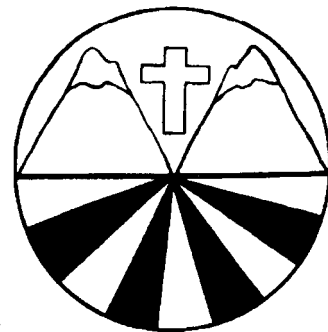

Rocky Christian School

Lifeline

"Bringing family and school together"



Summer, 2005

Issue 11

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

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

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A PICTURE OF THE YEAR

The year is nearly over. As the days count down, the anticipation for summer goes up. It is also a good time to look back over the year and see how far we've come. The year began with a mountain of curriculum and a calendar full of activities to plan and do. The journey of 1000 miles began with a single step; then another and another and another...well you get the point. The many lessons and activities are all like tiny pieces of a puzzle that were put together to make one big picture. Step back and look at it. Does the picture we formed this year look like the picture on the box? We started working on a picture of a Christian school. A place where children from Christian homes could learn about God's design in what they studied; LA, science, math, history, PE, music, French. The atmosphere on the box is blatantly godly. Kindness, respect, and humility are flowing freely, creating an atmosphere of joy. It is a picture where bad words are never heard, where gratitude drowns out complaints; and pieces of rudeness, defiance, pride or gossip just don't fit the picture. Staff and students put in most pieces, but the parents placed many too.

To be sure there were many times when the pieces fell into place with ease; memory verses were done well, homework was completed on time, the recess play included everyone around, and the time spent volunteering was uplifting. At home, the school stories were pleasant to hear, and had happy endings. In these times the glow of appreciation for RCS was fanned into a bright flame. Look closely at the pieces you helped put in, do you see how your child fits into the picture?

Now look closer. Some of the pieces don't fit quite right. The pieces where motivation was low and frustration grew, where tempers turned the language ugly, when God's pieces of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, self control and godliness were flicked onto the floor and some godless pieces were forced in their place; pieces that don't fit the picture of a "Christian School". To be sure there were others that had been forced in, but many were noticed and the puzzlers went back and fixed the mistake.

Before we set this puzzle aside and begin another. Let's take note of what doesn't fit, and then learn from this year in order to make the next puzzle look exactly like one that Jesus would do.

Submitted by Joel Soodsma



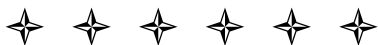
Learning, loving, living for our Lord.



looking forward to getting lots of work done this summer.

Congratulations Grade Nine Grads!

Fourteen more students join the ranks of Rocky Christian School Alumni. They chose Proverbs 13:14 as their grad text: "The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death." Grade 3/4 gave us their impressions and predictions. Geoff and Theresa Ferrey gave a challenging speech. Thank you to the grade 8 class and the Catering Club for the delicious meal. Special thanks to The Lighthouse for donating a devotional book to each of the grads. May God bless you in your future studies.



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS – June 9, 2005

- What a great year at RCS! We have many things to be thankful for: Our many new families, a new school bus, and the increase in accepted grant applications are just a few of the positive events of the year. We are also very thankful to our many volunteers who have looked after so many jobs: from the Dinner Theatre to Apple Pie Day to Hot Lunch, to Church Presentations to Float decorating... the list could go on and on. Let's share the blessing of being a part of RCS to all we meet over the summer!

FROM THE TREASURER – Tuition updates to June 15, are going home with students today. The Capital Drive is still ongoing. Thank you to those who have donated already. The maintenance committee is

FROM THE CHAIRMAN – Time sure flies by when you're having fun. We are all familiar with that phrase. I prefer to say time sure flies by regardless. I can recollect as a youth that I did not agree with the saying for it seemed that time went rather slowly in those younger days. It certainly seems to have picked up speed lately. Perhaps some of you are nodding your heads in agreement and others might be saying, "what took you so long to come to the realization". As I reflect on the number of years that have gone by and that I have been privileged to serve on the board of Rocky Christian School that phrase resonates.

It has been many years since my family first joined Rocky Christian School. At that time our admissions interview was conducted by Barry Proudlove, Bill Slofstra, and someone else whom Brenda and I can't remember just now; the effects of the passage of time I'm sure. When I was elected to serve as a board member for the first time, I sat with such people as Dwight Oliver, Albert Stolte, Minnie Boshma and certainly many more; there's that memory thing again. The point that I am trying to make is this. From one generation to the next we will tell our children about the mighty and wondrous things that God has done for us.

Perhaps you thought that only took place in the Old Testament where one generation passed along what they knew to the next generation. Certainly that took place as the prescribed method of education back then, and that same method is just as relevant and practiced today. Our Rocky Christian School is testament to that. Our doors have been open for thirty-five years - that represents at least one generation and moving towards two. The Lord willing our doors will remain open for many more.

I just want to encourage every member of our society to continue on in your support of Christian education, continue on in your telling the next generation. God's Kingdom will come as a result. I also would like to say thank you for the experience of serving Rocky Christian School as a board member.

