



CONNECTION

March 2019



School Board

Chairman: Alex Sikkema
Vice Chair: James Gunnink
Secretary: Lee-Ann Krusselbrink
Treasurer: Mark Hutten
Maintenance: Ryan Doan

Education Committee

Chair: James Gunnink
Vice Chair: Mitch Bultena
Secretary: Cathy Schepers
Member: Irene Baron
Member: Sarah Bosch

Teaching Staff

Gr. 1-2 - Mrs. J. Vantol
Gr. 3-4 - Miss E. deHaan
Gr. 5-6 & Principal - Mr. J. Meinen
Gr. 7-8 - Miss A. Hutten
Art - Mrs. B. Spanninga
Learning Assistance - Mrs. M. Krusselbrink

Volunteer Staff

Mrs. J. Antuma (Librarian)
Mrs. R. Sikkema (Admin Assistant to Principal)

Mission Statement:

Our aim is to assist parents in educating covenant children in accordance with God's Word as we confess that in the Three Forms of Unity, to equip and assist them in developing their individual gifts and talents for a joyful life of responsible stewardship to God's glory.

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FROM THE BOARD

Mr. James Meinen
Principal

We have spoken often of growth in the past few years, and we are blessed to continue to see growth in our community. This is a blessing for Harvest, our staff and our church community. We are currently planning for some bigger changes to the way Harvest operates, without changing the proposed budget. We have a membership meeting scheduled for **MAY 14th** to explain all this in greater detail. Please mark this on your calendar!

This September will see approximately 20 students in Grade 1 & 2, and it becomes challenging to teach some of the core subjects effectively to this many students, with a wide range in abilities and personalities in a double grade system. To set these students up for success for all their years in Harvest we will be splitting Grade 1 & 2 every morning until first recess so that they can have their core subjects taught individually. This makes for a very good teacher to student ratio in each grade and provides the best possible education for these students. In order to do this we have hired Miss Amanda Kapteyn who comes to Harvest with a Bachelor of Science degree from Redeemer University. Welcome to Harvest Miss Kapteyn! She will also be teaching all day Wednesday to give some mid-week relief to Mrs. Vantol, and she will also be teaching to provide more principal relief time for Mr. Meinen.

In order to split Grade 1 & 2 we need another classroom. We explored the option of a portable, but this seemed to be an expensive solution for a classroom that is only needed 2 hours a day and all day Wednesday. So we explored the possibility of using the upper room above the church foyer. We looked at fire codes and fire exits, abuse prevention policies, and we spoke with the church administration committee. The church has granted permission for us to use the room! We will paint it, add windows to

the doors, put in new lights, and whatever else is needed to make it a classroom, while still being a shared room with the church. We feel that this is a more responsible use of funds than a portable at this time.

All the plans for the High School Religion class are complete and Mr. Meinen will begin teaching Gr. 9 & 10 students this fall. We have 8 students that will be attending our school 2 mornings a week. Please see further in this Connection for the full description of the plan.

It is that time of year again where many of us are tired of snow and some of us will head south for a bit. We wish all our staff and students a relaxing March break and hope that everyone will come back rejuvenated and ready to take on the final stretch of the school year. After the March Break we will also welcome 2 new students, Rowen and Bryson, to Harvest! It is our hope and prayer that you feel welcome here, and that you will do well in our school.

Harvest is a busy school, and it is such a blessing that we are growing and thriving. We can see and hear the children's enthusiasm and love for the Lord, we can see how every subject is taught with a Christian perspective, the students can feel the love from their teachers, the teachers can set an example in their lives for the students, and parents can be actively involved in the school. All of these things make our school a enjoyable place to be, and from all of us it is a pleasure to be on the Board at this time as we work together to assist parents in educating covenant children in accordance with God's Word as we confess that in the Three Forms of Unity and to equip and assist them in developing their individual gifts and talents for a joyful life of responsible stewardship to God's glory.

