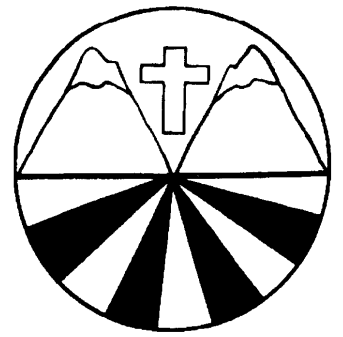


Lifeline



"Bringing family and school together"

October, 2005

Issue 2

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Robert Duiker, Principal

Joel Soodsma, Vice-Principal

ROCKY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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Call the office if you have a question about any of the activities that are taking place.

SINK OR SWIM

Everywhere I go I see You!

As the man looks out onto the sports field he can see that something is wrong, but he cannot determine what the problem is. There are many children on the sports field separated into five teams. There is a soccer ball amongst the children. If the ball comes near, a child will take a kick at it. After a time, the whistle blows. Five teams file off the field and five more run out to play. The year is 2053.

The man's thinking has been shaped by years of political correctness and the philosophy of the best and brightest thinkers of the age. He is not able to see the simple truth that there is no point to the game he is watching. There are no nets. The goal keepers are unsure of what to do. There is no notion of positional play. Rules and guidelines are considered too confining. There are many arguments and fights. The dissension is thought to build character and to be an outlet for expression.

Is this what the future will be like? Is it possible that the notion of having a purpose is becoming obsolete? Our society places a great deal of emphasis on making lists of things that schools ought to teach and on keeping track of what has been taught. Not nearly enough emphasis is placed on asking the question, "Why do we teach the things that we do?" Is it possible that a school can be like a soccer game with no net?

The distinctive goal of a Christian school is to use the curriculum as a means to help students put together an understanding of both the creation and the cross in such a way that it leads to a life of praise to God, awe of God, and service for God. Students, in the words of Albert Greene, "need to know the academic information commonly taught in school, but they need to know it in the context of it's true meaning, which is that it reveals God and calls for a response to Him." (Reclaiming the Future of Christian Education, p 279)



Learning, loving, living for our Lord.

Our theme this year is "Everywhere I go I see You!" We are intentional about being a school where a Christian life springs, not just from a one-time commitment to believe in Jesus Christ, but also from eyes and ears that have been attuned to see and hear Him in all places at all times.

The goal of Christian Education is preparation for a 365 day per year Christian life. The goal is greater than preparing a generation of Christian doctors, lawyers, pastors and janitors. It is also about enabling people to be Christian mothers, fathers, friends, and neighbours. Our whole life is to be a response to God's acts of creation and salvation. This is the goal of Christian life and of Christian Education.

Submitted by Rob Duiker

FUNDRAISING

PIES

APPLE PIE SALE

Today was the deadline to order Apple Pies. If you

missed it you can call Sandra S. (845-5373) or Corinne S. (845-4703) THIS WEEKEND or send your form in first thing Monday morning. Please remind the people that have ordered from you to pick up the pies on *Wednesday, October 5, from 2:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Rocky Bakery & Deli.*

Helpers are still needed - phone Denise P. at 845-6368 to sign up.

DINNER THEATRE – If you are interested in being part of the dinner theatre next spring, call Sandra S. at 845-5373.

LADIES CIRCLE is closing up shop. They will no longer be selling Regal since Regal has changed their costs and is no longer a good fundraiser for our school. There have been a number of ladies who have been a part of this group over the years. Thank you for your contribution to the school.

FROM THE BOARD

Well here we are again - some of us for the first time. The challenge this summer was to keep dry. After learning how to cope with drought and grasshoppers, God is probably teaching us how to be more flexible, or is it adaptable.

At school we are learning how to change the leadership and take on new or adjusted responsibilities. Rob Duiker is a welcome addition to our school. Now Bettie Van'tBosch and Joel Soodsma can focus more on their teaching. A big God bless you and thank you to Bettie and Joel for all you've done.

We have about 10 more students than we budgeted for, which means there are more hours for our teachers and 2 more teacher assistants. We have 14 new families this year. That's lots of new members to get to know. God has blessed us!!!

