



CONNECTION

Mr. James Meinen
Principal



School Board

Chairman: Curtis Hutten
Vice Chair: Joanie Vis
Secretary: Meaghan Hutten
Treasurer: Mark Hutten
Maintenance: Pete Groeneveld

Teaching Staff

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

Education Committee

Chair: Joanie Vis
Vice Chair: Jan Antuma
Secretary: Marloes Mulder
Member: Janelle VanTol

Human Resource Committee

Chair: Jan Antuma
Board Rep: Joanie Vis
Secretary: Dana Selles

Public Relations Committee

Chair: Henrietta Groeneveld
Secretary: Meaghan Hutten
Member: Rachel Sikkema

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

Well another summer has come and gone. Hopefully everyone had a chance to enjoy the Lord's creation and see some of Ontario's beautiful countryside. The Lord has blessed us with so much this summer such as getting back together for outdoor worship, friendships that could be connected again and so much more. We pray the Lord blesses this upcoming school year as well. It's still challenging each and every day with changing regulations and how this will affect our school. The parents in our community no doubt are challenged with this, and we encourage everyone to continue to press forward and pray for the Lords blessing on us all.

As the school year starts we see some new faces in our classrooms and many familiar faces. We welcome back the staff for this year and encourage you in your work this year. We're happy to have each and every one of you! We

TREASURER'S REPORT

Welcome back to school! We're excited as we enter another year again, faced with so many blessings and opportunities too. God is good.

From a financial perspective, we continue in a healthy position, something to be thankful for once again. Over the course of the upcoming year, changes are bound to occur in our financial plans and forecasts. This is to be expected - the only constant is change! Good thing that we are reminded that God directs our paths, so we can trust in

hope for many great learning opportunities, for friendships and lots of laughs.

We're not entirely sure how this year will go. We can be sure of this: the Lord watches over us, and has a plan for us all and our school. He knows what's best for us, and we can look to Him and ask Him for a great year at Harvest! !

On behalf of the Board,

Curtis Hutten

chair@harvestschool.ca



Him, the unchanging :) We'll be sure to keep the membership apprised of where we sit on a financial level throughout the course of the year, but in the meantime, as we approach this exciting time of start-up, together with you, we pray for a beautiful time together of fellowship, learning, and joy - between classmates, teachers, parents and community.

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Attached to this newsletter, you'll also see financial statements from last year. Of note is a strong surplus as a result of healthy donations, support from organizations such as the Harvest Foundation, and continued efforts from our voucher committee! As a reminder to the membership, the Harvest Foundation continues to offer its tuition assistance program, which is a wonderful assistance to families who can benefit from it, and are eligible. If you know of a family that might

need more information, please reach out, and I'll ensure they have the necessary information. A big thanks again to all of our members, supporters, donors and volunteers. Your continued involvement is much appreciated, and we look forward to another year full of excitement ahead of us. God bless!

Mark Hutten, Treasurer
treasurer@harvestschool.ca



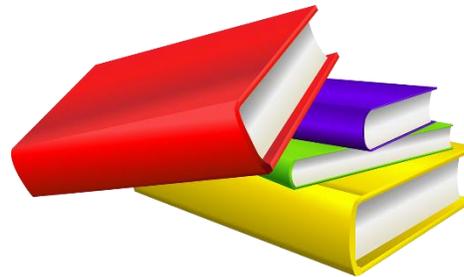
THE FOLLOWING NEW SCHOOL
FEES ARE IN EFFECT AS OF
JULY 1, 2021!

\$740.00 - PARENTAL
\$320.00 - GENERAL
\$170.00 - SINGLE/RETIRED
\$60.00 - STUDENT

FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

We are so thankful to once again be looking forward to the start of a new school year ☺!! We have been blessed with a full staff returning on September 7. Miss Anne Hutten continues in her role as grade 7/8 teacher and Miss Erica DeHaan is in grade 3/4. This year we will once again have some split time for the grade 1/2 class with Mrs. Amanda Vandebos in grade 2 and Mrs. Melissa Kruisselbrink in grade 1 during the mornings then the classes will join together for the rest of the day. Mr. James Meinen will be in grade 5/6 as well as being our fearless leader and principal. We wish you all the Lord's strength and blessing this year as you open classroom doors and teach to the best of your ability in the glory of God.