As a point of information. With Connie DeBoon's leaving the school we were presented with the opportunity to hire a full-time position. As a board we took this opportunity to advertise and potentially hire an administrator. It has always been understood by all parties involved that the administrative position, if an experienced person could fill it, would in fact then be so.

So, on Saturday, June 18, we will be interviewing a candidate for the position of administrator. We covet your prayers as we meet together.

Robert Boodt

Please join us for the...

SCHOOL WIND-UP BBQ

Thursday, June 23
at 6:00 p.m.

Lou Soppit Community Centre



This year you will be treated to one last presentation of the grade 1-4 choir singing the songs that won them 1st place at Kiwanis. It will be followed by the junior high drama class presentation of the musical "It's Cool in the Furnace". Please invite your relatives, friends and neighbours to join us in this celebration.

If you offered to donate a food item for the BBQ please have your donation to the school by June 22nd. School members are asked to bring a dessert.

DON'T FORGET – Rocky Christian School is now online at www.rockycs.com. The newsletter is on the site. The school calendar will also be there. Any ideas of what you would like to see on the website... give us a call, or drop us a line at our new e-mail address: office@rockycs.com.

Our thanks to Johann Jeppe for building the website and getting it up and running.

NEW JANITORS – Are you interested in taking on a week of janitor work next year? For more information about the job duties contact Anita VanWaas at 844-4243.

CALENDAR – The 2005/2006 school calendar is with this newsletter. Next year we will have early Mondays every week. Buses will leave one hour early so students will be dismissed at 2:30 p.m.

2002 GRAD ALUMNI DESSERT has been changed to Tuesday, June 21 at 7:30 p.m. because of the WSHS grad meeting.

LIBRARY – Outstanding library books need to be returned to the school or paid for before you receive your report card.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL – June 24 – Junior high students need to pick up report cards, and go through lost and found items. Elementary students will be cleaning their classrooms, etc., and will receive their report cards by the end of the day.

THANK YOU FROM THE PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE

We are grateful to all the churches in our community who invited us to worship with them. Thank you to Mrs. Siemens and the students from grades 1 – 4, Mr. Soodsma and the junior high band members who sang and played to God's honour during these church presentations. Also, a big thank you to the Reitsmas. The exceptionally creative poster boards you made enhanced the quality of our display.

Our float in the Rocky Parade came in second in the youth category. We want to thank all our float volunteers who worked so hard to make (and fix) our float representing and celebrating Alberta's history. Thank you to Mrs. Kim Piers and the students who dressed up in period costumes and whose joyful faces, flag waving and bell ringing brought smiles to the faces of the parade watchers. Also, a word of appreciation to our students who helped with and handed out the candies at the parade.

Finally, to every student, alumni, parent, staff member, or school supporter who spoke a word of encouragement, said a prayer for, or commented positively about Rocky Christian School, please accept our sincere appreciation. To God be the glory!

FAREWELL - *For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. (Romans 15:4) Our prayers are of thanksgiving for the blessing you have been to us and of encouragement to continue being a godly example. (Ephesians 6:10-20) You have touched our lives in many ways. May you continue to touch students and staff with God's faithfulness. (Ecclesiastes 3:14)*

We hope to move in August. Lacombe Christian School will have three new students, and one new substitute teacher. Cor will continue to work at Festival Ford in Red Deer.

In His service, Connie deBoon

S ✦ P ✦ O ✦ R ✦ T ✦ S

Junior high girls did very well at the Track and Field. Grade 8 girls - Krystal Reitsma received 1st place overall! Grade 9 girls – Michelle Reitsma received 3rd place with 1 point less than 1st and 2nd place. Congratulations to all the participants.

Grade 6 students were asked to think about what it means to reflect God's image in light of the Beatitudes we studied for our school theme this year. They paraphrased these to show their understanding of God's directions for godly living.

Images of God

The Beatitudes that we find in Matthew 5:3-11 and the Fruits of the Spirit from Galatians 5 teach us that Christians live differently from some people. We are supposed to be like the image of God in the way we live. Matthew 5 is a place that can help us control our ways. This is what I learned from it:

1. God is happy when we know we need the Holy Spirit in our lives. If you love God with all your heart, your life will show it and you will go to heaven some day.
2. When you are sad, God will comfort you.
3. You will be a good worker in God's world when you are gentle with others and help them.
4. When your heart is with God, you will want to stand up for the right thing all the time. God will tell you what you need to know.
5. When you care for people, especially by being kind to the people who don't deserve it, God will also take care of you.
6. When you are always right with God, you will see what He wants you to do.
7. By trying to stop bad things from happening, you will be acting just like God.
8. God wants you to have the courage to stand up for what's right. Then you will go to heaven some day.

I am thankful that I can learn about God's will for my life. I will try live a life that pleases Him.