Thank you to Robert Boodt for being on the board for 3 terms and spending eight years of that as board chairman. Thanks also to Dave Simmelink and Gary Vandenakerboom for all the time and effort you put in while on the board. Welcome to Trudy DeBruyn our new treasurer, things have changed a bit since you were on board last; Anita VanWaas, our new school maintenance chairperson; and to Hank Klooster who had to jump in with both feet by doing lots of admissions interviews for new society members.

With our new principal has come a real challenge for this school. They have purchased a lot in Rocky. Rocky Christian School is going to build their house as a fund-raiser for the school. We, the board, have appointed Adrian Blaak as our contractor. Connie Murphy is project coordinator and Trudy DeBruyn is our project treasurer. We will use the funds raised to repair the school's roof and if there is enough left over we will be adding new books in the library. What a challenge God has put before us. We hope to be able to move the Duikers in by spring break 2006.

More news and updates as we go along.
Bob Shaw, Chairman

WELCOME to 2 new families since the last newsletter. They are Melanie Slofstra with Keanna in kindergarten, and Nancy Ector with Antonietta in grade 8. Our enrolment is now at 122 students.



students remove the old tiles in the grade 5/6 classroom

MAINTENANCE UPDATE

Several "work bees" were held during the summer and the following projects were accomplished:

- Various classrooms and hallways painted
- New flooring installed in 2 classrooms
- Shelves and trim painted
- Perimeter fence erected
- Slide replaced/repainted
- Fields leveled and re-seeded
- Several windows replaced
- Asphalt re-sealed
- Air-exchanger connected to grade 9 room
- Music room walls carpeted

This is in addition to the re-waxing and polishing of all floors and the top-to-bottom cleaning that is done every summer. PTL for many helping hands!

Projects that need attention before winter arrives:

- Weather stripping around doors need checking and replacing.
- Parking lot needs grading to improve drainage.
- Lines need to be painted on the gym floors for the various sports.
- Exterior sign installed on east side of RCS.

Overall, Rocky Christian School is looking better and better as time goes on.

WORKBEE – Saturday, October 1 – 8-10:00 a.m. Bring your chainsaw. We will be trimming some trees and doing some other clean up stuff outside. Coffee at Tim Hortons to follow.

Who are these people and what are they doing at Rocky Christian School?

If you have peaked into a grade 6 classroom lately you may have noticed two unfamiliar faces. Leanne Headon and Kim Forsyth are teaching assistants who have recently joined our staff. They have already demonstrated themselves to be a blessing to our school and to the students in their care. Please take a moment to welcome Leanne and Kim when you are in the school.

CONGRATULATIONS - Congratulations are in order for three of our staff members. Mrs. Klugkist, Mrs. McNair, and Mrs. Gerdung are all expecting babies in the New Year. Plan your showers now!

BYE THE WAY... If you know of a qualified teacher or teaching assistant who might like to work at Rocky Christian School, please let them know of the openings created by maternity leaves.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7 – Wild Rose School Division is closed on that day, however buses will be running for St. Matt's and our school. Please let the bus driver know if your student won't be on the bus.

SCHOOL PICTURES (class and individual) will be taken on Tuesday, October 12, at 9:00 a.m. Please return your order form, including payment, for each student by picture day.

THANK YOU to everyone who has donated books to the library over the past year. We gladly accept your gently used castoffs.



STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

CHOCOLATE BAR SALES

Excellent job Rocky Christian School students. You managed to sell lots of chocolate bars for our field trips. Thank you to everyone who sold chocolate bars. Grade 1/2 – you were the top sellers per student. Remember to bring back any unsold chocolate bars to the school or turn in any money for sold chocolate bars.

P.S. Anyone who is willing to help sell the returned chocolate bars, please contact a member of the student council or Mrs. Bootsma and they will gladly give you some chocolate bars to sell. Once again thank you for doing such a great job.

NEW STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS - We had 15 students run for student council this year. Elected student council members for 2005/06 are Shelby Siemens, Karissa Visser, Kiya Piers, Jaylene Brouwer, Rachel Soodsma, Sako VanderMeer, Brittney VanSteenis and Patrick Robertson.

FROM THE TREASURER – Book fees and membership fees were due by September 15. If you have not yet paid these fees, please do so promptly.

INSTRUMENTS FOR SALE: Trombone, electric piano, and ¾ size violin. Will take offers. Call Dianne Baker at 845-5149.