While we reflect on our wonderful staff we would also like to remember and celebrate with the Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College as they celebrate their 40th anniversary. God has provided so many covenant teachers through the college during these years and we have been blessed with teachers and student teachers from CCRTC over the years here at Harvest. Let's also remember and pray for the college as it opens the doors once again and



as they continue to work through the final steps of accreditation. As EdCom we get the privilege of reviewing curriculum for the coming year. During the last few years with a lot of instability we can be thankful for Christian education where every subject taught to our covenant children is taught with a focus on a heavenly Father who cares for us and controls all things to His glory. Our God is a God of order and purpose, this is taught in grade 1/2 math, God sends the sun to rise every morning and the season to come in their time, so while we speak of instability for school God continues to order things. What a comfort and blessing this is!

There is a lot of 'talk' about new waves and shut downs due to Covid-19 and part of our responsibility as EdCom is to prepare for these things. Our hope and plan for this school year is to keep our doors open to all students for the duration of the school year. It is hard to change from having our children attend school to having to teach them online and at home and

as parents and teachers we are aware of the importance of consistency and stability in raising our children. We are blessed with a small school and a supportive community that allows for a variety of teaching styles, whether this is inside in small numbers in classrooms, or in the gym in larger numbers or even outside with the use of new sun shades and picnic tables.

This year we will once again be able to attend and participate in assemblies so let's sing and look forward to September 7 with hope and trust in God, like our new theme text says: "For You are my hope, O Lord God; You are my trust from my youth."
We wish everyone a blessed school year!

On behalf of the Ed Com,
Joanie Vis
edcomvicechair@harvestschool.ca

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:



After a long period of distance learning and a summer break Harvest is very excited to welcome students back to school this fall for in person learning! This year marks the 27th year of operation for Harvest. What a blessing it has been to come alongside parents for those 27 years to assist them in telling the next generation His praiseworthy deeds. Harvest's mission statement is summed up in three words: "educating for eternity" and we are truly blessed to be able continue that work when Harvest opens its doors on September 7th.

As the staff prepared for this upcoming year, we sat down last June to come up with a theme text to frame the 2021-2022 school year. If you recall last year, our theme text came from 1 Thess 5:16-18 *"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* What really stood out last year with several school disruptions were the words "give

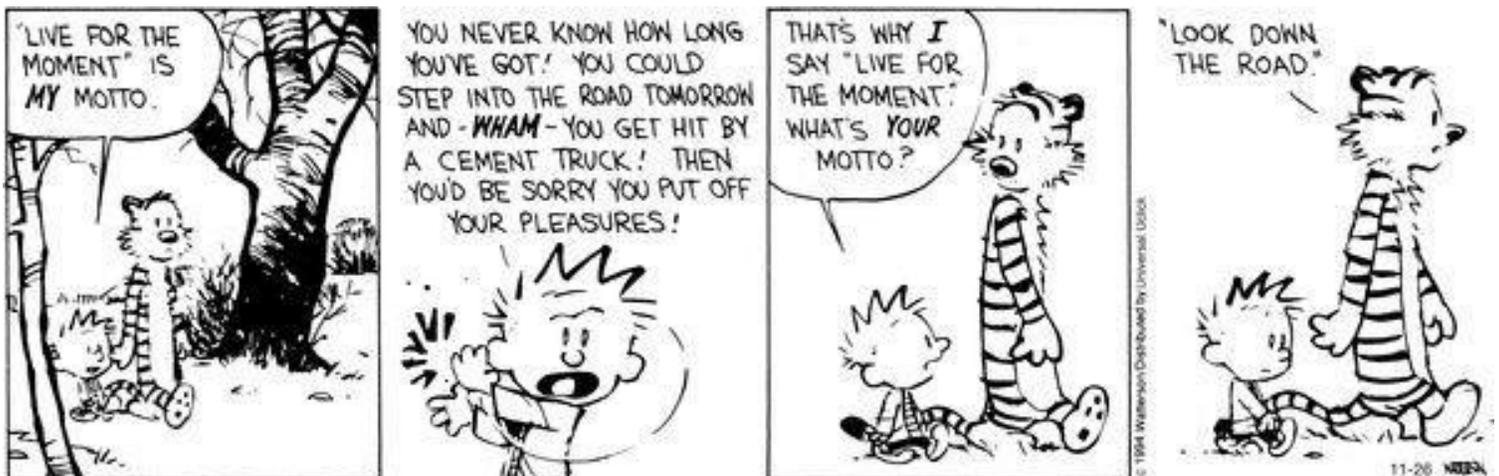
thanks in all circumstances." This year as a staff we decided to build upon that and really address the how of that verse. How can we be joyful as we enter another year of uncertainty? How can we give thanks as COVID continues to impact so many facets of our lives?

