

# A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



January 31, 2024



Happy New Year and happy half-way through the school year Cornerstone! I know that the long cold days in January can be tough to navigate for some of us, but inside the walls of CCS, we are always a buzz of activity to keep the kids engaged in learning and challenged as they grow their faith in our Savior and Lord, Jesus. Here is what has been happening at CCS the last couple months!

December kicked off with the start of basketball season and the gym is a flurry of activity every day after school. Our Junior Varsity boys and girls have both started very strong this season. The girls are 6-0, the boys are 5-1, and both are sitting on top of their league. Our elementary A and B teams are rolling along having fun and learning valuable skills for their future in basketball. All of our high school and elementary curling teams have been spending many hours practicing and competing in league games, but they still couldn't quite beat the teachers in the annual game. Watch our socials for updates on all basketball and curling results. Thanks to our amazing coaches and for all of your parental support from the stands.



December also brought the start of the Christmas concerts. This season started with the Rotary Christmas concert. I had a pair of retired teachers from another school comment that the CCS choir was by far the top high school choir in the whole festival. This was high praise and a testament to the hard work of Mr. Carley and his students. From there, the choir put on a show for the ages at Hillcrest Church called, "A Glorious Christmas". We thank all supporters who attended our sold-out pre-show banquet and to all who joined us for a packed house celebrating together the birth of Jesus, the true meaning of Christmas!

As always, our elementary students and teachers treated friends and family to another fun, yet meaningful Christmas concert called, "Lights, Camel, Action". We had a packed house for all 3 performances, and we truly thank you as parents for your extra time driving back and forth and giving of your children for a full day of concerts. I also had the pleasure of being part of the Pre-School and Kindergarten concert where they acted out the Christmas Story and sang a couple of the cutest Christmas songs. After this came the favorite part for the kids...the decorating and EATING of Christmas cookies!



The SLC also keeps us busy in December with many fun filled and team building events. The month kicked off with "Deck the Halls" where each grade is given a space in the hallway to decorate a tree and the area around the tree. The halls are a flurry of activity for an hour and the facility staff judged the winners. This year's winners were the grade 10 class! The high school SLC hosts the annual Christmas banquet with food, fun and games. This year over 80 kids from grade 7-12 came out and to make some new memories.

I had the pleasure of taking the grade 10 class to the Mae Wilson Theatre for the special presentation of "A Nashville Christmas". We heard stories of how these musicians persevered through years and years of obstacles, major setbacks, and disappointments to become who they are today, while motivating us to follow our dreams and never give up. This was a very faith filled event and we were blessed to be able to attend this sold-out show.



The end of January is always bittersweet for the high school students as they look forward to the change in semester, but before that, they need to get through final exams. The province and school division continue to encourage schools to use a variety of methods as a final evaluation so you will see teachers use exams, projects, presentations, or essays as ways of evaluating overall learning in classes. We are slowly seeing a shift in the college and universities mentality as well as many of their classes are moving away from the 3 hour comprehensive exams. Education is always changing as new ideas are brought to the forefront.

This year we brought back an old favorite...elementary skating! This was a big activity gathering skates and helmets and making sure that everyone had the opportunity to learn to skate. Thanks to Mrs. Benallick who spent so many extra hours organizing this, getting skates sharpened, and ensuring all students had access to skates and helmets! Also, a huge thank you to all of our parents and volunteers who showed up to tie skates and assist on the ice.

Enjoy the warmer weather out there! Until next time...,

Mr. Lee Behrns  
Principal