On behalf of the Board, Alex Sikkema

TREASURER'S REPORT

By now everyone should have received their tax receipts! What a blessing to be able to work with an organization like Edvance Christian Schools Association - resulting in strong tax receipting for all, including parental members, who also benefit from additional child care tax receipts. Now almost into the homestretch of this fiscal year, our bank balance is strong with a

surplus to date, more reason to be thankful. In the meantime, we continue to adjust the upcoming year's budget as the school looks to make additional changes/additions to staffing, yet we're excited to be able to manage within our proposed budget from last fall. This is thanks to a growing membership which offsets these internal costs. You'll hear more

about this at our upcoming membership meeting, look forward to seeing you there!

Mark Hutten

The following school fees are in effect as of **July 1, 2018!**
\$700.00 - Parental
\$305.00 - General
\$160.00 - Single/Retired
\$50.00 - Student.

FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A few highlights from the EdCom...

1. Even though most schools are looking for teachers for 2019/2020, we are very thankful to have all our staff returning!
2. We look forward to splitting up grades 1 and 2 for some core subjects next year.
3. After advertising for a part-time position at Harvest and interviewing some very capable applicants, we look forward to Amanda Kapteyn joining us next year!
4. Some Health surveys have

trickled in... Harvest is a *parental* school and we crave *parental* input in developing curriculum to assist *parents*. Parents, please fill yours in and pass it on to an EdCom member.

5. With the EdCom mandate reviewed, amended, and approved, we will now spend time reviewing the parent's handbook.
6. With February in Grey-Bruce comes snow days. Despite some shortened weeks, staff continue to "plow" through curriculum. While we enjoy

the occasional snow day, we look forward to regular school routine again.

7. Clubs, speeches, poems, sporting events, ski trips, science fairs, reading goals, Kiwanis, chicken pox, and more- Harvest is an exciting place to be!

On behalf of the Ed Com,
James Gunnink



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

As we enter a new calendar year and rapidly approach tax season we often take stock of our finances, investments and future financial outlook. Such an exercise is quite valuable as it highlights the rich financial blessings we have been given by God and helps us focus on how we can be good stewards of the finances God has blessed us with.

One figure that tends to stand out as we crunch out tax numbers is the amount we spend on Christian education. For most that amount would go under our expense column but it was refreshing to read a report from the Promotion Committee at ECHS who stressed that this was not an expense but

rather an investment. Thinking of schooling as an investment is indeed helpful in reframing how we view Christian education. I recently came across an article that also highlighted that education is not only a financial investment, but also an investment in time. Below is an excerpt from that article by Melissa Geiss.

"Any education, whether Christian or public, is an investment in time. The precious hours in our children's lives are limited, so we must make wise decisions about where that time is spent and with whom it is spent. For me, the decision has always been an easy one: I want my children to be surrounded by role models and other influences that boldly proclaim God's

truth and reinforce my family's values.

It is easy to see why a Christian education is important once you start doing the math and considering how much potential time our children could spend being influenced by a culture that isn't God-honoring.

In the average family, a young person spends about 13,000 hours between the ages of six and eighteen directly interacting with their parents (11, 290 hours) and attending church (1,730 hours). These are those impactful moments when values are instilled and lessons are learned to forge the character of our children.

Now consider this: the average student spends 20,020 hours before age eighteen interacting with media. If you are making a comparison between how much time your child is being influenced by you as opposed to how much time he is being influenced by others, you are already behind by seven thousand hours!"

And that is when you have to make the 17,000 hour decision: Where my child will attend school?

For many parents (including myself) this has become quite a challenging decision when it comes to high school. For some ECHS is the logical choice, while for others the logistical challenges of attending school in Fergus has them looking at other options. For some that means attending a secular school while for others home schooling seems to be the right choice. To help support parents with their children's education in the early high school years, Harvest has created a bible course offering for high students. The course is set to begin in the

2019/2020 school year and will help Harvest continue to achieve its mission statement which is to: "assist parents in educating covenant children in accordance with God's Word as we confess in the Three Forms of Unity and to equip and assist them in developing their individual gifts and talents for a joyful life of responsible stewardship to God's glory." It is exciting to note we have eight students lined up to take part in this course in the fall. We pray the course may be a blessing to these students and in turn a blessing for our community.