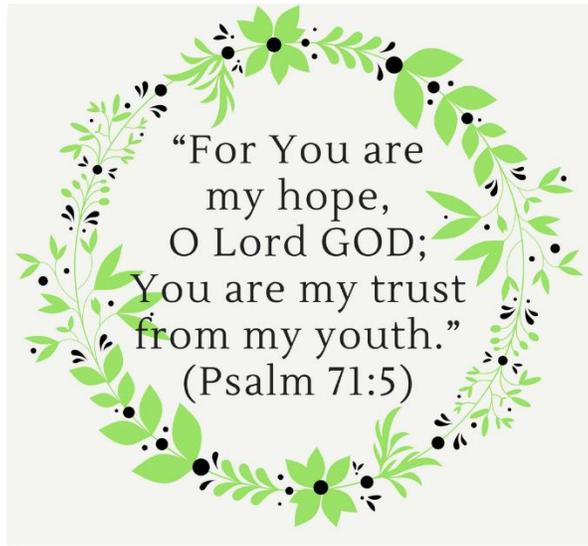
Well before I answer that, I like to share with you the words of an old Calvin and Hobbes comic strip. In the first frame Calvin tells Hobbes: "Live for the moment is my motto. You never know how long you got". In the second frame he explains "You could step into the road tomorrow and WHAM, you get hit by a cement truck! Then you'd be sorry you put off your pleasures. That's what I say - live for the moment." And then he asks Hobbes: "What's your motto?" Hobbes replies: "My motto is - Look down the road."

For those readers of Calvin and Hobbes, it is not surprising that Calvin's views are off the mark. Calvin places his hope for

happiness in the wrong things. Bill Watterson hits the mark with this cartoon because we are not that different. People often place their hope in temporary passing pleasures, in things that ultimately will fail. They put their hope in family, friends, careers, health, vaccines, the stock market, and material things (just to name a few!). Sadly, family and friends will pass away or disappoint you. Careers don't last. From birth we started dying. An interesting recent study shows our metabolism peaks at the age of one and goes downhill from there! The stock market goes up and down. Money's value drops as inflation rises. And material things can be lost, stolen and eventually decay. Thankfully, our hope is not in such things. Our hope is in a God who will not fail us. A God who is faithful to His promises. A God who loves us so much He has died for us. A God who conquered the grave. Christianity is a religion of hope. It is a faith that looks down the road to the future, to the time when God's promises will be fulfilled.

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Our theme text this year comes from Psalm 71:5 and zeroes in on this hope: *"For You are my hope, O Lord God; You are my trust from my youth."*

We hope to unpack this theme over many assemblies and in our classrooms this year as there is so much to dig into. When we look at God's Word, we can clearly see where our hope lies. The Bible teaches us we can put our hope in God, in Christ, in our salvation, in the Resurrection, in eternal life, and in Christ's return.

