



CONNECTION

August 2019



School Board

Chairman: Alex Sikkema
 Vice Chair: Curtis Hutten
 Secretary: Lee-Ann Kruisselbrink
 Treasurer: Mark Hutten
 Maintenance: Ryan Doan

Education Committee

Chair: Curtis Hutten
 Vice Chair: Mitch Bultena
 Secretary: Cathy Scheper
 Member: Irene Baron
 Member: Sarah Bosch

Teaching Staff

Gr. 1-2-Mrs. J. Vantol
 Gr. 2-Miss A. Kapteyn
 Gr. 3-4 - Miss E. deHaan
 Gr. 5-6 & Principal - Mr. J. Meinen
 Gr. 7-8 - Miss A. Hutten

Volunteer Staff

Mrs. J. Antuma (Librarian)
 Mrs. M. Kruisselbrink (Learning Assistance)
 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

With much thankfulness to our Heavenly Father, we can look forward to another school year beginning soon. This is our 25th year of opening the school doors, and we recognize God's faithfulness in all of these years. Every year He has given us teachers, finances, support from our society, desire to operate, students willing to learn. And now we can see our school is in a very strong position. Most importantly, our students are receiving an excellent education that has God's Word infused into every subject. From our SWOT we heard from many happy parents who are pleased with the education their children are receiving.

So, thank you to everyone who completed our SWOT. We have collected and collated the data, and from this we have been able to make a road map for the upcoming year. It gives us some guidance as to what things the membership wants us to emphasize and work on and where to focus our efforts.

This fall we are also expanding our school program to include a High School Religion Course, and we have 9 students enrolled in this program! Again from our SWOT we have seen a great deal of interest in high school courses and we will see where this program will take us!

With all this said, we have had some fluctuations in our staffing, and some fluctuations in our membership, and the latter reinforces why our Treasurer runs our budget as he does with a bit room to cover unexpected changes. I know I am preaching to the choir and we do have excellent support from our membership and in the wider church family but this also reinforces why we think it is important for all communicate members of our

congregation to also be school supporters for life! If all church members supported Christian Education of the youth in our congregation, and we worked together to raise and teach the coming generation it would in turn make it easier for each one of us to pay the monthly bills. So, if you are part of the choir I am preaching to, please pass the song along to others who are not part of our choir!

On Sept 27 we can look forward to celebrating God's goodness and faithfulness to us by marking our 25th anniversary with an evening of pictures, a few words, desserts, and fellowship. Please mark this date and celebrate with us!

We will be having our annual School membership meeting on Thursday, November 14th, where we will be presenting a proposed budget for 20-21 school year, and I will be completing my term on the Board. We will be seeking nominations to fill a spot on the Board.

We hope that all the staff and students had a bit of a break over the summer and are refreshed and ready to work hard, and spend another year getting to know God more closely through his Word and the creation around us. A special welcome to Ms. Amanda Kapteyn who will be starting her first year teaching and 12 new students entering Gr. 1!

On behalf of the Board, Alex Sikkema



**We will have a
 Membership Meeting
 November 14, 2019.**

Mr. James Meinen
 Principal

TREASURER'S REPORT

It is with thankfulness that we can enter a new school year in a good financial position, with continued growth resulting in a surplus from last year. A final financial report will also be prepared soon and shared with you as membership.

Heading into this new year, we encourage you as members to continue in your financial support as the current and expected needs

also continue to increase. It can be tempting, even as school board, to see our current financial position as safe and secure, but we know that there is much to work on, and great responsibility to support future need. Yet we can trust in God every day, with thankfulness!

I also want to encourage you to consider supporting or

participating in the upcoming "A Round for the Future" golf tournament. What a great opportunity to look beyond our own community to support not only our own, but also four other nearby Christian Schools in our federation. Last year our school benefited over \$10,000.00 from this event. Let's do it again!

Thank you, Mark Hutten

The following NEW school fees are in effect as of [July 1, 2019!](#)

- \$710.00 - Parental
- \$310.00 - General
- \$160.00 - Single/Retired
- \$50.00 - Student.



Please mark September 27, 2019 on your calendar and come celebrate with us!

We will be celebrating God's goodness and faithfulness to us by marking our 25th anniversary with an evening of pictures, a few words, desserts, and fellowship.

FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Summer is over and we are looking forward to a new school year! We are blessed to be able to offer Christian Education again at Harvest. The staff worked hard to prepare for another year and to welcome new and returning children into their classrooms.

The Ed Com is getting back into the swing of things after a brief hiatus this summer. We will continue to look into the curriculum and the resources needed to best teach God's covenant children.

We would also like to thank James Gunnink for his hard work on the committee for the past few years! We hope the students and staff had a great vacation this summer, and all are eager to start the 2019/ 2020 year.

On behalf of the Education Committee,
Curtis Hutten



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

After a refreshing summer break the staff are eager to begin a new year at Harvest assisting parents in their task of teaching the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord. When the doors open, the school will mark several big milestones. In the first place we open the doors to a record number of students. 60 students will be attending this year and twelve of those are new to Harvest and will be in grade 1. We welcome Scott Bultena, Levi Feenstra, Noelle Hutten, Reese Hutten, Allison Kruisselbrink, Sarah Mulder, Maurine Igiraneza, Savannah Selles, Liam Sikkema, Janine VanAndel, Cason VanGils, Dirk Winkels.

With record enrolment, also comes Harvest's largest teaching staff to date. This year we are blessed to have all our core staff returning and having Ms. Amanda Kapteyn join the teaching team. Seeing a former student of Harvest come back as a teacher is pretty special! Ms. Kapteyn will be teaching grade 2 part-time and teaching in a few classes in grade 5/6 to allow for some principal relief time.

However, the biggest milestone this year is the fact we celebrate our 25th anniversary as a school. From some parents talking about starting a school decades ago, to a one room school, to now a five-room school, Harvest has come a long way. In looking back we can see God's goodness towards us over these 25 years! We hope to formally celebrate this milestone at an Open House here at Harvest on September 27th. So mark this date on your calendars and stay tuned for more details.

But at this time I thought it would be interesting to share with you a brief excerpt from our school's

first ever newsletter 25 years ago. What follows is part of the principal's report at that time by Mrs. Dianne Jonker.



It is with great thankfulness to the Lord that the doors of a new Canadian Reformed School could be opened in Owen Sound area, serving the families of the Chatsworth congregation. How good it is that the children may come together every day to be instructed in the fear of God's Name! Together, as teacher and students, we pray, "Teach me Thy way, O Lord!" In the unity of faith we may grow together in the Lord, as members of His Church and as the body of Christ, our Head." After much preparation and many months of planning on the part of school board, education committee, and many individual church members, the school doors opened on September 6th, 1994 and the new school year began! Thank you to all who so faithfully dedicated, and continue to dedicate their time, energy and enthusiasm into the operation of the school. A special thank you to the ladies who help us in the classroom in teaching and learning every day and every week. It makes us even more thankful when we realize that all we receive comes from our Father in Heaven.

While that was published 25 years ago, the exact same words could be used to describe Harvest today! The Lord willing, Harvest will open

its doors shortly as the result of the hard work of many volunteers behind the scenes. In addition to having so many support Harvest with their time, we continue to also be blessed with financial support from the whole community. This high level of support from those in our congregation is really a hallmark of a healthy Christian school. Such support really underscores what it means to be a covenantal school, a school where the communion of saints comes together to assist the parents in telling the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord. Praise God for this!

To those who have already signed up to volunteer this year and continue to work on committees behind the scenes - thank you so much! For those who would like to volunteer we would love to hear from you. As I wrap things up, I will leave you with a volunteer trivia question:

When the school first opened its doors 25 years ago, there were five ladies who helped regularly in the classroom. Two of those original ladies have continued to be active volunteers in the school almost 25 years later. Who are they? (I'll share the answer at our 25th Anniversary celebration).



James Meinen

September 3rd - Harvest Christian School's Doors Open!

We welcome everyone to join us for our Opening Assembly on September 3rd. Students are welcome to come in the building at 8:30 a.m. They will be given a few minutes in their classroom and then join parents and other members in the church for our Opening Assembly around 8:45 a.m.

At the assembly we hope to introduce our newest students and reflect upon our new theme text for the year. Our theme text is Psalm 34:8
"Come taste and see that the Lord is good."
All are welcome to attend!