VOLUNTEER DRIVER forms were sent out with the last newsletter. Only 10 forms were returned to the school. In order for you to drive students for field trips, etc., this form needs to be resubmitted to the office each school year. Please sign and return the form to the office **with** a copy of your insurance policy.

S ✦ P ✦ O ✦ R ✦ T ✦ S

VOLLEYBALL practices have begun. Game days are on the October calendar. Please come out and cheer on our teams.

HOCKEY practice starts on Thursday, October 27, from 2:15 – 3:15 p.m. Following is a list of the equipment needed. If you are interested in helping coach hockey, please call the office.

- Helmet with face shield
- Neck guard
- Shoulder pads with chest protector
- Elbow pads
- Gloves
- Hockey pants with belt or suspenders
- Protective cup
- Socks with suspenders
- Sharp skates and shin pads
- Practice jersey with socks

Rocky Christian School provides game jersey and socks.

Don't forget to pay your **sports uniform fee**. It's still just \$10.00 for each extra-curricular junior high sport that you participate in.

SWIMMING POOL AND ARENA SCHEDULE

SWIMMING

E.C.S.:	2-3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Oct. 18, 25, Nov. 1, 8, 15
Grade 1/2:	2-3:00 p.m. on Fridays, Oct. 14, 28, Nov 4, 18, Dec 2, 9, 16
Grade 3/4:	1-2:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, Oct. 26, Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Dec 7, 14
Grade 5/6:	2-3:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, Oct. 26, Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Dec 7, 14
Grade 7-9 girls:	2-3:00 p.m. on Fridays, Jan. 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 24, March 3

SKATING

ECS:	2-3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Jan. 31, Feb 7, 14, 21, 28
Gr. 1/2:	2-3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Jan. 31, Feb 7, 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21
Grade 3/4:	1-2:00 p.m. on Thursdays, Jan. 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2, 16, 23, March 2, 9
Grade 5/6:	2-3:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, March 1, 8, 15
Grade 7-9 girls:	2:15-3:15 p.m. on Fridays, October 14, 28, Nov. 4
Grade 7-9 boys:	2:15-3:15 p.m. on Thursdays, starting Oct. 27

Rocky Christian School

Phone: 845-3516 Fax: 845-4370

TELEPHONE LIST 2005/2006

Atwater, Dan & Shirley	845-4948	Maxwell, Brad & Carolyn	844-2373
Baker, Don & Dianne.....	845-5149	Meese, Jim & Arsheen	845-4326
Batterink, Len & Nienke	846-4406	Middel, John & Anita	845-3272
Boodt, Robert & Brenda.....	845-4597	Middel, Theo & Rachele.....	846-0010
Bootsma, Ron & Marcia.....	845-7258	Murphy, Matthew & Connie.....	844-4410
Bott, John & Corinne.....	845-2381	Murphy, Grace	845-4737
Bott, Stirling & Heather.....	729-3949	Murphy, Ron	846-7691
Brouwer, Ken & Cheri-Lynn.....	845-7810	O'Brien, Steve & Laura-Lee	845-7727
Cochrane, Everett & Judy.....	844-4988	OpdenDries, Henry & Cheryl	845-5271
DeBruyn, Jim & Margo	845-7373	Parr, Bruce & Terasa	729-3184
DeBruyn, Peter & Trudy	845-6192	Piers, Al & Kim.....	729-2770
DeJong, Andrew & Delanea	845-7141	Piers, John & Denise	845-6368
DeRaadt, Randy & Annette.....	729-2988	Reed, Roy	845-6791
Doerksen, Gerald & Deborah	844-9498	Reitsma, Don & Marion	729-2797
Dubrulle, Louise	845-4770	Robertson, Dennis & Rita.....	845-3306
Ector, Nancy	844-3180	Rohatynski, Dan & Carol	844-8544
Elliott, Kevin & Judy.....	845-2279	Schleuder, Hugo & Lorna	844-2867
Glover, Garth & Bonny	845-4648	Sewell, Ken & Joyce.....	845-4683
Harrold, Kevin & Leanne	845-5491	Shaver, Robert & Tanya.....	845-5036
Headon, Blake & Leanne.....	722-2777	Shaw, Bob & Helen	722-3081
Herrera-Drover, Juan & Tina	845-7281	Siemens, Keith & Geneva	845-7044
Heystek, Neels & Dina.....	845-7616	Simmelink, David & Sandra.....	845-5373
Holmes, Sheila.....	729-2139	Slofstra, Melanie	845-7326
Jamieson, Clint & Theresa.....	845-3021	Smith, Lowell & Chris.....	729-5659
Klooster, Hank & Betty.....	845-3836	Soodsma, Joel & Corinne	845-4703
Klugkist, Rene & Joan.....	729-3593	Valentine, Greg & Tammy	845-2262
Land, Dan & Francine	845-2875	VandenBrink, Peter & Lena	845-3754
Lee, Martha	844-4294	VanderMeer, Albert & Sjoukje.....	844-2546
Leenstra, Elroy & Arlene	845-6757	VanGinkel, Arnold & Alida	729-0910
Lester, Angelika	845-5076	VanSteenis, George & Corinne.....	845-4522
Lublinkhof, John & Michelle.....	729-2737	VanWaas, Neil & Anita.....	844-4243
		Visser, Jerry & Aly	845-7647
		Westin, Dori.....	729-3570
		Witten, Don & Gail	845-7936
		Wright, Ken & Elaine	844-9022
		Young, Jason & Tammy	844-4741