And with this hope we enter a new school year at Harvest. On September 7th we open our doors to 60 students. A special welcome goes out to our new grade one students: Blake Doan, Natalia Hutten, Andrea Kruisselbrink, Keri Post, Liam Selles and Reuben van Gils. We are also blessed to welcome back a terrific teaching staff! Mrs. Kruisselbrink and Mrs. Vandenbos will be teaching grade 1/2, Ms. DeHaan will be teaching grade 3/4, Mr. Meinen will be teaching grade 5/6 and Ms. Hutten will be teaching grade 7/8. However, staffing is set to change come December as the

Lord willing Mike and Amanda will welcome a little baby into the world. Currently the Human Resource Committee is working hard to fill the void that will be left by Mrs. Vandenbos - she is not an easy person to replace! We have made some great forward progress here but are still looking for someone to teach some grade 5/6 classes. If you are interested/open to try some part time teaching here at Harvest, please contact me to find out more information.

As we enter this new year, the COVID protocols put in place last year remain largely the same. Masking is encouraged in common areas, enhanced cleaning protocols remain in place, and students will be washing or sanitizing their hands more frequently. We also once again ask students to stay home if they are sick. A screening tool for determining whether or not to keep your child home can be found at: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/> Some positive developments include the fact we can now have assemblies with parents inside, provided we maintain social distancing, and interschool sports

are once again allowed. An update version of our COVID Policy and Procedure was sent out along with this Connection.

With COVID concerns still present, we plan to take advantage of more outdoor learning and are very thankful for the addition of sunshades. We also thank Mr. Post for donating picnic tables that we can use. The staff plan to take advantage of the nice fall weather and head out on field trips pretty quickly. So, count on seeing some field trip forms coming your way soon! These trips are a great opportunity for you to come and join us and spend some time outside in God's beautiful creation.

For those who are wondering about our calendar for the 2021/2022 school year, the calendar can be found on our school website and is attached to this newsletter. The first notable date on the calendar is our school Opening Assembly on September 7th at 8:45am. The assembly will take place in the church sanctuary and all are welcome to attend. The second date to be aware of is picture day. Picture day is set for September 10th and will take place in the morning.

As the year gets set to kick off in a few days, I want to once again thank all those who have worked hard behind the scenes to get the school ready. Whether that be helping with policy creation, cleaning, repairing items, evaluating books or serving on one of our many committees, we are blessed to have so many supporting the parents in our community in telling the next generation His praiseworthy deeds.

James Meinen

**ALL
ARE
WELCOME**

Opening Assembly: September 7th @ 8:45am

Please join us in the church sanctuary!



THEME SONG!

What a blessing it is to proclaim our confidence in our Lord and Saviour! With thankfulness we speak with the psalmist,

*"For You are my hope, O Lord God;
You are my trust from my youth."*

This year we look forward to praising God with loud singing in choral classes, in hallways, in classrooms, in forests and on playgrounds. As usual, we will sing our new theme song at our opening assembly and if you'd like to pre-listen and get familiar with it, please do! It's titled, "Christ Our Hope in Life and Death," words and music by Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Jordan Kauflin, Matt Merker, Matt Papa.

[Christ Our Hope in Life and Death \(Official Lyric Video\) - Keith & Kristyn Getty, Matt Papa - YouTube](#)

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.

James Meinen – principal@harvestschool.ca

Anne Hutten – grade7/8teacher@harvestschool.ca

Erica deHaan – grade3/4teacher@harvestschool.ca

Amanda Vandenberg – grade1/2teacher@harvestschool.ca

Melissa Kruisselbrink – mkruiss@gmail.com



Drop Off and Pick Up

To all our parents & grandparents who drop off or pick up students from the school, please note the following 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 TWO families 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 and each room has a list by the door, please look for these. 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 7-10: Sikkema, Alex & Rachel & De Jager, Ben & Shelley

September 13-17: Vis, Gary & Joanie & Flikweert, Andre & Marieke

September 20-24: Vandenberg, Bart & Jenn & Hutten, Curtis & Meghan

(Please remember to take your own cleaning clothes; other supplies, cleaner and vacuum are in the school)

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 2021-2022 calendar and older bulletins can be found on our school website - www.harvestschool.ca. You can also find the school supply list attached to this newsletter. If you want to stay current with what is happening at Harvest each and every week, be sure to sign up for our weekly newsletter that is sent out via email (Google group). You can do this by contacting the school.

-Please send your email address to Rachel Sikkema at adminassistant@harvestschool.ca to be added to the email list.

-If your email address has changed, please also send an email to the above address so that the list can be updated!