Creation Ministries International Presentation at Harvest!
Richard Fangrad of CMI-Canada will be in the school Friday,
September 13, 2019

1:30pm Dinosaurs and the Bible (Gr. 1-6)

2:30pm Biology Supports the Bible (Gr. 7/8)

All are welcome and resources will be available for purchase 😊



Communication between home and school is paramount to ensure everyone is on the same page throughout the year. Hopefully through the weekly newsletter and bi-monthly Connection, report cards, the website and parent/teacher conferences, you will be kept very informed as parents to what is taking place in the school. However, there are times when you may want to get in touch with the staff throughout the year. In these situations you are encouraged to contact the school during school hours and, if needed, set up a time to meet. If you cannot get a hold of a staff member, emails are also an effective means of communication. The staff checks their email every school day and will be sure to get back to you right away. However, for more time sensitive issues you can contact the staff at home. Parents are asked to refrain from texting staff as a means of communication and use the options outlined above instead. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.



Drop Off and Pick Up

To all our parents & grandparents who drop off or pick up students from the school, please note the follow guidelines:

1. In the morning students will be supervised after 8:20 a.m.
2. Please ensure that when you drop off your child they head down stairs towards the school.
3. When picking up your child, please park in the straight line parking (not the angle parking) and watch for any child that may be crossing the parking lot to their vehicle.
4. Once a child is in their vehicle please have them stay with you to prevent any accidents.
5. After school outdoor supervision will go until 3:30p.m. After that time your child will wait in the school or on the playground until you pick them up. Please inform a staff member when you pick them up so we know they are leaving.
6. Please call the school to inform the staff of any late drop off or pick up.
7. If your child is going home with another family, or a different driver than normal, please make a note in the student agenda or call the school.

School Cleaning

Each week of the school a family will take their turn and clean the school. This needs to be done on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. There is a list on the wall in the staff room of the cleaning duties to complete. This is a very important task that we share, an opportunity to teach our children about stewardship, but also as parents this is an opportunity to serve in the educating of your children, a clean school means a healthy school and a better learning environment. Thank you parents for your willingness to help in this way!

September 3-6: Antuma, Jan & Rosalie
September 9-13: Bosch, Darren & Sarah
September 16-20: Bultena, Mitch & Alisha

Harvest School News

As we are set to begin a new year there may be a few documents you are looking for as parents. Most documents such as school supplies, our 2019/2020 calendar and older bulletins can be found on our school website. You can also find the school supply list attached to this newsletter. If you want to stay abreast of what is happening at Harvest each and every week, be sure to sign up for our weekly newsletter. You can do this by contacting the school.

Please send your email address to adminassistant@harvestschool.ca to be added to the email list. If your email address has changed, please also send an email to adminassistant@harvestschool.ca so that the list can be updated.

Supplies for 2019-2020

This list is updated from previous years, please ensure that your child/ren have everything on this list in September.

Grade 1 & 2

- ✓ Non-marking soled running shoes suitable for Phys Ed.
- ✓ A change of clothing in case of accident (Grade 1 only)
- ✓ Pencil Case
- ✓ Pencil Crayons
- ✓ Pipsqueak Washable Markers
- ✓ Enclosed Pencil Sharpener
- ✓ eraser
- ✓ Ruler with cm and inches
- ✓ School bag

Grades 3 &4

- ✓ Non-marking soled running shoes suitable for Phys Ed
- ✓ Pencil case
- ✓ Pencil Crayons
- ✓ Enclosed Pencil Sharpener
- ✓ Eraser and white out (no liquid)
- ✓ Ruler with cm and inches
- ✓ Red, Blue, Black pens
- ✓ 2in Binder with 7-10 dividers with tabs
- ✓ Physical Education Clothing
- ✓ 1 USB stick (for transportation of files to and from school)
- ✓ School bag
- ✓ Lined paper

Grades 5-8

- ✓ Non-marking soled running shoes suitable for Phys Ed
- ✓ Pencil case
- ✓ Pencil Crayons
- ✓ Enclosed Pencil Sharpener
- ✓ Eraser and white out (no liquid)
- ✓ Ruler with cm and inches
- ✓ Red, Blue, Black pens
- ✓ Highlighter (2 colours)
- ✓ 1 x 2in Binder with 7-10 dividers with tabs (no zipper)
- ✓ Physical Education Clothing
- ✓ 1 USB stick (for transportation of files to and from school)
- ✓ Scientific Calculator (Just 7/8)
- ✓ School bag
- ✓ Deodorant - no spray
- ✓ Lined paper



SWOT SUMMARY 2019

Mission: Our purpose is 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

