions that you may want answered in his area of study.

**Band 8-10**—The senior band will be performing at the All-School Chapel on December 1st.

**Band 7—10**—For the Christmas concert, please wear all black which means no jeans. Attendance is required at this event, please make arrangements to attend.

**Preschool—Grade 12 Christmas Concert**—The Christmas concert is Thursday, December 22, 7:00 pm at Deer Park Alliance Church. Everyone involved in music classes, band or worship arts will be participating in the Christmas concert. This concert will involve students all the way from Preschool through to grade 12 and all grade 7-10 band students are to wear all black which means no blue jeans. Please plan ahead.

### **Mr. Fletcher—Science and Foods**

**Congratulations**—Congratulations to Jeremy P. For your attention to detail in the construction of your popsicle bridge. Your bridge won the strength test holding 80 pounds and breaking under 90 pounds of weight. Well done! Special mention to Christopher, Josh, Jasper and Levi for their strength bridges holding approximately 65 pounds. The grade 8 boys would like to have another competition in January. How about it grade 7 guys?

**Science 7-8**—Quest on Friday, December 2.

**Science 9, 10, 20**—Students are travelling to Red Deer College for a lab on Monday, December 19. The bus leaves KCS at 8:35 am and returns around 11:30 am.

**Chemistry 20**—A lab at RDC is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14. The bus leaves KCS at 8:35 am and returns just before lunch.

**Permission forms** for these events will be going out in the next few days.

### **Mr. Giesbrecht**

**Social 20**—Major essay, rough draft due on December 12, final draft due on December 19.

### **Ms. Klassen**

**ELA 7**—Chapter 6-12 booklet due Friday, December 2. Posters due Friday, December 2. Final project due Monday, December 19.

**ELA 9-10**—Chapter 22-25 due Monday, December 5. Chapter 26-31 due Thursday, December 8. Unit test Monday, December 12. Vocabulary test due Wednesday, December 14.

**ELA 20**—Journals due December 21. M.C./Matching test December 9. Essay exam December 14. Vocabulary test December 16.

**ELA 30**—Chapter 35-43 due Friday, December 2. Chapter 44-48 due Monday, December 5. Chapter 49-59 due Friday, December 9. M.C./Matching test December 12. Essay exam December 13. Vocabulary test December 15.

### **Mrs. Prins**

**Bible**—Bible memory due today. Next Bible memory due December 22.

**Drama**—Polish those lines! Bring in those props! Keep working at it! Invite your friends and family to our performance on Thursday, December 15 at 7:00 pm. Come early to check out the photo show! Next drama journals due December 22.

**Health**—Quiz rescheduled for Friday.

**LA**—Spelling test Friday. Reading due today. Next reading assignment due December 22.

**Social Studies**—Chapter task due December 5.

### **Mrs. Rand**

**French 6-7**—The "Ice Sculpture Contest is on Friday, December 2nd. Students freeze their ice shapes at home and bring these to school (to my room) on the morning of December 2. At 9:40 a.m., we will have the "Sculptures Sur Glace" in the school yard. Dress warmly. Wear gloves and 'mitaines' as it is cold handling ice!



## HOT LUNCH NEWS

**Menu for December 1st:** Hot Dogs, Juice and Chocolate Crisps

**Helpers for December 1st:** B. LaPlante, V. Pohl and J. Tumbokon.

**Bakers for December 1<sup>st</sup>:** (Chocolate Crisps - 3 dozen) L. Brownell, R. Donahue, T. Kindopp, M. Masters, B. Roberts (x2), S. Sampson and J. Winters.

**Menu for December 8th:** Hamburgers, White Milk and Cupcakes

**Helpers for December 8th:** V. Pohl, J. Fogarty, F. Parrish, S. Schwark.

**Bakers for December 8th:** (Vanilla Cupcakes - 2 dozen) J. D'Costa (x2), M. Lowery, P. Molyneux, D. Santana, C. Toews (x2) and J. Wygiera.

**Please Note:** We need more helpers to serve hot lunch if students want to receive hot lunch on a **WEEKLY BASIS**. (We currently only have 8 helpers and we need an additional 8 helpers). Also, we need one additional baker for chocolate chip cookies and chocolate crisps and 2 more bakers for brownies. Please contact Vanita at 403-343-6815 if you are able to volunteer. **Please label all baking so we can return your container and keep track of baked items.** Also, please send your baked item to the school kitchen first thing on Thursday mornings.