In the School:

Here at Harvest the pace of schooling these past two months has been a slowed by some very wintry weather and school cancellations. While we have had a larger number of snow days this year, we are not far off our yearly average. The staff plan the year with these snow days in mind and our year plans reflect this. With a few more snow days than average taking place this year, the staff are making some small adjustments to our planning and are confident we can cover our curriculum by year's end.

Parents were given an update on student progress in January as term one report cards went home, and parent teacher conferences took place. These conferences serve as great opportunities to make sure home and school are on the same page and we can make sure with are assisting the parents with their task of raising these covenantal children.

These last two months have also been broken up with a lot of fun, as we embarked on Winter Clubs these past few weeks. Students signed up for clubs ranging from Winter Fun (skating/sledding at Harrison Park), variety pack (making fun things like slime and bath bombs), board games, barn board art, paper quilling, cooking/baking and skiing/snowboarding at Blue Mountain. Thanks to all the workshop leaders for the time and energy you put into leading such clubs - the students and staff really appreciate it! Other big events these past two months included the speaking contest, poetry afternoon, skating at Keady, Lighthouse visit, chess intramurals and basketball with Timothy Christian School.

Professional Development:

The staff have also remained busy with PD these past few months. Ms. Hutten is undoubtedly the busiest staff member on this front having wrapped up her first semester at Ryerson and is now busy in semester two. Two PD days also took place in January and February. One of our PD days was at the Theological College where the conference focused on Children and the Church. The day was helpful in unpacking infant baptism, understanding the covenant and the covenant's implications in Christian Education. Our second PD day was in Guelph and led by CARE (Curriculum Assistance for Reformed Education). The day focused on unpacking CARE's recent Conceptual Framework for Physical Education. The day was very helpful in helping us navigate this new document and provide us more tools to make sure we embed our reformed markers into this subject area as well.

That's it from the principal's desk for now. I'd like to wrap up this report by once again thanking our community for all the support the school continues to receive. Please continue to remember us in your prayers and may Harvest continue to be a blessing to this community.

James Meinen

High School Plan for 2019-2020 School Year:

- The Goal:** To offer Reformed Christian Worldview courses to our grade 9&10 students who stay in Owen Sound for their high school years. We want to help equip them to defend their Christian faith in the midst of the intellectual and practical challenges of our culture, and to continue to apply God's Word to every sphere of life and learning.
A side benefit would be that these children could build stronger bonds and a support group with each other during these years as well.
- Students:** '19/'20 school year would see potentially 6 students. '20/'21 school year would see 9 students
- When:** Students would meet Tuesday and Thursday mornings at Harvest for 45 minutes (approximately 7:45-8:30 am) before their high school begins at 9 am.
- Self-study times:** There will be enough self-study material provided which would need to be done on the in between days.
- Transportation to Harvest:** Parents would drive their children to Harvest. (Please note that outside supervision by staff of Harvest students begins at 8:10am)
- Transportation to High School:** A schedule could be made to carpool them to their high school.
- Where:** Harvest school classroom.
- Accreditation:** This course will not gain the students any credits.
- Length of program:** 2 years, and a student could begin at year 1 or years 2. Each year covers different material and is not sequential. This is not necessarily a Gr.9&10 course. Older students may attend too. We geared the program for Grade 9&10 since their course load is still manageable.
- Teacher:** Primarily Mr. James Meinen, and a few guest speakers
- Teacher time:** 90 minutes of teaching and 90 minutes of prep time a week.
- Ratio of support:** This course will be funded 50% by Harvest and 50% user pay system.
- Cost to parents:** \$30/month/family (must be a school member)
- Total cost:** \$3600. \$1800 from Harvest, \$1800 from parents (through Harvest)
(5 families x \$30/month x 12months)
- Comparables:** A home school course usually costs between \$350 - \$600/course
- Cost of books:** Parents to cover cost of books (approximately \$40). Could be passed down to future students

Information on Course material:

Harvest's high school bible program will be taught on a two year cycle. Year one will cover the Old Testament/Apologetics and Hermeneutics and year two will cover the New Testament and Leadership. Year plans will likely change somewhat as Mr. Meinen is working with this material for the first time.