Rocky Christian School

COMMITTEE LIST 2005/2006

Board Members

Trudy DeBruyn (Treas.).....	845-6192
Delanea DeJong (Sec.).....	845-7141
Geoff Ferrey (Vice).....	845-5170
Hank Klooster	845-3836
John Piers	845-6368
Bob Shaw (Pres.)(AISCA)	722-3081
Corinne VanSteenis (PACS).....	845-4522
Anita VanWaas	844-4243
Aly Visser.....	845-7647

Faculty Members

Marcia Bootsma.....	845-7258
Robert Duiker, Principal.....	846-4405
Dina Heystek.....	845-7616
Kristina Klugkist	729-3452
Jacquelyn Magnus	845-5506
Naomi McNair.....	845-3499
Joel Soodsma.....	845-4703
Bettie Van'tBosch	845-4401
Marinda Wolmarans	729-5670

Support Staff

Cathleen Bates.....	845-7085
Cathy Fehr	845-5521
Kim Forsyth.....	845-7481
Sandra Gerdung	845-2121
Leanne Headon	722-2777
Terasa Parr	729-3184
Kim Piers.....	729-2770
Dianne Thorpe.....	844-8598
Shirley Vandenakerboom.....	845-7709

Janitorial Staff

Angelika Lester	845-5076
Denise Piers	845-6368
Corinne Soodsma	845-4703

School Bus

Sandra Gerdung	845-2121
John Piers	845-6368*
Chris Smith.....	729-5659

Admissions Committee

Hank Klooster	845-3836
Marion Reitsma	729-2797
Corinne VanSteenis	845-4522
Rob Duiker	846-4405*

Education Committee

Rob Duiker	846-4405
Theresa Jamieson	845-3021
Joyce Sewell.....	845-4683
Bob Shaw	722-3081
Joel Soodsma.....	845-4703
Corinne VanSteenis	845-4522*
Aly Visser.....	845-7647

Promotions Committee

Delanea DeJong	845-7141*
Dina Heystek.....	845-7616
Tanya Shaver	845-5036
Geneva Siemens	845-7044
Elaine Wright	844-9022

Finance Committee

Cathleen Bates.....	845-7085
Hank Klooster	845-3836*
Trudy DeBruyn.....	845-6192
Neels Heystek.....	845-7616
Albert VanderMeer.....	844-2546

Fundraising Committee

Sandra Simmelink	845-5373*
Corinne Soodsma	845-4703

Maintenance

John Piers	845-6368
Anita VanWaas	844-4243*

By-Law & Policy Review Committee

Anita VanWaas	844-4243
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Catering Club

Dianne Baker.....	845-5149
Tammy Blaak	845-4486*
Corinne VanSteenis	845-4522

* Contact Person

HAPPY HOMEWORK

Week Three

Dear Parents,

Here we are, two weeks into the Happy Homework initiative. I am hoping that homework has become a more positive time in your day. Perhaps you are even noticing some attitude and achievement changes in your children. This week's principle is to **make homework completion a high priority in your home**. This is a key time for your child, even more important than daily math or language arts time. Here is where your child will grow in the skills (s)he requires to be successful in a classroom and to be employable in the future.