Thank you once again for offering up your time and talents to bless our children with a wonderful Hot Lunch Program! Your commitment and support is **GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

Many thanks and blessings from

Jackie D'Costa and the Hot Lunch Committee

## Mrs. Seim-Shop & Support Gift Cards

Deadline for orders is Thursday, December 8. This order will arrive before Christmas break.



## KOINONIA PRAYER TIME

Everyone is invited to join us in prayer every Monday from 1pm—2 pm. For more information, please contact Susana DeGracia at 403-396-8310, 403-347-5116 or email [degraciakids28510@yahoo.com](mailto:degraciakids28510@yahoo.com).

**STUDENT PHOTO SHOW**—An amazing student photo show is coming soon. Photographs will be on the walls from December 12—16. You will have the opportunity to cast a vote for the best photo. It is called “Best by Popular Vote”. Photos will also be judged and there will be a first, second and third prize. You need to be there. (See the ad below.)

## Mrs. Seim—Library

Thank you to everyone who came out and supported our “Used Books and All Kinds of Stuff” sale last week. We still have lots of books remaining, so I will keep them accessible to any parents or students who are interested. We'll even throw in a deal—any ten items (books, cds, vhs) in a bag for \$1.00. Gym wear will remain available for purchase until Christmas.

Thank you to Mrs. Laplante for organizing all the gym wear into sizes and getting it ready for the sale. Also, thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Wygiera, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Seim and Mrs. Glasgow for your help pricing and organizing books for the sale.

Thanks Josh D. for having eagle eyes and spotting two missing encyclopaedias in a classroom. This is greatly appreciated!

## An Evening in December

Featuring . . .

The Senior High Art

## Photo Show



The Senior High Drama's Production of

## A Christmas Carol

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Performance 7:00 p.m.



*Please joins us!*



## MEXICO MISSION TRIP 2012

Keep praying for our planning committee and for our trip.



### Only 25 more days until Christmas!

There is still time to order your Shop and Support Gift cards.



## HILLBILLY DAY

The Student Council's HILLBILLY DAY is coming up on Friday, December 2nd. Spit 'n' polish up yer boots, banjo and teeth, and come wearing yer finest 'going ta meetin' clothes.

## PHONE FAN-OUT LIST

If your family did not receive a phone fan-out list, please stop by the office.

## SCHOOL DIRECTORIES

School directories went home with your child on Monday, November 28. Ask your child for your copy if you haven't received it from them.

## GRAD 2012 PHOTOS

Grad 2012 photos will be taken early in this school year. They are scheduled for Thursday, January 12 and Friday, January 13, 2012. Please remember these dates, and we will have more details for you in the near future.

## FIDDLER ON THE ROOF ANNOUNCEMENTS

From now on, please refer to our school website ([www.koinonia.ca](http://www.koinonia.ca)) and click on the "Fiddler on the Roof" box on the main page for further announcements regarding rehearsals, costumes, etc. Please plan to do this on a regular basis so that you are kept in the 'loop'.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Many students had not told their parents when to pick them up after practice on Wednesday night (Nov. 23), and there were many parents waiting for over a half-hour while we continued to rehearse. Because it was also parent-teacher interview night, it worked out that there was supervision by the main doors. In the future, there will be no supervision, so all parents will need to 'walk' to the music room to pick up their children at the required time. Students will not be allowed to wait outside in the dark or the cold. Please use the path between the portables and the high school wing. All other doors will be locked after 7:00 pm. Please read the scene schedule and the rehearsal schedule that each villager and cast member has to ensure that you are picking up your child on time and that each villager/cast member is where they are supposed to be at the correct time.

Mrs. Bradley & Mrs. Fletcher

## Red Deer Catering Volunteers Needed

We require volunteers to help us with catering again. The school receives \$10/hours on your behalf to put towards your fundraising. We have another busy Christmas season approaching and are looking for helpers for the days listed below.

Friday	Dec. 9	6:30 pm	8 people	Christmas parties
Friday	Dec. 16	6:30 pm	9 people	The Ultimate Party
Saturday	Dec. 17	6:30 pm	9 people	The Ultimate Party

### Notes:

- Upon arriving at the Westerner Grounds, please report to the Red Deer Catering Kitchen which is located around back on the east side of the main building. You will see a Red Deer Catering door beside the large Prairie Pavilion garage door. We will have you sign in, receive a job sheet and apron at that time. Please leave all valuables in your car or at home.
- Please arrive a few minutes earlier than the time you are to start and expect to stay for 4.5 hours.
- Dress attire is to consist of black dress pants (please no jeans), a white shirt (please no t-shirts) and comfortable shoes. Long hair should be tied back and please keep jewelry to a minimum.
- All volunteers must be a minimum of 15 years old.
- Please insure you wash your hands several times before and throughout the night. Sinks are in the washrooms and in the hallway.
- Dinner will be provided after the first round of clearing tables.