Year 1

This course will gather together the stories students have learned in grades 1-8 and show the larger structure and theme(s) of the Old Testament. Students will learn about the individual books of the Old Testament as they fit into the larger story of God's redemptive work in history. The focus of this course of study will be on the covenant between God and his people as it has developed through Old Testament history, and as it has been revealed through the Old Testament books, especially as they point to the promised Messiah.

With only two classes a week, students will be expected to complete some course work on the days there is no class. Parents can expect students to complete about a half an hour of bible work three times a week. The majority of that work will involve reading the bible itself - a good use of time for any person. Hopefully our busy teenagers can use this bible reading time as a part of their daily personal devotional time.

Class Resources:

This course is focused around three textbooks: *The Drama of Scripture*, by Craig Bartholomew and Michael Goheen, *The Case for Faith*, by Lee Strobel and the Bible itself.

“Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; Guard it well, for it is your life.”

Proverbs 13:4

Semester 1:	
1: Bible Basics /Introduction to Apologetics	Adjectives of the Bible: Holy, Inspired, Infallible, Authoritative OT: How did we get it? Is it historically reliable? (Case for Faith) Bible as Story/Grand Narrative
2: OT and Origins	Biblical Account of Creation; Creation vs Myths Creation & Evolution; Creation Revealing God Cultural Mandate and Environmental Ethics Issue The Fall & the Flood
3: OT and the People of God	The Patriarchal narratives (Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob); Inheriting the Covenant (Jacob's sons) Israel in Egypt The Importance of the Exodus Israel at Sinai: the Covenant Law Laws for Worship and Life Desert Wanderings & Deuteronomy Preparing to Enter Canaan
4: Jesus in the Pentateuch	Jesus & Creation Joseph narrative: an image of the Saviour Jesus & the Law Jesus & OT Worship
5: Apologetics 101	Case for Faith Excerpts from Mere Christianity Various articles
Semester 2:	
6: The Conquest and the Period of Judges (Ruth)	Entering the Land The Conquest (Success & Failure); Judges The Judges Ruth
7: Samuel and the Early Monarchy	Samuel the Judge Saul the King
8: Guest Lecturers (Topics to be determined)	Potential Topics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Godly men and women • Biblical perspective on work • Financial stewardship
9: Israel's Monarchy and the Divided Kingdom	David & Solomon (the Kingdom & the Temple) The Kingdom Divided;
10: Israel in Exile and Return	Daniel Esther Ezra & Nehemiah
11: Hebrew Poetry and Wisdom	Psalms (types) Wisdom (Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes) Jesus & the Poets
12: Interpreting Scripture (Hermeneutics)	R.C. Sproul resource in church library
13: OT Prophets	Prophets & Prophecy Major Prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel) Minor Prophets (the rest) Jesus the Prophet

From the Grade 1&2 Classroom:

Name: Asayna

Roles and Responsibilities

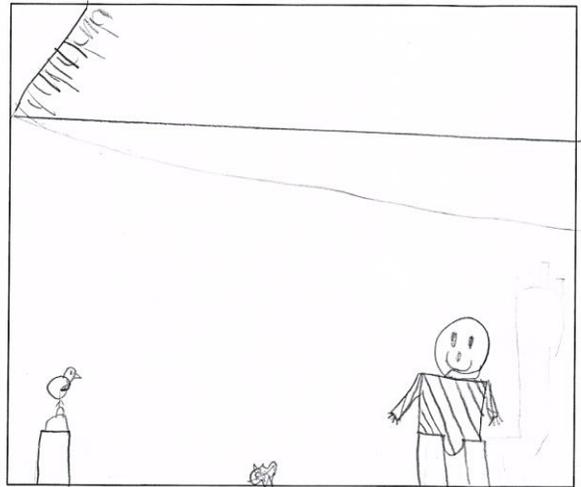


I am a Painter

I am take care of creation.