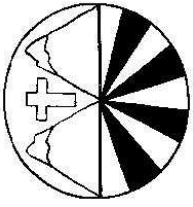


- Make clear that you expect your children to complete homework well. Unless homework completion is a priority for the parents, it will not be important to the child. If you are a parent who believes that homework is not an important element in your child's education, consider this: homework is the best opportunity a student has to learn work ethics, work habits, and organizational skills.
- Establish a study routine: children should be in the habit of studying at the same time and in the same place each day. Children and parents should decide, together, upon the study routine by taking into account scheduled activities, family commitments, and favorite TV shows. Also, consider the child's ability to concentrate at different times of the day. Many elementary school children are too tired after dinner, and show this by having trouble concentrating, being easily frustrated, and being slow to complete tasks. Ideally, the family agrees upon a study hour, the television and stereo are off, phone calls are not taken, and the entire family studies, reads, or completes paperwork.
- Establish a place to study with good lighting and a table or desk. Some children prefer to study in their own room. Others do better if they are studying at the kitchen table or other location near parental help. Some children are able to study with a little background noise such as music. Few can study effectively in front of the TV and most need uninterrupted quiet.
- Have supplies on hand including binders, notebooks, paper, pencils, pens, lined paper, erasers, dictionaries, a calculator, ruler, hole punch, tape, glue, reference books and/or programs. One invaluable tool I have discovered over the years is paper reinforcements.
- Reduce activities if a child has so many commitments that there is insufficient time for homework.
- Have help available for every subject. This might be a parent, neighbor, friend, teacher hot line, an on-line homework service, or a tutor. The helper needs to be someone who is knowledgeable about the subject and who can help the child without becoming frustrated or angry.
- Establish a family expectation that studying for exams is expected and takes priority over other activities.

Please keep in mind that regular homework is crucial, but success in this area does not define who your child is and should not become a burden on the family. If you find that homework is excessive, I advise you to make an appointment with that child's teacher and discuss the reasons for this. If class work is not getting done in the allotted time and on a regular basis, strategies should be employed in the class room to ensure the child (and thereby the entire family) doesn't get overburdened and stressed out. Does your child have too much homework? The guideline I have always used for elementary students is 10 minutes multiplied by the child's grade, to a maximum average of 60 minutes. Naturally, at science fair time or perhaps for some other large assignment, a student may work longer and harder depending on their study habits and creativity, but the guideline should apply most times. If you find your child has LESS than what I recommend, then perhaps (s)he is missing something like a reading a book for a book report or reviewing daily for a big test next week. In any case, parent involvement in monitoring homework and making it a daily priority will greatly enhance a student's study skills. Next week, I will tell you about specific strategies which use homework completion to teach organization skills and improve learning.

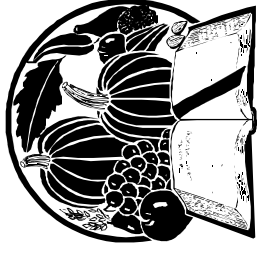
Happy Homework!

Mr. Duiker



Rocky Christian School

Learning, Loving, Living
for our Lord.



OCTOBER 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4 Volleyball St. Matt's @ RCS - B teams	5 Apple Pie Sale Pick up pies from 2-8:00 p.m. at Rocky Bakery & Deli Volleyball RCS @ WCHS - A girls	6 School Pictures Hot Lunch Volleyball RCS @ Caroline - A teams Ed. Com. Meeting	7 Adjustment Day for WPSD/regular school day for RCS. Buses will run	1 / 8
9	10 THANKSGIVING	11 Volleyball RCS @ Caroline - B girls Promotions Meeting	12 Grade 5/6 soccer @ RCS	13 Volleyball RCS @ St. Matt's - A boys Pioneer @ RCS - A girls	14 Thanksgiving Assembly @ 2:30 p.m.	15
16	17	18 E.C.S. Fun Lunch	19 C.S.I.	20 Teachers' Convention No School	21 Convention	22
23	24	25 Volleyball Condor @ RCS - B teams	26 Finance Meeting	27 Newsletter goes out Volleyball RCS @ DT - A teams RCS @ Leslieville - B teams	28	29
30	31					



"Give thanks to the LORD; call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done.
Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts." Psalms 105:1-2