Please call Loreen Brownell at 309-4550 to make arrangements to volunteer. Thank you for your willingness to serve!

# WISH LISTS—CHRISTMAS 2011

## ...to date we would like/could really use...

### Preschool ( Mrs. Hoehne)

Nativity Set by "Playmobile" (available at Scott's Parable or Kids in Harmony)  
 Nativity Set and Wiseman Supplement Set by "Fisher Price Little People" (available at Scott's Parable)

### GRADE 8 (Mrs. Prins)

Electric kettle  
 Mini fridge  
 Gym mats  
 More rhino balls  
 More volleyballs  
 Clothing/costume rack (as small as possible)  
 USB hub man (\$21.99 plus tax from Indigo)  
 A fog machine for the Drama department

### BAND (Mrs. Bradley)

Bass xylophone (\$1500.00 maximum)  
 Alto metalophone (\$750 maximum)  
 Snare drum stand (\$100 approx.)

### PHYS. ED (Mr. Doerksen)

2 Solid framed hockey nets (approx. \$80 each)  
 5 Volleyballs (approx. \$40 each)  
 4 Basketballs (approx. \$40 each)  
 5 Stop watches (approx. \$15 each)  
 2 Field tape measures (approx \$20 each)  
 Exercise mats (approx. \$50 each)  
 Sound system for the gym (approx. \$1000)  
 4 Footballs (approx. \$30 each)  
 Money for: our sport's team travel funds, new athletic jerseys, for athletic equipment upkeep and repair (i.e. skate sharpening), and miscellaneous expenses.

### SCIENCE/FOODS (Mr. Fletcher)

2 Convection ovens

### HOME ECONOMICS (Mrs. Rand)

2 Hotplates  
 Electric tea kettle

\*Please note, all costs if listed are approximate. If they are listed beside a businesses' name then they have been price-checked at some point.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER

As of February 1, 2012 the Koinonia Korner will be online. To sign up for our newsletter, go to the homepage of our school website [www.koinonia.ca](http://www.koinonia.ca). There is a box to subscribe or unsubscribe to the newsletter.

### School Theme 2011-2012

### "Experience God's Greatness"

"Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;  
 His greatness no one can fathom."

- Psalm 145:3 NIV

### SAVE THE DATE

The KCS Christmas Concert  
 will be held on:

Thursday, December 22, 2011  
 At 7:00 p.m. sharp  
 At Deer Park Alliance Church,  
 Red Deer

Come enjoy our concert featuring our  
 students from Preschool to Grade 12!

## Keeping the Main Thing the Main Thing

As part of our recent Nexus Live event in Elgin, IL, I had the opportunity to interview founder and president emeritus of ACSI, Dr. Paul Kienel. At the conclusion of our interview (which will soon be available on Nexus virtual) I asked Paul to share from his heart his primary concern for the future of ACSI and the schools, teachers, parents, and students we serve. What Paul said a few weeks ago to over 5,000 convention delegates at our live site and 34 satellite downlink sites he also wrote in *Christian School Comment* (26.5) almost two decades ago—with the same title as this article. Here is that CSC article.

Dr. John Blanchard is one of the great pioneers of Christian school education, having served as a national leader for many years. I felt honored a few days ago when he visited my office in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Some years before I had asked him, "What is the number one challenge in Christian education?" Without hesitation he said, "Keeping Christian schools Christian." Through the years when people have asked me that question, I have given the same response: "Keeping Christian schools Christian." Most likely that will always be the right answer to that question because Christian educational institutions have a long history of starting out Christ-centered and ending man-centered. For example, all of America's ivy-league colleges (Harvard, Yale, and others) were founded as Bible-centered institutions.