Name: Mischa

Roles and Responsibilities



I am a Queen.

I am piking up garbage.

Name: PAIGE

Roles and Responsibilities

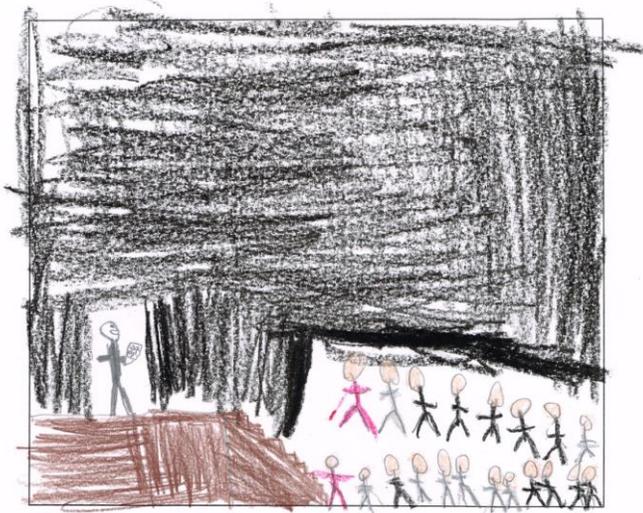


I am a Priest.

I am Ziping up her
coat.

Name: Chen

Roles and Responsibilities



I am Priests I tel the Bible to the peopl.

Name: Danien

Roles and Responsibilities



I am a King.

I am building a school.

Name: _____

Bryan

Roles and Responsibilities



I am a Queen. I am reading the Bible. God is a awesome God. Praise him.

Name: Kiya

Roles and Responsibilities



I am a King.
I fight sin, Satan and
World.

Name: Lauren

Roles and Responsibilities



I'm a prophet,
I am singing in a concert.

Name: Julie

Roles and Responsibilities



I'm a prophet. I'm
doing the bells after the christ was
consect. were playing Jay to the
world.

Name: Sydney

Roles and Responsibilities



I am a prophet.
I am telling people
about God by singing.

Name: Chad

Roles and Responsibilities



I am a King.
I am fighting
Satan the evil and sin

Name: Easton

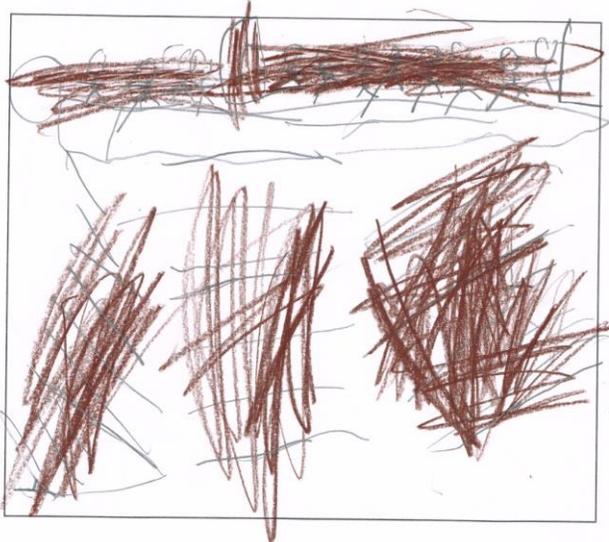
Roles and Responsibilities



I am a Prophet.
I am talking to people about Jesus

Name: Jeffrey

Roles and Responsibilities



I am a Prophet.

Name: JONAH

Roles and Responsibilities



I am a King.
I am walking
in the forest.