

Spring Membership Meeting: Leader of Principal Duties Report

It is hard to believe but the school year is one again very quickly coming to an end. It doesn't seem that long ago when we were greeting our students for the first time this year, but after another cold and long winter spring has arrived and very soon the days will get warmer and longer and summer will be here. The school year has been progressing well, and as it winds up in the next several months we are already evaluating the present year as we prepare for the upcoming year.

The school went through the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools school evaluation process during the previous year and the report given back to the school demonstrated different areas of strength and also areas where the school could work on improving. During this school year, both the board and administration have taken those recommendations and made an effort to work on those areas where some changes needed to be made. The school does not want to leave the report sitting on a shelf. Our goal is to take the recommendations, study them, and work on the areas that need improvement to make the school an even better place for our children.

During this year in the area of programs and curriculum the school instituted a change in our skills testing program. Some of you may even remember completing the CTBS (Canadian Tests of Basic Skills) tests when you were at the school. The CTBS tests are now quite old and obsolete and the school decided to investigate other possibilities. Many of the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools were moving to the MAP tests (Mapping Academic Progress) which are an online computer based set of tests. Our students recently completed their first round of tests and they did very well when compared to the statistical norms for the other OACS schools. The intent of these tests is to give the school an indication of areas where our curriculum may be lacking as well as showing the teachers where individual students may need some extra help. The school is committed to reviewing all the different programs that we use in order to ensure that we are providing the best possible education for our students.

Our theme this year has been Got Fruit? The Fruit of the Spirit. Throughout the year during our weekly chapels, in our assemblies, and in our classroom devotions we have been trying to show the students that we need to show the fruits of the spirit like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control to everyone around us. There are many ways that we can demonstrate these 'fruits' each and every day. When we share acts of kindness, goodness and service with others we are following the example set before us by our savior, Jesus. When I think of these acts of service we need to mention all of the parent volunteers and all the hours that they have committed during the year to benefit the school and the school community. The members of the board, all the different committees, and all the volunteers at the Twice as Nice store all put in many hours in acts of service. The successful fall bazaar and the recent Skate-a-thon are just several more examples of the work that is done by these many volunteers.

Thank you to everyone for their efforts in helping make the different events this year a tremendous success.

The school has truly been blessed over the years, and we look forward to the Lord continuing to lead and guide us in all of our decisions in the coming year as we first seek Him. As it says in Matthew 6: 33,

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

Peter Himanen
Leader of Principal Duties