Tyler Kaurin, grade 6

Living in God's World

The Beatitudes in Matthew 5 and the Fruits of the Spirit in Galatians 5 help us in many ways by teaching us how to live a life with God. They help us follow the right path, so that we can show the image of God in the world. Matthew 5:3-11 is a good place to learn about God's way to live in the world. Here are some of the guidelines I learned from these verses:

1. God is happy with people who are faithful to Him, and who know they need God to help them stay on the right path. He promises them a place in heaven.
2. Blessed are the people who are sad because God will put peace and joy in their hearts. They will be comforted by God.
3. God wants us to be humble. That does not mean you are weak, but that you have gentleness in their actions. They will be God's faithful servants in this world.
4. Blessed are the people who want to follow God's Word and show goodness in all they do. They will be filled with God's grace and his Word.
5. Blessed are people who show kindness, because they will show mercy even to those who don't deserve it. They will be shown kindness by God.
6. People who are content in God have hearts full of love for others who need care. They will be like God in how they treat people.
7. Blessed are the people who reflect God by showing peace to others. These are the true children of God.
8. Be grateful when you are being persecuted and you still have the self-control to stay true to God. Then you will be welcomed in the kingdom of God and be with Him one day.

Understanding the Beatitudes can help you in many ways. Happily keep them in your hearts for others and for God. Then you can help make this world a better place to live.

Crystal Opendries, grade 6

Camp Caroline Trip

Grade 1 - 6

On Thursday, June 23, the grade 1-6 classes will be going to Camp Caroline for a day of fun. We will be taking the buses and leaving at 9:00 a.m. and returning to school before 3:15 p.m. Please send students with a bag lunch, swimming suit and towel, and appropriate clothing and footwear for the day.

Please return permission slips to homeroom teachers by Tuesday, June 21. Thank you.

I give permission for _____ to attend the Camp Caroline trip on June 23, 2005.

Parent's Signature



SCHOOL SUPPLIES 2005/2006

- E.C.S.** - One complete change of clothes to be left at school, box of Kleenex, backpack (mark child's bus number on outside), lunch kit, water bottle. Inside shoes (Runners with Velcro closure or slippers with a good rubber sole to prevent slipping. If you bring lace shoes, please make sure he/she knows how to tie them.) Please put child's name on everything brought to school.
- Grade One/Two** - 25 pennies, 5 nickels, 10 dimes, and 4 quarters in a small container (money will be returned in June), 1 complete change of clothes to be left at school, 2 boxes of Kleenex, backpack. Please put child's name on everything brought to school.
- Grade Three/Four** - 1 box of Kleenex each term, a water colour paint set, and a complete change of clothes to be left at school.
- Grade Five/Six** - 5 duotangs, 2 - 200 page coil notebooks, 200 sheets of loose-leaf paper, 2 blue and 1 red pen, 10 HB pencils, highlighter pen, pencil crayons/felt markers, 30 cm ruler, white erasers, scissor, glue stick, pencil case, geometry set, 2 boxes of Kleenex, gym clothes.
- Junior High** - A binder for 5 subjects, subject dividers, loose-leaf paper, 300 page coil notebook for Math, 120 page coil notebook for Science, geometry set, 30 cm ruler, eraser, pens, pencils, pencil crayons, Kleenex, and gym clothes (skates & helmet, swim suit). Calculator (scientific) to be bought from school for \$10.

School supplies will be purchased by the school for E.C.S. – grade 4 students. Student day planners will be handed out to the Grade 5-9 students in September.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE INSIDE SHOES

(No shoes that mark the floor.)

VISION CHECK: WHAT DO YOU SEE.....?

A safe playground free from the influences of strangers and their dogs wandering through? Then help fence. Can you see RCS repainted every 5 years? Then help paint. Can you see classrooms scrubbed clean every summer? Then come clean

It is a blessing to be a part of RCS. Make the most of the opportunity, get involved. Work Bee's are excellent opportunities to get to know other parents and to get a 'good feel' for the school. They also build up the community spirit among us.

Mark these dates on your calendar!

June 27 – 30 7 p.m. - ?? classroom scrubbing. Painting in 2 classrooms, JH hallway, gym bathrooms. Install library shelving.

July 2, 8 and 9 - replace flooring in 2 classrooms, reseal the asphalt, paint wood work on north and east sides of the building, paint outside of the shop, install the new fence, install fresh air ducts.

July 18 the floors will be refinished.

CONVOCATION SERVICE - Gateway Christian School of Red Deer will be hosting a Convocation Service to kick off a new school year for Christian Education. It will be held on Sunday, August 28, 2005 at New Life Fellowship Church in Red Deer (77 Street & 52 Ave), at 7:00 p.m. This will be a time of fellowship with the Central Alberta Christian Schools (Lacombe Central Alberta Christian High, Lacombe Christian, Ponoka Christian, Gateway Christian, Rimbey Christian, and Rocky Christian) where we will thank God for his gift of Christian education and ask for a blessing on the upcoming school year. We will be encouraged and motivated through a message, songs of praise and thanksgiving, and fellowship of believers who share a common vision for educating the youth of our nation. We encourage all school families to attend and bring a friend.