The "main thing" in Christian education is to teach and train in such a way that honoring Christ is clearly central to the school's mission. The Bible says, "... that in all things he [Christ] might have the preeminence" (Colossians 1:18, KJV). That includes education. In a true Christian school, nothing is taught that offends Christ or is contrary to biblical principles. The faculty and staff are committed Christians and are fully committed to the school's mission of inspiring students to become followers of Jesus Christ. It may sound strange to say it, but the Bible is not "on trial" in a Christian school! The Bible is respected and regarded as the infallible point of reference for all academic subjects and as the only reliable guide for Christian living. The noble objective of education is to impart truth to the next generation. There is no higher truth than biblical truth. When Jesus was praying to His Father in the Garden of Gethsemane He said, "Thy word is truth" (John 17:17). Staying true to the truth is "the main thing" in Christian school education.

It is amazing to me how many non-Christian colleges and schools quote John 8:32, "... the truth shall make you free," in their logo or school crest. The only truth which that scriptural passage refers to is biblical truth. Sadly, the educators in those secular educational institutions think the word *truth* in their logo means man-made truth, or truth produced by human intellect. What an unfortunate distortion of the *real* truth.

I pray the day will never come when Christian school educators and the parents who support them will be so illiterate of the Bible that they will not understand the Bible verses long associated with their school. That need not happen if they will keep Christ in clear focus and keep the Word of God at the center of every subject area and school activity.

What applies to the Christian school also applies to the families our schools serve. Keeping "the main thing the main thing" is an everyday challenge at home as well. It is very difficult for a Christian school to inspire students to become mature followers of Christ if their home environment is not Christ-centered. Three institutions—home, school, and church—are major influences in the life of a child or young person. Unfortunately, a child will often gravitate to the institution with the lowest standards. If Christ and the Bible are not preeminent in the home, Christ and the Bible will not be the main thing in the life of a child. In this busy world of ours, it is easy for parents to get so caught up in their work, their friends, and their personal interests that they lose sight of the "main thing" of raising their children to bring honor to Christ.

Former U.S. Senator Bill Armstrong of Colorado said, "What is the profit to America if we have endless economic prosperity, computers and a hundred channels of television in every home ... if our families are shattered, our children corrupted?" Psychologist David Meyers talks about how easy it is for parents to get caught up in America's "long-term social recession" resulting from our "self-indulgent tendencies": do your own thing; greed is good. The only thing in this life we will take with us to heaven is our children, provided they have become believers in Christ. Heaven help us, as parents, if we live out our lives in such a way that our children, following our example, don't make it to heaven....

Keeping "the main thing the main thing" is the major mission of Christian homes and Christian schools. It is difficult for some people to accept the words of Jesus when He said, "He that is not with me is against me; and he who does not gather with me scattereth abroad" (Matthew 12:30). In other words, there is no middle ground regarding Christ. Either you are for Christ or you are, on purpose or by default, against Him. I urge you to be wholeheartedly for Christ. Literally allow Him to become preeminent in your life and in your family. Allow the teachings of Christ as revealed in the Bible to become the centerpiece of your home. You won't regret it! I'm praying for you!

The message is timeless—and as urgent today as it was then.

  
Brian S. Simmons, President ACSI

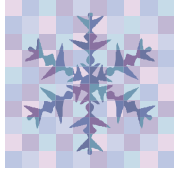












# December 2011



**Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday**

<p><i>Upcoming January Activities:</i>  <b>First Day of School in 2011</b>—Monday, January 9  <b>Annual Business Meeting</b>—Tuesday, January 10 @ 7 pm  <b>Grad 2012 Meeting</b>—Tuesday, January 10 @ 8:30 pm  <b>Senior High Gala</b>—Saturday, January 21</p>				1 <b>All-School Chapel @ 8:50 am</b>	2 Student Council's Hillbilly Day	3 
4	5	6	7 Fiddler on the Roof Practice 6:30—9:00 pm	8 Shop & Support Gift Card Order Deadline 	9 Kindergarten to Museum 1:15—3:15 pm Casual Friday for Staff	10
11	12 Fiddler on the Roof Committee Heads Meeting 7:30 pm, music room 	13	14 Fiddler on the Roof Practice 6:30—9:00 pm January hot lunch order forms and payments due	15 Last Hot Lunch Day for 2011	16	17
18 	19	20	21 Fiddler on the Roof Practice 6:30—9:00 pm 	22 Early Dismissal 1:56 pm Christmas Concert, 7 pm @ Deer Park Alliance Church First day of winter	23 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <i>Christmas Holidays Begin</i>	24 Christmas Eve 
25 Christmas Day 	26 Boxing Day 	27	28	29 	30	31 New Year's Eve 